



# WVMEA News Bulletin

July 31, 2023

## A WORD FROM YOUR UNION

"Smell the sea and feel the sky. Let your soul and spirit fly." —Van Morrison

As we find ourselves in the midst of another beautiful summer, we hope everyone is taking some time to enjoy those things that reinvigorate and rejuvenate the soul. To make the most of time outdoors and the longer summer days, walks on the seawalls, hikes in the woods, paddleboarding, biking, sailing, or any other activity that allows you to slow down, relax and enjoy the beauty around us.

Here at the WVMEA, the office staff is taking rotating summer vacation and using the quieter time as an opportunity to catch up on pending projects. Upcoming in August is the adjudication of the applications for the **WVMEA Academic Scholarship**, the **WVMEA Trades Scholarship**, and the **Roy Hunter Memorial Scholarship for the Visual Arts**. A reminder to all applicants that completed scholarship packages must be submitted to the WVMEA office by no later than **Thursday, August 3, 2023 by 1:30pm**. We would also like to extend a big THANK YOU to the members that volunteered to participate on these Scholarship Committees meeting in August.

## UNION SAVINGS

Earlier this month we announced our new member discount program. We are very happy to have launched our association with Union Savings! For those who missed our earlier announcement, Union Savings is a not-for-profit discount program run by Canadian Unions. If you are interested in finding out more, please click [here](#) to view the steps to join and visit [www.unionsavings.ca](http://www.unionsavings.ca).

## MUNICIPAL, LIBRARY AND POLICE MEMBERS

The Bargaining Committee is set to meet with the employer early in September to discuss the resumption of Bargaining. Your Bargaining Committee is eager and ready to continue working to reach a strong collective agreement to meet the needs of our members. We appreciate your continued patience and are hopeful that we can move forward with this process.

Across the Municipality, summer activities and projects are in full swing keeping many of our community centre, library, parks and public works members very busy. Thank you everyone for your hard work and dedication providing wonderful services, activities and events for the community!

## SCHOOL MEMBERS

In the first week of July the Custodial group at the School District went through a reorganization process to fill retirement vacancies. The results have a few of the custodians taking on bigger roles, some are changing schools and some casual employees are moving into permanent positions. The implementation of these new assignments will begin in mid August. So, if you see a new custodian at your school, stop and say hello, get to know these vital employees.

Also this month, School Board members were to see an enhancement to their extended health and dental benefits plan starting on July 1st. However, there were complications with implantation on behalf of the benefits provider Pacific Blue Cross. If you are experiencing any issues with your benefits, please reach out to their customer support team Monday to Friday 8 am to 4:30 pm at (604) 419-2000 or Toll-Free at 1 (877) 722-2583.

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our next **General Membership Meeting** is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 6th at 5:00pm**. We will be meeting in-person at the **West Vancouver Memorial Library, Welsh Hall**. The WVML is located at **1950 Marine Dr, West Vancouver, BC**. This is the third of five meetings for the 2023-2024 year. *A reminder that all members must attend at least one meeting to avoid the \$25 Assessment.* We hope to see you there!

## CONNECT WITH US

We encourage all members to connect with the WVMEA and follow us on social media. We also ask that you spread the word with your coworkers to ensure that all WVMEA members are receiving our communications. If some members are not receiving correspondence from our office please have them reach out to us at [info@wvmea.com](mailto:info@wvmea.com) or 604-925-7447.

website: [www.wvmea.com](http://www.wvmea.com)



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