



## Description of Regional Representative – Lower Mainland Position

The Regional Representatives initiative started in 2011 to increase the Professional Development opportunities for EAL teachers outside of the Lower Mainland. Each region is represented by a Regional Representative, and the Chair of the Regional Representative Committee is a director on the BC TEAL Board. There are seven regions represented: Vancouver Island, Fraser Valley, Okanagan, Thompson, Northern BC, and Kootenays.

Regional Representatives:

- should serve a two-year term
- should be familiar with the benefits of becoming a BC TEAL member and encourage other professionals to join the organization
- should introduce themselves to the other regional representatives
- should introduce themselves to members in their region
- should seek feedback about the needs and issues of the EAL practitioners in their regions so that funding and initiatives from BC TEAL can be used to meet those needs
- should provide two to three opportunities to meet throughout the year, including networking and professional development gatherings, including:
  1. create one networking or professional development opportunity to celebrate EAL week (around the third week of November each year)
  2. one networking / sharing regional event per year can be 'no fee' (or nominal fee) for BC TEAL members, with an added fee for non-members (non-members can be encouraged to join prior to the event)
- should submit event dates and descriptions to the Regional Representatives Chair a month before the event
- should take care to plan for dates that do not compete with the annual BC TEAL conference or other regional events that may be geographically close
- are able to utilize Regional Funding (up to \$300 annually per region) to offset costs for BC TEAL professional development events in their region