



📄 Electronic version available for download under Social Justice Publications at bctf.ca

September 2018

Welcome back! We hope that you are returning to school with the energy and passion that comes from the relaxation of summer vacation, and are eager to find new ways to bring social justice into your classrooms, schools, and communities.

Since our May edition of *Seeds of Social Justice*, many exciting campaigns and events have occurred. [The BC Poverty Reduction Coalition](#) began the [ABC Campaign](#) meant to lobby the current government to get moving on a provincial poverty reduction/elimination plan. [The Community Action Network](#) is pursuing an [affordable transit campaign](#) that envisions free transit for children and a sliding scale for adults based on income. [CampOut](#) had another successful camp in July and the [Show Racism the Red Card](#) artwork contest, held in cooperation with the Vancouver Whitecaps Football Club, had many students attend the July 1 match as a thank you for participating in that contest.

Sadly, not all the news is good. Children as young as infants have been separated from their parents as they attempt to cross the border into the US. And here in Canada, a recent [poll](#) shows that the majority of Canadians consider the number of asylum seekers entering the country to be too high. See our [Refugee Resources](#) page for resources to bring this issue into your classroom, including a new zine, [Searching for Home: Nasrin's Journey](#).



Many of these campaigns and issues make for timely lessons using the [Social Justice Lens](#), which is available in English and French. The BCTF also has many resources available to teachers that can be found on the [BCTF website](#) under the [Social Justice](#) heading on the home page as well as lessons found in [TeachBC](#). Please consider using recent events as a teachable moment.

Social Justice School Mailout

Ask your staff rep or school-based social justice rep about the September BCTF social justice package, which was recently mailed to your school. In it, you'll find the following items:

- BCTF [Social Justice Calendar of Events](#) highlighting important national and international dates
- BCTF [Social Justice Newsletter Summer/Fall 2018](#)
- [What we stand to lose with climate change](#) poster
- the newly developed zine [Searching for Home: Nasrin's Journey](#).

BC Social Justice Program Calendar of Events



September



- 4: Labour Day
- 8: International Literacy Day
- 24–30: National Forest Week
- 21: UN International Day of Peace
- 26: International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

The monthly editions of *Seeds of Social Justice* highlight resources teachers can use to engage students in relevant activities. The editions are sent by email to local presidents and local social justice contacts for distribution to BCTF members. You can also find the latest edition of *Seeds* on the [Publications page](#) of the BCTF website under [newsletters, bulletins and alerts](#).

Resources Social Justice



BCTF Social Justice resources available for your classroom

Legend:
 + available in French
 F lesson plan available
 D download only

To place an order for any of these resources free of charge, please email socialjustice@bctf.ca

Antipoverty

- Poverty and School Attendance 11/16 +
- Adequacy of Resources 12/16
- Staff Awareness 13/16
- Funding to the Fuel 14/16
- Money Shortcuts 15/16
- Economic Processes 16/16

Infographics: 8.5" x 11"

- Breaking the Money Wall 17/16
- Breaking the Cycle 18/16
- Kids Can't Wait! 19/16
- Child Poverty 20/16
- Poverty and Children 21/16
- Poverty Spending 22/16

Infographics: 8.5" x 11"

Antiracism

- Silence Promotes Racism 23/16
- Different Colours, One Team 24/16
- Racism: The Cycle 25/16
- Show racism the red card 26/16
- International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 27/16
- Education System 28/16

Environmental Justice

- They're Complicated 29/16
- Carbon Cycle 30/16
- Blackout 31/16
- Power Choice 32/16
- Whose Share Is It? 33/16
- What We Stand to Lose with Climate Change 34/16

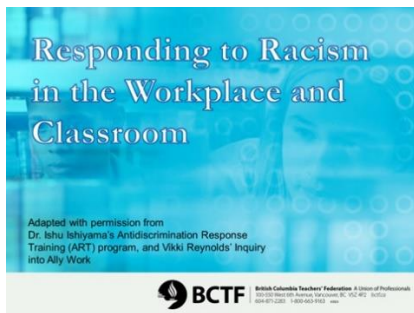
The [Social Justice Resources brochure](#) highlights a variety of social justice materials available from the BCTF.

To request hard copies of these resources, email socialjustice@bctf.ca. Please include the name and number of each item along with your mailing address.

The ***Social Justice Binder*** contains a number of useful documents for teachers, including information on social justice grants, workshops, resources, and tools to help incorporate social justice into your classroom. Ask your local social justice contact to download and share the electronic version of this resource from the Social Justice Contact tab on the BCTF member portal.

Social Justice Workshops

A big thanks to BCTF members who participated in Facilitators' Institute Training (FIT) this August. These teachers are now available to facilitate the following new or revised workshops at no cost at a school-based, local, or regional professional development day. To learn more about these and other social justice workshops, click on the workshop image below to visit the [Social Justice Workshops page](#) on the BCTF website.



Opportunities for Members



One position is available on the **Status of Women Action Group** on the **BCTF Committee for Action on Social Justice**. For more information, visit the [BCTF Committee/Facilitator Postings page](#) on the [BCTF Opportunities for Members webpage](#). The deadline to submit applications in **September 12, 2018**.

If you have a passion for social justice and are looking for a way to contribute to your school without committing a large amount of time, this year might be the time to put your name forward as your **school-based social justice rep**. The time commitment required for this role depends on you. Teachers with limited time can help by simply forwarding social justice-related information from the BCTF and local social justice contacts to teaching staff. School contacts wishing to play a larger role may choose to work with colleagues to set goals and carry out projects. School-based contacts can also advocate for policies related to social justice within a school, local, or community.

Save the date, May 24–25, 2019, for the **BCTF Provincial Social Justice Conference**. We are very excited to announce a new format for this year's conference. One social justice contact and one Aboriginal Education contact from each local —two in locals over 1,000 members—are funded to attend. Together in solidarity we can move the social justice agenda forward.



Did you know that the BCTF provides grants and funds to support teachers in carrying out social justice projects? If you have a project in mind for the 2018–19 school year, you are invited to apply now. One grant will be featured in each edition of *Seeds of Social Justice*. To learn about additional grants, including the [Ed May Social Responsibility Education Fund](#) and [Local Social Justice Grants](#), visit the [Social Justice Grants and Funds webpage](#).

[Provincial Social Justice Initiatives Grants](#) are awarded on a yearly basis to support social justice projects that have an ongoing and systemic impact on teachers and students across the province and in their community. Projects may involve local community groups but should not be donations to these groups. The total amount of grant funds awarded in each school year is a maximum of \$5,000. This amount may be awarded to one applicant or divided between two or more applicants. The deadline is **December 3, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.**

Todd Patrick

Assistant Director of Social Justice
BC Teachers' Federation
100-550 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5S 4P2
604-871-1850
Toll free: 1-800-663-9163
tpatrick@bctf.ca