

WVMEA NEWS BULLETIN
September 25, 2026

A WORD FROM YOUR UNION

Welcome to fall! As we begin a new season, we are pleased to welcome back all support staff serving the community through our schools, municipalities, libraries, and police departments. Your dedication, professionalism, and hard work help deliver the essential services that our community depends on every day.

We hope you had an opportunity to enjoy a well-deserved summer break and are returning refreshed for the months ahead. Whether you are supporting students and families, serving the public, maintaining critical operations, or contributing to community safety, your work makes a meaningful difference and is deeply valued.

We also extend a warm welcome to our new members. We are delighted to have you join our team and look forward to the skills, perspectives, and contributions you will bring to our organization.

As we look ahead to another year of service and collaboration, we thank all members for their ongoing commitment and wish everyone a productive, successful, and rewarding fall season. On behalf of the Executive Board, thank you for all that you do!

WELCOMING OUR NEW WVMEA MEMBERS

As shared at our General Membership Meetings, the WVMEA's jurisdiction policy grievance, launched in February 2025, has led to an important and positive outcome for our union. Following an extensive arbitration and mediation process, a Letter of Understanding (LOU) was signed late 2025, establishing a clear pathway for eligible non-union employees in Community Services and Cultural Services to join the WVMEA bargaining unit.

Over the next several years, more than 150 employees are expected to become WVMEA members as additional groups are gradually brought into the Municipal bargaining unit. Each group will have the opportunity to vote on and ratify their new working conditions before officially joining the union.

We are delighted to welcome the first employees to join through this process: Group Fitness Instructors, Drop-In Yoga Instructors, and Spin Instructors from Community Services. These new members are now part of the unionized workforce at the District of West Vancouver and will benefit from working conditions aligned with the Collective Agreement.

This marks an exciting milestone for the WVMEA as we continue to strengthen our membership and collective voice. **Please join us in extending a warm welcome to our new colleagues!** We look forward to working together and building an even stronger, more connected WVMEA community.

2026 SCHOLARSHIP AND ACADEMIC AWARD RECIPIENTS

Based on the recommendation of the Academic Scholarship Selection Committee, the Executive Board selected **Godtfred Feng** as the recipient of the **2026 WVMEA Academic Scholarship**. Godtfred is a Municipal member of the WVMEA. The **2026 WVMEA Trades Scholarship** was awarded to **Connor Dove**, the son of WVMEA Municipal member Steve Dove. We did not receive any applications for for the 2026 WVMEA Visual Arts Scholarship. Learn more about the deserving scholarship recipients below:

Godtfred Feng – Winner of the 2026 WVMEA Academic Scholarship - $2000

This exceptional graduate from Rockridge Secondary School has distinguished himself through outstanding leadership, academic achievement, athletics, and community service. As President of the Friday Business Club, a first-place winner at the Vancouver Ivey Case Competition, an accomplished sailor with the West Vancouver Yacht Club, and a dedicated swim instructor and lifeguard with more than 1,500 hours of service at the West Vancouver Aquatic Centre, Godtfred has demonstrated remarkable initiative, responsibility, and commitment to his community. Godtfred is planning on attending UBC and is enrolled in the Bachelor of Commerce Program.

Connor Dove – Winner of the 2026 WVMEA Trades Scholarship - $2000

This accomplished Sutherland Secondary graduate is the recipient of a 2026 WVMEA Trades Scholarship. Through his commitment to the skilled trades, strong work ethic, and enthusiasm for learning, Connor has distinguished himself as a highly deserving recipient. He will attend the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) to pursue the Metal Fabrication Foundations Red Seal program, where he will continue to build on the skills, determination, and professionalism that have already set him apart.

In recognition of the outstanding calibre of the Academic applicants and the minimal differences in their evaluation scores, the Executive Board decided to grant three **$1000 Academic Awards** to the following applicants:

Leo Maniwa Brodie son of School member Cathy Maniwa. This outstanding West Vancouver Secondary graduate has demonstrated excellence in academics, leadership, athletics, entrepreneurship, and community service. As co-founder of the West Vancouver Business Clubs Organization (WVBCO), Leo helped connect more than 200 members across three high schools, while also serving as a soccer team captain, volunteering at senior care facility, and graduating with Honours before pursuing a Bachelor of Arts at the University of British Columbia.

Michelle Gots WVMEA Municipal member. This remarkable Rockridge Secondary School graduate has distinguished herself through academic excellence, leadership, athletics, and community service. A long-time captain of the school volleyball team, senior mentor, Canadian Blood Services volunteer, and certified gymnastics coach, she has demonstrated exceptional resilience, compassion, and dedication while maintaining high academic achievement and supporting others in her community. Her commitment to service, leadership, and personal growth makes her a deserving recipient, and we wish her every success at Queens University in her pursuit of a Bachelor of Science degree.

Armita Komaei WVMEA Municipal member. This high-achieving Sentinel Secondary graduate is a dedicated community volunteer, and emerging health sciences leader, Armita has combined academic excellence with meaningful service through her EMR training, leadership of The Prevention Project, volunteer work with Special Olympics BC, and roles as a lifeguard and swim instructor. We congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition and wish her continued success in her post-secondary studies in Kinesiology at the University of British Columbia.

The Executive Board would like to take this opportunity to thank all the exceptional applicants and to wish them well in their continued studies! The Board would also like to recognize the work of the **Academic Scholarship Selection Committee** for their time and careful deliberation. The Academic Scholarship Committee was made up of **Olga Lamboff** (Executive Board and Transit member), **Isabell Nielsen** (Executive Board Member and School member) and **Shaylee Halali** (Library member). A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL!

UPCOMING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



The fourth of five WVMEA General Meetings for the 2026-2027 meeting year, will take place on **November 5, 2026** at **5:00pm**, via **Zoom**. Registration details will be distributed to members in the coming weeks.

Key agenda items will include discussion of the upcoming **Executive Board nominations** and voting regarding the **Notice of Motion to amend the Association's Audit and Financial Review cycle.**

Currently, the WVMEA follows a three-year audit cycle, consisting of one year with a full independent audit followed by two years of review engagements. Due to the significant time and resources required to complete a full audit, the Executive Board is proposing a transition to a four-year cycle, with one full audit followed by three years of review engagements.

The WVMEA maintains strong financial controls and robust accounting practices, and this proposed change will continue to meet all organizational and regulatory requirements while improving operational efficiency. Members will have the opportunity to review the proposal and provide input during the meeting.

Regarding the Executive Board nominations, this is the final year of the current Executive Board's three-year term. As a result, all positions will be up for election at the AGM in April 2027. Information on eligibility for Executive Board positions, nominations, and elections, will be shared at the November General Meeting. The First-Year Trustee position will also be up for election at the AGM.

We encourage all members to attend the virtual General Meeting on November 5, 2026, and participate in these important discussions.

MUNICIPAL PENSION PLAN AGM

The Municipal Pension Plan is holding their AGM on October 15, 2026. This will be an online event from 12:00 to 1:00 pm PDT. Everyone who contributes to the MPP is invited to attend; to register go to mpp.pensionsbc.ca/annual-general-meeting Presentations about the plan will cover financial highlights, an update on the strategic plan, investment market developments, and what's ahead for MPP. Following the presentations, attendees can choose to participate in information sessions on select topics. Recordings of the sessions, along with other meeting materials, will be made available to everyone who registers.

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