

OUR SCHOOLS
OUR FUTURE
OUR STORY



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CONNECTIONS

District 29 OSSTF Hastings-Prince Edward

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www.d29.osstf.ca



D29 Endorses *Bay of Quinte Liberal Candidate Emilie Leneveu*

OUR GOAL IS THE ELECTION OF A PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT WHOSE POLICIES AND INTENTIONS ALIGN MOST CLOSELY WITH THE PRINCIPLES LAID OUT IN THE OSSTF/FEESO EDUCATION PLATFORM, [STRENGTHEN PUBLIC EDUCATION—REBUILD ONTARIO](#). IN THE BAY OF QUINTE RIDING, DISTRICT 29 DETERMINED THAT THE CANDIDATE WHO BEST ALIGNS WITH THE OSSTF/FEESO EDUCATION PLATFORM IS EMILIE LENEVEU. MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW OUR LOCAL POLITICAL ACTION STRATEGY WAS DETERMINED CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 7.



On Thursday, May 19th D29 hosted a media event with D29 District Officer *Michelle Dalrymple* (LEFT), OSSTF President *Karen Littlewood* (LEFT MIDDLE), Bay of Quinte Liberal candidate *Emilie Leneveu* (RIGHT MIDDLE), D29 President *Scott Marshall* (RIGHT)

“As teachers and education workers, since the 2018 elections, we have been reminded time and time again that the kind of government and councils Ontario elects has a direct impact on our daily working lives. With the added challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, from funding levels to ministerial priorities to the kinds of challenges we face when it comes to bargaining new collective agreements... If OSSTF/FEESO leaders and members fail to engage in the democratic process and participate in the election of those governments and councils, we resign ourselves to letting others decide our future.”

Karen Littlewood, OSSTF President



Vote on June 2nd

MEMBERS CAN DOWNLOAD THE ELECTIONS ONTARIO APP, OR VISIT <https://www.elections.on.ca/en.html> FOR INFORMATION ON ADVANCE POLL LOCATIONS AND TIMES, BY RIDING.



**D29 T/OT 2022-2024
 Acclaimed Executive**

- President:** *Scott Marshall*
- Vice President:** *Kendra Kilpatrick*
- Treasurer:** *Rich Long*
- Lead Negotiator:** *Andrew Wachmer*
- Executive Officer:** *Chip Gillis*
- Executive Officer:** *Kristin Wannamaker*
- Executive Officer:** to be filled
- Executive Officer:** to be filled

Staffing Update

In April the Board presented the anticipated secondary school enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year. Enrollment is projected to be up slightly from this past year. With over 14 retirements this year, the system should be in a place to hire new contracts to the system. While this means we will not have teachers surplus to the system, it is still possible to have a small number of teachers surplus to individual schools. This information will be shared with the central Joint Staffing Committee (JSC) at the end of the day Thursday May 26th, along with anticipated school needs. Any teachers surplus to schools will be notified shortly after that, and then dealt with during our secondary staffing/mobility week starting May 30th. We have an unusually large number of teachers who have applied for voluntary mobility this year; OSSTF's goal is always to accommodate as many requests as possible. The JSC will communicate with affected members as the process moves forward. Members can contact the District 29 Office anytime they have questions or concerns.

Return to semesters

In December we expected to return to the traditional secondary school semester system for semester 2 of this school year. With the rapid emergence of the Omicron variant in January, most school boards, including ours, stayed in the quad-semester system. This teaching model has created enormous workload issues for our members, and these concerns have been shared on numerous occasions with our employer. We have also shared concerns about pedagogy, and how these quad models have had a negative impact on learning. We have been concerned for some time with messages from our board touting improved student achievement under quad and octo models. As our members are well aware, comparisons with achievement results under the semester system prior to this pandemic can not be made without context, and that context is the softer assessment and evaluation practice teachers were expected to follow during the pandemic. School Boards have acknowledged the need for tutors to help students fill learning gaps that have formed under current learning models. While the board has verbally committed to a return to semesters for the next school year, and school planning is based on this expected reality, we remain concerned that this commitment has not been clearly communicated to us.



From the Desk of the
District Officer
Michelle Dalrymple

The Bargaining Unit would like to extend a huge thank you to the committee members who gave their time and energy to the work of OSSTF, even in these challenging times.

Some of the work undertaken this year:

- JSD and TEP fund monitoring,
- Promoting Student Achievement Award and judging entries
- December 6th announcements in the schools
- Tampon Tuesdays for donation to womens' shelters
- World Teacher Day and Education Week observations
- Health and Safety advocacy
- bargaining preparation
- information sharing on benefits
- Election readiness

Stay tuned for ways to get involved in 2022-23!

