



Occasionally Yours

Volume 19 Issue 1

Lakehead Elementary Occasional Teachers' Local

October 2016

From the President:

This is our first newsletter for the school year. I have previously sent out a number of emails providing members with specific information. Some members have contacted me with their concerns of the lack of work this fall. Hopefully calls are increasing. If you are concerned about the number of SFE calls, you can call Shari Rollason at 625-5260 to make sure you are in the rotation. In the near future I will be meeting with HR to review the SFE pilot project. It may be a little early to determine the success of the option for members to choose the schools where they wish to work. If you have any feedback to share, please let me know.

Local Collective Agreement:

The Local Agreement is in the final stages of approval. This agreement is different from those in the past as it includes the Central Table terms as well as the Local terms. Some of the Local clauses will reference the Central Agreement so it may seem a little cumbersome or confusing at first glance. Once the document has been approved by all parties and signed, the Board will make it available for all members. This should be very soon.

There was an increase in the daily rate as of Sept. 1 to \$237.81 and there will be another increase Jan. 27 to \$239.00.

Local P.L:

The Local will be providing a number of professional learning opportunities throughout the year. Information will be available through email and posters on the school staff room bulletin boards.

Our first workshop will provide information on budgeting and financial planning when working as a casual employee. It will be held on November 9th from 4:15 – 6:16 at the LETO office on Russell Street. More information will be provided in the near future.

Planning is also taking place for a workshop for daily and long-term OTs working with students with special needs. Math and FNMI related workshops will also be available. If members have any other suggestions for PL, or would willing to help out in the organizing of the Local PL, please contact Nancy Nix, nnix@tbaytel.net.

Local General Meeting:

Our Fall General Meeting (Autumn Meet and Greet) will be held on Wednesday, October 26 from 4:15 – 6:15 p.m. at the West Arthur Community Centre (1914 W. Arthur St., west of the Thunder Bay Expressway). You will also have the opportunity to carve a pumpkin, meet Tracy Blodgett (Provincial Executive member), receive information and have the opportunity to ask questions or provide feedback to the Local Executive. We are especially encouraging those who have never attended a Local meeting to come and get together with other OTs. Chili (meat and vegetarian) will be served. There will be a cash attendance draw which will increase for every member attending the meeting, as well as a \$25 Chapters gift card for the best carved pumpkin. Please contact Nancy Calonego as soon as possible to confirm your attendance to ensure we have enough pumpkins and chili.

n_calonego@hotmail.com or 251-0034.

Math Night:

The N.O.A.M.E. event is Thurs., Oct. 27 at Hammarskjold. Check your GroupWise email from Corrine Russell-Pritoula for details. You must pre-register at maria_casasola@lakeheadschoools.ca

ETFO Provincial PL:

ETFO Online Webinars (Connected Communities):

ETFO is offering 16 different online webinars to enhance your knowledge, develop more effective practices and gain a better understanding for teaching and learning in a digital world. The webinars run from November 3 – 30.

For more information and registration, use the following link:

<http://www.etfo.ca/CalAttach/ConnectedCommunities.pdf>

Enhancing Public Speaking Skills for Women:

Are you looking to speak at a meeting, conference or community event? Butterflies in the stomach? Whether it's 10 people or 100, public speaking can be nerve-wracking but it doesn't have to be. This workshop at provincial office will give you practical suggestions and lots of practice in overcoming anxieties, improving your delivery, motivating people to take action and structuring your speech for maximum impact. This event takes place November 17 – 18 at the ETFO Provincial Office. The registration deadline is October 31.

<http://www.etfo.ca/CalAttach/EnhancingPublicSpeaking.pdf>

Calendars:

There are still calendars available for members at the Lakehead Elementary Teachers' Office on Russell Street or at the General meeting. Included in the calendar is information on important contact numbers, SFE calling times and school contact numbers.

Math AQ Subsidies:

The Ministry of Education is continuing the subsidy for certain math, technology and kindergarten AQ/ABQ courses. More information is on the OTF website,

<http://www.otffeo.on.ca/en/learning/4594-2/>

This is a great opportunity for OTs to increase their qualifications without the expense associated with AQ courses. ETFO provides online courses. The Lakehead Board also provides face to face courses with some online participation.

LTO Benefits:

The ETFO Employee Life & Health Trust (ELHT) is a provincial benefit plan for permanent and LTO teachers. There will be a minimum number of consecutive days in an LTO to be eligible. If the LTO assignment is less than 1.0, the member can opt into the health and/or dental benefits by paying the premiums on a pro-rated basis. ETFO is staggering the enrolment through the 2016-17 school year. Lakehead teachers are expected to begin the new benefits plan in February. Until then, LTO teachers in assignments of 8 weeks or more will continue to receive \$5.82 per day. More information will be available in early January.

Local Executive:

President: Nancy Nix 475-7721

Email: nnix@tbaytel.net cell: 472-4208

Vice-President: Charlotte Neckoway

Treasurer: Leila Desforges

Secretary: Nancy Calonego

P.L. Chair: Diane Hogan

Communications: Kristen Anderson

Past President: Jim Green

Local Website: www.etfo-ot.ca

ETFO Website: www.etfo.ca

OTIP Newsletter

Mythbuster: Does the type of car you buy affect your insurance rate?

Myth: The type of car you buy doesn't have an effect on your insurance rate.

Yes, it does.

Fact: The Canadian Loss Experience Automobile Rating (CLEAR) system identifies the average size and frequency of insurance claims for most makes and models of cars. Most insurance companies use CLEAR to rate vehicles according to their safety record and the cost to repair or replace them, and may offer lower premiums to drivers who buy cars with better ratings.

For example, some vehicles may be more susceptible to theft than others; some may be better designed and less easily damaged; some are less expensive to repair; and some protect their occupants in collisions better than others.

We're here to help!

If you're considering buying a new car, talk to an OTIP insurance broker to find out how the type of car you choose will affect your insurance rates. One of our brokers would welcome the opportunity to find you the best coverage and value for your needs.

Call us today at 1-888-892-4935.