

An Overview of Current Teacher Job Action in British Columbia:

- BC teachers' prior provincial collective agreement was in effect from July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2011.
- Following several months of provincial contract negotiations, on August 31, 2011 the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) announced to the BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) that teachers would commence Phase 1 of planned job action on Tuesday, September 6, 2011.
- The **BCTF** is the union of professionals representing public school teachers in British Columbia. All public school teachers belong to the BCTF and their local teachers' association.
- **BCPSEA** is the accredited bargaining agent for the province's 60 public boards of education. BCPSEA negotiates provincially with the BCTF (the teachers' union) for a provincial teachers' collective agreement.
- Individual boards of education do not bargain locally with their local teachers' associations to negotiate a collective agreement.
- In British Columbia, teaching is **an essential service**. As such, while the BCTF is able to take job action (go on strike), BCPSEA and the teacher's union are required to maintain certain essential services during that time. BC's [Labour Relations Board](#) orders which services are considered essential.
- Information around provincial legislation and the current progress of negotiations between the BCTF and BCPSEA can be found on BCPSEA's [website](#) as well as on BCPSEA's [Facebook page](#).