



## WORKSHOP

### **Anti-Capitalist Education: Unpacking Capitalism in the Classroom**

Youth are looking for alternatives! More recently, they have taken a prominent role in the various social justice movements arising in our times. In particular, we see our youth's desire for change through their leadership and participation in the global climate justice walk-outs initiated by high school students the past couple of years. Upon a multitude of different chants and slogans, a common one was "System Change, Not Climate Change." However, as educators, an important question to ask ourselves is whether it is possible to think of changing 'the system' without talking about capitalism and its role in some of the social issues we face today. It's time we put capitalism on trial by bringing it to the forefront of our curriculum. There are a variety of ways to get youth to think more critically about what capitalism simply is as an economic system, and then inquire into whether there are possible solutions and alternatives to alleviate some of the economic and social problems faced by many in our society. If we want to be educators that play a role in the transformation of the world, we shouldn't shy away from discussions around capitalism, including the discussions that challenge it.

This workshop will provide educators with tools, lessons and activities that can better explain our current capitalist system to youth in an accessible way. It will also provide educators with strategies on how to have discussions and critical dialogue about capitalism in our classrooms.

## FACILITATOR

### **Rozhin Emadi (she/her)**

Rozhin Emadi is a high school Social Studies teacher at West Vancouver Secondary School. She is currently teaching Social Justice 12, Economic Theory 12 and Social Studies 8. Rozhin is on the executive committee of the AOEC, and is very passionate about anti-oppression education. Her interest in social and economic justice led her to investigate what anti-capitalist education can concretely look like in our curriculum. Additionally, this led to her involvement in community activism, especially the anti-war movement and Palestinian Solidarity work. Rozhin is also passionate about labour activism. She is currently the social justice chair of her local union, the West Vancouver Teachers' Association, and on the BCTF's International Solidarity Committee.

