

Memo #27

Date: June 26, 2019

To: Simcoe Muskoka Catholic Elementary Teachers

Re: End of Year; Beginning of Next Year; Labour Day Picnic; Pay Increase; OTIP Information; Golf Deal

End of Year

I wish all of you an enjoyable, relaxing and well-deserved summer holiday. The Unit Office will be closed from July 2nd until August 26th. You call the unit office (705-733-9625) and leave a message and they will be checked periodically. If you need to reach someone directly, please feel free to contact myself on my cell phone (705-794-9546) or Shannon McGlynn on his cell phone (705-794-5492). The Unit Office will re-open on Monday, August 26th.

Beginning of Next Year

As we wind down this year, our minds are probably thinking about September and what lies ahead in terms of Collective Bargaining and the possibility of job action.

Provincial Bargaining has just begun - initial meeting with Government representatives and OCSTA (Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association). This was to review ground rules, provide an initial scope of issues that will be dealt with at the central table, and to book future bargaining dates.

Bargaining will continue into July and August.

Local Bargaining – cannot proceed until Central Bargaining is complete.

At this point of bargaining, I can't see the process being completed by the end of our Collective Agreement – August 31st, 2019, however, I do feel that there is limited time to have productive discussions. Unless the Government is coming to strip our Collective Agreement, I see teachers in classrooms in September.

Moving forward from that point, I see the possibility of job action if significant progress is not made in bargaining.

Therefore, plan for a September start up, but be prepared for changes as we move through the school year.

Please continue to check your local email – oectasm – and make sure you are receiving OECTA Provincial Bargaining updates to your personal email.

Labour Day Picnic

In our current political climate, I suggest that everyone place our local Labour Day Picnic in their calendar. It is a great way to transition from summer holiday mode to back to school mode. Plus it is a great time for family, friends etc.

Please see the attached flyer.

Pay Increase

Please note that on the last pay in August you will be receiving a **0.5%** increase. This is not a lump sum, this is a 0.5% increase on grid. If you would like to review the pay grids, please log in to our local website (www.oectasimcoemuskoka.on.ca) and click on the Elementary drop down menu and click on Collective Bargaining Agreement – you will find the up-to-date grids.

OTIP Information

Planning a Summer Road Trip Through Canada on a Budget

Canada is known worldwide for its natural beauty. With rolling hills, sparkling blue waters, boreal forests, natural parks and mountain peaks, Canada really has it all.

If you're looking to explore more of this beautiful country over the summer without breaking the bank, follow this helpful guide of national attractions you can visit that won't cost you much more than the gas required to take you there.

To learn more, click here: www.otipinsurance.com/article41

FAQ: Insuring Recreational Vehicles and Seasonal Properties

With the weather heating up and summer vacation quickly approaching, you're probably thinking more about trips to the cottage or camping trips in the RV rather than your insurance.

However, summer activities that involve the use of recreational vehicles or seasonal properties often require specialized insurance coverage. It's important to regularly review your insurance policies for these seasonal items with your broker so that you can be confident that you and your loved ones are protected.

To learn more, click here: www.otipinsurance.com/article42

Golf Deal

Oak Bay Golf Club – 67 Links Trail, Port Severn – is offering a 20% discount to all teachers when they play Monday to Thursday. Please see attached flyer for more information.

If you have any concerns, please contact the Unit office at 705-733-9625 or 1 800 558 4815