

2012-06 February 28, 2012

By E-mail: One page plus attachment

LRB Order Issued for BCTF Strike Escalation

Arising from last night's hearing at the Labour Relations Board (LRB), the LRB has now issued an interim order for the planned escalation of the teachers' strike. The order provides, in part, as follows:

- BCTF members may initiate job action beyond Phase 1 up to and including a full withdrawal from all duties including instructional duties for a maximum of three consecutive instructional days (the "Initial Expanded Job Action") after providing BCPSEA with notice of not less than two school days.
- For the remainder of the instructional days during the calendar week in which the Initial Expanded Job Action ends, BCTF members must perform at least duties as contemplated under Phase 1.
- Following the Initial Expanded Job Action, BCTF members may withdraw from all duties including instructional duties for one out of five instructional days in each calendar week following the week in which the Initial Expanded Job Action ends (the "Continuing Job Action").
- BCTF will provide notice of not less than two school days to BCPSEA and employers of any Continuing Job Action it intends to undertake.
- During any job action BCTF members will **not** picket, block access or egress or otherwise restrict or cause to be restricted in any way, the full and complete access to schools by members of all support unions or impede the operation of other employers who occupy the same premises as schools or school districts.

The order also provides that there will be no job action by BCTF members beyond that contemplated in the interim order except with the express authorization of the LRB, and that the interim order will be reviewed on a weekly basis commencing at the beginning of the week of March 12, 2012. Issues related to the application or interpretation of the interim order will be dealt with by the LRB as expeditiously as possible.

It should be noted that this is an interim order and the LRB has also ordered that BCPSEA and the BCTF will work with the LRB to designate essential service levels for the BCTF bargaining unit. During those designations BCPSEA will raise the issues that districts have brought forward regarding essential service levels and the conclusion of the school year, and preparation and planning for summer school and the 2012-2013 school year.

Please contact your BCPSEA labour relations liaison if you have any questions.

Questions

School districts with questions regarding essential services should contact:

Karen Jewell 604 730 4518 karenj@bcpsea.bc.ca

Please direct media and public requests to:

Deborah Stewart 604 730 4506 deborahs@bcpsea.bc.ca