

NEWS AND VIEWS

Events

Spring Social

Join us on Thursday May 7 from 3:00-5:30 in Room N332 for our Spring Social Event!

This will be a casual gathering with drinks, snacks and mingling. We look forward to seeing you there!

Elections

Interested in getting involved with the BVCFA? Elections for the BVCFA Executive will take place in May. Nominations will be open by May 4, and the election will take place from May 19-25. Watch your inbox for additional details coming soon!

AGM

The BVCFA Annual General Meeting is coming up on June 2. More details coming soon. We hope to see you there!

PAC: Wise and Well

Save the date:

April 14 at 12:00 will be a session about updating your house on a budget!

Wise and Well

BVCFA Executive Updates

VP Operations and Labour – Kristy Calles

If we see a glass half full, then so too will our students. What a few years it has been. From dramatic changes within IRCC, to the closure of SGA, budget reductions, layoffs, and the rapid emergence of AI – with both its opportunities and challenges – teaching has not been easy. A heightened sense of uneasiness and frustration has, at times, left many feeling isolated.

When Heather Martin (faculty member, CSB) and I were chatting late one Friday afternoon, she shared a piece written by our dear Marjorie Contenti following our return to campus in 2021 titled “Yoga Pants and Red Shoes – Rekindling the Joy in Teaching.” It made us wonder whether, as we move through 2026, it may be time to rekindle our own joy in teaching.

I am not suggesting that everyone is struggling, but rather that this may be an opportunity to reconnect with the “why” behind what we do and reflect on our shared purpose. Below are a few reflections from faculty highlighting what teaching means to them, and how they re-center on their purpose.

While our greatest shift in 2026 may not be from yoga pants to red shoes, it is important to remember that we are resilient, that together we do exceptional work, and that we make a difference every single day. This is who we are. This is what creates the student experience – you, each one of YOU. To quote Alfie Betker: “If we see a glass half full, then so too will our students. If we don’t, neither will they.” So, let’s rekindle that joy, shall we?

In solidarity,
Kristy Calles, MBA
Vice President Operations and Labour
BVCFA



Our Website:



<https://bvcfa.com>

NEWS AND VIEWS

Our Joy in Teaching



Pictured from left to right: Navneet Gill, Margaret Holden Scott, Roy George, Gurpreet Bhatia, Svetlana Miftahov-Rappaport, and Kristy Calles

Heather Martin: Teaching is most meaningful to me when it happens one student at a time. I make space for one-on-one conversations and design assignments that allow students to bring themselves into the work.

Alfie Betker: As an instructor, I get to witness the excitement, anxiety, and eventual pride students experience throughout their journey. The success stories and testimonials students share at the end of their courses are why I come to work each day.

Navneet Gill: Pausing to reflect on why I do this – to inspire, to build, and to leave a mark – helps me regain focus. Resilience isn't about never stumbling; it's about rising again with intention and purpose, staying committed to the impact I want to create.

Shadi Hanna: It is an incredible feeling to know that our daily work leads to real, tangible outcomes and creates a cascading effect by supporting budding entrepreneurs who will one day create opportunities for others.



BVCFA Grievance Update

A Level 2 grievance meeting was held on Wednesday, March 25, concerning program terminations in the Centre for Entertainment Arts. The grievance relates to the College's exercise of its managerial authority (Article 5 of the Collective Agreement) in a manner alleged to be unreasonable, unjust, and contrary to the provisions of the Agreement.

Pursuant to Article 19.3 of the Collective Agreement, the BVFA submitted this Level 2 grievance regarding the College's alleged violation of the Post-secondary Learning Act, specifically Section 47 (Academic Council responsibilities). As emphasized during the grievance meeting, a key issue is that the matter in question is not specifically addressed within the Collective Agreement.

A decision is expected to be rendered on April 8, 2026.