

Cranbrook Chronicles

June, 2016

"Take care of your body. It's the only place you have to live." – Jim Rohn

www.cranbrookdistrictteachersassociation.com

Vice President's Message by Larry Dureski

Hello Colleagues,

Here we are with another school year almost done. I have been asked several times around the community what it feels like to be "winding down" the year. These people were not teachers. I try to imagine letting go of one responsibility at a time through the month of June, having students quietly help clean and put resources away, leading to a gentle transition into the early days of summer with a state of mind already prepared for the days of bliss that lie ahead.

Are you still there? This is not the case at all for those of us in the throes of report cards, excited students, and year-end activities. I described the real year-end to those people I met as a full-on acceleration toward a cliff, with the top edge being the last day. The early days of summer are spent recovering from the impact of what just happened, and what was that blur anyway?

I know that I am in the acceleration phase right now, losing a few pieces along the way. My lesson planner went missing, and staff members at three schools were trying to help me find it. The binder was later found under some papers in my home office.

The summer-like weather in early April seemed to cause an early shut-down of student work habits, adding to year-end stress. I heard this observation mentioned several times in local schools as well as among delegates at the Spring Rep Assembly. Did a case of Early-Onset Junitis affect the whole province, leaving teachers heading for their sofas when they got home each day?

However, a small group of adults seemed equally excited about June as the students. Shelley and I attended the SD5 retirement celebration, where several smiling faces were observed. Please join your colleagues on Wednesday, June 15 at the Heritage Inn to honour these smiling new retirees for their years of dedicated service.

If I do not see you at your school or at the CDTA Retirement Celebration, I would like to wish you a relaxing, enjoyable summer and a soft landing from the cliff.

President's Message by Shelley Balfour

Well, here we are – June again! Now that I have let my hair return to its natural gray colour, it seems the world has sped up! This has been a very busy couple of months for the office. Getting through the EF (formerly LIF) talks twice, the staffing decisions, the AGM, the Rep Assembly, the grievance meetings, the Board meeting, the Board Committee meetings, DPAC, handing out transfer and layoff notices, negotiating two Letters of Understanding to deal with the EF funding, Executive Dinner, TTOC luncheon, Pro D. day as PMS staff rep, the SD5 Retirement celebration (see photo on next page) etc. I am wondering where the end is and its only June 10th! This year has been a relatively calm (as compared to strike years). However, what has become abundantly clear is the burnout people are feeling. It seems to be wider spread this year and I don't have to look far to figure out the cause. Reduced support for all students, large class sizes, "revised" curriculum with little or no direction or money attached, changes in staffing and administration and the list goes on! The recent decisions by the Provincial Government have really driven home the need for change on May 9th, 2017! "Giving back \$25 million" to School Districts to use as they wish to support student learning was a joke! They didn't give back anything – they just didn't claw back the money they promised to claw back last year! The recent announcement of all the "new Coding" money barely amounts to less than \$10 per student. We have to make sure the general public is not fooled by these numbers. Our Educational "Partner," Premier Clark will be in town on June 23/24 for a Ministers' Retreat. Suddenly I feel like making a sign or two... anyone interested?! On a positive note, thank you for the opportunity once again to work on your behalf. This will be my fifth year which again is shocking! I look forward to working with the newly elected and returning Executive next year. Please take a moment to thank your Staff Rep for all the work they do on your behalf. It isn't an easy job and if anyone is interested at Parkland, I would so very happy to hand it over to you! Enjoy your summer, take a break, relax and do something positive to re-energize yourself for the fall! I hope to see all 300 teachers at the retirement celebration on June 15! Come and celebrate!

Happy Retirement Wishes to the Following CDTA Members

On behalf of all CDTA members, we would like to extend our best Retirement wishes to the following members. After many (some 40+) years of successful classroom experience, these teachers have decided to retire during the 2015-2016 school year:

Barb Guillen (Parkland)	Janice Mayer (Parkland)
Carolyn Hunter (T.M. Roberts)	Marianne Nahm (Gordon Terrace)
Stewart Wilson (Gordon Terrace)	Debra Kennedy (District – based at Steeples)
Melonie Whyte (Kootenay Orchards)	Don Smith (Parkland)
Ron Stocknow (Highlands)	Cynthia Walsh (Mount Baker)

Please join your colleagues on Wednesday, June 15 at the Heritage Inn to recognize the current retirees!
Doors open at 3:30, speeches begin at 4:00.



CUPE, CFTA AND ADMINISTRATIVE RETIREES POSING WITH THE SD5 TRUSTEES AT THE SD5 RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Dates to Remember

Date	Event	Location	Start Time
Wednesday, June 15	CDTA Retirement Celebration	Heritage Inn	Doors open 3:30 Speeches at 4:00
Thursday, June 23	MBSS Commencement	Western Financial Place	5:00 PM
Friday, June 24 th	MBSS Prom	Rotary Park & COTR	7:30 PM
Friday, June 24	Administrative Day	All Over	
Tues. Sept. 6	Schools Re-open	All over	
Tues. Sept. 20 to Fri. Sept. 23	BC Fed Health and Safety Courses	CDTA Office Building	8:30 AM each day

Health and Safety Program Update

A special thank-you goes out to all teacher reps who participated in school-based Joint Occupational Health and Safety (JOHS) Committees this year. For some of you, this role was a new one. Your first training in Occupational Health and Safety may have been the morning with David Cavezza back in November. A short training session and resource package for JOHS Committee members has been locally developed and originally planned for June 9. However, June happened, along with June stuff. Not many people were able to attend. This training opportunity has been rescheduled for September. The time and date will get e-mailed out at the beginning of the next year. The BC Federation of Labour is also offering Health and Safety courses in Cranbrook this September. Committee reps can use their eight hours training for one of these workshops. All courses are at the Kootenay Labour Centre (105-9th Ave. S., CDTA office building) and start at 8:30.

