

OSSTF Rainbow District 3
184 9th Avenue, Lively, ON

Phone: 705-692-3923
Fax: 705-692-0154
Email: osstf@d03.osstf.ca

September
2020



The LINK



D3 Office Calendar

Sept 9th: BU Presidents' Mtg
Zoom 4:00 pm

**Sept 17th: Status of Women
Committee Meeting**
Zoom 4:00 pm

Sept 23rd: TBU Meeting
Zoom 4:00 pm

**Sept 30th: Orange T-Shirt
Day**

Oct 7th: District Meeting
Zoom 4:00 pm

President's Message:

Welcome back everyone! I hope that you all had a restful summer. This is by far the most unique back to school we have ever experienced. Despite all of the uncertainty surrounding this school year and how it will ultimately unfold, know that all of the Bargaining Unit Presidents and the District Office staff have been hard at work for weeks advocating for members and will continue to do so. There are still many aspects of this school year that we are collectively trying to work through and address. As the next few weeks unfold and all of you settle into your new routines, we hope to provide more information that will make all of this a little easier to deal with.

I would like to encourage all of you to take an active role in shaping the direction of District 3. This begins with putting your name forward to represent your work location or Bargaining Unit on the various standing committees that we have. Speak to your staff rep or BU President for more details and get involved.

Regards,
Eric Laberge
District, & T/OTBU President



Speak to the District Office
about organizing a
workshop or webinar today!

District Officer's Comments:

Greetings and welcome back! In some ways, this September feels very much like a continuation of last year, and of course, it's *nothing* like last year. The District Office fielded calls and emails throughout the summer, and in our haste to attend to school closings and reopenings, we forgot something. It's time for celebration!

The 2020 recipients of the **OSSTF Rainbow District 3 Technical Award** were: Chad Duhamel, a graduate of Lockerby Composite School, and Leif Kirkham, from Espanola High School. Each recipient received a bursary in the amount of \$500.

The 2020 recipients of the **OSSTF Rainbow District 3 Citizenship Bursary Awards** were the following dependents of OSSTF District 3 members. Each recipient will receive a cheque in the amount of \$500.

- Caitlin Ross, daughter of Cairin Nelson, and a graduate of Confederation Secondary School
- Rionach Fleming, daughter of Sue Bechard, and a graduate of Lockerby Composite School
- Delaney Bourget, daughter of Jen Bourget, and a graduate of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School
- Laydon Bursey, son of Jeff Bursey, and a graduate of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School
- Julia Desbiens-St. Amand, daughter of Chantal Desbiens, and a graduate of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School

We congratulate all award recipients. Members of all bargaining units are encouraged to explore the awards and bursaries available through OSSTF. You can check them out on the District 3 website under the Information/Awards and Bursaries tabs. <http://www.d03.osstf.ca/en-CA/Information/Awards-and-Bursaries.aspx>. Deadlines for applications are strictly adhered to. If you have questions, feel free to contact Sue Melville at sue.melville@d03.osstf.ca

Do you want to increase your financial wellness?

One way to do this is to increase your financial literacy. We are aware that members of the education community have unique financial needs in common. Educators Financial Group has resources to help you including The Learning Centre, Workshops and Webinars!

