



# Occasionally Yours

Volume 15 Issue 1

Lakehead Elementary Occasional Teachers' Local

February 2012

**From the President:** This has been a challenging year so far; many individual member and Local issues, the Provincial election, and upcoming negotiations. ETFO continues to provide Collective Bargaining Conferences in Toronto for Local Leaders as we prepare for collective bargaining. The Local CB committee has been meeting regularly with our Provincial Collective Bargaining Officer, Colleen Lee. I am also on the Board Wellness Committee, consisting of representatives from all employee groups, that is meeting throughout the year.

I look forward to meeting with members at our Local General Meeting on Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, at Victoria Park Seminar Centre from 4:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. We will discuss collective bargaining as well as any other member issues. Dinner will be provided, so please contact Laurie McMillan at [glmcmill@tbaytel.net](mailto:glmcmill@tbaytel.net) or 475-5874 if you plan to attend.

## Lending Library

The Lakehead OT Local's Lending Library has a great selection of resources. These resources will be available at the General Meeting.

Just a reminder that the Board has a Food and Beverage Policy (6050) which states; "Food is not used as an individual reward or an incentive for good behaviour, achievement, or participation in classrooms." The entire policy and procedure is available on the Board web site.

## Professional Learning

A number of excellent learning opportunities for OTs have occurred so far this school year including; Smart Board Training, Aboriginal Cultural Awareness, and Board initiatives and resources for teaching Math. All information regarding upcoming workshops will be sent out through personal email, Group Wise, and posters in school staff rooms. Any suggestions for PL can be forwarded to Diane Hogan at [dianedhogan@gmail.com](mailto:dianedhogan@gmail.com) or 577-3802.

## OTPP

The Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF), the Ontario government, and the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan (OTPP) have hired POLLARA, a national research firm, to conduct a survey of OTPP pension plan members to gauge their understanding of pension plan provisions and issues. The information gathered in the survey will help guide pension education strategies for plan members. POLLARA will be conducting the interviews during the month of February. ETFO is encouraging members to participate if contacted.

## Know Your Collective Agreement

If an OT reports for an assignment and is not required, the principal is to assign the OT professional duties for a half day and the OT will be paid for the half day. Do not volunteer to go home, instead stay and work the half day (Article 11.01). At least 1 hour notice has to be given for cancellation of an assignment. With less notice, the OT reports to the school and is assigned professional duties (Article 11.03).

## OCT Fee

The Ontario College of Teachers fee of \$138 is due by April 15<sup>th</sup>. This is an increase from \$120 last year. If the fee is not paid by the deadline, the reinstatement fee is \$130 for a total fee of \$268. Those OTs who are not members in good standing with OCT will have their names removed from the OT Lists by the Board until the fees are paid. Some LTOs may have had fees deducted through payroll in January. This can be confirmed on a pay stub or through payroll. For further information and payment of fees go to [www.oct.ca](http://www.oct.ca).

## OCT Elections

The OCT Council consists of 23 members elected by their peers and 14 members of the public appointed by the provincial government. Elections will take place for the upcoming Council on line at [www.oct.ca](http://www.oct.ca) from March 5<sup>th</sup> to April 10<sup>th</sup>. Candidates and their biographies will be available as of Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> and in the March issue of Professionally Speaking. Shanlee Linton, from the Lakehead Teacher Local, is a candidate. Posters will soon arrive in schools indicating those candidates that the Ontario Teachers' Federation believes will represent the interests of teachers.

## Collective Bargaining

Since all Teacher and Occasional Teacher collective agreements will expire August 31, 2012, all locals are in the process of preparing a preliminary submission to present to the school boards once bargaining has commenced. These submissions are prepared using information compiled from member surveys conducted last year. Members will continue to be informed until ratification of the collective agreement takes place. All communication with members will be through members' personal email addresses. The Board's Group Wise email system will not be used for any bargaining information. If you did not receive this newsletter through your personal email, please contact Nancy Nix, [nnix@tbaytel.net](mailto:nnix@tbaytel.net) or 475-7721.

ETFO will continue to have information regarding provincial bargaining on the web site [www.etfo.ca](http://www.etfo.ca), or [www.controlyourfuture.ca](http://www.controlyourfuture.ca) or download the app, ETFO CB 2012.

## ETFO Conferences

### Women's Collective Bargaining Conference:

This dynamic conference available to women is beneficial for those who wish to learn more about bargaining and build personal and professional skills. No experience is required. Date: March 29 and 30, 2012. Location: Westin-Bristol Place Toronto Airport Hotel. Registration package available on line at the following links: PDF:<http://www.etfo.ca/CalAttach/CB-Conf.pdf> RTF:<http://www.etfo.ca/CalAttach/CB-Conf.rtf> Registration deadline: February 29, 2012.

### ETFO's Financial Health and Wealth Conference 2012:

The ETFO Financial Health and Wealth Conference for all members will be held at the Sheraton Toronto Airport Hotel and Conference Centre on May 4-5, 2012. Further details will be available on the ETFO web site early this spring.

## General Meeting

Monday, February 6, 2012

4:15 pm. - 6:15 p.m.

Victoria Park Seminar Centre

Dinner Provided

Call or email Laurie

475-5874 or [glmcmill@tbaytel.net](mailto:glmcmill@tbaytel.net) by Feb. 3

(Please advise of any dietary restrictions.)

## Executive

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Local web site: [www.etfo-ot.ca](http://www.etfo-ot.ca)

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