LTD:

Reminder that: If you are currently eligible for a 60% unreduced pension, or if you are within the later of either the next 110 working days of reaching your 60% unreduced service pension or the expiration of your sick leave to a maximum of 24 months, you are no longer eligible for LTD. Contact the District Office to acquire the form you need to complete to cancel your LTD when you are approaching this date.

It's that time of year when you may not feel at your best. If you are struggling with work/life balance or wellness issues, check out the following resources available to you as an employee.

Resources related to Personal Wellness

- 1. Employee Assistance Program (HPE)** 613-966-4262 or 1-800-527-7793

www.qxplora.com

Quinte Counseling Services - provides counseling: individual, work, marriage, family, stress, financial, nutritional, grief, addiction. The employer will pay for up to six sessions a year, and Quinte Counselling does not share patient names with the employer when invoicing.

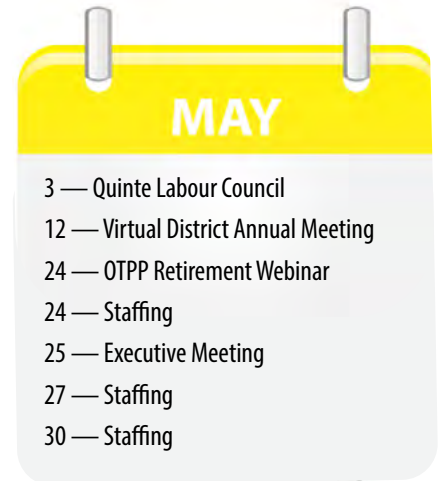
- 2. Feeling Better Now (OTIP)** www.feelingbetternow.com/otip

Online resource from OTIP for Mental and emotional health care: Check it out if you are feeling sadness, anxiety, depression, stress, low energy, poor sleep, poor concentration, poor function at home, work or school and are seeking solutions.

- 3. Member Benefits (OTIP)** Benefits Services 1-866-783-6847 www.otip.com

Full-time contract teachers with HPE can access 2000 dollars per plan year for the services of Mental Health Practitioners. Mental Health Practitioners include Clinical Counsellors, Marriage and Family Therapists, Psychoanalysts, Psychologists, Psychotherapists and Social Workers only. The plan year runs from September 1 to August 31 each year.

**If you have questions contact the District Officer at
613-968-3707 x 225 or d29officer@gmail.com**



DISTRICT 29

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

VIRTUAL

MAY 12th, 2022

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

ON TIME MOTIONS

Copies emailed to D29 membership on April 12, 2022

Refer to Files:

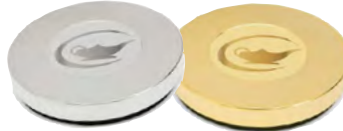
Motions T_OT AGM-REV-APRIL 12,2022.pdf

DAM motions 2022-revApril12,2022.docx-3.pdf

MOTIONS PASSED

MOTIONS PASSED

D29 Service Recognition Pins



5 year pin:

- Sue Young (2017)
- Heather Ellis (2018)
- Doug Holland (2019)
- Janice Masters (2020)
- Sarah Boggett (2022)
- Dave Lanovaz (2022)
- Kristin Wannamaker (2022)

10 year pin:

- Cindy Cooper (2019)
- Mike King (2019)
- Paul Clair (2022)
- Steve Everhardus (2022)
- Tammy Groleau (2022)
- Chris Masterson (2022)
- Susan Sheppard (2022)

15 year pin:

- Eleanor MacNiven (2020)
- Heather Patterson (2020)
- Heidi Moncrieff (2022)
- Rich Long (2022)

20 year pin:

- Michelle Dalrymple (2020)
- Keith Sled (2020)
- Doug Isaak (2021)
- Kendra Kilpatrick (2021)
- Andrew Wachner (2021)
- Karen Earle (2022)
- Chip Gillis (2022)
- Jon Jenkinson (2022)

25 year pin:

- Graham Gough (2018)
- Greg Fellows (2021)

If we missed you please let us know!

Both insurers and homeowners need to consider the impact climate change will have on the future of insurance, and what they can do now to prepare for climate change-related risks.

Here are steps homeowners can take to protect their homes from extreme weather conditions.

Read more at:

www.otip.com/article143.

Impact of climate change on home insurance





PLANNING



INVESTING



BORROWING

How to better manage your finances during times of runaway inflation

If you've gone shopping for pretty much anything in the past few months, you've probably noticed that your budget isn't stretching as far as it used to.

It's all thanks to what economists are calling a 'pandemic-fueled inflation'.

While inflation is a natural market occurrence that generally happens over time, shortages of goods and workers throughout the pandemic have pushed inflation to its highest levels in decades. The ripple effect of which has been causing exorbitant price surges in everything from groceries, gas, and utilities—to a wide range of services. And consumers from coast-to-coast have been feeling the financial pinch.