Occupational Health and Safety, Part 1	Tues. Sept. 20
Improving Return to Work Outcomes	Tues. Sept. 20
Occupational Health and Safety, Part 2	Wed. Sept. 21
Understanding and Conducting Risk Assessments	Wed. Sept. 21
Bullying and Harassment	Thurs. Sept. 22
Incident Investigations	Thurs. Sept. 22
Improving Committee Effectiveness	Fri. Sept. 23

Although September seems a long way off, we can look forward to starting the next school year with JOHS Committees already in place. Together, we have made very positive changes to our District Health and Safety Program. The last meeting of the District Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Committee (DOHSAC) will take place on Thursday, June 16.

Know Your Collective Agreement

ARTICLE E.11: POSTING VACANT POSITIONS

1. In this article "vacancy" means an existing or newly created teaching assignment/position to which a teacher is not assigned. All teachers in the District are eligible to apply for all vacancies.
2. Posting Teaching Positions
 - a. The Board, in addition to any external advertising, shall post notices on the school district website and in all schools of all positions of twenty (20) teaching days duration or longer. Such notices shall be posted for a period of four business (4) days. There shall be no positions posted during Winter and Spring Break. Teaching position vacancies that become available between July 1 and August 31 shall be posted on Tuesdays.
 - b. Advertisements for appointment to the teaching staff of the district shall not include reference to extra-curricular activities and programs.
 - c. Prospective appointees shall be informed of the nature of the assignment(s), and be provided with the contact information with respect to the expectations of the Board and of the learning and working conditions in the school prior to the appointment.
3. If the Board decides to interview a number of candidates for the position of principal, the Board will request that the school staff representative or designate from that staff participate with them in the interview sessions.

ARTICLE E.12: FILLING VACANT POSITIONS

1. The Board shall fill teaching vacancies in the following priority, provided that the teacher has the necessary qualifications to perform the duties of the vacant position:
 - a. Teachers on the Continuing Teachers' Recall List as per Article C.5 where the position is in the zone from where the teacher was laid off.
 - b. Teachers on continuing appointment who are subject to or seeking transfer; who are returning from leaves of absence, including but not limited to leaves for exchange teaching, positions with the Department of National Defense, general leave, secondment;
 - c. teachers on full-time or part-time continuing appointment;
 - d. teachers from the Temporary Teachers' Recall List as per Article C.5 (Layoff/Recall/Severance);
 - e. Teachers teaching on call who apply for the position and outside applicants.
 2. If a vacancy requires filling during the school year and the successful applicant is currently employed in another full-time assignment or in a part-time assignment, that may conflict, with the scheduled assignment of the position to be filled, the position will be filled at the earliest reasonable date.
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Returning to Key City Theatre for a Second Showing!

- - Salam Neighbor - -

Monday, June 20th, 2016

7:00 pm

Sponsored by the

Humanity Network for the East Kootenay

Salam Neighbor is an award-winning film and campaign to connect the world to refugees. Immerse into the life of a Syrian refugee through the journey of Chris and Zach as the first filmmakers allowed to be registered and given a tent inside of a refugee camp. View the trailer [here](#).

Check out the new Executive for 2016-2017 on the CDTA website at:

www.cranbrookdistrictteachersassociation.com

Happy Summer!



Time for some fun....

Summer Road Trip:

Last week I travelled from London to Leeds, which is a distance of 174 miles.

I started at 9.15am and completed the journey with an average speed of 40 miles per hour.

On the way back, in the evening, I travelled exactly the same route, starting at 5.15pm. The traffic was light and I completed the journey with an average speed of 60 miles per hour.

What was the overall average speed for round trip?

The answer is not 50 mph.

[Show Hint](#) [Hide Answer](#) [Print](#)



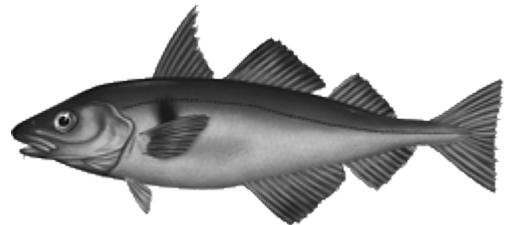
Gone Fishin':

A trout's tail weighs eight pounds.

Its head weighs as much as the tail and one-half of the body combined, and the body weighs as much as the head and tail combined.

What does the whole trout weigh?

[Show Hint](#) [Hide Answer](#) [Print](#)



Now for Some Reading:

Complete these **common words** by using all of the letters A to Z, each exactly once.

*e*er
**eue
**o
ma*
*p*a*e*
erso
***k*am*on
*ouse
a
ur
***igent

[Show Hint](#) [Show Answer](#) [Print](#)

