

Matthew Cooke

Northern Zone



Academic Background and Education

- Bachelor degree and PDP (elementary), 1997 (SFU)
- Certificate: Adventure-Based Learning (ABL), 2005 (Justice Institute of BC)
- Master of Education, 2007 (SFU)

Employment History and Professional Service

- SD 41 (Burnaby), 1998 – 2007
 - elementary teacher
 - school and district BTA Health and Safety committees
 - district workshops on Restitution (Gossen) and Adventure Based Learning
 - 2004 – 2007 seconded to SFU PDP for three one-year terms as Faculty Associate
- UNBC, SFU, UVic, NWCC, VIU, 2004 – 2016
 - taught and/or supervised for these teacher education/SEA programs
- SD 54 (Bulkley Valley), 2007 – present
 - elementary teacher
 - BVTU school rep & Executive member (most years)

The mandate of the BC Teachers' Council aligns very closely with my own professional experiences and expertise. I have taught in urban and rural school districts. I have worked with five of the nine teacher education programs supervising student teachers as they proceed through their practicum experiences in both public and independent schools.

Election Statement

Re-Elect Matthew Cooke to the BC Teachers' Council – representing the Northern Zone.

I was going to use "Make the northern zone Great Again!" as my re-election slogan, but after wise counsel from colleagues I have decided against such tactics. Instead, I would like you to know why you would be well served by re-electing me.

Firstly, and not to be so quickly overlooked, I have attended every Council meeting and every committee meeting for the past three years – contributing to every discussion, debate and decision. All of us as extremely busy, but I take my responsibility to represent northern certificate holders very seriously.

Secondly, I was elected by Council to the Interim Teacher Education Program Review Committee. Our workload has been immense these past three years. We have created an interim approval process and have recommended more than ten changes to existing teacher education programs.

Throughout all of this work, my professional experiences – supervising teacher candidates from five of the nine teacher education programs and working as an elementary teacher for 20 years – have given me extraordinary insights into all of the work Council has done in the last three years.

Re-electing me ensures that northern certificate holders are competently represented at the Council table as all of this work continues.

Lastly, the learning curve of the regulatory mandate of the Teachers' Council is vast. Re-electing me ensures continuity of representation by someone who is well versed in this milieu.

With thanks, Matthew Cooke