According to a recent survey, the increased cost of living (*due to inflation*) is a major source of financial stress for roughly two-thirds of the country.

Since salaries aren't exactly rising at the same rate as inflation, you'll most likely have to identify key spending areas where you can either *save* or *cut back* altogether.

"One of the best ways to do this is by re-evaluating existing debt, starting with your mortgage," says Educators Agent-Regional Director Nick Rao. "Due to the increased property value and mortgage rates., I've been talking to quite a few clients about re-assessing their debt planning. There are tools that can help reducing their monthly debt obligation, by increasing amortization and saving money by prioritizing to paying off other debt with higher interest rates."

While adding several years to your mortgage might not be the ideal scenario, it could help free up cash flow and save money from the interest differential.

In addition to your mortgage, look for ways to cut costs on other debt obligations.

Credit tip: *Avoid credit cards with high annual fees or high interest rates and consider choosing cards that offer rewards to maximize your purchasing power—then use those points for the times of the year when you need it most, such as the summer months.*

For the full article on managing your finances during times of runaway inflation visit: [How to better manage your finances during times of runaway inflation - Educators Financial Group](#)

For financial advice, contact us today: <https://www.educatorsfinancialgroup.ca/affiliate/F2205/get-started>

Sources:

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/survey-finds-2-out-of-3-canadians-stressed-about-inflation-874914702.html>

Brokerage License 12185

Where's Waldo? More like Where's My Tax Return?!

In 2016, the government of Canada introduced a tax credit for educators, the Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit, to claim 15% of up to \$1,000 of school supply purchases each year. A new bill was introduced last fall to increase this amount to 25%. Unfortunately, the bill has not yet received Royal Assent and so if you claimed this tax credit on your 2021 tax return, your refund is being held up.

How long will it be until you receive your tax refund? Bill C-8 was tabled December 14th and then presented to parliament on March 1st. On May 1st the House gave it its 3rd reading and adopted the bill.

The next step is that once the motion for third reading has been adopted, the Clerk of the House certifies that the bill has passed, and it is then sent to the Senate for consideration.

Bill C-8 includes further changes such as the addition of technological devices as an eligible supply and the requirement that the supplies must be used in school will be waived. The other requirements to meet what an eligible supply is remains the same:

- teaching supplies were bought for teaching or facilitating students' learning
- teaching supplies were directly consumed or used in the performance of the duties of the eligible educator's employment

Examples of eligible supplies could be:

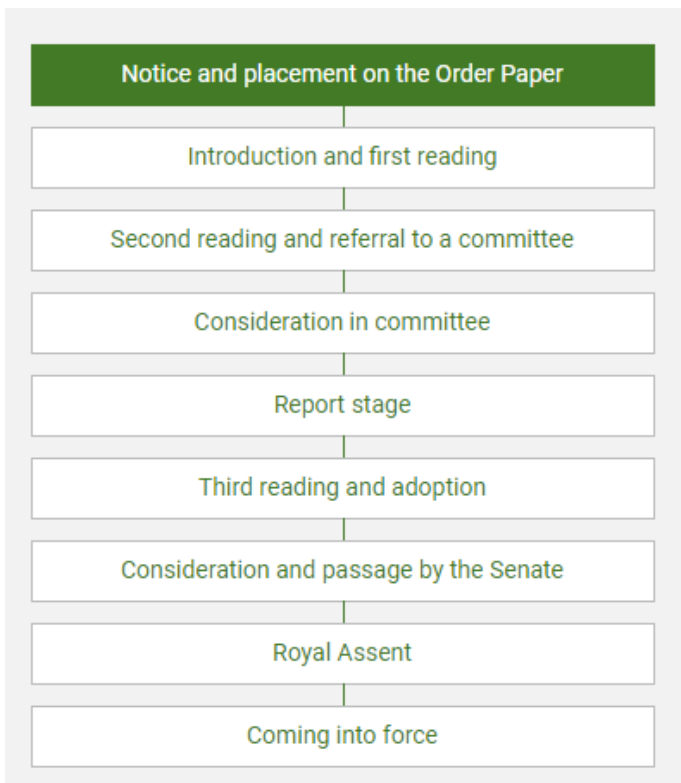
- books, games, and puzzles
- containers (such as plastic boxes or banker boxes)
- educational support software
- calculators (including graphing calculators)
- external data storage devices
- web cams, microphones and headphones
- wireless pointer devices
- electronic educational toys
- digital timers
- speakers
- video streaming devices
- multimedia projectors
- printers
- laptop, desktop and tablet computers

The definition of an eligible educator would also remain the same:

- You were employed in Canada as a teacher or an early childhood educator at an elementary or secondary school, or a regulated childcare facility
- You held a teaching certificate, license, permit or diploma, or a certificate or diploma in early childhood education, which was valid and recognized in the province or territory in which you were employed

It is commendable that the government recognizes educators spend a lot of their own funds to help students be successful, but there is no guarantee Bill C-8 will pass, so don't go spending those extra dollars just yet!

