



61 King Street, Unit 12, Barrie
705-733-9625; Fax 705-733-9910
1-800-558-4815
www.oectasimcoemuskoka.on.ca

THE INFORMER

The Official Newsletter of O.E.C.T.A. - Simcoe Muskoka Elementary Unit

ELEMENTARY UNIT

Summer Time!

Summer is finally here! There's a few things that you usually need to do to wrap up the school year. Here's a few reminders:

1. Hand in your school keys.
2. Clean out your classroom-with the increasing use of Google Docs, an annual purge/culling of teaching resources is a cleansing exercise that can help to start off your summer!
3. If you are bringing home a school computer, keep in mind that there is a form you will be required to fill out that makes you responsible for the proper use of that resource, and also that it will be your responsibility if it is stolen or damaged.
4. Take things off the walls such as posters and notices. If these items fall off the wall during the summer, they may set off an alarm.
5. File items such as report cards and IEP's in the OSR's and fill in Green cards.
6. Take home any personal items because the board will not be responsible for any missing, damaged, or stolen items.

President's Message

As we prepare to finish another school year to come to an end, it is important to have a plan on how to re-energize ourselves over July and August. It is these two months that we need to relax, spend time with our loved ones, and take time to enjoy places we wouldn't have time to enjoy during the school year. Teaching is a very stressful career, and one that can take all our energy to survive the day-to-day rigours.

On Thursday, May 11th we held our Unit Annual General Meeting and the following individuals are the members of your 2017-2018 Elementary Executive:

Past-President	Joe Martone
President	Kent MacDonald
First Vice-President	Shannon McGlynn
Second Vice- President	Rita Borgogelli
Treasurer	Josh Goodeill
Recording Secretary	Nicole van Woudenberg
Councillors	Trina Feetham
	Tina-Marie Lockyer
	Kevin McCracken
	Sara Vause

Thank you to all that turned out to our Unit General Meeting. It is great to see more interest in the inner workings of the Executive. Thank you to those who put their names forward to be on the Executive – the ever-increasing interest in serving the membership of Simcoe Muskoka is a welcome sign. If you are interested in becoming more interested in the local Unit, we are always looking for individuals to sit on various committees: Human Rights, Political Action, and Professional Development. Please forward your name to the Unit Office with your choice of committee that you wish to participate.

Travelling?

Benefit Info:

Going out of the province or over seas for a vacation this summer? Good news: you don't need to print out that little sheet of paper to stuff into your wallet. Your OTIP benefits card is all you need to bring. The information and phone numbers that you need for out of province, or out of country health care/benefits coverage is on the back of that card.

Don't forget to ask your doctor if you need any additional vaccinations or medications depending on where you are planning on travelling. Have a great vacation!!

Young Author's Award Recipient

Congratulations goes out to Caralina Knights of St Mary's Collingwood. Caralina's poem was submitted by her teacher, Tina Moneypenny. Her poem titled *Sidewalk Chalk and High Hopes* was selected as a winner in the Grade 5-6 Poems division. Caralina and her school will receive a copy of the Young Authors Awards book. You can read her poem, along with other winners literature at the OECTA provincial website: [Click Here](#).

On behalf of all members of Simcoe Muskoka, I would like to thank Catharine Douris and Leslie Nimeth for all their hard work and dedication towards the Executive over the past years. Their dedication and insight will be missed at future Executive meetings.

If you were unable to attend one of our two! President's Dinners this year, then you missed those who were honoured with 25 years of service and those that have chosen to retire. We also presented the Catherine Barker Award – an award that is presented to an elementary teacher, who is nominated by their colleagues. This year's recipient was Joe Martone!

This past year has seen many changes and I need to thank all the OECTA Staff Representatives for their efforts. From attending meetings, to listening to concerns, to taking part in Balanced Day Committees, it is without their efforts the membership of Simcoe Muskoka Elementary would not be able to function as efficiently as it does.

Finally, I would like to thank Jeannette Lee, Michele MacDonald, and Shannon McGlynn for putting up with me, and the support they have provided me at the Unit Office this past school year. This is not a one-person show, it is a collaborative effort, and it is together that we help and support the Elementary teachers in Simcoe Muskoka.

