

WELLINGTON OECTA

UNIT EXECUTIVE

2016-2017

PRESIDENT MARK BERARDINE
VP SEC YVONNE RUNSTEDLER
VP ELEM PETER STOOP
VP OT TIM O'BRIEN
TREASURER TED IMRE
SECRETARY NICOLE HEARN

COUNCILLORS

JEFF FLANAGAN

ROBERTA CASAGRANDE

DAVID DEL DUCA

KEVIN REID

LAURENCE VIGNOLA

WELLINGTON OECTA

WEBSITE

www.oectawellington.ca

5420 HIGHWAY # 6

R.R.# 5 GUELPH, ON.

NIH 6J2

PHONE : 519 763 3043

FAX 519 7632682

EMAIL :

oecta.wellington@gmail.com

WHAT'S INSIDE

JOINT PD REPORT 2

WINTER WORKSHOPS 2

OECTA DATES 2

ATTENDANCE 3

NOMINATION COMMITTEE 3

RTIP OTIP WORKSHOP 4

H AND S 4

ANNUAL BANQUET 5

THEO ON TAP OTIP ADVICE 6



2017 MARCH

WELLINGTON WORKS

MARCH

VOLUME XXIV

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March is a good example of the rights we have as Union members living in a free country. We start March with our ratification contract extension vote. We have visited many schools in the last month to help answer questions you or your friends may have had. We visited every school where we were requested to help out and as many others as we could get to. We also had the information meeting with our Provincial Staff Reps on Feb. 14.

Hopefully you have all received your emails and have your pin or received a letter to your home if you are an OT with your pin number. If you run into any problems

we have a hotline 1-844-550-3793 to help. You will need your OECTA number which we have on file. If you need help please email one of us.

Also in March our Provincial OECTA AGM will take place. These events both are concrete examples of the freedom you enjoy as union members to actively participate in the collective bargaining process. Voting does matter and we as Catholic Teachers living in Ontario have rights far superior to many places in the world. This right did not come easy. It harkens back to the early 1970's when our teachers walked out to protect their rights to bargain and strike.



**CONTRACT
EXTENSION
RATIFICATION
VOTE
MARCH 1-2
NOON TO NOON**

Wellington Delegation

Mark Berardine
Yvonne Runstedler
Peter Stoop
Tim O'Brien
Laurence Vignola
David Del Duca
Laurine Soligo
Trevor Klein
Marc Sgrignoli
Julia Sgrignoli
Catherine Dixon
Helen Careon
Dina Fisher

PROVINCIAL AGM

These members will represent Wellington on March 10 to March 13 during the Break in Toronto. I want to thank everyone in advance as they give up the start of their March Break to serve the membership. The Provincial AGM will elect the Provincial President and the 2017-18 Executive and determine the

direction of OECTA for the next year. The Fees for OECTA will also be voted on. Prov Treasurer Warren Grafton will present his report to AGM at an after school Delegate Meeting on Monday March 6th at 4 pm at the OECTA Office.

All are invited.

**WELLINGTON
WORKS
MARCH**

UPCOMING DATES

**MARCH 1 TO 2 NOON
ONLINE RATIFICATION
EXTENSION VOTE**

**SAT MAR 4
MATH AQ CATHY**

**MON MAR 6
PD WORKSHOP VICKI**

**PRE-AGM DELEGATION
OPEN MEETING
OECTA OFFICE 4:00**

**TUES MAR 7 NOON
YOUNG AUTHORS**

WINTER WORKSHOP

THEO ON TAP 7 PM

**THURS MAR 9
NTIP ALL DAY
AT THE OFFICE**

**GDLC 7 PM
WOMEN'S DAY
AT THE VILLA**

**FRI 10 TO MON 13
PROV AGM**

Happy St Pats Day!

**MON MAR 20
PD WORKSHOP VICKI**

CATH COM 1-3

**THURS MAR 23
JOINT H AND S**

**MON MAR 27
REPS EXEC 4:30**

JOINT PD COMMITTEE

Our OECTA Reps on the Joint PD Committee worked hard with the Board to run many programs for our teachers. In addition to the Winter Workshops listed below that will see over 60 teachers inserviced with PD of their choice by our own members, another 20 teachers will get to attend conferences through the school year.

