



WELLINGTON  
WORKS #3 25

Wellington  
Catholic  
Teachers

NOVEMBER  
2017

OFFICE PHONE 519-763-3043 PRESIDENT MARK BERARDINE CELL 519-400-5361

IN THIS ISSUE

## DAILY SHORTAGES

Last week many of you and your colleagues voiced concerns over shortages for daily OTs. On one day we know we ended up with ten uncovered OT assignments. OECTA is very concerned over the continued impact of the Balanced Day and Half Day assignments making it impossible for OTs to cover two schools as there is not enough travel time for an am and pm job. The Board has informed us they are short OTs, more OTs are working on multiple Boards, less OT applications to the roster, and more OTs getting earlier calls from other Boards. None of this solves the problem of you being assigned oncalls with no notice or missing your planning time. Elementary Planning Time must be paid back. We are objecting to oncalls at secondary with no notice. You cannot be assigned more than 3 in a week and 12 in a semester.

Please check out your OECTA Weekly Events, stay on top of opportunities on our Board OECTA Group and check in our Facebook page, Facebook Group and our OECTA Website. There are many events going on this month to take advantage of and /or get involved in Your OECTA.

Remember to use our Provincial OECTA media campaign with #CatholicTeachers and #LessonsForLife. You do great work let everyone know that you are a Catholic Teacher!

Your OECTA Everywhere You Need Us To Be!

PG 2 WHATS ON THIS MONTH?

20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF OUR WALK OUT

H AND S WINTER IS COMING

PG 3 OPSEU STRIKE

CONTRACT 101 – OCTOBER RECAP

PG 4 UPCOMING EVENTS

GUELPH LABOUR SOUP AND SOCK DRIVE

PG 5 SOCIAL JUSTICE, OECTA AND YOU

PG 6 WELLINGTON WORKSHOPS

PG 7 OTIP NEWS AND UPDATES

WELLINGTON OECTA UNIT EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT MARK BERARDINE

VP SECONDARY YVONNE RUNSTEDLER

VP ELEMENTARY PETER STOOP

VP OT TIM O'BRIEN

TREASURER LINDA DEPIERI

SECRETARY NICOLE HEARN

COUNCILLORS : LAURENCE VIGNOLA,  
LAURINE SOLIGO, TREVOR KLEIN, MARC  
SGRIGNOLI, AND DINA FISHER

## WHATS ON THIS MONTH?

WED NOV 1 TIC WORKSHOP @ OECTA OFFICE  
 WED NOV 1 REL AQ COURSE @ OECTA OFFICE  
 NOV 2 -3 OECTA FOUNDATIONS LEADERSHIP  
 NOV 3 OECTA GTA PRESIDENTS MEETING  
 NOV 4 REL AQ COURSE @ OECTA OFFICE  
 NOV 6 FINANCE COM @ OECTA OFFICE  
 NOV 7 JOINT STAFFING COMMITTEE  
 NOV 7 REL AQ COURSE @ OECTA OFFICE  
 NOV 9-10 FALL COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS  
 NOV 9 GUELPH LABOUR MEETING  
 NOV 13 OECTA EXEC MEETING  
 NOV 14 THEO ON TAP @ THE ALBION  
 NOV 14 GWC SOCIAL JUSTICE @ OECTA OFFICE  
 NOV 14-15 BOARD OECTA FACE CONFERENCE  
 NOV 17 WLU FEDERATION DAY  
 NOV 18 OECTA NIAGARA TOUR  
 NOV 19-24 ONT FEDERATION OF LABOUR CON  
 NOV 21 CATHOLICITY COMMITTEE @ THE VILLA  
 NOV 21 BOARD MEMORIAL MASS  
 NOV 21 RELIGION AQ COURSE @ OECTA OFFICE  
 NOV 22 WCDSB SPEAKER DAVID WELLS  
 NOV 24 PD DAY SPIRITUAL DEV DAY  
 NOV 27 OECTA FALL GENERAL MEETING  
 NOV 28 SERT MEETING  
 NOV 28-29 OECTA FDK CONFERENCE  
 NOV 28 RELIGION AQ COURSE @ OECTA OFFICE

