

# Teachers' Bulletin



[www.osstfd2o.ca](http://www.osstfd2o.ca)

905-332-1228



The Halton Secondary Teachers Children's Christmas party was attended by over 250 parents and children.

## OSSTF Benefits Trust, OTIP Called on the PC Carpet

While the benefits of a province-wide OSSTF Benefits Plan may exist and have yet to be proven, the implementation of the roll out has been less than stellar.

Members on LTDI, maternity leave, reduced assignments, and part-time teachers had had serious enrolment issues to contend with.

Wait times for call centre service and the lack of an escalation department were exacerbating the problems for the membership

TBU President Brad Fisher and another local president made formal complaints to the Provincial Executive in November. **OTIP called on the carpet page 2**

### John Watson to Retire June 30<sup>th</sup>

John Watson, TBU Health and Safety Officer for the past 8 years notified the TBU President this week that he would be retiring at the end of this school year.

John has been fully engaged at the provincial level serving on CBC, Health and Safety, and he is currently the Chair of the OSSTF Provincial Benevolent Council. He formerly taught at Georgetown and Abbey Park.

## Summatives, Final Exams Return Not Required by HDSB

At the October Council the issue of Professional Judgement was raised. Council raised the issue of Summative and Exam return and that question was incorporated into the discussion. A letter composed by the TBU President containing OSSTF questions of the board's position on several A&E was sent to the board and they have since responded.

Union question: Is the position of the Board that all Summatives, Final Performance Tasks and Final exams be returned at the terminal point of the course?

**Board response: At this point in time, no, it is not mandated that teachers return all Summatives, Final Performance Tasks and Final Exams, although we consider it a 'best practice' and are moving in that direction.**

An administration can encourage teachers to return all this stuff if they really think it is a 'best practice,' but if a teacher chose not to return the materials and they are disciplined by the administration they should immediately contact this office. We are prepared to grieve the issue as a violation of management rights.

### HDSB Attendance Management Concedes Pregnancy Related Appointments Acceptable

At the November 30<sup>th</sup> Halton Union Coalition OSSTF's John Watson led a presentation against the HDSB Attendance Management Program (AMP) inclusion of absences due to pregnancy-related appointments in the AMP absence count. The Director and Chair of the Board were present.

This was causing undue stress for pregnant members in all 9 bargaining units.

A follow-up meeting between the HDSB Director and TBU President Brad Fisher took place in December.

The Human resource Department of the Halton District School Board has announced that they will no longer count pregnancy related appointments in the attendance count.

## OTIP called on the carpet from page 2

The Provincial Executive responded by calling in the OTIP and OSSTF Benefits Executives to answer for themselves before the Provincial Executive.

The OSSTF Benefits Trust and OTIP Executive were also called before the 150 member Provincial Council on November 18th where the membership's anger and frustration was made quite clear. The OTIP and OSSTF Benefits Executive were on the carpet for over an hour.

### Walk into Retirement with a Plan



Presented by:



**February 22, 2017**  
**4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

**Halton Secondary Teachers' Office**  
**980 Fraser Drive, Unit 211, Burlington**  
**During this workshop, you'll learn about:**

Retiree health insurance benefits  
Why RTIP is the #1 choice for plan flexibility regarding your health and finances

- Only plan to offer choice with your Health, travel and dental
- Life insurance solutions tailored to retiree needs and planning
- Tax and estate planning before and after retirement
- RRSPs and Investments preparations
- CPP and OAS
- Lending strategies

This **complimentary** workshop is open only to members and spouses. It covers valuable information that will be useful to all those planning to retire within the next five years.

Please register online: [www.otip.com/events](http://www.otip.com/events) Please note any dietary requirements at time of registration. A light dinner will be served.

### Long Term Disability Insurance Workshop Understanding the Process

Thursday February 16, 2017  
4:30 PM to 6:00 PM  
980 Fraser Drive Unit 211

RSVP – [John.Watson@D20.osstf.ca](mailto:John.Watson@D20.osstf.ca)

### OSSTF

#### Ontario Teachers' Pension Workshop

**When:** Thursday, February 2, 2017,  
6:30 PM to 9:00 PM  
**Where:** OSSTF Halton Teachers' Office  
980 Fraser Road, Unit 211  
Burlington  
**Who:** Teachers who are thinking of retiring in the next 5 years, or teachers who want to be proactive and begin thinking about the logistics of retirement  
**What:** Information on the Teachers' Pension Plan, financial planning, health and dental benefits.

RSVP – [John.Watson@d20.osstf.ca](mailto:John.Watson@d20.osstf.ca)

### Maternity/Parenting Workshop

**When:** Thursday January 31, 2017  
4:15 PM to 5:30 PM  
**Where:** Halton Secondary Teachers Office  
980 Fraser Drive, Unit 211 Burlington ON

RSVP – [John.Watson@d20.osstf.ca](mailto:John.Watson@d20.osstf.ca)

### Halton Secondary Teachers

Brad Fisher, President  
Jim Young, Staff Officer - Member Protection  
John Watson, Staff Officer - Health and Safety

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***Wishing you all the best of the Season! Enjoy the Holidays!***