



The Committee for Action on Social Justice (CASJ)

- advises the BCTF on social justice issues
- reviews and promotes social justice workshops
- liaises with community groups and NGOs
- develops policy on emerging issues
- reviews and develops materials for classroom teachers
- develops and supports networks of social justice contacts in the following action group areas: Antipoverty, Antiracism, Environmental Justice, LGBTQ, Peace and Global Education, Status of Women
- co-ordinates the work of the six action groups.

Antipoverty

Mandate to

- increase teacher awareness of the effects of poverty in the classroom
- encourage teachers to act to end poverty through systemic change
- alleviate the effects of poverty
- acknowledge the resiliency and skill sets of students living in poverty.

Activities

- Antipoverty month (February)
- Research on teachers' experiences with child poverty in the classroom
- World Food Day (October 16)
- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (October 17)
- Living Wage campaign
- Poverty Reduction Coalition
- International Day of Disabled Persons (December)
- First Call Coalition
- Raise the Rates
- World Day Against Child Labour (June 12).

Workshops

- Poverty as a Classroom Issue
- A Follow up to Poverty as a Classroom Issue

Peace and Global Education

Mandate to

- promote teaching from a global perspective
- incorporate peace education into classroom practice
- develop an analysis of the forces affecting globalization
- build commitment to peace, human rights, and justice.

Activities

- International Development Week (February)
- Global Campaign for Education: Global Action Week (April)
- World Fair Trade Day (May)
- World Day Against Child Labour (June)
- World Food Day (October 16)
- Buy Nothing Day (November)
- Human Rights Day (December 10)
- War Toys for Peace Art project
- Peace and Global Education PSA
- Human rights and international law.

Workshops

- Bringing Global Education into the Classroom
- Global Education: Creating Cultures of Peace—Acts of Transformation from War Toys to Peace Art

Antiracism

Mandate to

- promote the creation and implementation of discrete board policy
- sanctuary school policy
- promote and defend human rights
- eliminate racism from our schools
- work with the community to mitigate racism and identify emerging issues.

Activities

- Black History Month (February)
- International Day Against Racism (March 21)
- National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21)
- International Human Rights Day (December 10)

Workshops

- Anti-discrimination Response Training
- Assertive Communication
- Bafa Bafa (Cross-cultural Simulation Game)
- Incorporating Anti-racist Education into BC's Revised Curriculum
- Strategies for Discussing Controversial Issues



Environmental Justice

Mandate to

- provide members with credible information and practical resources related to environmental issues and sustainable solutions.

Activities

- World Water Day (March 22)
- Earth Day (April 22)
- National Wildlife Week (April)
- World Environment Day (June 5)
- Canadian Rivers Day (June)
- Canadian Environment Week (June)
- Canada's Parks Day (July)
- National Forest Week (September)
- Environmental Educators' PSA
- Bottled water free campaign (March).

Workshops

- Teaching Green: Integrating Environmental Justice Issues across the Curriculum
5 Modules: Climate Justice, Food Security, Sustainable Resources, Sustainable Transportation, Water Rights

Status of Women

Mandate to

- promote equality for women locally and globally
- strengthen the social safety net
- improve programs and services for women
- end violence and oppression against women
- promote the participation of women in all areas of education.

Activities

- International Women's Day (March 8)
- Prevention of Violence Against Women Week (April)
- Women's History Month (October)
- Person's Day (October 18)
- 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence (November 25–December 10)
- National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women (December 6)
- Campaign for universal childcare
- We Can campaign.

Workshops

- Assertive Communication
- Stamping Out Cyberbullying by Building Self-awareness, Self-discipline, and Empathy
- Building Healthy Youth Relationships
- Sexual Health Education Part 1: One Size Fits All?
- Sexual Health Education Part 2: Sex, Sex, Sex!

LGBTQ

(Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Questioning)

Mandate to

- educate about homophobia/transphobia/gender diversity
- challenge heteronormativity and heterosexism in schools
- promote the creation and implementation of discrete board policy to protect and support LGBTQ staff, students, and families.

Activities

- BC Pink Shirt Day (February in BC) and International Day of Pink (April)
- Day of Silence (April)
- BCTF Week Against Homophobia (May)
- International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia (May 17)
- Out in Schools, Pride Education Network, and SOGI123, Transcare BC, CampOUT.

Workshops

- Creating a Gender-inclusive School Culture
- Reaching Out, Speaking Out about Homophobia and Transphobia
- Sexual Health Education Part 1: One Size Fits All?
- Sexual Health Education Part 2: Sex, Sex, Sex!

Decision-making bodies of the BCTF

Annual General Meeting (AGM)	Executive Committee (EC)	Representative Assembly (RA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets once a year at Spring Break • 700 locally elected delegates • Decides on leadership priorities for BCTF • Debates recommendations and local resolutions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets several times per month • Elected at the AGM—11 members • Three full-time table officers at BCTF • Debates recommendations and local resolutions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets three times a year • Composed of elected representatives from each local • Sets the BCTF budget and fee • Debates recommendations and local resolutions.

Social Justice structures of the BCTF

SJ staff members	What is CASJ? (Committee for Action on Social Justice)	SJ contacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two administrative staff, one support staff • Four-year term appointments • Work to support CASJ, social justice networks, and social justice issues • Co-ordinate Social Justice Work Group composed of members from all BCTF divisions • Bring advice from CASJ to the EC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consists of six action groups of four members each: Antipoverty; Antiracism; Environmental Justice; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning; Peace and Global Education; Status of Women • Members are appointed to terms of up to three years • Meets three times per year (October, January, May) • Works to build SJ networks and helps co-ordinate provincial SJ work • Advises the EC on social justice issues • Creates SJ resources for teachers (lesson plans, online materials, posters, workshop revisions, etc.) • Members are encouraged to attend Summer Conference and SJ training sessions • Members facilitate discrete SJ sessions for zone meetings • Members are encouraged to attend AGM and support SJ motions • Lobbies locally to pass AGM motions. 	<div data-bbox="1463 2278 1963 2439" data-label="Section-Header"> <h2>SJ Facilitators</h2> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One in each local (two in larger locals) • Work to develop local networks of SJ activists • Attend zone meetings and summer conference • Organize SJ reps locally • Advocate for local SJ issues. • Give workshops around the province • Three-year terms • Attend Facilitator's Institute Training (FIT) annually • Present SJ SURT.