

BCTF Signing Authority

The BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) has recently advised BCPSEA regarding BCTF signing authority with respect to provincial matters:

In future, any agreement requiring the signature of the provincial parties must be signed on behalf of the BCTF by a full-time table officer in order to be valid and enforceable.

The implication is that no valid or enforceable agreement can be reached locally with respect to any provincial matter (see Appendix 1 of Provincial Letter of Understanding No. 1 at <http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/access/publications/manuals/tcaamanual/lou/lou1-app1provincial.pdf>) without the signature of one of the three full-time table officers, regardless of who has signed the agreement locally.

In addition, districts are hereby advised that BCTF Field Service Division staff members are not authorized to sign agreements on behalf of the BCTF. We will also seek clarification from the BCTF regarding the implications of this information in terms of arbitrations/mediations and any potential settlements. For your information, the BCTF full-time table officers for 2010-2011 are:

President:	Susan Lambert
First Vice-President:	Jim Iker
Second Vice-President:	Glen Hansman

The issue of BCTF signing authority arose from a Memorandum of Agreement signed by a BCTF Field Service Division staff member. The position of BCPSEA was that the Memorandum of Agreement in question was a valid and enforceable agreement. This position was set out in a July 9, 2010 letter to the BCTF. The BCTF responded on July 23, 2010, agreeing that the Memorandum of Agreement in question was an enforceable agreement and advising BCPSEA regarding BCTF authority as set out above.

Further information regarding the BCTF process for Mid-Contract Modifications can be found in the Members' Guide to the BCTF 2009-2010 at Part 3, Section H, "Mid-Contract Modification Process," pages 31-32 of the numbered PDF pages at:

<http://bctf.ca/uploadedFiles/public/AboutUs/MembersGuide/guide.pdf>

Questions or Comments

If you have any questions or comments regarding this bulletin, including the review of the current BCPSEA Mid-Contract Modification process, please contact Laura Buchanan at laurab@bcpsea.bc.ca or 604.730.4522.