**PLUS 13 BOARD WORKSHOPS THIS MONTH**

**MORE THAN JUST AN OFFICE**

## 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF OUR 97 WALK OUT

It was 1997 and every Teacher Union in Ontario walked out! ETFO (FWTAO AND OPSTF), OSSTF, AEFO and OECTA all united in a political protest against sweeping changes to our Public Education system. In an unprecedented Labour protest against the Provincial Ontario Tory Harris Gov't over 100,000 took to the streets in the largest labour protests ever in North America. Our action was deemed illegal and became a court case as we were branded as a Wildcat Strike, however, the Courts deemed our protest fully within our legal rights!

Labour in Canada to this day admires everything teachers did to fight against the Harris government and protected Public Education. Teachers became political and fought hard to raise awareness resulting in an eventual defeat of the Tories and a major recovery in funding for the next 8 years.

Your current salary that places teachers near 100 K is a result of this walk out. Our solidarity which grew during the late 90's brought caps on class sizes, supervision caps, elementary planning time increases, stopped an increase in courses at secondary and ensured decent wages for a decade.

In the 70's teachers ensured the right to collective bargaining and right to strike. In the 90's teachers protected the right to fairness in our Public Education system. The last few years we opposed wage freezes for teachers on the grid and an attempt at a two tiered system. In the future we will be called upon to protect our vocation from cuts and ensure Teachers of the Next Generation enjoy the rights we take for granted.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**WINTER IS COMING!**

Watch out and report wet floors at entrances, mats where needed, signs posted saying slippery when wet, salt applied to ice and sidewalks cleared of snow. Make sure your foot wear is appropriate and remember to be work safe!

**H and S is everyone's business and responsibility.**

## CONTRACT 101

Sept 1<sup>st</sup> marked the beginning of a two year extension for our collective agreement.

On Nov 1<sup>st</sup> as part of that agreement every teacher that was still working AND worked last year should have received a lump sum payment of 0.5 percent. For A 4 Max somewhere around the 470 dollar mark.

If you were on a paid sick leave or paid Mat Leave you should also have received a lump sum payment. We believe most OTs from last year were paid sometime during the third week of October while Permanent teachers received their lump sum the last week of October.

We believe some transitional contract teachers were missed as they moved from OT to Permanent status. Please email John Kamassah if you have questions and feel free to cc Mark for help.

**Please contact OECTA when in doubt!**

## WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED IN OCTOBER

OECTA MATERNITY WORKSHOP WITH PROVINCIAL OECTA'S JOE PECE

\*Each Spring Mark also runs a Maternity Leave Workshop as an After School Special (Stay Tuned)

For workshop content and advice call anytime

OECTA PENSION WORKSHOP WITH PROVINCIAL OECTA'S JOE PECE

\*Each Spring OTIP's Anita Chamberlain offers an After School Special to focus on RTIP our preferred benefit retiree plan endorsed both by Provincial and Local OECTA.

OECTA INTERVIEW PREP WORKSHOP WITH OECTA'S BELINDA RUSSO

\*This workshop is designed to give advice to OTs to have a successful interview for the LTO list, gain their first LTO and finally gain that Permanent Contract.

Electronic SlideShow Presentation available.



## WHY WE WALK THE LINE

The Community Colleges across Ontario have all went on strike. OPSEU Faculty members are fighting for their own Professional Judgement and to protect their Full Time jobs. More and more Faculty are only offered part time term contracts. This precarious work is hardly worthy of a trained Professor!

Our own part timers and OTs also suffer from Precarious work. We stand beside our colleagues in Solidarity!

