

June 19, 2020

Kevin Drager, President Education and Training Employees Association

VIA Email: eteapresident@gmail.com

Brother Drager,

I write on behalf of the Vancouver and District Labour Council to congratulate the Education and Training Employees Association on twenty-five years.

The ETEA has become a beacon of hope for private post-secondary teachers in BC. ETEA's work has created huge improvements in the working conditions for private English as an Additional Language teachers and students.

In my role as a Union Representative with MoveUP, prior to being elected President of the VDLC, I represented the education workers at a small English as an Additional Language school. I therefore have some direct knowledge of the tremendous difficulties that are posed to unions in this sector of the economy. At the same time, I have a definite appreciation of how critically important it is that these workers join together to improve the conditions in an industry where far too often they are under appreciated, underemployed, and undercompensated. ETEA should be thanked for playing a leading role in organizing in this sector.

Our Labour Council is proud to count ETEA amongst our affiliates. We send congratulations to all the members of ETEA certified schools, past and present, for carrying forward the union movement with honour.

Best wishes for the future.

In Solidarity,

Stephen von Sychowski President, VDLC

cc: VDLC Executive Board

svs/eb

