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Memo #46

Date: June 9, 2017

To: Executive/Members

Re: OECTA Summer Institutes; Driving Students in Personal Vehicles; Benefits Update

OECTA Summer Institutes:

OECTA's Professional Development department, through funding provided by the Ministry of Education, will be offering some Summer Institutes in our area. This two day professional learning opportunity will be available to all members and will be organized through provincial office. The workshop(s) will take place at a local hotel (details to follow) and meals will be provided. A travel subsidy of up to \$200 will also be available to participants.

Posters have been mailed to schools, but additional information related to specific location will be forwarded to you in the coming weeks. Additional information including workshop descriptions will be available on the provincial website shortly.

The Summer Institute brochure is available on line and registration is now open at www.catholicteachers.ca. I have inserted a link to the brochure for your perusal below.

http://www.catholicteachers.ca/OECTA/media/pdfs/Summer%20Institutes/2017/SI_brochure_v2_2017.pdf

This is what is known:

Math – Muskoka – August 29th and 30th

Math – Barrie – July 4th and 5th

Kindergarten – August 10th and 11th

Driving Students in Personal Vehicles

The responsibility for transporting students should remain with the school board and parents. Public transportation or hired buses are the best ways to transport students. OECTA strongly recommends that teachers **do not** use their own personal vehicles for any reason to transport students. Teachers risk being personally liable, even when renting a car to transport students, such as the risk that a student or parent may sue or make a complaint. This is not a chance that any teacher should ever take.

As well as personal financial liability, teachers risk professional liability - a student makes an accusation of professional impropriety during the trip. Without a witness, the student's statement must be weighed against the teacher's statement. This can lead to an investigation by the school board, Children's Aid Society, police and the Ontario College of Teachers.

OECTA advises that teachers are under no obligation to personally transport students, for any reason.

Benefits Update:

Online Claims on the same day from the same service provider:

The online claim systems **does** allow multiple claims on the same day. Teachers can submit claims for different practitioners and for multiple service days on the same day within the online maximum. However, if a teacher has work done on 2 body parts on the same day (back to back) – usually occurs with physiotherapy - Manulife will need to see it as 2 visits. The teacher can't submit the claim online as 1 visit or the claim would be cut back to the reasonable and customary allowance. Therefore, when a teacher submits claims for the same provider type on the same day, they will need to contact OTIP – before they send in their claim – so that they can flag your file that this procedure will be taking place, and in turn will cover that benefit.

Daily Online Submission Limit

OTIP/Manulife has a daily online submission limit of \$500. Therefore, if you have the habit of accumulating receipts to submit when the total is more reasonable, please note that there is a limit, and you may need to log in and submit claims over a number of days.

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