

WELLINGTON  
OECTA

UNIT EXECUTIVE

2013-2014

PRESIDENT

MARK BERARDINE

VP SECONDARY

DAVID DEREWIANKO

VP ELEMENTARY

HEATHER FRIMETH

VP OCCASIONAL

NANCY BAKER

TREASURE

TED IMRE

SECRETARY

SHEILA HYNES

COUNCILLORS

LINDA ARTUSO-JACOBI

GEORGE GIOVINAZZO

LAURINE SOLIGO

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PETER STOOP

ROBERTA CASAGRANDE

CATHY WHYTE

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JOIN US FOR GOOD CHEER!

# WELLINGTON WORKS

2013 - 2014 MARCH

VOLUME 21

## MARCH BREAK-AGM 2014

ONTARIO ENGLISH

Catholic  
Teachers

ASSOCIATION

WELLINGTON OECTA

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President's Message

We are in the middle of March Break and we hope everyone is enjoying a well deserved rest. The public often asks why do we get two weeks at Christmas, a week at March Break and then the Summer off. The answer is simple. The students need it AND the teachers need it.

Our vocation is an energy draining and hectic job. We hustle to meet deadlines, prepare, set up, present, evaluate and reflect on our daily lessons. We look to the future to predict where we are going while looking back to see if our students have grasped where we have taken them. We meet with parents, spend extra time with students, plan with colleagues, form part of a school team with specialized teachers, administrators and other educational colleagues.

All this takes time. Then on top of this school themes, special activities and our own voluntary extra-curricular clubs and teams add countless more hours into the mix. Many of us flow from one season to another with little chance to rest. The majority of us, lucky enough to be relatively healthy, would rather come to work sick because it takes more effort to plan a day or because we can't miss a day since the class is too busy.

That is why we need the Breaks. We recharge, refocus, and reenergize for the next lap. Then we start all over again!

Enjoy the rest of the Break! You deserve it no questions asked.

## WHAT'S ON THE WELLINGTON OECTA WEBSITE

Your website is updated regularly as new events are announced and other events are completed. We have all our Rep Notes and monthly Wellington

Works available. There you can find the next Rep or Exec meeting. Want to know who is involved in committees? Then check out our website!

Bylaws, Elections, Links and more. Make your OECTA local website a favourite on your bookmarks! Your one stop information place.

Release Officer Cell Phones:  
Mark 519-400-5361

David 519-400-5362

Heather 519-400-5363

# AGM 2014

Provincial OECTA's Annual General Meeting was held last weekend, from Friday March 7th to Monday March 10th. Wellington was represented by our two members of Council of President's Mark Berardine and David Derewianko, our VP Elementary Heather Frimeth, our OTBU President Tim O'Brien, our VP OT Nancy Baker, our Secretary Sheila Hynes, Councilor Peter Stoop, Joint Health and Safety co-chair Laurence Vignola, Wellington's new Religion AQ Course Director Yvonne Runstedler, and Leadership member Dave Del Duca as well as two alternate delegates, Roy Coughlin and Becka Dupuis both members of the OTBU. Yes a lively group!

The AGM debated many issues and resolutions, elected next year's Provincial Executive, listened to many guest speakers and discussed the fees. This year's election was vocal as many candidates either phoned the office or requested a visit to meet our delegation. All candidates actively campaigned and sent letters to our Unit for support. The OTF Govenors, Table Officer and President were the only positions not up for election.

Wellington congratulates the following elected Provincial Executive members:

First Vice President Ann Hawkins

Second Vice President Liz Stuart

Third Vice President Marcie Tombari

Treasurer Chirs Karuhanga

Councilor Sonia DiPetta

Councilor Andrew Donihee

We wish them all the best when they start July 1st as they surely will need to battle for us.

The AGM saw the first implementation of automated voting by using electronic 'clickers'. This 'e-voting' had a few bumps to start but it certainly will change some of the lengthy time to collect ballots or count the close votes. The main reason it was brought forward was to accommodate those members who had trouble either holding up their voting cards for a long time or for those not able to stand during hotly debated votes where the members have to stand to show their support since the vote was so close.

