

A message from the Presidents of the BCTF and CUPE BC

Dear colleagues in our public education system,

There is no more important partnership in our public schools than the one between teachers and education assistants. Working together, they are crucial to the success of BC students with complex learning needs.

For partnerships to work best, it is important that everyone is clear about their own and their partners' roles and responsibilities. To assist in this effort, the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) and the Canadian Union of Public Employees—BC division (CUPE BC) are proud to introduce Roles and Responsibilities of Teachers and Education Assistants—a BCTF/CUPE BC Guide.

This guide builds on previous work done by both unions to foster collaboration in the shared responsibility to ensure the academic, social, and emotional growth of the students in our care. By maintaining our professional relationships in BC classrooms, we set a vital example for students that respect and co-operation are the foundations of life-long learning and success.

There are countless opportunities for collaboration between teachers, education assistants, and our students. This document provides general guidelines to support this collaboration and to acts as a supplement to the roles and responsibilities prescribed by government legislation, policy, and our respective collective agreements.

With deep gratitude, we thank the teachers, education assistants, union leaders, and staff for their effort and dedication producing this statement. It is a testament to our collective ability to work collaboratively in support of the BC public education system.

On behalf of BCTF and CUPE BC members, we look forward to strengthening our relationship through projects like this guide and our shared commitment to our students, their families, our communities, and our public education system.

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President, BCTF

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