



## John Watson Awarded OFL/ODRT Disability Award

John Watson, Health and Benefits Officer, was awarded the OFL/ODRT Disability Award at the Oakville District Labour Council Activists' Dinner on November 14<sup>th</sup>. This award honours a union activist who is making a difference and impacting the Labour movement in the area of disability. John makes a difference to society in the area of individual challenges and fights for the justice and dignity of injured workers in the Labour movement.

## AMP under Board's Review

HDSB is currently reviewing attendance management (DM/AM) programs and will make recommendations to Administrative Council before Christmas. The nine bargaining units of OSSTF, ETFO and CUPE will be asked for comment in the new year.

## Ontario College of Teachers

### Reporting Requirements Now Include Community Coaching

OCT recently passed a motion to amend By-law 31.01 (a) to read:

A member shall notify the Registrar in writing or in another form acceptable to the Registrar of the following:

**(a) the member's business address(es) and telephone number(s) where the member is employed as a teacher and/or in which the member is in a position of trust or authority over children or students or in education.**

This will require members to submit business addresses and phone numbers for any voluntary positions, such as community coaching or service clubs such as Scouts, Girl Guides etc.

On another note, the OCT finds its budget under strain and is looking to increase the member fee from \$138 to \$150 in 2014. **Money well spent!**

## Collective Bargaining Committee Approved by D20 TBU Council

The Teachers' Bargaining Unit Council approved the addition of four members-at-large to the Collective Bargaining Committee to complete the selection process.

Teachers will be represented at the next round of negotiations by:

- Jim Young, Chief Negotiator
- Brad Fisher, President
- Anne Macdougall, IRHS, Council Liaison
- Janet Scott, APHS, Executive Liaison
- Kelly McCarthy, RBHS
- Stephanie Briggs, RBHS
- Rod Whate, MDHS
- Steve Droblich, RBHS

The CBC will have its first meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup> to lay the groundwork for bargaining. The MOU imposed terms and contract expires August 31, 2014.

## Ministry Studies Efficiencies Underutilized, Small Schools

The Minister of Education has been conducting formal consultations during November regarding school board efficiencies and modernization.

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The Ministry has also prepared a consultation document for stakeholders, which serves as a guide for the consultations.

The consultation will focus on the following areas:

- Underutilized and small schools;
- Declining enrollment supports;
- Improving accountability;
- Sharing efficiency savings;
- E-books and e-learning;
- New technologies;
- Getting the balance right

## VLAP Days Still Available

VLAP days continue to be available for teachers who would like to access them. There is a limit of five days per teacher for the current school year. The application form is available on myHDSB, the OSSTF D20 website, from your Branch President, or from the District Office.



### RTO Retirement Workshop Well Attended

David Browley, from Johnson's Insurance, ran a Retirement Workshop for the Retired Teachers of Ontario on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Twenty-five Halton Secondary Teachers attended. The workshop was organized by Janet Scott, Educational Services Officer

## OSSTF District 20 Teachers

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## Maternity/Parenting Workshop

Wed. December 4<sup>th</sup> 2013

4:15 to 5:15 PM

OSSTF District 20 Office

RSVP Lorie Wiersma, Executive Assistant,

OSSTF District 20 Office

905-332-1228

## Retirement Series 2013-2014

### OTIP: Walk into Retirement

The Ontario Teachers Insurance Plan is offering their retirement workshop on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 4:30 PM at the OSSTF District 20 Office. Dinner will be provided. This session is limited to 30 participants, spouses are welcome to attend. OTIP will address extended health and dental benefits for retiring teachers.

### OSSTF:

Please join us for Halton Secondary Teachers' Retirement Workshop on Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 6:30-9:30 PM, in the MM Robinson Theatre. The workshop provides information on the retirement process specific to teachers in Halton, as well as an extensive presentation on retirement planning by a provincial OSSTF pension/retirement expert.

### Educators Financial: Walking Into Retirement

Back by popular demand, Educators Financial is offering the retirement planning session on Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 PM at the OSSTF District 20 Office. Dinner will be provided.

This session is limited to 30 participants, spouses are welcome to attend. Educators Financial will present information and updates on changes to CPP, OAS and OTPP that will impact your retirement planning, AND, it's not just about the money!

Please RSVP to Lorie Wiersma, 905-332-1228 or via CHATT. For more workshop information please email Janet Scott, Educational Services Officer, OSSTF District 20, [scottj@osstfd20.ca](mailto:scottj@osstfd20.ca).