

TFEU Update

September 30, 2008

*Please think "GREEN" before
you print this bulletin.*

Thank you everyone for welcoming me and having patience with me as the new TFEU president. I have worked at the Federation for over 30 years spanning 1971 to present. I was co-president of UTFE in the late 1980s and early 1990s. This job is definitely a new challenge.

A special thanks to Jean Rands who continues to be involved and mentors me (frankly I rarely make a move without checking with her first). Our whole union membership owes Jean a huge debt of gratitude for her unselfish attitude, her expertise, and the hundreds of hours she has given to our union.

Congratulations and thanks to Dan Penner for all his hard work over the last few years. Dan is retiring at the end of October 2008.

Dawn McCormick has stepped forward to be our vice-president and we hope to be able to both take one day off each week to work on union business.

A thank you letter

Please convey to your members my heartfelt thanks and admiration to each and every one of your members. I have been honoured and privileged to have worked with the members of your union and consider many of you friends as well as colleagues. I believe that teachers are very fortunate and benefit greatly from the skills, dedication and hard work that support staff provide.

Since I am leaving without a chance to say this directly to your membership, I would appreciate that you pass my thanks on to them. I will have an opportunity to make some remarks at next year's spring tea but wanted to mark the occasion now as well.

I wish your union and the membership all the best and of course offer any support I can provide even from White Rock!

In solidarity,
Lynne Sinclair

Early retirement vs a layoff

One of our members was in the process of being laid off and we were able to negotiate an early retirement incentive package for another member to secure a position for the person being laid off.

Grievances

We settled several grievances in an expedited process in June and are continuing to work on settling more.

- Layoff grievance is going to arbitration October 7 and 8, 2008.
- Bonusing guidelines grievance is going to Step 1.
- Demotion grievance is going to Step 1.
- One discipline and one accommodation grievance are going to Step 2.

Job Evaluation

The Job Evaluation Committee has been very busy along with their management counterparts to wade through the backlog of requests for reclassification. Thanks to the committee for their hard work. We have had a number of successful reclasses and the work continues.

Organizational Change

The Federation has given TFEU notice that it is considering organizational change in the manner in which it carries out the administration of the Teacher Rehab program in the Income Security Division. When we know more about what this proposed change is and who might be affected, we will have an opportunity to make a presentation to the BCTF Executive.

Fall Membership Meeting

October 28, 2008
Prior/Sutherland
12:00–1:30 p.m.

Kathleen Smith, president