

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 5

Start UP!

Members' Newsletter

We hope you are having a refreshing break with friends and family.

Before things get busy we'd like to review the fall and update you about the workshops we are planning for the rest of this school year.



'Start UP!'
workshops:

- Surrey Jan. 23 & Feb 20th
- Vancouver Feb. 19 & April 27
- Webcasts for outside Metro.

From the
**Start UP! Your Class
Cooperative:**

Workshop schedule for
this school year.

Listing of groups
supporting early career
teachers province
wide.

Questions?
ray.myrtle@gmail.com



Ray's glance back at 2014...

After last February's workshops we decided to organize the Start UP! as a teachers' cooperative. We had to be registered in time to open a bank account and register people for the Start UP! Series in August.



Unfortunately I had already planned a trip to Europe. So each night I was online trying to figure out how to do the constitution of a cooperative. Not easy from a hotel room in parts of Turkey and while cycling around Croatia! However you might not notice but I'm smiling - this was June 12th, the day that our incorporation was approved!



Despite the strike, Ann-Marie was able to do a wonderful job organizing the Start UP! Series in Kamloops. We had four days of workshops with 10 presentations.

In the fall, Andrew and I ran two workshops in Surrey to learn how to webcast them. It worked!





Ann-Marie's math workshops will be part of 2 full days of Start UP! workshops in February.

A look ahead..

Download an overview of more than 15 workshops over 4 days planned for the next few months:
bit.ly/Startoverview15

We begin January 23rd in Surrey

We plan to webcast as well.

Info & register through
bit.ly/startupreg

About The Start UP! Your Class Cooperative

Start UP! Your Class is a non profit, cooperative. Each workshop participant who is a public school teacher or teacher candidate must purchase a five dollar lifetime membership.

This means that you, as a members will guide us in the best way forward.

The Cooperative was incorporated June 12, 2014.

Four founding directors were elected:

- Ann-Marie Hunter, a retired teacher from Kamloops who does math workshops for us, coordinates the Kamloops Start UP! Series and keeps involved through occasional TTOC work.
- Andrew Stott, a new teacher who is a TTOC in Burnaby,
- Cassandra Whelan, who is a Teacher Candidate from UBC, taking a year out
- Ray Myrtle, recently retired from Burnaby and former president of PITA, and who lead the group who coordinate the Start UP!

Our funding has come from myPITA, and the BCTF locals in Kamloops and Surrey through their ProD committees, and of course you, through the fees you pay to enable us to put on workshops.

In general your fees pay about ½ of the cost of the workshops, although this varies. See the financial statement on the next page.

More Support for Early Career Teachers.

A few years ago about a dozen districts had mentoring programs. Some have disappeared with the cuts, but overall there is more good news than bad. Here is a list in alpha order:

BCTF PSA's

More than 30 associations mostly organized around curriculum topics. Almost all run a major conference in October. The key elementary PSAs are: [BC Primary Teachers](#) and [myPITA](#) for middle school and intermediate teachers. The Math PSA has an annual new teacher conference. All have a website. See also New Teacher PSA below.

BCTF/UBC Mentoring Project

This 3 year project has been given funding by the Ministry for another 2 years. They have just launched their website and they are working to build mentoring capacity around the province. Check out their new website at mentoringbc.ca

BCTF New Teacher PSA

Amanda Long-Anderson and a group are starting a new teachers' Professional Specialists Association. They need 100 members, and if successful they will get funding from the BCTF and can begin offering programs. If you are a BCTF member, even if you are not an early career teacher, please add your name to their list. They need our support! Go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5VDS87T>

Start UP! Your Class Cooperative Interim Financial Statement Jun. 12-Dec. 31, 2014

Inflows:

Grants		
PITA	6000	
Kamloops TTA	1163	
Surrey TA	<u>1500</u>	
	8663	8663
Workshop Revenue		5477
Total Inflows		14140

Outflows

Credit card Processing	381	
Registration Site (Gifttool)	672	
Workshop Expenses- Hon, Travel, promo, & misc	8375	
Refunds	1020	
Organizational expenses (Incorporation exp)	612	
Start UP! Reps	500	
Total outflows		11562
Bank Balance at Dec 31, 2015		2437.23
Less estimated Payables		1528.75
Est. balance after payables at Dec 31, 2015		908.48

Please feel free to contact Ray Myrtle, Acting Treasurer if you have any questions about this statement.

Create a week of instructional time!

By Ray Myrtle

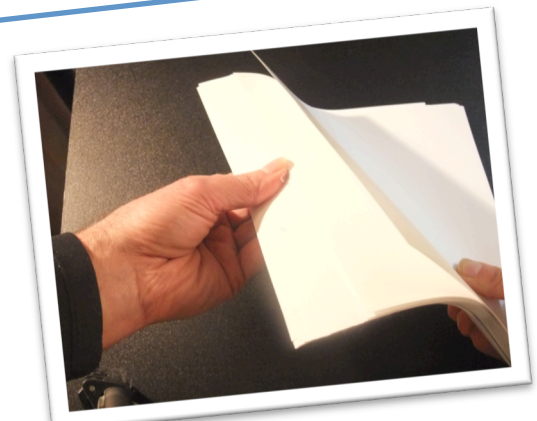
A few years ago Ray Appel pointed out to me that about 8 minutes a day is equal to a week of instructional time in a school year. You can gain that much time with this simple technique.

I timed how long it took one student to distribute one sheet of paper to every student. It was about 2.5 minutes. But if you fan the pages, then count them out for each group, a student can do the task in about ½ a minute. If you have students in rows, go down the side of the room and have the papers passed across the rows to the equivalent (eg. 3rd) person in each row. You will save over a minute that can add almost a week of extra instructional time.



'Fan' the stack of paper so you can quickly count the individual sheets on the side.

2. Count out enough for a group then hand them to the group to distribute.



The StartUP! Your Class Co-operative is currently looking for early career teachers and student teachers to join the StartUP! team as a TOC (Surrey) or student rep (UBC):

Expectations:

- help inform peers about the StartUP! events and program within your school district or University during the year
- provide feedback to the StartUP! team, offering suggestions on how we can improve
- work on a specific task (1/2 day) based on your interests and skill set

Benefits

- \$250 honorarium upon completion;
- free attendance to Start UP! events;
- connection with Start UP! leaders and community members;
- connection with workshop leaders and experienced teachers;
- better understanding of education system;
- good experience for your resume;

This is a volunteer position. However, it is our policy to provide honorariums if necessary to enable people to volunteer. In this case a \$250 honorarium will be provided after Start UP Reps complete the requirements.

Interested? To apply, send a short note to ray.myrtle@gmail.com about your particular organizational or communication skills and interests and relevant experience. Include a resume- the one you used to get into the teacher program will be fine. If you know your practicum location, please include it in your note.