



DECEMBER 2013

ADETFO INFO, HO HO HO!



Dear ADETFO Members: As we head into the holiday season, we are reminded of all of our blessings as citizens of Canada. As you know, millions of people continue to struggle with the devastation and tragic realities in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan which ripped through the Philippines earlier this month. Your provincial Executive has approved a \$10,000 donation to assist with the ongoing humanitarian relief efforts so desperately needed to aid people and families on the ground in the Philippines. ETFO has also announced that all local donations will be matched! ADETFO Local is pleased to inform you that a donation of \$400 has been made (\$1.00 per Algoma member).

If you are considering making a personal donation this season, the Government of Canada has indicated that until December 9, 2013, they will match every eligible dollar donated by individual Canadians to registered Canadian charities. You may wish to visit <http://humanitariancoalition.ca/>

In addition, Algoma ETFO will be contributing to **Operation Christmas Cheer** this season <http://www.operationcheer.com/2013.html> to support our sisters and brothers who are walking picket lines here in Ontario.

For the past 10 years OCC has ensured that every union member on strike/lockout in Ontario receives a food hamper, a grocery gift card, and that each child receives a toy. To date, there are six (6) locals walking picket lines in Ontario.

Thanks for all that you do throughout the year to make a difference for children, your community, your profession and your union!

Treasure time with family and friends this season and hold dear the memories of those we have lost.

Kelly

ETFO AWARDS DEADLINE: February 1, 2014

For further information:

- ⇒ Visit the ETFO website www.etfo.ca
AboutETFOAwardsandScholarships
- ⇒ Contact 416-962-3836 or 1-888-838-3836

You may download applications forms at <http://www.etfo.ca>AboutETFO>AwardsandScholarships>



From Your ADETFO FSL Committee

The FSL committee had its first meeting on Nov. 14. Many items were discussed including issues facing French teachers, upcoming PD and the new FSL curriculum. School laptops were also discussed by the committee. At this time, the FSL Committee wishes to send a friendly reminder on behalf of FSL and Release teachers that classroom laptops should be readily available for any teacher to use to avoid delays in set up time and loss of instructional time.

On the PD front, your local committee is in the process of organizing an after school Adobe Connect workshop on the AIM program which is open to all contract and occasional teachers. Stay tuned for further details.

Lastly, after attending my first Provincial FSL meeting, I am so very proud to work for the ADSB. We are lucky in so many ways. Although we may not be as large as most Southern Boards, we are indeed, "The Mighty Algoma!". Please feel free to contact any member of the FSL committee should you have any questions or concerns.

Angela Coccimiglio, FSL Chair, Queen Elizabeth School
Victoria Burzese, Pinewood Public School
Jennifer Mathison, Echo Bay Public School
Jean-Marie Wissel, East View Public School

Vive le francais!
Angela Coccimiglio

Festival of Trees 2013

The Lung Association's Festival of Trees was held at the Delta on Nov. 21st ~ 24th. A very special thank you to ADETFO members for their generosity. Many books were donated! Also, a special thank you to Jane Vienneau, Sarah Missere, Karen Russon-Offidani, Allison Corbett, Laura Alopaeus and Kelly Holley for organizing this event and for the setup of the display.



Please visit our website at www.adetfo.on.ca

Reminder - TO ALL ADETFO MEMBERS: DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANY CONFERENCE UNTIL APPROVAL IS RECEIVED FROM ADSB.

Acceptance from ETFO does not mean you can book travel and the union will not be able to reimburse the expense if the leave is denied.



The Elections Committee would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Rest up for a Spring election. Nomination forms will be out in February.

Your PD Funds At Work:

7th Annual ETFO Provincial Conference, "Health and Safety -- Make it Happen"

On October 18th and 19th, at the new office, ETFO Provincial hosted an informative conference that focused on lockdown preparedness, WSIB reporting, a preview of Ministry of Labour inspections this year and next, small group discussions to identify key concerns in our locals, and finally a presentation on psychological health and safety in the workplace. The conference brought to the forefront many issues that we are dealing with in our schools in Algoma today.



Jeff Corey, an inspector with the Halton Regional Police Service, worked with the Ministry of Education to develop the Ontario Schools Lockdown Guideline in 2009. Sergeant Kim Hill (Halton Regional Police Service) coordinator of the School Police Emergency Action Response (SPEAR) also addressed the participants. Their message was clear; half of all violent incidents resulting in death happen in small towns. These deaths do not just occur in the United States or Toronto, they can happen anywhere and we need to be prepared in our schools. This includes making sure that staff (and occasional staff) have access to keys in case of a lockdown or hold and secure situation.

Legal counsel, Christine Davies, discussed grievance arbitration, long-term disability claims, and WSIB claims. Her advice was clear to those of us dealing with Hand, Foot and Mouth disease, Impetigo, Meningitis, just a few of the diseases currently circulating in our area: fill out the WSIB Worker's Exposure Incident Form (Form 6) as soon as possible after exposure. This led to an informative discussion with ADETFO local executive about the availability of these forms in our schools. There should be a yellow folder with all necessary forms posted on the Health and Safety board in every school.

The yellow folder should include:

1. Ministry of Education Safe Schools Incident Reporting Form (Please keep a copy of page one of this form for your records in order to confirm the date of submission)
2. ADSB Workplace Violence Report
3. ADSB Accident Report

Also, on the Health and Safety Board in each of our schools, should be Hazard Reports available to all staff and WSIB forms. A current Asbestos Inspection Report should also be posted. The Asbestos Inspection Report should be updated on a yearly basis by a certified third party contractor.

Please keep yourselves informed in order to protect your health and safety!

Michele Hillstrom

Ontario Art Education Association Conference:

I can't say enough in regard to this conference and its content. It was tremendous and it definitely allowed me to gain a great deal of insight and appreciation to the world of Visual & Media Art.

Frank Gioia

ECOO Conference:

The ECOO conference provided me with the opportunity to learn about how technology can be leveraged in both teaching and assessment practices to improve student learning and engagement. After having attended this conference, I have begun using mobile technology to collect assessment data for students which can then be used in student and parent conferences. I am also exploring how to incorporate blogging into my writing program as well as how to use popular games, such as Minecraft, to meet expectations of the Ontario Curriculum.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend #ECOO13. I would highly recommend this annual conference to my fellow ETFO members.

Kerri Grasley