The Fee debate is always behind almost every motion that contains financial implications. The House voted 30 to 70 % against a fee increase this year but most of the Provincial Executive agrees we need to have one by next year's AGM. Many were against a fee increase because of our roll back and wage freezes. We did find funding to fight against the upcoming Right To Work and anti-Union political parties. A Task Force was passed to look into the Handbooks rules on how the Disciplinary Committee, Provincial Executive and General Secretary function. The LTD Task Force was also made a Committee for next year. For pics see our Wellington OECTA Facebook page.

## Upcoming Dates

*Monday March 17th*

**ST. PADDY'S DAY PUB**

*Penny Whistle 4-7*

*Tuesday March 18th*

**Collective Bargaining Com**

**OECTA Office 4:15**

*Tuesday March 18th*

**OECTA AQ Religion Course**

*Begins at Our Lady Of Lourdes*

*Thursday March 20th*

**JOINT HEALTH AND SAFETY**

*Monday March 24th*

**EXEC Meeting 4:15**

*Tuesday March 25th*

**Unit Young Authors Selection**

**OECTA Office Noon**

*Thurs March 27th Fri March 28th*

**OECTA LEADERSHIP COURSE**

*David, Ted, Sheila, Jeff and Dave*

*Monday March 31st*

**Reps Council 4:30**

*Tuesday April 1st*

**Local Nominations Open**

*Tuesday April 15th*

**Local Nominations Close 4:30**

## Wellington Delegates in Action

The floor of the AGM saw our delegation make an impact on the debates a few times. In particular, the 15 year debate on full recognition of Joint Units for having two President's at Council of Presidents but only having one President's Allowance was finally passed. This means that next year our Unit will receive two allowances for both our members who sit on Council of Presidents.

This battle has been waged for a very long time. It is no doubt directly

related to our Unit's participation in the GTA President's Meetings where lobbying successfully convinced many Presidents of the need to correct this inequity. During the debate we used the mics to block opponents from speaking by asking a question thus by-passing the order of the Con mics.

Many of our members also stood in line to get a chance to speak on issues, held the mic for others or asked questions during our break out ses-

sions. Several other Unit Presidents as well as members of the Provincial Executive complemented our delegation for their active participation and conduct.

We also were visible at a variety of less business like events. We had a 'selfie' with the Minister of Education, a couple took over the line dancing and we found out elevators at the Harbour Castle were more like an amusement ride at times! Thanks to everyone who came.

## Wellington OECTA AQ Course

Wellington is grateful to the Provincial Executive and Staff for their assistance in bringing a face to face AQ OECTA Religion Course back to Guelph. The Course Director is our own Yvonne Runstedler. The Course will begin on Tuesday March 18th at Our Lady Of Lourdes. This was a long hard battle that started in June. It took OECTA's cooperation with our Board (Mr. Drone and Mr. Capovilla) to ensure the opportunity would even be considered. OECTA would also like to thank the support of Richard and Luc who helped Yvonne and Mark get this course back to Guelph. We encourage anyone who has not taken the course and those who need to take a specialist to consider the OECTA Religion AQ Courses in the future when they make their professional development and educational plans.

## WELLINGTON OECTA LOCAL ELECTIONS

Our local elections have had several changes from past practice as passed by the membership at the November General Meeting. Our Nominations Committee assisted by members of our Communication and Legislation Committees have decided to use electronic voting for the Vice Presidents (Elementary and Secretary) held on Wed. May 7th and Thurs. May 8th and the Secretary position held on Mon. May 12th and Tues. May 13th. Then councillors will be elected at our AGM on Thurs. May 15th by a more traditional ballot method. Nominations will open on Tues. April 1st and close Thurs. April 15th at 4:30.

Please direct any inquiries to Peter Marzo. Peter will once again be our Election Chair. If you would like to assist in any manner as part of the Nominations Committee please contact Peter. Peter will need scrutineers, tellers and other volunteers to assist in our election process.

The site location for the AGM and a full timeline will be released at the Reps Meeting.





Wellington OECTA's  
**ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY**

Date: Monday, March 17

Time: 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Music by: House of Good Cheer

Location: Penny Whistle Pub

2 Quebec St Guelph, ON N1H 2T3

At the corner of Baker and Quebec Streets, Downtown Guelph

Parking available in the Baker Street Lot

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