

**UNIT EXECUTIVE**

2014-2015

**PRESIDENT**

**MARK BERARDINE**

**VP SECONDARY**

**DAVID DEREWIANKO**

**VP ELEMENTARY**

**PETER STOOP**

**VP OCCASIONAL**

**TIM O'BRIEN**

**TREASURE**

**TED IMRE**

**SECRETARY**

**SHEILA HYNES**

**COUNCILLORS**

**LINDA ARTUSO-JACOBI**

**ROBERTA CASAGRANDE**

**TRACI COULAS-GACA**

**KEVIN REID**

**LAURENCE VIGNOLA**

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ONTARIO ENGLISH  
**Catholic  
Teachers**

ASSOCIATION  
WELLINGTON OECTA

**WEBSITE**

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519 400 5362

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519 400 5363

The month of June has finally arrived. We are all wrapped up with our 'normal' duties of year end activities, graduations, late spring sports, arts and clubs. On top of that we are in the midst of our core duties of year end assessments, culminating activities, tests and exams as we prepare for report cards and exams. Remember we are all in this together and we are all under the same timelines, stresses and pressures. Be there for your colleagues and each other this month to help everyone make it to the finish line.

Now.

June is here. We are now 10 months without a contract. We are still in negotiations with the Board and Province at the Provincial Bargaining Table. We are in the middle of the mediation stage. Which is not the stage of conciliation that places a deadline on a strike action or lockout. That means we will likely not reach a legal strike situation until September at the earliest.

Though, if we look at how our affiliates are handling their negotiations then there is not much hope that the draconian cuts will be withdrawn. We need to all realize what is at stake for our vocation. The future of how teachers are treated by the Boards, Governments and Administrators is all at risk. Contract victories since the 1980's are in jeopardy and may be totally wiped away.....and this is only the first step in the new world of Provincial Bargaining.

We had an overwhelming strike mandate of 94 % and our Wellington Unit was higher than the provincial average! We need to stay together and support each other with whatever lays ahead.

Reminder that June has three pay periods. We skip a pay period between August and September by one week. Information from our OECTA bank consultant is on the first class conference to assist all of us in the possible turmoil ahead. I, personally, am just as concerned about the possible actions to take place but I am immensely proud to represent all of you as President.

Keep in touch -Mark

## OECTA SUMMER HAPPENINGS

With July coming up fast there is still a lot of things happening over the summer. We all know our challenges in Negotiations with the province and boards will continue. Please keep checking your emails for updates. All Presidents will be attending a Special Council of

Presidents Meeting on August 27, Locally, Peter, Ted, Kevin and Ruthanne will be attending the CLC Summer School Courses. Mark is attending the International Catholic Teacher's Conference in Ottawa. Members can still apply to the Educating for the

Common Good Conference in early July. See first class for registration details. There are also opportunities to get involved on several different special project writing teams for Provincial or AQ courses and Modules. Keep informed and updated!

# WELLINGTON OECTA COMMITTEES

## CALL FOR 2015-2016 LOCAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Wellington OECTA is looking for interested members to sit on a variety of committees. Do you have an idea for an event? Then perhaps a committee is one way for you to help implement your idea! Want to organize a member field trip then why not sign up for the social committee. Interested in professional development opportunities join the PD committee and share your thoughts. Below are a variety of committees you can belong to. We all know getting involved is the best way to make an organization strong. It is also the best way for you to make OECTA your union!

**\*Awards**

**\*Beginning Teachers**

**\*Benevolent (Secretary)**

**\*Communications**

**\*Elementary VP Elementary Chair**

**\*Secondary VP Secondary Chair**

**\*Finance Treasurer Chair**

**\*Human Rights**

**\*Legislation Bylaws**

**\*Occasional Teachers' OTBU Pres Chair**

**\*PAC (Political Action Committee)**

**\*Professional Development**

**\*Social**

**\*Annual In Appreciation Banquet and Other Events**

**\*Women's Issues (Ad Hoc)**

**\*Wellness**

**\*Elections /Nominations Election Chair**

**\*OECTA Reno and Expansion**

### Appointed Board Committees

#### **Health and Safety**

Elementary Rep  
Secondary Rep  
OT Rep

#### **Catholicity Council**

Elementary Rep  
Secondary Rep  
County Rep

PLEASE SEND ONE OF THE PRESIDENTS AN EMAIL TO APPLY

## Upcoming Dates

Friday June 5th

Elem PD Day

GTA President's Meeting

Mark and David

Saturday June 6th

Bus to Blue Mountain Rally

Departs 9:30 RSVP

Monday June 8th

Exec Meeting

OECTA Office 4:15

Tues-Wed June 9-10

Pre-Council Training

Mark

Thurs-Fri June 11-12

COP Spring Niagara

Mark, David and Peter

Saturday June 20th

GDLC Meeting

OECTA Office

Monday June 22nd

Combined Exec Meeting

OECTA Office 4:15

Friday June 26th

PD Day

Wednesday July 1st

Happy Canada Day!