**Fairness Works!**

Mark at left dropping off Wellington's support for OPSEU

**UPCOMING EVENTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS**

**THEOLOGY ON TAP TUES NOV 14 @ THE ALBION 7 PM LISTEN AND HAVE A PINT**

**OECTA NIAGARA MYSTERY TOUR SAT NOV 18 RSVP YOUR SPOT WITH PETER STOOP**

**WCDSB CATHOLICITY COMMITTEE HOSTS THE MEMORIAL MASS ON TUES NOV 21**

**OECTA FALL GENERAL MEETING MON NOV 27 4:30 PM MAKE IT YOUR OECTA**

**FAITH IN COMMUNITY PRESENTS MERRY ADVENT @ LOYOLA HOUSE THURS DEC 7**

**LOOKING AHEAD AND SAVE THE DATE**

**JOE GRABOWSKI NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATOR! WED JAN 10 @ 4 PM OECTA OFFICE**

**EXAMS ARE FINISHED RETREAT - ALL WELCOME - @ THE VILLA FRI FEB 2**

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE GUELPH DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL PRESENTS  
SOUP SOCKS AND SUPPER**

**OUR NOVEMBER TO DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> SOCKS AND SCARVES (GLOVES AND HATS) DRIVE  
PLEASE COLLECT SOCKS AT YOUR SCHOOL AND LET US KNOW SO WE CAN PICK THEM UP  
SEVERAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS WILL BENEFIT INCLUDING THE DROP IN CENTRE**

**ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> WE WILL TAKE OVER THE FOOD SERVICES FOR THE DROP IN CENTRE**

**WE WILL SERVE BOTH THEIR LUNCH AND AFTERNOON MEALS.**

**AT 11 AM WE WILL BRING IN HOMEMADE SOUP TO THE DROP IN CENTRE**

**AT 2 PM WE WILL BRING IN COOKED TURKEY AND CHICKEN FOR A PRE-CHRISTMAS DINNER**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE AND / OR COOK FOR THIS SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVENT PROGRAM**

**OR IF YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO HELP SERVE AT EITHER MEAL PLEASE CONTACT MARK**

## **BE A VOICE FOR CHANGE AND A VOICE FOR THE FUTURE**

Locally we participate in actions of Social Justice through two main organizations. First, as a member of the Ontario Federation of Labour and the Canadian Labour Congress, OECTA Provincial encourages local Units to get involved with their local District Labour Council. We joined shortly after the fall of 2013 and have been a solid contributor ever since. OECTA has spear-headed the corn roast each year at the Guelph and District Labour Council Labour Day Picnic. We have been the main provider for the soup at their annual Christmas Soup and Socks Program each December. Last year we were the chair for the return of the GDLC to the Guelph Santa Claus Parade.

These events and participation are very important in making sure our Catholic Teacher profile remains high in the eyes of our other brother and sister unions. We are under attack for the first time in a long time seriously by political forces that wish to end Publicly Funded Catholic Education in Ontario. We will need the support of other unions to rally behind our union and our system in order to survive. Making sure we are a Labour partner at the table is not only the right thing to do it is required for self preservation!

**With that in mind we need volunteers to form a 'flying squad' of members who can be called to show up for an hour to walk picket lines or attend rallies. If you would like to be part of our 15-20 individuals who can walk from time to time to support our colleagues when on strike or to attend rallies please give Mark or Tim an email.**

## **GUELPH WELLINGTON COALITION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Our second main organization to advocate for social justice is the GWCSJ. As a member we provide financial support from time to time in various causes as well as acting as the head quarters for their monthly meetings in our OECTA meeting room. If you are interested in clean water, protecting the environment and climate change, equal rights and equity, preserving public health care and education and protecting the poor then this committee is for you! We meet the second Tuesday of every month between September and June. Please come and represent OECTA at this coalition of social justice groups, service community groups, as well as Health Care and Education organizations.

### **OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS**

**15 and Fairness**

**Poverty Task Force**

**York Road Green Hub**

**Wellington Water Watchers**

**Fair Vote Guelph**

**Development and Peace**

**Guelph District Labour**

**Council of Canadians**

**Ontario Health Coalition**

**OSSTF**

**ETFO**

**OECTA**

**RTO**

**OPIRG**

**CSA**

**IN THE PLANNING STAGES:  
VICARIOUS TRAUMA AND  
COMPASSION FATIGUE WORKSHOP**

**BY JAMES TYRELL**

We are looking into hosting either an after school workshop on Wed Jan 17 fro 4-6 pm or a morning workshop on Sat Jan 13 from 9-11 am. We have heard from some members and believe we have enough interest. If you want to attend please give Mark and email.