We would like to thank the Board for this Joint cooperative committee and their financial support to maintain the Fund.

**#WE INITIATIVE
AFTER SCHOOL
SPECIALS**

This year, in conjunction with Sandra, Jeff and Bryan, we sponsored space and snacks for continued after school PD in the area of technology.

We are very proud of our members who volunteer their time to help other colleagues learn a new skill or use a new tech tool.

Next Session :

March 9 at Holy Trinity

SAVE THE DATES

**FRIDAY APRIL 21
MEN'S RETREAT
@ ST BRIGID'S VILLA**

**FRIDAY APRIL 28
WOMEN'S RETREAT
@ ST BRIGID'S VILLA**

STAY TUNED

FOR MORE

DETAILS

**WELLINGTON WINTER WORKSHOPS
JOINT PD 2017**

**INQUIRY AND HANDS ON LEARNING
THURS MARCH 2ND ST MIKES
By Abby O'Neill and Val Karunaratne**

**A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO G SUITE
TUES MARCH 7TH ST MIKES
By Judy Mullen and Stefanie Palmer**

**STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS
FOR LD STUDENTS
THURS MARCH 2ND
OECTA OFFICE
By Heather Perigo and Kate Fortney
With guest speaker
Dean Huyck**

Already completed:
**TEACH US TO PRAY
By Trevor Klein and Yvonne Runstedler**

**TECH ON WHEELS FSL
By Jacquie Fazzari**

CROSS PANEL OPPORTUNITIES

This year there will be a form to hand in if you are in the Elementary Panel and you wish to have an opportunity to teach in the Secondary Panel. The same is true if you wish to try your hand at working in the Elementary Panel if you are in the secondary.

We encourage any member to put their name in for a cross panel if they are even remotely interested as each year members are disappointed that their 'opportunity came' and they missed it. Call the office to discuss your options!

**WATCH
FOR
NEW
FORMS**

OTIP

LTD

BENEFITS

RTIP

INSURANCE

ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT

ATTENDANCE LETTERS

Once again the Board has begun to send letters to members that have crossed the threshold of nine incidents. Note it is incidents and not days so 9 half days could get you the letter. We have been told that the specialized appointment days don't count but we do know members had these dates counted as well.

If you receive a letter there are certain steps that OECTA advised you to follow:

1. Immediately call or email the office and let us know.
2. Inform your administrator that you will have a member of the Exec or your Rep attend.
3. Do not answer the 'goal setting questions' unless you are psychic and are able to predict the future. Your Rep or better

yet an Executive member will answer that question for you by asking 'are we going to play the horses or pick winning lottery numbers'.

4. Goal setting is an attempt to get you to commit to a certain number of days used AND if you fail that quota you are automatically considered for the next round of discipline. (oh I meant support)

OECTA Provincial objects to any data driven mechanical absent management program that does not look at every individual's circumstances before sending out these letters.

Members stoically go to work with a variety of medical and health concerns everyday. OECTA rejects that belief that our teachers use their sick days frivolously or without just cause.

SHOULD YOU TAKE A FULL DAY OFF IF A HALF DAY COUNTS AS AN INCIDENT?

I have heard some employees say they will book the whole day if they are charged for a whole day even if they use a half day. Though this may make sense it uses up your paid days and specialized days quicker. We suggest if you can have an appointment in half a day then save the other half for another use later. We also say the same if you need a sick day because you are ill in the morning but know you will improve in the afternoon and will be able to work.

Again you know your health better than anyone. If you need a full day take a full day. If you think a half day (ie. morning sickness only) then take a half day.

CONTRACT 101

MEDICAL NOTES

- *The Board will pay for all requested Doctor's notes
- *Doctor's notes are no longer required at three days but after the fourth day

LTO WARNING

- *LTO teachers have sick days but do not have any family illness days
- *LTO teachers stating their children are sick as a reason are deducted the day as an unpaid day

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Volunteers Wanted!

The nomination committee is to assist the Election Chair Mike Breadner, in overseeing our 2017 Wellington OECTA election campaign and process. We will continue to conduct our elections with an on line voting process. If you can assist Mike in acting as scrutineers, or sit on the larger committee to discuss timelines and process please email Mike on First Class. You

must not be involved in the election campaign to sit on this committee.