## Staff Rep Elections and Bargaining

Normally we have time to give members a few weeks in September but with the state of negotiations that confronts us we are asking Reps to be elected by Friday September 11th if not earlier.

We ask all Staff Reps that are leaving their site to please have a brief meeting to have an interim Rep in place for the summer or to have their elections in June for next year. In some cases there are new members arriving who have worked as Reps and you may want to see if they wish to stand for the position.

The Staff Rep is the front line eyes and ears of our Association. They communicate between their site and the Executive. They take notes during any meetings between members and the administrators. They share ideas to solve problems and they help members with a variety of advice on contract issues. The Staff Rep is crucial to a strong OECTA presence in every school and they chair each monthly staff OECTA meeting.

Staff Reps must be selected during an OECTA **only** meeting. OECTA Reps are never to be on a sign up sheet as Extra-Curricular. The meeting must be announced in advance. If there is more than one candidate for the position there must be an election. All elections will be by secret ballot. The Executive is available to help in any election if a staff wishes assistance.

Secondary and larger Elementary schools usually have two Reps. It is suggested that every site have a back up Rep to attend meetings if the Rep can't make a meeting.

Meetings for the Reps generally take place on the last Monday of the month except January. There are no Rep meetings in December or June.

**We ask all Reps to be ready to attend a meeting after school Sept 3rd (PD Day).**

### WELLINGTON OECTA OTBU ELECTIONS

#### NOTICE OF OTBU GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY SEPT 17TH

OECTA OFFICE

4:00 Refreshments      4:15 Meeting and Elections

The position of OTBU President will be elected. Note whoever is elected OTBU President automatically serves as the VP OT on the Unit Executive. Also up for election is the OTBU Secretary, the OTBU Treasurer and two OT Reps for Reps Council. Candidates must be declared in advance by Friday September 11th at 4:00 p.m. to the Election Chair. The Election Chair will be appointed for 2015-16 during the summer by the new Executive.

## AUGUST NOTES START DATE AND PAY

We hope by now everyone has read the several notices we put out for the past few months on our back to school start dates and the implications our calendar cycle has on our Pay Periods:

- The first day we must be back to work is Thursday Sept. 3rd. Yes we are back to work prior to Labour Day. The good news is it is a PD Day and NOT a day with students as has happened once before.
- The first day back with students will be after Labour Day on Tuesday Sept. 8th. Please make your summer plans accordingly.
- Our pay periods, as happens every six or seven years is once again affected by a gap between our last pay in August and our first pay in September. We will miss a week.
- Our last pay is Tuesday Aug. 25th
- Our first pay back is Tuesday Sept. 15th  
Please plan accordingly for the gap and any potential work disruptions in September.

### 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Provincial OECTA has reported on the news last week that September will not be ‘business as usual’. Teachers need to be cognitive that in addition to the legality of being in a legal Strike Action which could have ‘Work to Rule’ issues or full withdrawal of service; we could also be locked out by the Board. Teachers need to prepare for the Fall accordingly.

If you have questions regarding extra-curriculars, school trips, conferences and PD they may all be directed to your Reps or the Executive.

We don’t know the status of the Joint PD (OECTA and Board) Funds. We don’t know what the implications will be for CODE, WFMP, Ministry initiatives and other Board initiated PD in the Fall. OECTA will wait to see how negotiations continue to develop during the rest of June and through the summer. If in doubt, ask.

### CONTRACT 101

**Q** Why can’t we have more say in our classes or grade assignments?

**A** Unfortunately, our contract gives us (and most teachers) very little say on what we teach or what grades/subjects and courses we are assigned. There are historical reasons for this one of course is that our Principals were in OECTA with us until 1997.

