

# Teachers' Bulletin

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

905-332-1228

**Editors' Note:** The candidates articles are printed as submitted and have not been edited or verified.

## Candidates for TBU President 2017-2019

### *Cindy Gage*



Elect Cindy Gage your Teachers' Bargaining Unit President.

The combination of my 20 years of union experience, 16 years in education, and 10 years of direct involvement with OSSTF and our Teachers' Bargaining Unit have brought me to this point. I am ready and excited to be your next Teachers' Bargaining Unit President.

I believe in: increasing grassroots member engagement; transparency with our members; enhancing our professional development opportunities; protecting credit integrity; and being student-centric teachers. My vision is that we are more than the sum of our bargaining and collective agreements. We are those mental health champions; we are those initiatives to support our members in the classrooms; we are those striving for continuous improvement in our working lives and our workplaces.

I will dedicate my passion, determination, intelligence and strong work ethic to support for all of our members. I want all of our members to have a voice. I will listen to, talk with, and advocate for all of our members, and be your voice to represent your concerns to the Board, our Provincial Executive, and the Ministry.

### *Colin Post*



Colin Post is running for election as President of the TBU. He has been an active participant and supporter of District 20 TBU for the past 14 years. He is a staunch supporter of organized labour and a strong advocate for active participation in our union.

#### District Involvement

- Vice President TBU- 2013 - 2017
- Branch President M. M. Robinson High School 2003 – 2012
- Hiring Committees - Staff Officers, Health and Benefits and Member Protection 2008-2016
- Local Benevolent / LTDI – 2008 - 2017
- Collective Bargaining – 2016-2017
- Finance 2016-2017
- Rules 2011-2012 and 2014-2015
- Grievance 2010-2017
- Communication and Political Action 2013-2017
- Compensation 2012-2013
- Staffing 2013-2014
- Executive Member Oakville District Labour Council 2014-2017
- Member Oakville District Labour Council 2012-2013

#### Joint Committees

- Staffing Advisory 2013-2014
- Co-op 2014-2015

#### Provincial Involvement

- Provincial Council 2014-2017
- Benevolent Council 2014-2015
- P. C. Liaison Health and Safety/Workplace Safety and Insurance Act Committee 2015-2017
- WHMIS 2015 Presenter Health and Safety Conference November 2015
- Regional Coordinator Health and Safety Workshops May 2016 & 2017
- Communications and Political Action Conference 2013 & 2017
- Human Rights Conference 2014

### *Rod Whate*



I am very excited to declare my candidacy for President of the Teachers' Bargaining Unit! This comes as the culmination of a number of years of investing into the cause of education in Halton.

As vice-president of the TBU, I am proud of the work I have done in our district on the Joint Staffing Advisory, Collective Bargaining, Investigations, Local Staffing, Finance, and Rights and Equity Committees. These experiences have provided me with firsthand knowledge of how to continue to lead our district, and advocate for teachers and students in Halton. As well, they have afforded me the ability to prove myself as an effective and balanced voice, unwavering in my resolve to do what I believe is best for Halton teachers.

I am a firm believer that far more can be accomplished in the context of positive working relationships. This is reflective of who we are as a profession, and this philosophy is central in how I advocate on your behalf: bringing honest concerns with a focus on finding effective solutions. This style also carries far

**Cindy Gage** (continued from page 1)

I am accountable to our members and in my experience know what processes to follow to have concerns addressed and resolved. Moreover, I know that teachers who feel respected and healthy provide a better education for our students.

I want to work for you and with you. I am ready and excited to be your next Teachers' Bargaining Unit President.

[www.electcindygage.com](http://www.electcindygage.com)

**Colin Post** (continued from page 1)  
Union Training

- Health and Safety courses 2009- 2016
- Canadian Labour Congress – Together Fairness Works 2013
- Summer Leadership 2013-2016

Political Activism

- March on Queens Park, August 2012
- March on Provincial Liberal Leadership convention January 2013
- OFL Convention November 2013
- March for \$15.00 fair wage November 2013
- Steel Workers Local 1005 VS US Steel, Hamilton City Hall, January 2016
- Queens Park Protest for Workers Rights and \$15.00 / Hr. October 2016
- Tampon Tuesday UNIFOR Hall, March 2017

**Rod Whate** (continued from page 1)

more weight when the need for a more aggressive position arises.

Thank you for taking the time to be informed about this important decision. Should you wish to find out more about me or my platform, please visit my website at

[www.goo.gl/Zmj8BG](http://www.goo.gl/Zmj8BG) or email me at [rod.whate@d20.osstf.ca](mailto:rod.whate@d20.osstf.ca).

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## ***Vice President Candidates (one year term) – two to be elected!***



### **Stephanie Briggs for VP!**

As the education system, both provincially and locally, continues to challenge and place more demands on teachers, I will work to make sure that we are valued and supported as will bring my personal qualities as a positive, highly motivated self-starter and natural leader with broad experience. I have worked in all areas of Halton and taught in traditional classrooms, learning skills classes and the pathways program which gives me a unique perspective on some issues facing teachers in Halton.

