



WELCOME BACK

I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and are returning to work ready to tackle the challenges of the last few weeks of the semester.

DAY OF ACTION RALLY

Plan to attend a Day of Action, "Against Corporate Greed", to support the locked-out CAW workers at Electro-Motive / Caterpillar plant in London. OSSTF, as an affiliate of the Ontario Federation of Labour, is strongly encouraging our members to attend this massive event to be held **Saturday, January 21st @ 11:00 am, Victoria Park in London at Wellington & Dufferin Streets**. A bus will leave for London from the CEP Union Hall (900 Devine Street, Sarnia) at 9:30 am sharp.

PREPARING FOR BARGAINING, 2012

In November we conducted a District wide vote which was a first step towards entering into a Provincial Discussion Table with the Government, similar to what was done in the 2008 - 2012 round of bargaining. Province wide the outcome of the vote showed that 96 per cent of members are in favour of entering into these discussions. This round of bargaining will present challenges in this current fiscal climate. The Drummond Commission report which has not yet been released will also have an influence on the funding for education. Locally, our office has tallied the results of the negotiation's survey sent to all members in the District and have prepared an initial bargaining brief based on these results. District Presidents and Chief Negotiators will attend a meeting in February and should have more information at that time. We will keep you informed as the process unfolds.

PROVINCIAL STANDING COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Members of OSSTF District 10 have a strong tradition of serving on Provincial Committees. The OSSTF/FEESO Provincial Council Nominations Committee invites members who are interested in contributing to the work of the Federation by serving on a Provincial Committee or Council to consider making an application. Deadlines and application requirements can be found at <http://www.osstf.on.ca/provincialcouncil> Under Related Links you can navigate to an online application form. Under Related Attachments you will find several background documents that you may find helpful. Contact the District Office if you require further information.

PROVINCIAL SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND GRANTS

OSSTF offers awards, scholarships, grants and bursaries for a variety of purposes. Many of these have a deadline of January 31, 2012. For descriptions and application forms click on the following link <http://www.osstf.on.ca/Services>

- [OSSTF/FEESO Awards of Recognition for Members](#) - These awards to recognize outstanding contributions by members to the OSSTF/FEESO. Some are provincial awards, others are district awards.
- [OSSTF/FEESO Awards for Non-Members](#) - These awards recognize significant contributions to public education by non-members and to support student achievement.
- [OSSTF/FEESO Financial Assistance Awards for Further Education](#) - These awards provide financial assistance to members who are pursuing further education. In addition, bursaries are available for members with a child or ward who has applied to enter a publicly-funded post-secondary college, university or apprenticeship program.
- [OSSTF/FEESO Grants in Support of Staff Development](#) - These grants support projects intended to contribute to the staff development of OSSTF/FEESO members.