We are asking for additional volunteers with some technology background to help run the spreadsheets associated with the election internet program. Expect more details on our Unit elections at the end of March and in the April edition of Wellington Works.

NOTE NEW BYLAW RULES

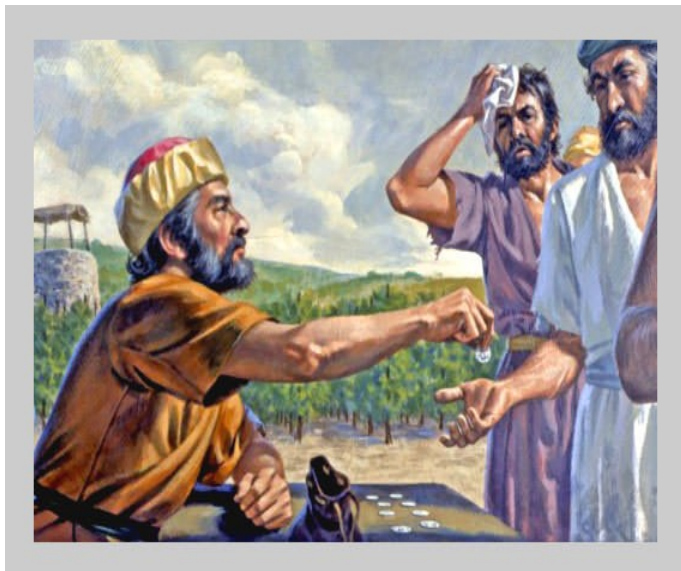
THE USE OF FIRST CLASS OECTA WILL BE LIMITED TO INFO DISTRIBUTED BY THE ELECTION CHAIR / OFFICIAL COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION AND OR QUESTIONS ARE TO BE DIRECTLY SENT TO THE ELECTION CHAIR

**BALANCED DAY
WWJD**

MATTHEW 20

The Workers in the Vineyard



Our OTs are facing reduced income

The Balanced Day is stopping them from

Getting a full day's work!

**Health and Safety
Reporting Safe Schools Act and Incidents**

Student Behaviour Concerns?
Getting Kicked, Slapped, Spit On, Bit,
Ducking Thrown Objects, Sworn At?

Then there are reports **YOU MUST** file!

The Safe Schools Act requires you to fill out a report for **EVERY** incident that happens that **could lead** to a suspension or more. Some of these include:

- *Threats to inflict serious bodily harm on another person
- *Possessing alcohol or illegal drugs
- *Being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- *Swearing at a teacher or person in a position of authority
- *Vandalism
- *Bullying
- *Any conduct injurious to the moral tone of the school or to the physical or mental well being of others.
- *Persistent Truancy
- *Persistent Opposition to Authority
- *Willful Destruction of School Property
- *Theft
- *Use of Profane/Improper Language
- *Use of Tobacco
- *Aid/Incite Harmful Behaviour
- *Fighting
- *Physical Assault/Sexual or Racial Harassment
- *Distribution of Hate Material or Hate Motivated Violence
- *Inappropriate Use of Electronic Media/Communication

There is **NO GREY** area.

Teachers are legally required to fill out the forms.
Please ask your OECTA Reps for advice.

In addition most times an Incident Report will also need to be filled out to report injury and incidents to H and S

**WALK INTO RETIREMENT WITH A PLAN
WORKSHOP PRESENTED BY : OTIP
TUESDAY APRIL 4th
AT THE OECTA OFFICE FROM 4-7**

This free workshop is open to OECTA members and spouses and all Education Affiliates and Colleagues. It covers valuable information that will be useful to all those planning to retire within five years.

During this workshop you will learn about :

- *Retirement health insurance benefits
 - *RRSPs
 - *Investments
 - *Tax and estate planning before and after retirement
 - *Lifestyle planning
- Please RSVP by emailing Mark, Yvonne or Peter. Register early as space is limited.
Please send any dietary restrictions as a light dinner will be served.



GET A QUOTE &
**GET A \$25
GIFT CARD***

OTIPinsurance.com/Amazon-TJX



*Restrictions apply. See details.
OTIPinsurance.com/Amazon-TJX

SAVE THE DATE!

