

ANNUAL PSA DAY  
CONFERENCE  
OCT 21, 2022  
Morning Workshops



2. UNLEARNING THE COLONIAL: ANTI-OPPRESSION STRATEGIES IN THE WORKPLACE  
[Part one of the AOEC facilitators training series]

Do you want to become an official AOEC anti-oppression facilitator within the province? For the first time ever, AOEC Executive Committee members will be hosting a series of workshops to train educators to facilitate our Unlearning the Colonial workshop. In part one of our training, prospective facilitators will participate in the workshop itself. We will explore the central questions of how and why an anti-oppression analysis is crucial for social justice educators and representatives. We will delve into concepts such as positionality, intersectionality, and power, investigating how each operates in systems of oppression which are rooted in colonial ways of being, doing and thinking. Participants will begin planning actions to decolonize their behaviors, school sites, and locals towards a more just and liberated future in public education. After attending this workshop, if participants wish to become AOEC facilitators they can apply and continue on with Part 2 which will be held at a later date.



**Ronak Pahlevanlu (روناک پهلووانلو)** they/them is a queer, non-binary first-generation settler and child of political refugees. They live and work on the stolen lands of the kwikwəłəm (Kwkwetlem) First Nation within the shared traditional territories of the Tsleil-Waututh (Slay-wa-tuth), Katzie (Kate-zee), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Quay Quayt (Key-Kite) First Nation and Sto:lo Nation. They're currently a secondary math Coquitlam teacher, working at Ecole Riverside Secondary School. After years of self-reflection, taking a deep dive into their internalized racism and how to bring anti-oppressive principles into their personal life and community, they are excited to bring these principles into their union activism and classroom and help other marginalized educators find their voice.



**Talya Florian (she/her)** is an uninvited settler living on the unceded, stolen lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwxwú7mesh, and səliilíwətaʔ nations. Talya works as a secondary Art, Media, and ELL Teacher in the Vancouver district and is also an artist, activist, and organizer in various communities. Her practice uses art as a tool for students (and fellow educators) to question and challenge systems of oppression while developing a critical lens of the world around them. Talya is an executive member of both AOEC and is also on the executive of the Vancouver Secondary Teachers Association. She is also a core organizer for the Vancouver union caucus Raising Educators' Voices (REV), which is a grassroots collective fighting for anti-oppression, justice, and equity in our education system.