

From the Chair



No. 2012-05 September 21, 2012

By E-mail: Two Pages

Welcome Back!

It's "new years" for those of us in the K-12 public school system, so welcome back and happy new year! Hopefully the summer months provided an opportunity to rest and re-charge after a busy 2011-2012 school year. I think it's safe to say that everyone was glad (to varying degrees, perhaps!) that school opening was accompanied by a collective agreement with our teachers in place and a return to focused energy and resources on our students.

Post-bargaining Analysis

As we do after every round of collective bargaining, the BCPSEA Board is continuing its post-bargaining analysis of the most recent negotiations between BCPSEA and the BC Teachers' Federation that led to conclusion of the 2012-2013 Provincial Collective Agreement (PCA).

We received initial feedback from boards at our July Representative Council. We now need to ensure that we hear from all school trustees — this input is critical to your Board of Directors as we prepare for the upcoming round of negotiations (keeping in mind that the PCA expires June 30, 2013).

There are several avenues by which the Board is soliciting feedback from trustees:

- An **online survey** (please click [here](#) to access), which is designed to capture any comments/thoughts/observations you wish to share. We strongly encourage all trustees to provide their input via the survey by October 14, 2012.
- A series of **regional meetings** scheduled throughout the province during September and October. We're very pleased to see so many trustees registered to attend these meetings; registration is still open so please proceed to register through your school district if you haven't done so already.
- **Outreach by the trustee Directors** on the BCPSEA Board — each trustee Director is designated as the liaison with the board of education's BCPSEA Trustee Representative in a geographic region. Trustee Representatives will be contacted by their Director liaison over the course of the coming days, to "touch base" and talk about what's top of mind for you in your districts.



The BCPSEA 2012 Symposium: Insight and Opportunities, Human Resources in Education, will be held Thursday, October 25 and Friday, October 26 at The Coast Coal Harbour Hotel, 1180 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC. The program for both days will run from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, with registration opening at 8:00 am on October 25, and breakfast provided on October 26 commencing at 7:30 am.

Further information and registration details are available on the BCPSEA [website](#).

Ongoing Dialogue

It's so important to keep that two-way dialogue going! The more we engage with each other, the more we learn and the better able we are to stay connected with what's going on both at the district and provincial levels.

We want to hear from you at all times throughout the year, whether we're in the midst of negotiations or, as we are now, both in the implementation phase and the preparation phase for the next rounds of bargaining. Please feel free to contact any member of your [Board of Directors](#) at any time.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the regional meetings and at our Symposium in October!

All the best,



*Melanie Joy, Chair
Board of Directors*