Eleanor MacNiven



https://www.ourcommons.ca/procedure/our-procedure/LegislativeProcess/c_g_legislativeprocess-e.html



Joint Staff Development

NEW: Request approval from your school Educational Services Rep. ONLINE

STEP 1 **PRIOR** to the start date of the activity/course.
[JSD - STEP 1: APPLY FOR APPROVAL LINK](#)

There is a limited amount of funding available, get your activity approved well in advance, so your school Ed. Services Rep can set aside funds for you.

STEP 2 **AFTER** activity/course is completed.
[JSD - STEP 2: APPLY FOR THE RELEASE OF FUNDS LINK](#)

Applicants upload receipt(s), proof of completion, and approval of funds in order to have their JSD recovery processed.

D29 T/OT Political Action Election Readiness Planning

On June 2nd Ontario heads to the polls. This provincial election has a lot at stake for public education. Our current Conservative government has demonstrated a clear disregard for public education through cuts that have negatively impacted students, and staff. Their spring budget has provided school boards with even less to work with next year, and another 1% cap for salary.

Several months ago our local Political Action Committee (PAC) began planning for this election. They reached out to the 4 main political parties (Conservative, Greens, Liberal, NDP) in the Bay of Quinte and Hastings, Lennox, and Addington ridings, inviting their candidates to meet with us and complete a survey created by our PAC. Only the Liberal and NDP candidates responded to the request to join us for a virtual meeting, and only the Liberal Candidates completed the surveys. Virtual meetings were held with Alison Kelly (NDP), Eric Depoe (NDP), Emilie Leneveu, and Ted Darby on April 14th. The surveys completed by Emilie Leneveu and Ted Darby are available by following the links below.

District 29 Executive has endorsed Emilie Leneveu of the Liberal Party of Ontario in the Bay of Quinte riding. It elected not to endorse a candidate in Hastings, Lennox and Addington, but members should feel confident a vote for either Ted Darby or Eric Depoe is a vote for public education in Ontario. Please reach out to District 29 office for information to support any of the above candidates.



[Bay of Quinte Responses LINK](#)

[Hastings, Lennox, and Addington Responses LINK](#)



STRENGTHEN PUBLIC EDUCATION REBUILD ONTARIO

**OSSTF/FEESO MEMBERS
GET INVOLVED:**

VOTE

VOLUNTEER

DONATE

- INCREASING STUDENT-CENTRED SUPPORTS AND SERVICES
- CENTRING SCHOOLS AS PART OF OUR COMMUNITIES
- ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC INEQUITIES
- IMPROVING LEARNING CONDITIONS FOR ALL
- PROVIDING SAFE, HEALTHY LEARNING AND WORKING CONDITIONS

AND THE LAST WORD BELONGS TO:

Retirees from Hastings-Prince Edward



2020

Beverly Affleck
Allison Avery
Catherine Betson
John Boultsbee
Daniel Campbell
Robert Cassibo
Suzanne Goettler
Barbara Muirhead
Michelle Reinhardus

2021

Martin Caulfield
Tracey Chapman
Hilary-Anne Clarke
Liz Davenport
Leslie Doyle
Gareth Haddock
Brenda Hollett
Martha Lamoureux
Marian Moon
Caroline Najem
Carol Wheatley
Suzanne White
Scott Young

2022

Janet Curran
Joe Dicresce
Allan Faulds
Greg Fellows
Janice Fetterley
Peter Johnson
Jennifer Meade
Karen Morrow
Brian Poste
Kathy Powell
Janice Rideout
Pat Scanlon
Sarah Simioni
Jennifer Steele

Charities OSSTF District 29 Supported



Quinte Humane Society
Sailability Development Training
Gleaners Food Bank (Quinte) Inc.
Prince Edward Hospital Auxillary Festival of Trees
CFUW Belleville and District: Garden Spring Tour
United Way of Quinte
Central Hastings Support Network
North Hastings Community Cupboard
Picton United Church County Food Bank
Trenton Care & Share Food Bank
Canadahelps
Centre Hastings People Helping People



United Way of Quinte
Picton United Church County Food Bank
The Storehouse Foodbank
Trenton Care & Share Food Bank
Gleaners Food Bank (Quinte) Inc
Helping Hands Food Bank
North Hastings Community Cupboard
CFUW Belleville and District: Garden Tour
Belleville Downtown DocFest



Centre Hastings People Helping People
United Way Hastings & Prince Edward
CFUW Belleville and District: Garden Tour
Red Cross Help for Ukraine
Picton United Church County Food Bank
Gleaners Food Bank (Quinte) Inc.
Trenton Care & Share Food Bank
North Hastings Community Cupboard

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