

ADETFO INFO



JANUARY 2016

President's Message....

Happy New Year and Welcome Back!

In addition to the Bill 115 Charter Challenge proceeding, there is good news on the horizon regarding Bill C377. Bill C377 is controversial anti-union federal legislation that Mr. Harper pushed through to impose very onerous financial reporting obligations. It is also the subject of a multi union Charter challenge. Legal counsel for the unions has advised that the government intends to repeal this law in the spring. A huge victory for labour unions and an excellent start to the New Year!

On the local front, ADETFO committees have been very busy planning professional learning opportunities for members in the New Year. These sessions are planned and delivered by teachers for teachers! Many thanks to the committee members for their hard work and dedication outside of instructional time to make all of this happen! Two provincial ETFO guests will also visit Algoma this month: H, W & S Officer, Valence Young and Vice-President, Nancy Lawler.

The CB Committee will meet with ADSB for two more days of local negotiations (Sunday, January 10th and Monday, January 11th). To date, 20 Teacher Locals and 18 Occasional Teacher Locals have reached agreements. Your local team will continue to work hard and be available to make it happen in Algoma. Provincial CB officer, Sharron Raymond will be retiring at the end of January and we will welcome Lynn McClean back to Algoma.

Your local Executive will be holding their next meeting on January 19th. Please remember that meeting minutes can be found posted on the website along with other important information and links. (*Remember** - Questions and concerns can also be brought forward to you Unit Reps throughout the year.*) Many thanks to the Executive for their hard work as they continue to carry out the business of the Local. Many local charities have benefitted from Goodwill donations and social events are being planned by Unit Reps. including retirement dinners across the District.

We are gearing up for the New Member Workshop on January 21st. (We have 13 new members!). It is wonderful that we have new members in Algoma once again! We also had two retirements as of Dec. 31. Congratulations to Diane Beaudoin and Nora Costello!

Wishing you a wonderful start and all the best in 2016. You are appreciated and ADETFO recognizes all that you do for children and the profession.

(Consider following us on Twitter @adefopres or join the Algoma ETFO Facebook Group for current updates.)

Kelly

ETFO AWARDS DEADLINE: February 1, 2015

For further information:

- ⇒ Visit the ETFO website www.eto.ca
AboutETFOAwardsandScholarships
 - ⇒ Contact 416-962-3836 or 1-888-838-3836
- You may download applications forms at

<http://www.eto.ca>AboutETFO>AwardsandScholarships>

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

February 21, 2016

Bundle up and walk with us on Feb. 20 in the Coldest Night of the Year, a 2, 5 & 10 km fund-raising walk in support of **St. Vincent Place** and the hungry, homeless and hurting in Sault Ste. Marie. The walk begins and ends at St. Vincent place, located at 222 Albert St., East. **It's cold out there!**

Event. Dir.: Jennifer Sarlo

Phone: 705-942-5805

Email: sarlojen@gmail.com

ADETFO COMMITTEES' HAPPENINGS:

French as a Second Language Committee brought the new year in with an *FSL Soiree avec la Technologie* networking session on **January 5, 2016** at the Quality Inn. It was open to the first 10 French Teachers who called in to reserve their space. This networking session was on "One Note" and Merci to Greg Murray who presented this session and to all the French Teachers who took part.

Vive le francais!

Angela Coccimiglio ~ Chair, Victoria Burzese, Jennifer Mathison

Political Action/Public Relations Committee worked with Gary Wills to create e-buttons – short statements presented like a button – that was placed on Facebook in an attempt to put out information to the public about the reality of teaching. The buttons were designed to highlight import facts and meant to be passed along through social media. We were somewhat successful!! We also provided members with party platform information. Gary was a great help! Amanda and I also volunteered to assist with the NDP campaign prior to the election. We worked the streets by filling mailboxes with informational flyers. Then we really stepped out of our comfort zone and went door to door canvassing for the NDP! It was a great experience for us! We will be holding a meeting in the new year to discuss next steps.

Natalie Fawcett ~ Chair, Shelly Predum, Amanda Naccarato

Early Years Committee is working on iPads in the classroom and appropriate apps to use with our Early Years students. We decided that each Committee member would contact some Early Years colleagues to inquire about which apps they have used that have been successful. All findings will be published in the ADETFO newsletter. We also discussed the use of the iPads and other technology as professional supports in the classroom. Our committee discussed the possibility of offering after school sessions regarding the use of "One Drive" and other Teacher apps such as "Show Me".

Jane Vienneau ~ Chair, Sara Missere, Julie Nelson

The Status of Women Committee has secured **Tuesday March 1, 2016** and guest speakers for a dinner and presentation at Grand Gardens, Dennis Street location. The guest speakers include Donna Morrison from OTIP, Rafi Chaudhury from Mensante Corporation and Robin MacDonald. Our topics of presentation will be the 'Feeling Better Now' and "Life Balance" programs.

Karen Russon Offidani ~Chair, Laura Alopaeus-Gomes, Paula Vallee, Melanie Bryant

REMINDERS:

A New Member Workshop is planned for **January 21st**. ETFO will provide participants with the new Welcome to ETFO 2015-2016 document on a USB memory key and the ETFO resource "Parent Teacher Relationships—Putting the Pieces Together.". The document contains everything a new member needs to know about ETFO as they begin their career. In addition, one of ETFO's Vice-presidents, Nancy Lawler, will be a special guest on this evening and will bring greetings on behalf of ETFO. Kelly & Doug will also present "What you need to know about your Collective Agreement".

A Health, Wellness and Safety workshop for ADETFO Health & Safety Reps. will be held on **Monday, February 1, 2016** for all H, W, & S Reps at Quattro Hotel, SSM and (WEBEX for reps in the District) with Valence Young. The focus of this evening will be understanding **REPORTING FORMS** and **HOW TO WRITE EFFECTIVE SAFETY PLANS**. In addition, the results of a recent Health and Safety survey completed by Stewards will be shared. Your local Health, Wellness and Safety Committee has also been meeting to plan for the year. Thanks for your ongoing dedication to members and Health, Wellness and Safety!

Provincial Conference: On November 6 and 7th, I attended the annual ETFO Health and Safety Conference. The keynote speaker was a lawyer who represents ETFO for Health and Safety and outlined the role of the Ministry of Labour in terms of the education sector. Other topics discussed were ergonomics, brain injuries, particularly the affects of concussions on students in Grade 7-12, and signs and duties of domestic violence in the workplace. It was a great networking opportunity to hear about Health, Wellness & Safety practices and issues in other boards.

Tara Lappage

