

OSSTF/FESSO District 4 Monthly Newsletter



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January 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Jan 9	—	First day back from break.
Jan 24	—	International Day of Education
Jan 26	—	Bell Let's Talk Day



President's Message

Parker Robinson



Click Icons to link to obtain provincial information such as DBUs, updates and much more!

Many people have been asking what the status of contract negotiations is and what might be the next steps. While it has been frustrating to watch the glacial pace of the negotiations, it is important to remember the strategy is different from the last round. The more traditional approach of not releasing information about bargaining as it is occurring is currently being used by our provincial bargaining team. This is a strategic decision based on the current climate around the talks and the approach of the other side. At some point a change may occur and OSSTF may decide to revert to the open bargaining tactic used in 2019-20. All that said, last week local presidents and chief negotiators were called to Toronto for a bargaining update. At this meeting we were provided details of the negotiations and some of the issues currently holding up our ability to reach an appropriate settlement. The most significant hurdle continues to be the government's unwillingness to actively bargain. While OSSTF is further into bargaining than any of the teacher affiliates, we still are only at the beginning of the process. Our team has had approximately 10 days of bargaining (although OSSTF continues to offer availability for more dates to the Ministry of Ed.). It is clear from the proposals and tactics being used by the MOE that they are not interested in a fair and reasonable deal at this time. While many people saw CUPE reaching a deal as a potential breakthrough, it is very clear that a contract offer like CUPE's deal would not be satisfactory for our members. At this time the proposals that have been offered are not even what CUPE's agreement landed on.

Local leaders were also asked about the appetite of our respective membership for a more aggressive approach to this round of bargaining. Most of the conversation suggested that teachers and ed. workers want a fair deal but are wary of significant disruptions in the school year. From the discussions I have had with members and the feedback I have gathered from our executive, District 4 T/OTBU seems to align with this sentiment. If you would like to share your view on bargaining and the potential for some form of job action, please reach out to an executive member or your representative on the local collective bargaining committee. It is important we hear from members so we can voice your concerns and positions in this challenging bargaining climate.

I hope the end of semester wraps up smoothly for all members, and semester 2 begins in a positive fashion as we reach the half way point in the school year.

Parker



February 6, 2023 4:30 PM

February 21, 2023 4:30 PM

March 6, 2023 4:30 PM

Pension Information

Register for Webinars or Workshops by clicking the date and time for the available sessions. All sessions are typically 75 to 90 minutes long.



February 16, 2023 2:00 PM

February 16, 2023 5:30 PM

February 21, 2023 12:00 PM



Our D4: OT/T Bargaining Unit 2022-2023 Executive

NOTE: QR Codes are scannable for Vcard contact information and can be stored in your contacts on your mobile device.
Android Devices: Use Google Lens. Apple Devices: use Camera App.



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IN THE NEWS

[Union calling on Ontario to hire support staff to address school violence](#)

[Doug Ford Will Outsource '50%' of Ontario Surgeries to Private, For-Profit Health Facilities](#)

[13-year-old faces robbery charges after incident with toy gun in Etobicoke middle school](#)

[Critics blast Ford government's continued defence of Bill 124 after new revelations](#)

[School meal programs struggle to serve growing number of students in need as food prices climb](#)

[What school PA day calendars look like across Canada](#)



Information Updates

OSSTF District 4 Student Achievement Award Winners

Congratulations to the winners and runners-up of the OSSTF District 4 2022 Student Achievement Awards!

Here is a list of the winners and runners-up by category:

Category A—1: Intermediate, 9–10 Academic

Winner: Michayla Cheslock – “All That Society Tells Me” A Story School: PSHS

Runner-Up: Aiden Attwood-Dixon – “We Are Warriors” A Story School: NSS

Category A—2: Intermediate, 9–10 Applied/Essential

Winner: Chloe Sears-“Popularity” A Story -School: AHSS

Runner-Up: Keelyn Todd-Vanderwerff “Remembrance Day Poster” A Story - School: NSS

Category A—3: Senior, 11-12 University

Winner: Addisyn Coles – “Donny is Too Loud” -An Illustrated Book - School: AHSS

Runner-Up: Michael Rolling – “Alien Boy” A Story -School: NSS

Category B—2: Visual, Senior, 11–12

Winner: Jaidyn Pierobon – “Hey Says” - A Song Written and Recorded-School: AHSS

Runner-Up: Danielle Parker – “The Things You Don’t See” Self Portrait – School: PSHS

Thank you to all of the teachers that helped to nominate these students for awards.