**NEW TAKE ON OLD PROBLEM  
HEALTH AND SAFETY  
SAFE SCHOOL /INCIDENT FORMS**

Why not add your violent encounters on your monthly inspections as Health and Safety Reports. Each and every month our worker H and S site Reps are to make a report. When they come to your class or ask for input remind them of those incidents and include them on the report!

**WELLINGTON WORKSHOPS 2017-18**

Early in October Mike Breadner presented the first of the Wellington Workshops for this year with a hands on constructive demonstration of Lego-Robotics. The workshop was well attended and even more importantly well received. The enthusiasm for Lego-Robotics should easily filter into the schools that were able to attend. There are many opportunities to flesh out the technique in a variety of curriculum areas. Thanks Mike for volunteering to bring forth this opportunity to all our colleagues and thanks to the Board for sponsoring the event and providing the Lego kits for the schools

The OECTA PD Committee met last month and sent in their requests to Joint PD for a variety of additional workshops for Primary, Junior and Secondary teachers as well as some for professional and spiritual growth. These exciting opportunities will be announced as they get closer in the school year calendar. Thanks to all who volunteered their time to present to their colleagues as part of our internal PD opportunities.

**Shape Up Your Math Program with Spatial Reasoning- Wellington Workshop Two**

Thursday, December 7th, 2017 LOCATION: OECTA Office

AUDIENCE: Primary/Junior Teachers :Julie Malone, Peggy Varney, Patricia Trento, Anita Marchesan & Cathy Chaput

Spatial reasoning is instrumental to student math understanding in every strand of the curriculum.

In this hands-on workshop, primary and junior teachers will experience many great activities that help students develop spatial reasoning skills. These activities require minimal preparation and materials, but yield amazing growth in student learning! We will share tips from our experiences implementing these activities in our own classrooms. Come and expand your understanding of spatial thinking while having a rich day of active learning and investigation!

Email completed application form to Yvonne Runstedler [yvonne.runstedler@wellingtoncdsb.ca](mailto:yvonne.runstedler@wellingtoncdsb.ca) OR fax it to the OECTA office at 519 763 2682 Attention: OECTA PD Committee.



## ONTARIO TEACHERS INSURANCE PLAN (OTIP)

As a member, you have access to the following OTIP products and services:

### **OTIP Group Benefits**

OTIP makes it easy for you to find the forms you need online or get answers to questions. By logging in to our secure self-service tools, you can review your benefits, update your information, or make a claim. [Click here](#) to log in.

### **OTIP Car & Home Insurance**

Get the protection you need and the value you deserve with exclusive group savings on auto and home insurance. And you can save even more with OTIP's special discounts. [Click here](#) to get a quote today, and see how much you could save!

### **OTIP Retirement Health, Dental and Travel Insurance**

OTIP offers health, dental and travel insurance for retirees. The Retired Teachers Insurance Plan (RTIP) offers the most flexible health, dental and travel insurance available to the retired education community. Simply choose the plan that best meets your needs. [Click here](#) to learn more about RTIP.

### **OTIP Bursary Program**

OTIP offers 12 academic bursaries of \$1,500 every year. The bursary program promotes post-secondary education for our insured members and their relatives by investing in their future. [Click here](#) to learn more about the OTIP bursary program.



The CAREpath Navigation System, Survivor Support Program and Cancer Information Line help those living with cancer navigate the complex health care system so they can receive the best treatment and support. [Click here](#) to learn more about CAREpath.



A savings program available exclusively to Ontario's education community. Get discounts on travel, electronics, clothing and more! [Click here](#) to start saving.



Connecting Mental Health Problems to Solutions

A web-based mental health care program that guides members and their care provider (whether it be a counsellor, psychologist, or family physician) to identify emotional and mental health issues as early as possible. Getting the right diagnosis and treatment helps members feel better sooner. [Click here](#) to learn more about FeelingBetterNow®.