**Q** What rights do I have then when it comes to course assignments or grade classes?

**A** Well your seniority does ensure that you are indeed able to remain at your school site. You have the right to teach a subject or grade that you are qualified to teach. If you and the principal mutually agree you can teach a subject or grade that you aren’t qualified to teach but this is becoming more rare. The days of P/J teachers being assigned grade 7/8 are becoming part of our past. If you are assigned a class or grade that you are unqualified for and wish advice please call the Unit OECTA Office.

**Q** When can I call the OECTA Office?      **A** Whenever you want, call early call often :)

# **OECTA presents the Biennial Educating for the Common Good Conference**

Registration is now open for OECTA's Biennial Educating for the Common Good Conference:

"From Charity to Change", July 8, 9, 2015 at the Sheraton Toronto Airport Hotel, 801 Dixon Road.

For conference information and registration, visit [www.oecta.on.ca](http://www.oecta.on.ca)

The conference is open to all OECTA members. Units are encouraged to support delegates who may be interested in attending.

Delegates are responsible for making their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

Reservations may be made directly by calling 1-866-932-7058 using code: OECTA Educating for the Common Good. The room rate is \$139 + taxes which includes parking. A major credit card will be required to guarantee the reservation. Availability of bedrooms and the OECTA rate are not guaranteed after Monday, June 8.

Registration is on a first-come first-served basis, so please have delegates register early.

## ***YOUNG AUTHORS WELLINGTON WINNERS***

### **Grade 1-2**

Sara Southerby	Short Story	St. Peter	Martina Freitag
Isabella Smith	Poem	St. Mary E	Claire McElhinney
Ella Senguin	Non-Fiction	Holy Trinity	Sabrina Cirelli

### **Grade 3-4**

Martina Gazzola	Short Story	St Ignatius	J. Dufour Duffy
Ryann Whittnell	Non-Fiction	Holy Trinity	Sabrina Cirelli

### **Grade 5-6**

Brayden Mathia	Short Story	St. Ignatius	K Kenny and J Goddard
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### **Grade 7-8**

Tyson Fuller	Short Story	St. Joseph F	Brian O'Donnell
Brendan Reid	Poem	St. Joseph F	Jonathan Burns
Eva Innocente	Non-Fiction	St. Mary E	Sarah Glazier
Maeve Nichol	FSL Short Story	St. Joseph G	Ed McAnany

### **Grade 9-10**

Brooklyn Bruzzese	Poem	Bishop Macdonell	Maria Simone
Mia Kurtz Favero	Non-Fiction	Our Lady Of Lourdes	Catharine Koledin

### **Grade 11-12**

Mikaela Robbins	Short Story	St. James	Katrina Musselman
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Thanks to all our Reps who promoted the Young Authors program at your school!

**OECTA ANNUAL  
BEGINNING TEACHERS CONFERENCE**

**‘HATS OFF TO YOU!’**

**ASSOCIATION-WORKLIFE-CURRICULUM  
TEACHING STRATEGIES AND MORE**

**OCTOBER 16-17 2015**

**TORONTO AIRPORT HOTEL**

**PLEASE CONTACT MARK OR PETER ASAP  
SPOTS FILL UP QUICKLY**

**OECTA CONSIDERS ALL TEACHERS IN THEIR FIRST FIVE YEARS  
AS BEGINNING TEACHERS**

**OECTA PRESENTS**

**EDUCATING FOR  
THE COMMON GOOD**

**CONFERENCE  
JULY 8TH AND 9TH  
Toronto Sheraton Airport**

**APPLY DIRECT ONLINE**

**[www.regonline.com/ecqprovdel](http://www.regonline.com/ecqprovdel)**

**PLEASE CONTACT  
MARK FOR DETAILS**

Worried about missing OECTA information  
over the summer?

Here are some things you can do:

\*make sure your home email is up to date. You can log on thru the provincial website or you can now contact Mark directly as he can now help with the provincial email data base.

\*join our private Wellington OECTA only Facebook Group. It is private and a good place to keep in touch and ask questions. Contact Jeff Cummings or Mark to join.

\*follow wellington oecta on twitter

\*check for updates and events on our own Wellington website [www.oectawellington.ca](http://www.oectawellington.ca)

\*email our own Unit email account to speak with your Presidents Mark, David or Peter at [oecta.wellington@rogers.com](mailto:oecta.wellington@rogers.com)

\*or call us anytime

Mark 519-400-5361

David 519-400-5362

Peter 519-400-5363

**OECTA  
IT'S YOUR  
UNION!**