

WELCOME ✨ BACK ✨ VINTA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER ✨

2025/2026

Professional Development Days

October 24, 2025 - Provincial PSA Day

November 28, 2025 - District PD Day

February 13, 2025 - School Based PD Day

May 8, 2025 - District PD/Inservice Day

Inservice Days

Sept. 2, 2025 - School Based Inservice

January 5, 2026 - Inservice Day

May 8, 2026 - District PD/Inservice Day

June 26, 2026 - Administration Day

New

Opportunities

Collaboration Grants

Do you have a project you would like to work on with colleagues from the district?

This year we are offering

10 Collaboration Grants of \$1000 each for projects designed by teachers to enhance professional learning. The Collaboration Grants must be submitted on the Collaboration Grant application and are available on the VINTA website. Check with your school PD Rep for help.

What is available to me through Professional Development?

Each teacher or teacher-on-call in our district is eligible to receive Professional Development Funds of \$800 and 1 TTOC day yearly. These funds are available for one school year and must be applied for using the Professional Development form. If you have questions about how to apply, how to fill in the form or any other issues please direct them to your school rep who attends monthly meetings.

As a PD Rep you...

Help plan and share information about professional development events each school elects a Professional Development Representative.

What does a PD Rep do?

PD Reps help to plan and organize district and school-based Professional Development days. The committee meets on the **1st Wednesday** of each month. We ask that school reps relay information about PD topics both to their school and bring school issues/ideas to the PD committee. PD Reps are elected at the school level along with Staff, Health & Safety and all other local reps.

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How to apply for Professional Development

1. Obtain an application form from your School Pro-D Representative or VINTA website.
2. Complete the application form fully and give a copy to your **Administrative Officer**. *If you are unsure of how to fill in the form please contact your local PD Chair*
3. Your Administrator will forward the original application form to the **Superintendent** at the School Board Office. Applications must be received (date stamped as received) at minimum of **five** days prior to the activity.
4. The SBO will return the original application form to the school administrator, who will then return the form to the individual, indicating whether or not the necessary leave has been granted and the School Board Office will forward a copy of the application to the VINTA Office.
5. After the Pro-D event, submit the original approved application with the 'Actual Column' completed with receipts to the **VINTA Office** for payment.
6. The following receipts must be submitted with approved original Pro-D application form for payment:
 - transportation (air, bus, train, ferry),
 - event registration fees,
 - accommodation.**No receipts necessary for meals or mileage.**

***If plans are changed or event cancelled, inform your A.O. and VINTA immediately.

NOTE: Only expenses submitted on the appropriate application form in the 'Actual' column with the appropriate receipts shall be considered for payment.

What is Professional Development?

Professional Development is defined as teacher initiated activity which results in the professional growth of the individual, specifically activities which enable teachers to keep pace with changes in the content, philosophy, methodology and techniques involved in their work. Professional Development should assist the teacher in building and strengthening themselves as a professional. It should provide continuing education services that improve the quality of teaching.

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What do you need?

If you have an idea for a speaker, workshop or any type of PD session please contact your school PD Rep or Sarah Soltau, VINTA Professional Development Chair (ssoltau@sd85.bc.ca). We are always looking for new ideas and we want to serve our members with useful and relevant sessions. We want to support your professional growth

Types of Professional Development

1. **Self Directed Pro-D.** Available on Provincial Day or School Based Day when the teacher's attendance is not essential for the planned activity. There will be no costs associated with this activity.
2. **Individual Pro-D.** Available for attending workshops/non-credit courses/visitations within or outside the district. Up to 25% of individual Pro-D allotment can be used for the purchase of materials.
3. **District Directed Pro-D.** Available when Individual Pro-D has been exhausted, unusual circumstances, funding of educationally-oriented activities for teachers, exchange teachers or when expenses of a workshop exceed \$800. One may also access the District Directed fund to use with Individual Pro-D.
4. **School Committee.** Available to schools for funding Pro-D involving one or more staff members working towards a goal established by the staff as a whole. Up to 25% of allotment can be used for the purchase of materials that must be kept in the school.
5. **Mentoring Program:** Contact the VINTA office. We have special opportunities available to new to career or new to position teachers.
6. **Collaboration Grants:** These new PD grants are available to members in order to organize a group project to work with colleagues? This year we are offering 10 Collaboration Grants of \$1000 each to projects designed by teachers to enhance professional learning. These funds do not cover TTOC expenses.