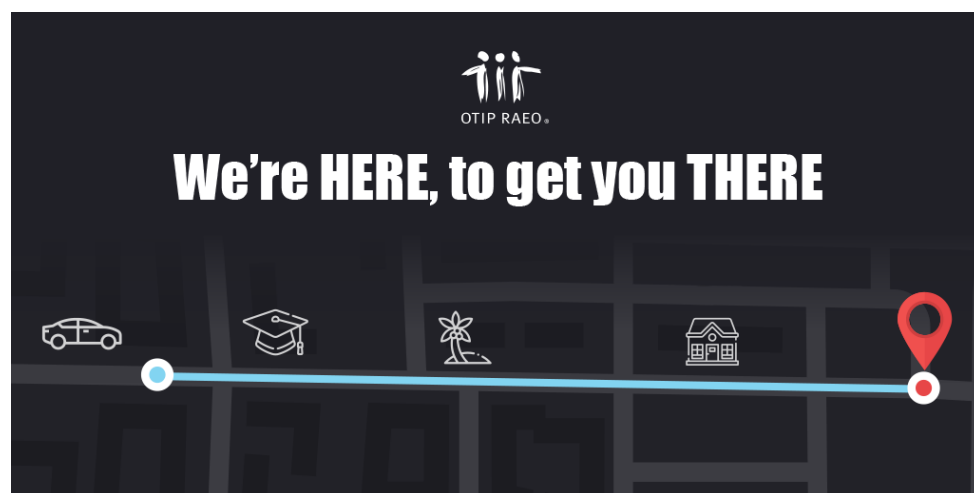




The Learning Centre, which we've developed specifically for the education community can be used as your online resource area, full of free tools, tips and more that will help you increase your financial literacy and get a better hold of your money, so you can live the lifestyle you want. In addition to the various articles you'll find on a range of topics, you can utilize The Learning Centre for our handy online calculators to figure out your net worth, plan for retirement and more.

Our complimentary "Workshops and Webinars" are educator specific and led by one of our financial specialists. Educators Financial Group offers a series of workshops and webinars that address the financial topics relevant to the different needs, goals and life stages of members of the education community.

Increase your financial literacy! Visit "The Learning Centre" at educatorsfinancialgroup.ca/TLC
educatorsfinancialgroup.ca/workshops



OTIP welcomes you back with a chance to win \$10,000!

As a new school year begins, so does a brand-new contest from OTIP. We want to give you the chance to win **\$10,000 in cash or 1 of 2 \$500 VIA Rail gift cards** to help you get wherever it is that you want to go! You could buy that new car, save for your child's education, take a vacation or put a down payment on a new house, it is up to you!

To enter the contest for your chance to win, visit:

www.OTIP.com/get_you_there



Preparing for the Lions:

Well, it's been an interesting first week back.



- Setting up safe classrooms
- Health and safety training and protocols
- Hand sanitizing stations
- Face shields and face masks
- Preparing for E-learning alongside classroom teaching...
- Is it June yet???

Lion Stuff...

Male lions defend the pride's territory while females do most of the hunting. Despite this, the males eat first.

Lions can go up to four days without drinking water, but they need to eat every day. Adult female lions need to eat about 11 pounds of meat each day, while adult males eat 16 pounds or more every day.



Note from the Principal: This Fall Your Classroom Will be Equipped with a Lion



Dear Teachers and staff,

As we prepare for the start of our school year, I wanted to alert you to a recent addition to your classroom learning environment. As per the order of the Ministry of Education, each classroom will now be equipped with a lion.

The following information is designed to help you achieve your learning targets as you manage your lion. Please note: Due to the fact that we have never had lions in our classrooms and we're figuring this out as we go, these recommendations could change at any moment.

1. Your lion will not be contained; s/he will be free to roam around your room. Please instruct your students to stay 6 feet away from the lion at all times.
2. The lion could lick or just scratch a student. It's also possible they could flat out devour one. Or you. Another reason to stay 6 feet away from the lion.
3. The lions will also be free to roam the halls, bathrooms, front office, gym, cafeteria, nurse's office, teacher's lounge, etc. Try not to bump into them as you pass, it could get ugly.
4. Some people at the Ministry of Ed, and Cynthia (frequent poster to the school FB page but not a parent), say a lion is not super dangerous, more like a cat. Still, we recommend you don't try to pet one.

Known colloquially as the "king of the jungle", lions do not actually live in jungles.

Beyond their iconic roar, lions communicate with one another as many cats do: through meows and purrs.



Only 20,000 wild lions remain in Africa, which is half of what it was only 30 years ago. Some scientists predict that wild lions could face extinction by the year 2050 if trends continue and humans don't increase their efforts to protect these amazing and powerful animals.



5. We must confess, we don't know a lot about the lions' training or behavior history. The vice-president of the school committee got a deal from a Latvian Circus recently shut down by PETA.