I have been an active OSSTF Member since 2012 and have been involved at both at the District and Provincial level including:

- PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBER: **Benevolent** (2014-present)
- ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY: **Delegate** (2012-17)
- DISTRICT 20 EXECUTIVE: **Communications Coordinator** (present), **Vice-Speaker** (2015-16)
- DISTRICT 20 COUNCIL: **Branch President** (2012-13, 2014-present)
- DISTRICT 20 COMMITTEE CHAIR: **Communications & Political Action**
- DISTRICT 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: **Collective Bargaining, Staffing, Hiring & Teacher Performance Appraisal Review**

As your Vice President, I am committed to communicating on behalf of the membership and continuing to build positive working relationships with the Board through participation in Joint Committees and the District Executive. I am asking for your support on May 9.



### **Steve Spisak for VP!**

My name is Steve Spisak and I am running for Vice President. Let me give you reasons to vote for me at the AGM.

Many want a VP with **experience**. I have a depth of experience: 12 years on council; 5 years on executive; been VP; extensive committee work both local (CBC, Grievance, etc.) and provincial (PCC).

Perhaps you want to vote for **someone new**? I am not currently on the executive; I'd be a new, yet experienced voice, full of ideas and plans. Someone who is goal-oriented and logical, yet comfortable thinking outside the box.

Do you want to support an executive who is not just "for" **member engagement** (lip service) but has an actual plan? I have a plan to get a stronger connection between the rank and file and the executive (see my webpage).

Maybe you are looking for someone who will actually **do something**? Not another 'yes-person' who believes in consensus over thinking? I am not afraid to take a stand and provide a different opinion. I'll give you a chance to convince me you're right, if you give me a chance to convince you of the reverse! Healthy debates yield well considered plans.

<https://sites.google.com/site/stevespisakforvp/home>

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## Candidates for Treasurer (one year term) – one to be elected!



### Jeff Boulton for Treasurer!

I look forward to the chance to serve again as Treasurer so that I may offer this district the compassion, energy, and innovative solutions I bring to every undertaking.

I believe the challenges we face require an Executive that understands the importance of working together with clear lines of communication, both amongst themselves and members. In a climate of no local bargaining, districts must seek creative and collaborative solutions to problems. This means working to build relationships not only at the board level, but more importantly, to use revenue streams and existing equity to explore solutions that help support teachers, to fill the gap the board and bargaining leave wide open. This requires envisioning what professional development and support can and should look like.

A finance committee's role in such an era can be more than setting a budget and reporting on performance. With the right leadership Executive can forge a way forward with new initiatives and programs that can meet the challenges we face today and will soon face tomorrow. If this sounds like the direction you feel we should travel together, then I look forward to serving you as Treasurer in the near future.



### Kelly McCarthy for Treasurer!

Please Re-Elect Kelly McCarthy for Treasurer

Kelly has a strong financial background that he uses everyday in the classroom and in OSSTF. This is demonstrated through his current roles as Vice Chair for the Provincial Finance Committee, and as District and Bargaining Unit Treasurer.

He believes that a deep understanding of finance and economics will guide him and give focus to the position of the Teacher's Bargaining Unit Treasurer. When decisions are made we need a person that understands the financial terms and impacts that these decisions make on a go forward basis.

What Experience Does Kelly have?

Currently Kelly is the Vice-Chair Provincial Finance Committee and both District and TBU Treasurer for District 20. He is also on several Provincial and local committees including; the Provincial MAC 201-16 Work Group, Economics of Finance and Climate Change, Chair of the District 20 Finance Committee, Council Liaison for CBC, Halton Staffing Advisory Committee, the eLearning Steering Committee and a 6 Time AMPA Delegate.

Kelly's experience is broad and representative of an individual who works hard to help his fellow members. Outside of OSSTF, Kelly has been actively involved with Scouts Canada for over 20 years helping Canada's youth learn about and enjoy our great outdoors and has been awarded a Ontario Service Volunteer Award for his over 20 years of volunteer service.

Kelly brings experience, knowledge and dedication to the role of Treasurer!

**Communications Coordinator**  
*(one year term) – one to be elected!*  
**No declared candidates!**

**Educational Services Officer**  
*(one year term) – one to be elected!*  
**No declared candidates!**

**Halton Secondary Teachers**  
**OSSTF District 20**

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

Phone: (905) 332-1228 Fax: (905) 335-9220  
[www.osstfd20.ca](http://www.osstfd20.ca)

### Maternity/Parenting Workshop

Tuesday May 16, 2017

4:15 PM to 5:30 PM

Halton Secondary Teachers' Office

980 Fraser Drive Unit 211

Burlington

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



### Halton Secondary Teachers' Annual Assembly

**Tuesday May 9th**

Meeting 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Dinner at 5:45 p.m.

Executive Elections

**Holiday Inn Burlington Hotel & Conference Centre**

3063 South Service Rd. Burlington, Ontario, L7N 3E9

**See your Branch President to sign up as a delegate!**