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Releases

# BCFED teacher solidarity rally comes to Kelowna

**Vancouver** – The B.C. Federation of Labour is hosting a solidarity rally today in West Kelowna in support of BC teachers' ongoing fight for a fair deal and better supports for kids.

Today's rally begins at 4:00 pm in front of Christy Clark's constituency office, 3-2429 Dobbin Road, West Kelowna.

"These rallies are an opportunity for parents and community members to stand with teachers and demand that the BC Liberal government invest in public education," said Jim Sinclair, President of the B.C. Federation of Labour. "Premier Clark needs to stop attacking teachers and get to work doing what British Columbians have told her to do – respect teachers and invest in public education."

Currently, the BC Liberal government per-student funding is $1,000 below the national average. In a recent poll conducted by Insights West, 84% of British Columbians agreed that the government should increase per-child funding to be at or near the national average. That number jumps to 93% of parents.

"2-to-1 parents support teachers, and they agree with the issues the teachers are fighting for," said Sinclair. "Class size and composition does make a difference, parents know that. Funding for teacher librarians and resources for kids with special needs does make a difference, and parents know that

too.”

“Everyone seems to believe in a well-funded public education system…..everyone except the Premier and Education Minister.”

Today’s rally begins at 4:00 pm, and speakers include:

Irene Lanzinger, Secretary-Treasurer, BCFED

Wendy Johnson, President, CUPE 3523

Susan Bauhart, President, COTA

MC Andrew Pritchard, President, North Okanagan Labour Council

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