

Memo # 2

Date: September 23, 2016

To: Executive/Members

From: Kent MacDonald, President

Re: OFL Rally; Project Overseas; OECTA New Members and Staff Rep Meeting; OECTA Collective Bargaining Survey; World Teachers' Day; Beginning Teachers' Conference

OFL Rally For Decent Work – Saturday, October 1st 1:00 pm Queen's Park

The rally is occasioned by the lead-up to the final report of the Changing Workplaces Review, the government's long overdue examination of the *Labour Relations Act* and the *Employment Standards Act*. The Changing Workplaces Review is a rare chance to tangibly improve people's lives by reasserting our fundamental values of fairness and opportunity for all. As advocates for a just society, it is imperative that Catholic Teachers be active in calling on the government to adopt a bold agenda.

The Association has also been vocal about the need to provide better training and employment opportunities for young people, and the need to raise the minimum wage so workers can provide for themselves and their families. OECTA is a proud supporter of the 15 and Fairness campaign www.15andfairness.org.

Project Overseas

Would you like to assist teachers in a developing country? Are you interested in learning more about global education issues? Do you see yourself volunteering in Africa or the Caribbean?

The purpose of Project Overseas (PO) is to improve the quality of education in Canada and in developing countries. Although the focus of PO is teacher professional development, the primary goal is improved teaching and learning for students around the world. Working towards quality public Education for All (EFA) is the driving force behind all aspects of CTF's International Cooperation Programs.

A Word and PDF version of the application has been attached to this memo for your convenience. **Applications will only be accepted via email.** Please scan and email completed applications to project_overseas@oecta.on.ca

The deadline for submitting applications is November 1, 2016. Applications will only be accepted via email.

OECTA Staff Representatives' Meeting

The half-day OECTA Representative in-service is scheduled for the afternoon of Wednesday, October 12th. We would request that the names of the school representative(s) be forwarded to the office as soon as possible so that your release can be requested for that day. Thank you.

OECTA Provincial Collective Bargaining Survey

On September 20, 2016, all members received notice that the Collective Bargaining survey, regarding bargaining and renewal of central terms in all collective agreements, will be conducted on **October 4 and 5, 2016**. If you haven't received notice, please ensure that your personal email is up-to-date with OECTA Provincial. (Once you login to the Members' Only section, you will be able to change your contact information.) As well, you may want to check junk or spam folders for the invite. If you are having difficulties accessing the email, please contact the Unit Office.

Each member will be sent an email invitation on October 3 (the day before the survey opens) which will contain a unique one-time link to access the survey. Each personal email address will be sent only one survey invitation and only one survey can be completed per invite.

World Teachers' Day – October 5th, 2016

World Teachers' Day is held annually on October 5th. This day celebrates teachers worldwide. The goal of this day is to mobilize support for teachers around the world to ensure that the needs of future generations will continue to be met by the great work that teachers do, each and every day.

In 1994, UNESCO inaugurated October 5 as World Teachers' Day to commemorate the joint UNESCO and International Labour Organization's (ILO) signing of the *Recommendations Concerning the Status of Teachers*.

2016 -2017 OECTA's Beginning Teacher's Conference – *Fill Your Own Bag of Tricks!*

OECTA's Annual Conference for Beginning Teachers takes place October 14 & 15, 2016 at the Toronto Airport Hilton Hotel.

The call for delegates was sent out in Memo #33 (June 21, 2016) and as a result of the popularity of this conference, we have filled our allotted number of delegates and have a waiting list.

**If you have any concerns, please contact the Unit office at 705-733-9625 or 1 800 558 4815
Thank you for sharing this information with OECTA members.**