

2016-2017

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VP ELEMENTARY

PETER STOOP

VP OCCASIONAL

TIM O'BRIEN

TREASURER

TED IMRE

SECRETARY

NICOLE HEARN

COUNCILLORS

ROBERTA CASAGRANDE

DAVID DEL DUCA

JEFF FLANAGAN

KEVIN REID

LAURENCE VIGNOLA

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January came in with a blast but our White Christmas was quickly lost in the review mirror as it flew by and we are starting February. We are quickly approaching the half way mark of the school year. January did give us a few issues that we need to remember and discuss both in teaching and in our families and communities.

First, Public Education remains the most important means to ensure our country strives to make the world a better place. As we are confronted with a new reality under the Trump era where the White House can propose 'Alternative Facts' as Facts we need to continue to educate students to discern, critically think and believe they are global citizens. As Catholic Teachers able to espouse our Catholic values we are better equipped to promote fairness, justice, respect and love thy neighbor.

With a right wing wave starting in Canada, with the likes of Lieth and O'Leary, expect more attacks on Government sector workers, Education and Health Care. Locally we will continue to strive to build alliances with our Labour Affiliates and Social Justice Groups to protect not only our rights but everyone's rights.

### Contract Tentative Agreement

The last two weeks have been busy on the Provincial Bargaining Front. We already saw AEFO and CUPE reach tentative Extension agreements with the Government. Then OECTA reached a tentative agreement on Extension and ETFO followed suit as well.

Many, myself included, questioned the wisdom of signing an Extension while Thunder Bay Elem and Niagara Elem still do not have local agreements. A few arguments can be examined: 1. Can two rogue School Boards hold the entire OECTA Provincial Agreement on hold? 2. For OECTA to pass on a Provincial Agreement due to a local Collective Agreement is a break of Ministry of Labour rules the same as it would be for any of the five major unions to hold out for another union's deal and use that as a reason not to sign their own deal.

Monday everyone will see the contract extension proposal and we can weigh the pros and cons. Remember Confidential!

### Next Steps

Your Exec meet Monday and will prepare a Ratification Information Meeting for Tuesday Feb 14th at 4:30 site TBA.

## 97TH DAY AND GRID INCREASE

On the 98th day which starts this week our current contract calls for a half percent increase to the salary grid. Your next pay period should show a slight increase as the pay period should kick into affect sometime during this pay period. It will be slightly different for Permanent Teachers and LTO/OT pay periods. Please check your pay to see if you notice a slight increase to ensure you are properly adjusted.

President Cell Phone

Mark

519-400-5361

Follow on Twitter : @WellingtonOECTA Facebook Wellington OECTA Private Group and Page

**WELLINGTON  
OECTA**

**UPCOMING DATES**

Monday Feb 6  
Exec Meeting 4:15

Tues Feb 7  
Catholicity Com 1 pm  
@ St Brigid's Villa

Wed Feb 8  
After School Special 4-6  
@ the OECTA Office

Fri Feb 10  
Young Authors Due to Rep  
World Religions Retreat  
@ St Brigid's Villa

Sat Feb 11  
Math AQ Course  
@ the OECTA Office

Tues Feb 14  
Ratification Info Meeting  
Site TBA 4:15

Thurs Feb 16  
Joint Wellness 1 pm  
Math AQ Course 5-9  
@ the OECTA Office

Fri Feb 17  
Young Authors Due

Mon Feb 20  
Family Day Unpaid Holiday

Fri Feb 24  
Joint Staffing 1 pm  
Euchre Night 7 pm  
@ the OECTA Office

Mon Feb 27  
WLU Federations 11:30  
Reps/ Exec Meeting 4:30

## OECTA PD COMMITTEE

The OECTA PD Committee has been preparing for our Winter Workshops. Thanks to all the members who applied with their ideas on what they can prepare to help their colleagues. The Board Joint PD Committee has approved 5 for this year and in anticipation of continued support another in the Fall of 2017.

Thanks to Abby and Val, Judy and Stef, Trevor and Yvonne, Kate and Heather and Jacquie for volunteering to run workshops this year.

The Committee also continues

to approve the applications we have received for the Joint PD list of conferences.

OECTA sponsored several members to the OECTA Kindergarten Conference and the OECTA Regionals. We also sponsored delegates to the OECTA Beginning Teacher Conference.

We are grateful for the ongoing support of the Board who replenished the Joint PD Fund after it had used up the previous Ministry Funding provided over the last five years.

So far this year OECTA and the Board has approved :

WFMP

OPHEA

OAME

STAO

OMEA

READING FOR THE

LOVE OF IT

OECTA AND WCDSB

WINTER WORKSHOPS

## OECTA : YOUNG AUTHOR'S CONTEST

### Attention all teachers. LAST CALL

An OECTA contest for all your students from JK to Grade 12!

You are invited to submit student's writing to the Young Author's Contest.

Information about the contest has been posted on the OECTA and OECTA Reps conferences on first class.

Please note the timelines below:

### Friday February 10

Student entries received by the School Reps.

### Friday February 17

School entries received at the OECTA Unit Office.

### Tuesday March 7

Unit Young Authors winners selected by OECTA Committee and our guests from Senior Admin and Trustees. Noon at the OECTA Office.

### Thursday March 23

Unit entries received at the Provincial Office.

This is an excellent opportunity to showcase your students work and encourage them to develop their writing skills.

For any questions please contact Peter.

# Wellington Open Pre-AGM Discussion Meeting

## PROV OECTA AGM

On Monday the 6th our AGM delegation will meet with any members who wish to have input into our Unit's disposition for the AGM resolutions and the Provincial Executive elections.

The meeting will begin at 4:15 and will go to 5:30. After that time the delegates will retire to go over the

timetable and travel plans for the AGM.

The AGM decides on our direction, our fee and our leadership. If you have any ideas or questions please email your concerns to the delegation. We are there to represent you.

Everyone is invited to participate in our discussion from 4:15 -5:30 at the OECTA Office on March 7th.

## WELLINGTON DELEGATION

President : Mark Berardine  
 VP Secondary : Yvonne Runstedler  
 VP Elementary : Peter Stoop  
 CoP GTA OT Rep : Tim O'Brien  
 Secretary : Nicole Hearn  
 Councillor : Laurence Vignola  
 Councillor : David Del Duca  
 OTBU Rep : Laurine Soligo  
 Mike Breadner  
 Marc Sgrignoli  
 Julia Sgrignoli  
 Alternates:  
 Trevor Klein and Dana Parisotto

## Contract 101 : Bereavement Reminders

Every few weeks we receive calls from Reps and Members regarding Bereavement. Here are the various leaves:

Leave of absence without loss of pay or reduction of sick leave shall be granted to a maximum of five (5) working days at time of death in the case of the death of an immediate member of his/her family for the purpose of arranging for and attending at the funeral. Immediate member of the family shall mean: spouse, parent, parent-in-law, brother, sister, or child.

With the prior approval of the Director of Education or designate a teacher may be allowed the use of up to two (2) of these days to be taken after the time of death to deal with estate administration issues.

Leave of absence without loss of pay or deduction of sick leave shall be granted to a teacher to a maximum of two (2) working days, to attend the funeral of a son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law, grandparent or grandchild.

Leave of absence, without loss of pay or deduction of sick leave, shall be granted to a teacher to a maximum of one day to attend the funeral of a relative not specified in Article 7.03 (i) and (ii).

At the discretion of the Director or designate, a teacher may be granted up to two (2) additional days without pay, to meet the exigencies of distance, special circumstance or for persons not listed above.

If you have any questions please feel free to speak to your Rep or the Unit Office for clarification. Remember check with us before making an error.

## CLC CONVENTION TORONTO 2017

This year the CLC Convention will be held in Toronto from May 7 to May 12. The days start early and go long as we join all our union brothers and sisters from across Canada in this week long show of solidarity. There is some limited funding from Provincial and other expenses covered locally for members to attend if you are interested. It continues to be imperative to show a visible sign of participation in all labour events for OECTA. If you are interested please contact Mark for more details.

## JOINT HEALTH AND SAFETY

WELLINGTON  
OECTA

ONLINE  
RATIFICATION  
VOTE FOR  
PROVINCIAL  
EXTENSION

MARCH 1ST  
STARTS AT  
NOON  
MARCH 2ND  
ENDS AT  
NOON

STAY IN TOUCH WITH  
YOUR LOCAL OECTA

OUR WEBSITE

[www.oectawellington.ca](http://www.oectawellington.ca)

OUR FACEBOOK  
PAGE

Wellington OECTA

OUR FACEBOOK  
PRIVATE  
MEMBERS GROUP

WellingtonOECTA

Follow us on Twitter  
@WellingtonOECTA

### NEED FOR ALTERNATE REPS

The Joint H and S Committee has several OECTA members. Our Chair Kevin Reid is the co-chair of the J H and S Committee. He has a counter part appointed by the Board but Kevin is elected by all the Worker members who represent OECTA, CUPE and OSSTF as well as a few other groups.

With Kevin chosen as co-chair we get an extra member. Our secondary member is Laurence Vignola, our elementary member is Christa Verdone and our OT member is Laurine Soligo. Mark Bernardino is an emergency Alternate.

OECTA is in need of additional Alternates to ensure we have the proper representatives available for each meeting. H and S is a key ingredient into providing our members with safe work places with the rapid rise in Student Behaviour Assaults on our members now more than ever before we need you!

Please apply to one of the Exec.

### WINTER DRIVING CONTIUES

Please remember that all teachers have options if forced to drive through County to/from City areas. If you live in Guelph and work in the County or live in the County and work in Guelph you have three options on Bus Snow Days:

1. Report to the nearest school
2. Make up the time missed
3. Take an unpaid day

Of course we don't recommend number 3. If you choose make up the time you must have this option checked off ahead of time with your principal. Many members use this option successfully and make up the time at a later date with agreed ideas.

### SAFE SCHOOL FORMS

Members are reminded to continually fill out their legal obligations for reporting unsafe student behavior that any child could be suspended for.

## OECTA and your Email.

Laurine, Mark and Yvonne have been working hard to ensure your personal home email has been updated with Provincial and the Local database. We have consistently had superior participation in our local

age when it comes to email votes. We know that members change their email at about the rate of over 30 every two or three months. On March 1st and 2nd the Provincial ratification vote will take place. You can update any changes

on the Provincial website by logging into the members centre and following the prompts. If you change your email this way please send us an email as well at our new [oecta.wellington@gmail.com](mailto:oecta.wellington@gmail.com) account so we can make local changes too.

## INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY

**OECTA HOSTS THE  
GUELPH DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL  
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY  
EVENT**

**THURSDAY MARCH 9TH  
@ ST. BRIGID'S VILLA**

**CELEBRATION AND DINNER**



## OTIP MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

**Get a car or home insurance quote and receive a \$25 Amazon.ca or  
WINNERS | HomeSense | Marshalls Gift Card\***

OTIP gives you choice on more than just insurance. You can choose to receive a **\$25 Amazon.ca**  
**or**  
**WINNERS | HomeSense | Marshalls Gift Card\*** when you get a car or home insurance quote.

For more information, visit [www.OTIPinsurance.com/Amazon-TJX](http://www.OTIPinsurance.com/Amazon-TJX)



**WHY NOT  
ENTER TO WIN**

**CONTEST CLOESE  
MAY 31  
2017**



## RTIP Benefits



# Walk into Retirement with a Plan

Brought to you by OECTA Wellington and OTIP

As an education employee, you've not likely ever had to shop for health insurance. Join us to learn about your options for health, dental and travel insurance benefits when you retire. RTIP (Retired Teachers Insurance Plan) has the most flexibility and the most value-added benefits available to you at retirement.

This **free** workshop is open to **members and spouses**. It covers valuable information that will be useful to all those planning to retire within the next five years.

**WHEN : TUESDAY APRIL 4TH 4:30-6:30**

**@ THE OECTA OFFICE**

**RSVP YVONNE MARK OR PETER**

**LIGHT SUPPER AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED**

## WELLINGTON OECTA PRESENTS

### PROGRESSIVE EUCHRE NIGHT

**FRIDAY FEB 24TH**

**AT THE OECTA OFFICE**

**DOORS OPEN 7 PM EUCHRE STARTS AT 7:30**

**\$10 SHARE THE POT FOR CHARITY**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**RSVP MARK**

**LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AND SNACKS**

OECTA Wellington and the Catholicity Committee Present an evening to...

# Explore the Religions of our World

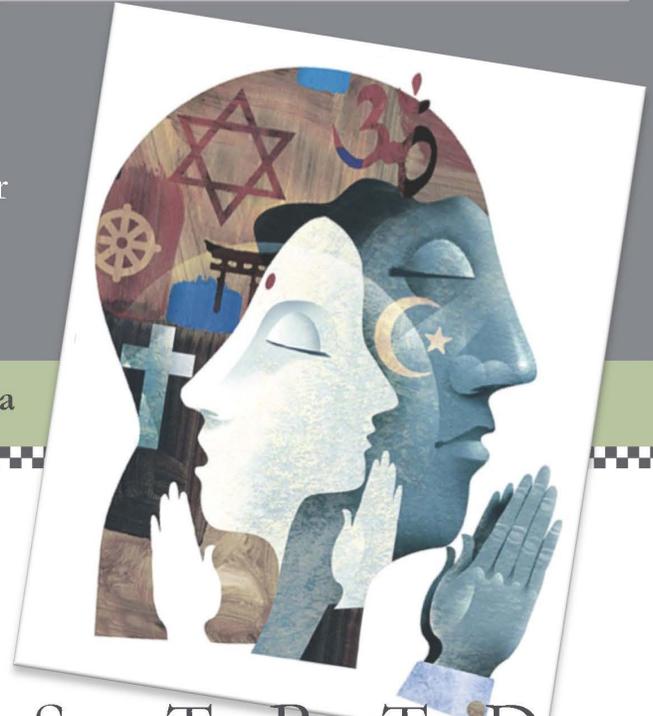
With Brian Carwana

of the

Encounter World Religions Center

*RSVP: Yvonne Runstedler via First Class*

Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 St. Brigid's Villa



## Evening events

4:45 Welcome &  
Gathering

5:00pm Presentation Begins

6:00pm Complimentary  
Supper (bring your  
own refreshment)

6:45 Presentation  
Continues

Evening ends with discussion  
& question period

## To See, To Be, To Do:

### The Landscape of World Religions

Encounter's most popular class, To See, To Be, To Do provides a fascinating and effective map for understanding the topography of the world religions. In this concise summary, many of the major religions are mined for the underlying assumptions and implicit logics that show how different families of religions answer 14 key questions including the cause of suffering, how liberation is achieved, and the nature of the ultimate.



Brian Carwana

Brian is the Executive Director of the Encounter World Religions Centre, an educational centre that introduces individuals to the people, places, practices and philosophies of the world's religions. Encounter's programs combine insightful classes with visits to places of worship to meet practitioners, see architecture, and experience ritual and communal life. Encounter has been recognized by the Parliament of World Religions and has reached over 100,000 people through its programs.