Application to Provincial Standing Committees and Councils

The application for Provincial Standing Committees and Councils for 2023-2024 is now available on the OSSTF/FEESO website. Below is a list of Provincial Standing Committees and Councils with vacancies:

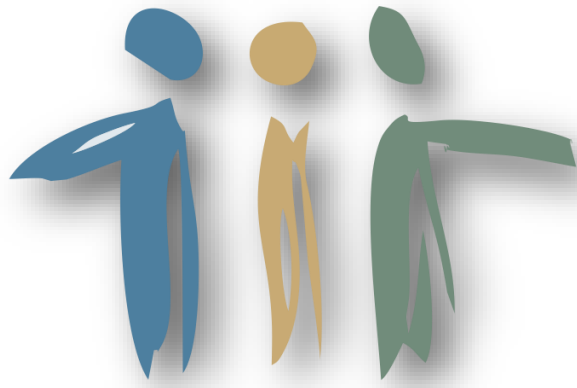
- Addressing Anti-Black Racism/Racism Committee
- Comité des services en langue française
- Communications and Political Action Committee
- Educational Services Committee
- Finance Committee
- Health and Safety/Workplace Safety and Insurance Act Committee
- Human Rights Committee
- Parliamentary and Constitution Council
- Protective Services Committee
- Status of Women Committee

The application must be in on-time in order to be considered. **The deadline is March 1, 2023.** There are several background documents available on the website that you may find helpful while filling out your application. To access background documents and to complete an application, please [click here](#). Please contact Ellen Hinan (ellen.hinan@osstf.ca) if you require further support or information.

D4 is strong here, is a list of Provincial and labour affiliate committees and workgroups D4 members hold seats on.

Status of Women	Sarah McLaren	Faculty of Education Advisory Workgroup	Jake Loof
Protective Services, Chair	Dave Weichel	New Member Engagement and Advisory Workgroup	Ian Bain
Provincial Council	Parker Robinson	Educational Services	Bryan Elsey
CPAC	Rose Lepage	Community Organizing	Jared Hunt





OTIP RAE0®

The top 5 things that should be on your 'beginning of the year financial to-do' list

It's a new year—and while you might be sorting out whether or not an 'old acquaintance should be forgotten', there is a list of money-related things you shouldn't forget if you want to start this year on the right financial foot.



From making the most of your TFSA and RESP contributions, to getting ahead of the RRSP and tax deadlines, check out the top 5 things that should be on your new year financial to-do list: <https://bit.ly/3VpNTvU>. Brought to you by Educators Financial Group.



Start the new year off right with ways to save on your home and auto insurance

The price you pay for insurance can vary by hundreds of dollars, so how can you get the best value for your money? Here are 10 ways you may be eligible to save on your home and auto insurance and start your new year off right.

Read more at www.otip.com/article158.

Maximize your RRSPs by avoiding these two common missteps

Having a pension is a great thing. But, when it comes to ensuring you have the cash flow you need in retirement, it's always a good idea to have a bit of a financial cushion in addition to those monthly OTPP or OMERS payments. That's where the Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) comes in. Yet many Canadians are making costly mistakes when it comes to their RRSP.

When it comes to your RRSPs, here are two things you should avoid: <https://bit.ly/3vgJ2SX>. Brought to you by Educators Financial Group.



Edvantage®



PRO TIP

A Primary member can add up to five secondary members to the program who are 18 years of age or older and reside in the same household.

Edvantage®



PRO TIP

Enabling a family member to register their own account requires accurate name spelling and 12-24 hr window.

Educators
FINANCIAL GROUP



D4 NEWS



Educational Services Committee Awards Nominations

The Educational Services Committee gives three major awards each year. They are the:

André Lécuyer Award - given to any member in recognition of exceptional contributions to the professional growth and development of fellow members over a significant period of time.

Kelly Ann Mackenzie Award - given to a current support staff (PSSP/ESS) member for contributions to the professional growth and development of fellow members at the regional and provincial levels.

Nancy Warrenner Award - given to a current teacher or occasional teacher member for contributions to the professional growth and development of fellow members at the regional and provincial levels.

If you know of someone you believe would be a good candidate for one of these awards, please use the links above to nominate them.

The deadline for nominations for all of the awards is January 31st. There is still time. Go ahead, nominate someone. You know you want to!



