



TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION No. 31

AFFILIATED WITH TEAMSTERS CANADA AND THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
#1 GROSVENOR SQUARE, DELTA, BC V3M 5S1

Education Assistant Standards of Practice Group

October 22, 2020

The Teamsters Union in British Columbia wholeheartedly supports the initiative of the Education Assistants Standards of Practice Group. As union representatives, we want our EA union members' ideas to receive proper attention. Together with our EA Standards of Practice Group and our union members' support, we will collectively achieve our goals.

The Teamsters Union understands that standardization of EA education will allow for more excellent care and support for students. The initiative will assist EA's to be more prepared and effective while working with children.

Our members report that without consistent training, it has resulted in a stressful classroom environment for students, teachers and EA's. The Education Assistants Standards of Practice Group's goal is to introduce ideas to remedy these difficult classroom situations with students more effectively. The focus of the Teamsters Union is to create a positive classroom environment where each EA is prepared and able to utilize their training and tools to assist the students and the teachers.

The Teamsters Union represents 1.4 million members in every private and public sector workplace in North America. The Union is very familiar with collective agreements, regulations and standards. They have stabilized workplaces and improved standards. The Teamsters Union seeks to work closely with the Education Assistants Standards of Practice Group to help our Education Assistants in Abbotsford, BC and all other school districts.

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Ultimately, the Teamsters Union and the Education Standards of Practice Group could mirror the Teachers Union structure of discussing improvements in a formal setting with the government. However, the government needs to take our movement, concerns and ideas seriously. Within the Ministry of Education, we must together build a better-standardized system for Education Assistants to transform the learning environment in British Columbian schools as guided by the concerns of our members.

Fraternally yours,

Lance Matricardi,
Business Representative
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Fraser Valley Office

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