

Memo #3

Date: September 13, 2017

To: Executive/Members

Re: **Collaborative Learning Communities (CLC's) Project; WebExperience: Math Mondays; First Nations, Metis, Inuit (FNMI) Work Group; Project Overseas 2017**

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### **Collaborative Learning Communities (CLC's) Project**

OECTA with funding provided by the Ministry of Education will support, with release time, a limited number of CLC projects during the school year. CLC's allow teachers to explore and share solutions to common professional dilemmas through action research, by developing resources, and/or implementing new instructional strategies.

#### **Project Focus**

CLC's will provide the opportunity to engage in the themes of **Kindergarten, Mathematics, and/or Well-being.**

#### **Who may apply?**

Regular full time teachers or subject specialists, long term occasional teachers and occasional teachers at both the elementary or secondary levels are eligible. Choices of topic or participation are not limited by your current teaching assignment. A teacher of French as a Second Language (FSL) might partner with regular classroom teachers to develop resources to enrich mathematics strategies in both the regular classroom and the FSL classroom.

#### **What is required of applicants?**

- 1) Each group selects a facilitator. A video training link will be sent to all successful facilitators in October. Viewing of this link is mandatory.
- 2) Group members meet for eight half days or four full days to pursue an issue of their choosing based on one or more of the focus areas listed above. Group members are expected to co-ordinate these dates with OECTA staff and submit them in advance. Dates cannot be changed once confirmed. Please ensure dates do not conflict with school board activities.
- 3) Group members conduct an action research project, develop materials, conduct lesson studies or jointly implement new strategies in their classrooms.
- 4) Group members, through the facilitator, produce a report on their learning and are prepared to share their learning with others in the spring of 2018.

#### **How do members apply?**

Form a learning community of up to four members and submit a team project proposal. One team member, acting as group facilitator, should submit the proposal. **Applications are due no later than September 27.** Priority will be given to first time applicants.

The proposal application form is attached. Please forward completed applications to Riley Watson via email: [r.watson@oecta.on.ca](mailto:r.watson@oecta.on.ca)

### **WebExperience: Math Mondays**

OECTA's Professional Development department will be hosting **WebExperience: Math Mondays** beginning September 25, 2017. This online interactive professional development platform is designed for Kindergarten to Grade 12 teachers. A number of different 'experiences' have been designed to provide ideas and activities that can be used to support an engaging and balanced math program.

Each live session will take place between 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Registration is not required, however space is limited to 25 participants per session. High demand sessions may be re-offered, so please check the provincial website for updates and additional offerings. All sessions will be recorded and posted to the provincial website.

Check the provincial website at [www.catholicteachers.ca](http://www.catholicteachers.ca) for a complete list of Math Monday offerings.

### **First Nations, Metis and Inuit (FNMI) Work Group**

In accordance with By-Law 2.51.15, the Provincial Executive has created a First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) work group.

The FNMI work group shall advise the Provincial Executive regarding ways to support and address issues of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Catholic teachers, students and curriculum.

The work group will consist of four members-at-large, at least 50% of which shall be self-identifying First Nations, Métis or Inuit members as appointed by the Provincial Executive. A member of the Provincial Executive will also be appointed to the work group. Provincial office staff will be assigned by the General Secretary as a resource.

The Provincial Executive is now receiving applications from the membership-at-large to serve on the FNMI work group.

Interested members can find more information in the Members' Area of [www.catholicteachers.ca](http://www.catholicteachers.ca) to complete the online application or through the following link:

[www.regonline.com/FNMIwg2017](http://www.regonline.com/FNMIwg2017)

The deadline for applications is 5 p.m. on Thursday, October 5, 2017.

### **Project Overseas 2017**

Project Overseas – Teachers Teaching Teachers is a joint endeavor between the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) and its provincial and territorial affiliates, including OECTA. This project allows OECTA to give their members the opportunity to provide teaching assistance in developing countries.

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.

All of the applications sent into OECTA are reviewed by the Educational Aid Committee. Once the candidates are selected, the final applications are sent to CTF. The successful applicants are sent to a developing country, usually in Africa or the Caribbean, to conduct professional development in-services for their overseas colleagues. While projects can take place at any time during the year, the projects are held mostly in July and August. Although candidates may have indicated a particular country as their preference, successful applicants should be prepared to be assigned to any location.

It is required that applicants be Canadian citizens, have at least five years teaching experience in Canada and be a member of a CTF affiliate. Additional criteria are listed on the OECTA website. Applications for Project Overseas 2017-2018 are now posted on our web site: [catholicteachers.ca](http://catholicteachers.ca)

**Applications will only be accepted via email.** Please scan and email completed applications to [project\\_overseas@oecta.on.ca](mailto:project_overseas@oecta.on.ca)

**The deadline for submitting applications is November 1, 2017. Applications will only be accepted via email.**

OECTA members can access the [website](#) for more information or email [project\\_overseas@oecta.on.ca](mailto:project_overseas@oecta.on.ca) for more information.

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