



Occasionally Yours

Volume 20 Issue 2

Lakehead Elementary Occasional Teachers' Local

June 2018

From the President:

This has been a very busy year for those who were available for work. The system has never experienced so many unfilled assignments. I have had meetings throughout the year with HR and Board admin. to discuss the issue. HR has made some changes including limiting the number of teachers out of the schools for PD, limiting the amount of ½ day PD, and communicating with teachers the most efficient use of SmartFind Express. While the measures have helped, they did not solve the problem. I would expect the OT List will need more additions, particularly since there will be some permanent hiring and many LTO assignments again this upcoming school year.

We now have a Conservative Ministry of Education. Although funding is already in place for the 2018-19 school year, we will have to wait and see what changes may take place. Since we all understand how important our education system is, we need to pay close attention to any upcoming changes to student learning conditions and teacher working conditions.

A special code is no longer needed to file for EI.

I hope you have a great summer!

Intent Form:

June 30th is the deadline to submit the form to remain on the list for the 2018-19 school year. Please read the instructions included with the form carefully. Paper submissions will not be accepted. Failure to submit all documents can result in removal from the list. If you have been on a leave this year and are continuing the leave, you must still submit the Intent form and the Leave of Absence form.

Calendars:

Calendars are available for the 2018-19 school year (Aug. 2018 – Aug. 2019). They are 18 cm x 20 cm and are available in blue, black, green and purple. They are available until June 29th, and then from Aug. 27th, at the LETO office, #5-1112 Russell St.



ETFO 20th Anniversary:

20th Anniversary celebrations will officially start July 1. The slogan, "United. Inclusive. Strong.", will accompany a special 20th anniversary logo.

Local Logo:

The executive put out a call last fall for a new logo design. We are thrilled that Sergio Pasciullo, a local member, has created a new logo that we will start using in the fall. Thanks Sergio!

LTO List:

I know many of you are waiting for the LTO List to be released. I am hopeful that it will be out before any other permanent and LTO positions are posted.

Local Lending Library:

The list of resources in the lending library will be posted on the website soon, www.etfo-ot.ca. You can contact me to arrange to borrow anything listed (nnix@tbaytel.net or 475-7721, 472-4208).

Home Instruction:

Union dues for home instruction assignments are no longer deducted from pay as of May 4, 2018. There is no language referring to home instruction in our collective agreement and therefore ETFO does not represent home instructors. When the dues were inadvertently deducted, ETFO would have represented those workers. Going forward from May 4th, the representation ceased along with the deductions. If you have any questions regarding this change, please let me know.

Ministry of Labour:

Thanks to all those who responded to the Violence in the Classroom survey in April. The information was valuable when the union groups and Board administration met with MOL representatives at the end of April. I was able to highlight the H&S issues that OTs experience. The information will also help in planning the Violence in the Classroom training that will take place next year as part of the 1 day paid PD.

College of Teachers Elections:

As you may have read in the June issue of *Professionally Speaking*, a new council has been elected. The voter turnout for the province was 3.4% of eligible voters. This is somewhat concerning considering that the College has the ability to determine the fees collected and the use of those fees.

Municipal Elections:

Board Trustee elections on October 22 seem far in the future as summer holidays begin. With a Conservative Government, forward thinking Trustees will be more important than ever to the success of our students. Candidates have until July 27 to declare their intent. In September, the ETFO Teacher and OT Locals will be planning opportunities for all members to evaluate candidate platforms. In the past, voter engagement has generally been very low for trustee positions. Voters need to be fully informed in order to support candidates that will make the best decisions for students and staff.

Local Executive:

The current executive was acclaimed at the Local Annual Meeting held on May 23rd.
President: Nancy Nix 475-7721
cell: 472-4208
Email: nnix@tbaytel.net
Vice-President: Charlotte Neckoway
Treasurer: Leila Desforges
Secretary: Nancy Calonego
P.L. Chair: Kristen Anderson
Communications: Adam Methot
Past President: Jim Green
Local Website: www.etfo-ot.ca
ETFO Website: www.etfo.ca