Employee Assistance Program

Your mental health and well being is important. If you need to talk to someone, please do not hesitate. Contact our current EAP provider, [The Morgan Centre](#) They can provide you with confidential help.

You can reach out by calling: (705) 472-7070.

READER CONTEST

This Month's Question:

How many OSSTF provincial standing committees and councils currently have vacancies?

This Month's prize: A jar of D4 Honey

Last Month's Winner: Ryan Culhane (West Ferris Secondary School)

Email answers to Northvp-teachers@d04.osstf.ca by the last Friday of the Month
Subject: 4ShadowAnswers

Starling Minds Mental Fitness

Starling Minds Mental Fitness is offering a free Mental Fitness Program to all OSSTF members and their families.

Starling Minds is a private digital program for stress and burnout. You can learn more about Starling Minds [here](#).

[Click on this link to register](#) and enter the access code:

OSSTFMEMBER or **OSSTFFAMILY**



The Women's Advocate in this District is:

Name: Meaghan Stocks
Sarah McLaren

Phone: 705-203-3586
705-358-1704 **Hours:** Monday to Thursday
3:30 - 6:30

Email: wwadvocate4@gmail.com
nwadvocate4@gmail.com

District 4 OT Rep Vacancy

District 4 is still looking for someone to fill the Occasional teacher rep role. If you are interested please send an email to the OT/TBU Secretary, Kristy Kujala, [here](#).

LABOUR LINKS



**ONTARIO
FEDERATION OF
LABOUR**



If you wish to submit or have questions, please send to:
Northvp-teachers@d04.osstf.ca or
contact your local branch president.

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[@District4TBU](#)



[Teachers OSSTF](#)



www.d4osstf.ca



Our Collective Agreement Important Dates

DATE	EVENT	ARTICLE REFERENCE
by Oct 31	Seniority list emailed to teachers	L14.03.04
by Nov 1	Staffing/Workload reports provided to the Bargaining Unit President	L13.04
by Nov 30	Possible seniority list errors reported	L14.03.04
by Dec 15	Revised seniority list emailed to teachers and Bargaining Unit President	L14.03.04
by Mar 1	Deferred Salary Leave Plan requests submitted	L18.01.02
by Mar 1	Notification to extend an Unpaid Leave must be provided	L18.03.02
by Mar 1 (of preceding year)	Requests for Second Semester Leave with Benefits Paid submitted	L18.04.02
15 days later	Board provides response to Requests for Second Semester Leave with Benefits Paid	L18.04.03
by Mar 31	Requests for Transfer must be submitted	L14.07.02
by Apr 1	Staffing/Workload reports provided to the Bargaining Unit President	L13.04
by Apr 15	Board declares number of teachers deemed redundant or surplus to the Bargaining Unit President	L13.04.04
by May 1	Notification of teachers declared redundant in person and in writing. Bargaining Unit President also notified	L14.04.07
by May 15	Vacancies in schools open to applications: Round 1: Permanent teachers only, qualified and most senior Round 2: Permanent and Surplus teachers, qualified and most senior	L14.05.02
by May 15	Deferred Salary Leave Plan acceptance, denial, or suggested modifications provided	L18.01.03
by May 31	Unassigned surplus teachers assigned to schools in their region where possible	L14.05.03

Acronyms and Terms

AGM	Annual General Meeting	LTD	Long-Term Disability
CA	Collective Agreement	LTO	Long-Term Occasional
CLC	Canadian Labour Congress	MOL	Ministry of Labour
CUPE	Canadian Union of Public Employees	MSJHCC	Multi-Site Joint Health and Safety Committee
DBU	District Bargaining Unit	OECA	Ontario English Catholic Teacher's Association
DSLPL	Deferred Salary Leave Plan	OFL	Ontario Federation of Labour
EA	Educational Assistant	OLRB	Ontario Labour Relations Board
EAP	Employee Assist Program	OPSBA	Ontario Public School Board Association
ECE	Early Childhood Educator	OPSEU	Ontario Public Service Employees Union
EFG	Educators Financial Group	OSSTF	Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation
ESSP	Educational Student Support Personnel	OTBU	Occasional Teachers Bargaining Unit
ETFO	Elementary Teacher's Federation of Ontario	OTIP	Ontario Teacher's Insurance Plan
H/S	Health and Safety	OTPP	Ontario Teacher's Pension Plan
PSSP	Professional Student Support Personnel	TBU	Teacher's Bargaining Unit
AEFO	Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens.		