They came with some sort of paperwork, but none of us read Latvian. It's possible the lions only respond to commands given in their native language, I guess we'll find out.

6. Lions have an acute sense of smell which could trigger aggressive behavior, therefore all students will be slathered in hyena guts (least favorite lion food - thanks, Mr. Sullivan for that tidbit!) upon entering the classroom in order to prevent an attack. Frequent re-application may be required.

7. Ms. Porter at the Central Office said she's "never seen anyone get eaten by a lion so they probably don't do that." Mr. Scott believes lions prefer to eat adults over children, but we haven't seen the hard data on that one. We are doing our best to manage the conflicting opinions on lion behavior.

8. We don't currently know how long we're going to keep the lions in your classrooms, we estimate they will be with you until someone is either eaten or our "Cage the Lions" campaign to buy cages is fully funded. The Ministry of Ed has not given us a dead/wounded minimum that would activate the removal of the lions. Could be a week, could be...well, most of us are betting on one week. Associate Principal Peters doesn't think we'll make it through the first day and those fundraising campaigns usually take a few months.

We are not entirely sure why the Ministry of Ed is putting lions in our classrooms, most of us think it's a pretty bad idea. We think viewing lions at a distance is wiser, but what do we know? We're just educators, not zoo keepers.

If you have any questions about the lions, please don't ask us - talk to your Union rep.

Good Luck,

Your School Board ☺

VAGIN AMB COMPTE OŠTANITE SIGURNI DBEJTE NA SVOU BEZPEČNOST
PAS GODT PÅ 注意安全 WEES VOORZICHTIG TOIMIGE OHUTULT CUÍDESE
دینک ظرفح اردوخ ینمری PYSY TURVASSA SOYEZ PRUDENTS SEIEN SIE VORSICHTIG
NA EISTE ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΣ LEGYEN ELŐVIGYÁZATOS SÝNID AÐGÁT BÍ AIREACH
安全第一 BE SAFE CUÍDESE
BERWASPADA 注意安全
AVEŢI GRIJĂ VAR FÖRSIKTIG
JAGA KESELAMATAN PRESTATE ATTENZIONE BŪKITE SAUGŪS HOLD DEG TRYGG
ZACHOWAJ BEZPIECZEŃSTWO TENHA CUIDADO БУДЬТЕ ОСТОРОЖНЫ BUDITE BEZBEDNI
BUDITE BEZBEDNI BUĐTE OPATRNÍ BADBAADO AHOW VAR FÖRSIKTIG
MAGING MAINGAT ระวังอันตราย GÜVENDE OLUN БУДЬТЕ ОБАЧНИМИ



Get
Involved



Essential tips to keep our streets safe

As our roads and sidewalks are beginning to fill with students walking and biking to school, it's a good time to review road safety practices. Pedestrians account for 14% of all serious road injuries and 15% of road fatalities; it is up to both drivers and pedestrians to help improve the safety of our streets for all road users. Here are a few tips for both drivers and pedestrians to keep in mind as we navigate our shared spaces. Learn more at www.otipinsurance.com/article81



As the new school year begins, we'd like to thank all of our members for the amazing job they did when this epidemic broke in March. It has been challenging, and there are sure to be more hurdles ahead, but we did it remotely in March – and we can do it again in the classroom setting!

We would like to acknowledge all of our Bargaining Unit executive and reps for doing their part in keeping members informed during these very unusual times.

We welcome Linda Ecclestone as the new President of the D03 ESSU Bargaining Unit along with her newly elected executive.

We would like to thank Phil Crowe, who stepped down in June 2020 from a 3 year term as the President of the ESSU BU.

Our thanks also goes out to Sue MacRury, who filled the role of TBU rep for the Board Office staff and Cecil Facer for several years.

We also welcome Glenn Murray (CVDCS) and Harley Laalo (Lo-Ellen Park) to the team as TBU reps.

If you would like to explore opportunities to become involved with OSSTF, give us a call at the office!

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

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