I wish all of you an enjoyable, relaxing and well deserved summer holiday. The Unit Office will be closed from July 3rd until August 25th. You call the unit office (705-733-9625) and leave a message and they will be checked periodically. If you need to reach someone, please feel free to contact myself on my cell phone (705-794-9546) or Shannon McGlynn's cell phone (705-794-5492). The Unit Office will re-open on Monday, August 28th.



Enjoy your well deserved holidays!

Important Dates

- June 29-Last day of classes
- June 30-PA day-last day of work
- July 1-Canada's 150th Birthday
Happy Canada Day!
- July 3-Summer Holidays start
- Sept 5-Classes resume
- Sept 29-PA day

@oectasm.ca
Email Accounts &
OECTA Simcoe
Muskoka Website

Check out our website! It is full of current, relevant information relating to your job! You will find our Collective Agreement, both current and archived memos, forms for Conferences, Parental and Pregnancy Guide, current events, this years issues of the Informer, etc, etc, etc. There are photos of various OECTA events such as our President's Dinners and the Golf Tournament. Please take a few minutes and have a look!

Please encourage your colleagues to log onto our local website.
www.oectasimcoemuskoka.on.ca



The Walk for Social Justice

Week of May 15 - 19, 2017

The Simcoe Muskoka Catholic DSB and the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association local units' Human Rights Committee promoted the Walk for Social Justice post-Catholic Education week (May 15 – 19, 2017). We had over 20 schools register for the walk this year. With banners held high, messages of the social-justice actions locally, nationally, and/or internationally, were heard throughout the community. Pictures were sent in to Nicole van Woudenberg and can be seen on both the board website, and soon, our local OECTA website.

Thanks to all the schools that registered for the walk, and a big thanks to the teachers who signed them up and organized the walk!



QR Scan to Register

Strikes Around Ontario

Simcoe Muskoka OECTA has supported a number of unions in their bids to a fair contract over the last few months. Earlier this month, CUPE Local 1600 members from the Toronto Zoo went back to work with a new, fair contract. They were fighting a two tier agreement that only protected some of the workers from job loss, and the contracting out of some of their jobs.

The Canadian Hearing Society members of CUPE 2073 were out on strike for a long time. Kent, Michele and Shannon all joined their picket line here in Barrie on a few different days to show our support.

Our OPSEU brothers and sisters working at the LCBO settled their labour dispute 30 minutes after the midnight strike deadline this past Monday. Just in time for Summer!!! Don't drink and drive!

OECTA 2017 Golf Tournament

The 2017 Golf Tournament was a great success again this year. We had quite a few more teams register this year to bring our total up to 52 golfers!!! (51 golfers if you include me...LOL!) There were some great shots, good times and awesome weather at Innisbrook. Here are the winning teams:

Ladies Team: The Long Shots-Anne Bourgeois, Louise Robitaille, Tina Muldoon, Rita Sharpen

Mixed Team: Who's Your Caddy-Peter Ashworth, Dave Caruso, Susan Galle, Jamie McParland

Men's Team: The Swinging Johnsons-Jeremy Orioux, Tony Kay, Mike Nicol, John Gimpel

There was a new winner this year for the putting contest-Tina Marie Lockyer. The Long Drive contests were won by Kelly Edgecomb and Mike Nicol. Closest to the Pin contests were won by Rita Sharpen and Jamie McParland. Louise Robitaille won the Closest to the Beer Case contest.

Next year's tournament is May 26th, 2018. Put it in your calendars now!!!!

Births

Congratulations goes out to:

Brianne Chepurnyj, teacher at Saint Angela Merici, and her husband Adrian on the birth of her son Marlo on June 12.

And to anyone else who had babies that we didn't hear about, Congrats!

Bereavements

Please Keep In Your Prayers:

Sara Vause, teacher at Saint Gabriel the Archangel Catholic School, on the passing of her father Jamie Vause.

Sonja Plunkett, teacher at Saint Gabriel the Archangel Catholic School, on the passing of her son Jeff Plunkett.

Frances Horan, teacher at Monsignor J.E. Ronan Catholic School, on the passing of her husband Douglas Horan.

Tanya Horan, teacher at Monsignor J.E. Ronan Catholic School, on the passing of her brother Douglas Horan.