



## **Constitution of the Prince George Social Studies Teachers' Association**

### **Dated**

Draft adopted Nov 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Inaugural General Meeting (in conjunction with The Clover Declaration\*); amended and ratified Jan 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 General Meeting at Duchess Park.

### **Name**

The name of the association is the Prince George Social Studies Teachers' Association, subsection of the Prince George District Teachers' Association, and chapter of the British Columbia Social Studies Teachers' Association.

### **Objectives**

1. To underpin the teaching and learning of Social Studies through collaboration and example.
2. To foster professional development activities that are relevant to members.
3. To kindle creativity, argument, and bonhomie among fellow Social Studies teachers.

### **Base of Operation**

The operations of the association are to be carried on in School District # 57 – Prince George.

### **Article 1: Membership, Fees, and Financial Records**

1. Membership shall be open to any person who is a member of the Prince George District Teachers' Association locals 571 (Prince George), 572 (Mackenzie), 573 (Robson Valley) and District 93 Conseil Scolaire Francophone members who work within School District # 57.
2. Honorary or like memberships may also be bestowed by a vote of the executive or membership at a general meeting.
3. Financial records will be maintained by the association and shall be open to the membership, the executive committee of the Prince George District Teachers' Association, and the executive committee of the British Columbia Social Studies Teachers' Association.
4. Membership fees, if any, shall be established at a general meeting of the association.
5. The fiscal year shall run from July 1 to June 30

### **Article 2: Election and Appointment of Officers**

The executive committee of the association consists of the following:

1. Table Officers (elected): president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer.
2. Members at large as appointed by a vote of the executive.
3. Such other officers as appointed by a vote of the table officers, e.g. past president.

### **Article 3: Terms of Office and Duties**

1. The officers of the association shall be elected for a term of two years at the annual general meeting, and are eligible for re-election.
2. Wherever a vacancy occurs in the executive committee through any cause, the executive committee shall name a member to fill the vacancy until the next annual general meeting.
3. The duties of the officers of the executive committee are as defined in the rules of order currently in use by the British Columbia Teachers' Federation, when not in conflict with any clause of this constitution.
4. An annual report is presented at the annual general meeting by the officers of the association.

### **Article 4: Meetings**

1. The annual general meeting of the association shall be held each year at a time and place to be designated by the executive committee, which will be communicated to members in advance.
2. Other general meetings of the association shall be held from time to time as ordered by the executive committee.
3. Meetings and operations of the association will respect the BCTF Code of Ethics and resolve conflict in accordance with the Professional Relations Structures of the BCTF.

### **Article 5: Constitution and Amendments**

1. Upon ratification and subsequent amendments, copies of the constitution are submitted to the offices of the Prince George District Teachers' Association, the British Columbia Social Studies Teachers' Association, and the British Columbia Teachers' Federation.
2. The constitution may be amended at an annual general meeting by a three-quarters majority vote of the members in attendance, provided that notice of such amendment has been submitted in writing at the beginning of the annual general meeting.
3. In the event that the association ceases to function or fails to meet for a period of more than two years, the association may be dissolved by the indication of a majority of those members who respond to a call for dissolution, and any funds remaining with the association be transferred to the BCSSTA.

### **Article 6: Disbursement of Funds**

1. Funds shall be used to promote professional development activities of the members of the association.
2. Professional Resources that are purchased using funds shall be available to all members of the Prince George Social Studies Teachers' Association.
3. Applications for subsidy of events, presenters, travel, resources, and so on will be reviewed and adjudicated by the executive using criteria accepted by vote at a general meeting.
4. The Prince George Social Studies Teachers' Association will turn to the Prince George District Teachers' Association and its Pro-D Committee as needed for advice and support of operations undertaken to fulfill its objectives.

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\* The November 2016 Clover Declaration reflects the notions and debate about the formation of a modern LSA. This followed an examination of collaborative practice including the local model of the Pacific Slope Consortium as well as some interesting historical examples such as the North West Company. There was speculation as to why LSAs have been almost absent on the local scene for two decades, a review of the pros and cons of forming an LSA, a discussion of how to reckon diversity and divergent viewpoints, and a chopping away at a set of values and objectives that could be useful to an LSA. Much of the sentiment of the Clover Declaration has found its way into the Draft Constitution of the PGSSTA.