



SEMESTER TWO BEGINS

Welcome to the first week of semester two in the 2023-2024 school year! With provincial changes to deadlines for AMPA impacting us locally (and with the related local motions which approved at last year's AMDA) this winter meeting has been moved from its historical January date to February and will continue to be a semester two kick-off.

LOCAL LEADERSHIP VACANCIES

Many local leadership vacancies remain unfilled within District 10, as continues to be communicated to all members via email and social media. At this time, the following positions are available:

District Executive

- Treasurer (voting)
- Equity, Anti-Racism, & Anti-Oppression Officer (non-voting)

District Council

- Communication and Political Action / Excellence in Education Officer (non-voting)
- Educational Services Officer (non-voting)
- Branch Presidents/Representatives, if your Branch requires them (voting)

Women's Advocates

-Two positions remain (Members interested in this specific position are encouraged to contact the District Office for more information.)

Those reading this message are already engaged at some level—you are strongly encouraged to spread this engagement among your peers. We'd love to folks join us in Federation work at the District level!

FINAL REMINDER: HEALTH BENEFIT PREMIUM PAYMENT CHANGES

This is one final reminder of repeated provincial and local communications regarding the change to OTIP benefits premium deductions. Effective this month, direct billing of plan member contributions (rather than payroll deduction) for all remaining OSSTF members has been implemented. These member-paid deductions will be made on the 10th of each month, beginning February 10, 2024. If your banking information has not been provided by March 1, 2024, your coverage will be suspended and you will lose access to health and/or dental, and/or optional life benefits. Once coverage is suspended, members will need to apply for reinstatement and will be responsible for payment of any member contributions owed. Members whose benefit coverage is suspended may be subject to late entrant provisions and/or required to re-apply for extended health care or optional life insurance coverage by providing proof of good health (evidence of insurability) should they wish to rejoin the plan at a later date.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The District thanks all members who supported and encouraged students to submit entries into OSSTF's 2024 Student Achievement Awards, themed: "This Hits Different – The Power of Language". Congratulations to all our local student winners from WDSS and NCIVS.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE 2022-2026 COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

Members continue to receive confidential updates regarding both central and local bargaining directly through non-employer email addresses. If you are not receiving these important updates, please contact the office.

TEACHER TRANSFER and FTE CHANGE REQUESTS

Teachers intending to request a school transfer and/or increase or decrease their full-time equivalency (FTE) status should formally notify the Board by applying through the current active job posting before its deadline. These requests are considered by principals and senior administration during annual staffing processes. Members considering decreasing their FTE status should contact the District office before doing so for more information. Any teacher requesting to transfer to a new school location is also encouraged to apply to postings for which they are qualified and/or interested as they occur.

CERTIFICATION RATING STATEMENTS

All permanent District 10 members not currently placed in QECO's Category A4 were contacted recently with details regarding QECO's role in establishing category placement on the salary grid and how to advance and are encouraged to take a few moments to review their profile within Staffweb to ensure they are being paid what they deserve.

APPLICATION TO PROVINCIAL STANDING COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

As per DBU #83, the application for Provincial Standing Committees and Councils for 2024-2025 is now available on the OSSTF Provincial website. The deadline for on-time applications is **March 1, 2024**; however, applications received after this date will be considered for appointment if there are insufficient on-time applications for a specific committee/council. There are several resources that will be helpful in filling out an application. To access these and to complete an application, please visit: <https://www.osstf.on.ca/en-CA/about-us/how-we-are-organized/provincial-council.aspx> Applications are completed by downloading the Application Form and the Confidential Recommendation Form. Documents must be saved and sent to pcapplications-temp2022@osstf.ca

AMPA 2024 (Annual Meeting of Provincial Assembly)

After the conclusion of the application period for AMPA Delegates and Alternates, all applicants have been acclaimed. The District 10 AMPA 2024 Delegation will include:

Jason Chambers	CKSS Branch
Avinash Ghosh	Central Staff Branch
Jennifer Kumpf	Delegation Leader
Josh MacDougall	NLSS Branch
Chloe McKinnon	OT President
Dave Parkes	Federation Officer
Devin Pearson	JMSS Branch

Thank you to these Members who will be volunteering their time to represent District 10 in Toronto during their March Break from March 8- 11, 2024.

RETIREMENT

If you plan to retire during the 2023-2024 school year, it is important to let the employer and the District 10 Office know as soon as possible. Formally notifying the Board of retirement prior to March 31, 2024 may prevent some of our less senior members from being declared surplus or redundant. