



SEPTEMBER 21, 2011

DISTRICT COUNCIL

PROVINCIAL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Motions

Provincial Council passed the following motions:

- Provincial Executive was asked to establish an annual OSSTF booth at Toronto Pride beginning, if possible, in 2011
- Provincial Executive was asked to prepare an advisory for all teachers on the risks of being a Teacher-in-Charge
- Employment contracts for the General Secretary and Associate General Secretaries were ratified

Provincial Election

The Provincial Executive has now selected the Level 1 and Level 2 ridings for the October Provincial Election. Discussions with all concerned parties, current or potential cabinet appointments, and political influence of the MPP were factors considered in determining the priorities. The Provincial Executive has approved District Membership Engagement Funding of up to \$1500 for districts that have not been allocated a Priority Level 1 or 2 riding. As well, the Provincial Executive approved funding for our ARM Chapters so that they can be involved in the provincial election.

Environmental Workgroup Report

The Environmental Initiatives Account #2065 assists Districts and Bargaining Units to support environmentally progressive initiatives in Districts and Bargaining Units. Funds are available to provide financial support for capital projects designed to reduce the District/Bargaining Unit environmental footprint. Seventeen requests have been approved for projects ranging from the purchase of recycling boxes and re-usable dishware to larger projects such as landscaping and renovations.

Ontario PC Party Convention

The Ontario Progressive Conservative Party held its pre-election convention in May, and released its election platform entitled "Change Book". (www.ontario.co.com)

Update on *Learning for All K-12* Document

The Ministry has been collecting feedback from eighteen boards as well as other stakeholders to refine the "Learning for All K-12" document. Common themes to the feedback include:

- provide more alignment with other Ministry/Board initiatives
- emphasize that it is a resource, not a policy
- make it more practical and less theoretical
- provide more clarification of concepts
- emphasize student voice, parent, community and school partnerships, and assistive technology
- provide an online tool to collect data for student/class profiles and improve the document format

Special Awards and Recognitions

Provincial Council recognized a number of individuals at the June meeting.

- Cindy Dube was thanked for acting as Chair of Provincial Council for the last three years
- Provincial Council expressed its appreciation to Linda Newlands, Administrative Assistant to PC, who retired in June
- The Bob Brooks Award was presented to Brad Thomas (D16)
- The Lamp of Learning Award was presented to Bonnie Tytel
- Provincial Executive Awards were presented to Jim Neill (D26), Dave Nickel (D14) and Susan Rab (D25)
- A Provincial Life Membership Award was presented to Vice-President, Sandi Sahli, who retired.