

## Update: Working Documents

### Status and Process

BCPSEA is working with school districts, the BCTF and their locals to finalize the working documents — the local document containing provincial language and interfaced language from the previous local agreement. Most locals and districts will have a complete 2001-2004 working document no later than June 30.

At the provincial level, representatives from the BCTF and BCPSEA are in the process of finalizing the provincial language to be interfaced into the 2006-2011 working documents. This will ensure the information provided to locals and districts is consistent, with limited potential for error or conflict.

In addition, both BCPSEA and the BCTF have agreed it is imperative to finalize the working documents for 2006-2011 as soon as possible. Therefore, both organizations have set aside time to work with districts and locals.

### Leave Requests

The BCTF has provided each local President with the following direction:

“The BCTF Executive Committee is considering a recommendation to provide release time for a person designated by the local to do the melding work. However, any paid release time will be subject to the local first applying for paid release time under its own local provisions with regard to either ‘local bargaining release time’ or ‘copy of the collective agreement.’ It appears that BCPSEA has taken the position that mid-contract modification and assembly of the agreement, including resolution of outstanding interpretive issues is not negotiations and therefore not eligible for paid release time; however, the Federation’s position is that this work clearly falls under the release time provisions. Should a school board refuse the paid release time, locals are advised to contact their Field Service Division staff person immediately and file a grievance.”

The working document exercise is not collective bargaining; it is simply an administrative process for the confirmation and recording of what has already been bargained for the 2001–2004 and 2006–2011 collective agreements. As such, the local bargaining release time provisions are not applicable to the working document exercise, and leave requests related to this should not be granted. Should this become an issue in your district, please contact your BCPSEA liaison.

### Questions

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact your BCPSEA liaison.