

MAY 2018

It's May Long to most of the Prairies.

In Ontario in the 50's and 60's, we called it Firecracker Day.

If you like to fish, you may know it as Opening Weekend.

In the Maritimes, it is known as "May Run", which comes from a one-time long-ago tradition when carloads of young people filled the ferries from the mainland on that weekend to head to the drag races on PEI...

The LINK



No matter what you choose to call it, we look forward to this holiday Monday as a promise of a great summer to come...

Dates of Interest:

May 7th: 4:45 pm
OTIP Retirement Workshop
Caruso Club

May 9th: D3 Spring Assembly
Lively Office 4:00 pm

May 15th: Human Rights
Committee meeting 4:00 pm

From the desk of
the President

ETFO, OSSTF/FEESO file unfair labour practice complaints against Liberal Government

May 16th: ESSU AGM
Lively Office 4:30 pm



May 16th: SSSC AGM 5:30 pm
Sudbury



May 21st Victoria Day... all day!
aka: May Long
aka: May Two-Four



May 23rd: OTBU Meeting
Lively Office 4:00pm

May 24th: Status of Women 4:30pm
Spring Gathering

**Ladies!! Join us for dinner and
a presentation by Sandra
Walsh of Educators Financial
"Financial Planning For Women
Of All Ages At All Stages"**

ETFO and OSSTF have filed unfair labour practice complaints with the Ontario Labour Relations Board against the Government of Ontario. The complaints detail how the Government discriminated against OSSTF/FEESO and ETFO members when it:

- made payouts worth tens of millions of dollars to unions and employee bargaining agencies that did not challenge and, in fact, cooperated in the Liberals' agenda to strip education sector workers' collective agreements during the 2012 round of education sector bargaining under Bill 115;
- engaged in coercion and reprisals, and discriminated against ETFO and OSSTF/FEESO members because their unions successfully challenged the violation of their members' constitutionally protected rights under Bill 115; and
- bargained in bad faith during 2014 education sector negotiations by consistently representing that all four of Ontario's teacher unions would be receiving substantially identical financial settlements for their 2014-2017 collective agreements.

The Government's conduct only recently came to light when it confirmed that two of four teacher unions, as well as other employee bargaining agencies, will be receiving financial settlements from the province totalling tens of millions of dollars, essentially for their non-participation in the Bill 115 *Charter* challenge.

OSSTF/FEESO President Harvey Bischof:

"Bargaining is often a contentious and rough and tumble process, but both parties have to leave the table with their integrity intact for a deal to really be a deal. OSSTF/FEESO left the last round of central bargaining with our integrity intact. The government did not."

"Government negotiators insisted that no settlement was possible unless OSSTF/FEESO abandoned grievances for the recovery of lost pay due to frozen grid movement in the 2014-15 school year. Yet, somehow, after a round of bargaining in which the government insisted on identical financial outcomes for all unions, OECTA's grid-delay grievances were explicitly allowed to live on. That's both unfair and dishonest, and that's why we're filing this complaint."

DISTRICT OFFICER'S REPORT – Sue Melville

The District 3 Status of Women Committee has a long tradition of providing diverse experiences to members through annual Fall and Spring Gatherings. Later this month, Sandy Walsh, Financial Advisor with Educators Financial Group (EFG) will present a session entitled, *Financial Planning for Women of All Ages at All Stages*.

- Are you new to the workforce and carrying student debt?
- Have you recently purchased a home or started a family?
- Are you saving up for a SLIP leave or to buy a home?
- Maybe you are in your last ten years and have questions about retirement planning.

Sandy will cover these and other topics in an engaging and informative hour. Please join us! A light dinner will be served. Donations gratefully accepted in support of the United Way's Tampon Tuesday campaign.

<https://educatorsfinancialgroup.ca/>



May 28th Advance Poll social
Tap House - Regent Street
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

May 29th Health & Safety
Committee Meeting 4:00 pm

June 5th : Health & Safety Training
Workshop - 4:00 pm – 7:00pm

June 7th - ONTARIO VOTES!!!



Meet your OSSTF Executive!!

We hope you are enjoying meeting your OSSTF Member Representatives from the various schools in District 3.

Going forward, we are hoping to meet some of the staff from the ESSU, PSSP, and SSSC Bargaining Units.



