

BCPSEA Responses to BCTF and Local Teachers' Association Statements

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BCTF Statement	BCPSEA Response
<p>When BC Public School Employers' Association spokesperson Ron Christensen was asked on CBC Radio about teachers' salary demands, he...went on to say that they would have to go back to government for more money.</p>	<p>No such statement was made by Mr. Christensen.</p>
<p>The employer has been claiming that our proposal would cost the province \$3 billion. Our largest item at the table is our salary proposal of 24% over three years. A 1% increase in salary costs \$20 million. So even if teachers were paid a 24% increase in the first year of the agreement, it wouldn't equal half a billion dollars.</p>	<p>BCPSEA has said that the cost of the entire package of proposals the BCTF has on the table would cost the taxpayer an additional \$3 billion over 3 years. This figure includes the BCTF's demand for a double digit wage increase of 24% (26% compounded) over 3 years, plus double digit increases to other areas of the collective agreement, including benefits, preparation time, and professional development.</p> <p>A 1% increase in salary costs approximately \$23.8 million, including wage-sensitive benefits.</p> <p>A 24% salary increase in year 1 would cost approximately \$570 million, including wage-sensitive benefits.</p> <p>When the total additional dollars being spent over the term of the agreement are considered, the BCTF salary proposal would cost the BC taxpayer an additional \$888 million over the 3 year term of the agreement.</p> <p>Although the BCTF continues to publicly question our costing of their proposals, despite our repeated requests at the bargaining table and in public they have so far refused to provide their costing of their proposals.</p>
<p>It has got to the point where a nurse in BC with a four-year degree starts at \$49,344, while a teacher with a five-year degree starts at \$38,400 in West Vancouver. When you factor in the costs of the extra year at university and the \$49,000 the teacher isn't earning for that year, the teacher is starting out close to \$60,000 behind the nurse at a much lower rate of pay.</p> <p>The nurse with the four-year degree will reach a maximum salary of \$78,120 after nine years while the</p>	<p>In making this comparison, the BCTF has utilized the lowest teacher salary grid in the province. The average starting salary for a teacher in BC is \$41,669. The average maximum salary for a teacher in BC is \$64,489, ranking BC teachers third in the country among the comparator group of provinces: BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario.</p> <p>Further, the BCTF has already been granted compensation increases arising out of the Ready</p>

<p>teacher with the five-year degree will reach a maximum salary of 62,730 after eleven years.</p>	<p>report of October 20, 2005 that take effect prior to the first year of the four year agreement we are proposing, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Salary increases arising from the process of harmonizing salary grids throughout the province with funding of \$40 million. This represents an increase to each BCTF member of approximately 2% effective April 1, 2006.▪ Increases to the daily rate for Teachers on Call to a minimum of \$190 per day. In addition, Teachers on Call are now paid on the salary scale after 3 consecutive days of work, instead of 3 consecutive days in the same assignment. The cost of this recommendation is estimated to be at least \$30 M, the equivalent of a 1.5% salary increase.▪ a \$40 million one-time lump sum payment for the BCTF LTD trust. The BCTF chose to issue rebate cheques to members for their contributions for the 2005-06 school year. The \$40 million represents an approximate 2% salary increase, per BCTF member.
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