ANNUAL IN APPRECIATION BANQUET

THURSDAY MAY 25TH

@ THE ITALIAN CANADIAN CLUB

RECEPTION 5:30 DINNER 6:15

Join us as we honour our Retirees, 25 year members and all our OECTA volunteers. If you are thinking of retiring please let the office know. If you are in your 25th year of teaching with OECTA please contact the office. If you know someone who has worked in another Board and are in their 25th year please mention their name to us or have them call the office.

Please contact the OECTA Office
Email oecta.wellington@gmail.com
Or contact any of the Release Officers

BANQUET 2016 RETIREES!



OECTA ANNUAL AWARDS

Every year at the Annual In Appreciation Banquet we recognize OECTA and Community members with several Awards. If you would like to nominate someone that you think is deserving of these Awards please send their name into your Rep or any member of the Executive.

Wellington OECTA Awards of Merit

"Awarded for outstanding contributions to OECTA, Wellington Catholic District School Board and/or Catholic Education."

**One Member previous Cathy Chaput
One Community previous House of Good Cheer**

Wellington OECTA Lifetime Achievement Award

"This award was established in 2005 in honour of Brenda McGinnis who served as OECTA President from 1987 to 2005. The award will be presented to appropriate OECTA members who have made a significant long-term contribution to Wellington OECTA."

Previous Roy Coughlin

Wellington "25 years in one" Award

This 'Tongue in Cheek' Award is awarded to someone in the board who has 'packed' 25 years experience into one year - someone who has had an exceptionally bad year.

Previous OTs regarding Smartfind

OECTA "Rep of the Year" Award

Awarded to an outstanding staff association representative.

This award is selected by the Executive.

Previous Hilary Clark

**WELLINGTON OECTA
EUCHRE NIGHT**

Thanks to all of you who attended our Unit Euchre night last month. The winner donated the pot back into the charity we supported.

Wellington OECTA will donate 335 dollars to the Bracelet of Hope Campaign.

Guelph's home grown Charity



OTIP ADVICE : Fight the flood: Keep your property afloat

Springtime is almost here, and with it comes blooming flowers and crisp, fresh air. But as spring showers pour, Canadians are at risk for more damage than rained-out picnics – we're also at risk for property flooding.

Water damage to property can be expensive and frustrating, harming not only the home, but also possessions and the wellbeing of the people inside. Each year, springtime results in an increased number of water-related claims and, as homeowners are investing much more in their basements these days, it is important to take proactive steps to minimize the risk.

OTIP offers these tips for homeowners to keep their properties above water:

- **Inspect your roof:** To prevent leaks, get the roof inspected every few years to check the condition of the shingles. Clear out gutters to prevent blockages.
- **Install a backwater valve:** These valves close automatically if the sewer backs up and can prevent thousands of dollars in damage.
- **Scope out your sump pump:** If your basement has one, examine it and do a test run if it doesn't get used frequently.
- **Check your foundation:** This is especially important as the ice melts. If you notice water pooling, find a way to lead the liquid away from your home.
- **Start right:** If you are finishing your basement, make sure to seal your exterior walls.
- **Examine your insurance:** While overland flooding is generally not covered by insurance, you can add additional coverage, including protection from sewage backup.



OTIP can answer your questions and help you understand your policy. Call OTIP today at 1-888-892-4935 and we will assess your situation to ensure you have the coverage required to protect you from water damage.

THEOLOGY ON TAP TUESDAY, MARCH 7th at 7pm at the Albion Hotel

Fr. Con O'Mahoney
of St. Andrew's Parish in Oakville will join us to discuss

Celtic Spirituality: Saints and Sinners on the Road to God.

Free food and **musical entertainment** from the
House of Good Cheer will be provided.

All are welcome!

**We hope to see you (and a friend or two) Tuesday night
for some fun, food, and fellowship!**

OUT GROWN YOUR FAMILY DINING ROOM FOR AN EVENT?

**THE OECTA MEETING ROOM
IS AVAILABLE FOR
MEMBERS TO USE
ON THE WEEKEND**

**BAPTISM, SHOWER,
FAMILY FUNCTION
BIRTHDAY PARTY**

**Email
oecta.wellington@gmail.com**