This month's feature Rep is **Katrina Ross**, District Representative for Cecil Facer Secondary School and **Chair of the Status of Women Committee...**

Hello everyone!

I am Katrina Ross and I have been teaching since 2004. I began my teaching career with the Algoma District School

Board in the town of Wawa. I happily became a Michipicoten Viking, fresh from teacher's college. Although I began to feel a little isolated in that small community, it was a great place to start my teaching career.

I have Biology degree but I became the Physics teacher in Wawa. Talk about a learning curve! While it was at times a little intimidating – quantum physics is a little challenging to wrap my brain around – is the cat dead or alive or both or neither? – I loved doing the labs and solving the problems. It didn't hurt that I had my own, huge classroom, and a nice supply of equipment.

But alas, between the snow and the lack of amenities, I felt the need to move to a slightly warmer climate and a more populous city. I packed up my son Alex, our cat Dasher, and bunny – Buddy, and moved to Sudbury.

My first teaching job in Sudbury was at Lockerby. I was no longer the Physics teacher but somehow, I maintained the Viking status. Now I was given a timetable that included college level math, a sprinkling of science classes and just for fun, history. The learning curve never seems to plateau. It had been awhile since I had to factor an equation and I had never delved into the intricacies of trench warfare prior to having to teach it. And who knew there was such a thing as the Ross rifle?

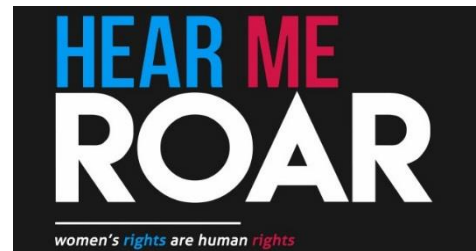
It was while I was at Lockerby that my involvement with OSSTF began. I was asked by Deanna MacLennan if I would be interested in taking her place as the Status of Women rep as she was set to go on mat leave. I



thought about it and decided it would be good for me to become involved with my union. I started attending committee meetings and after that first year, I co-chaired the committee with Dona Aubin. After Dona left the committee, I became the chair and have been so ever since.

For the past two years, I have held a position on the Provincial Status of Women Committee. This has been an eye-opening experience for me. It has allowed me to get a feel for how things operate at the provincial level and meet women from across the province and from different bargaining units that feel passionate about women's rights and the ongoing struggle for equity.

I am grateful to Deanna for initiating my involvement with OSSTF. I have increased my understanding of the importance of unions (beyond what I learned teaching history and the Winnipeg General Strike). And I have met some really terrific people.



Does home insurance protect your kids' valuables while at college or university?

Next step...!!!



Congratulations - your child has graduated to the next step in their lives! As exciting a time as this is, it is also a time of worry for many parents. One way to reduce some of this worry is to ensure that your child's belongings are sufficiently protected while they're attending college or university.



Depending on their program and living situation, your teenager may be required to invest in numerous new items ranging from textbooks to furniture and everything in between.

Here's what you need to know about your [home insurance](#) policy to ensure your child is adequately covered when they're away at school. They've got enough to worry about—not having their belongings protected doesn't have to be one of them.

Visit www.otipinsurance.com/article11 to read the full article.

<http://otip.carepath.ca/>

We all know someone touched by cancer. There is help. The CAREpath Navigation System, Survivor Support Program and Cancer Information Line are available to eligible teachers with **OTIP** and **Teachers Life**, at no additional cost. **CAREpath Inc.** is a Canadian company providing services to help you navigate the complex health care system so you and your family members who are newly-diagnosed with cancer or have a cancer recurrence can receive the very best cancer-related treatment and support.

Rainbow District School Board provides an **Employee Assistance Program (EAP)** to all permanent employees. The **EAP** provides confidential consultation, counselling, and community referrals as well as wellness information/resources on a range of work and family matters (life, family, money, work, health).

<http://www.d03.osstf.ca/en-CA/news/Member-Wellness.aspx/>



Have a safe and enjoyable May Long Weekend!!

The Rainbow District 3, Lively Office:
James Clyde
Sue Melville
Donna McKinnon



Members... Check out the link to OTIP OSSTF members page:

<https://www.otipinsurance.com/OSSTF3>

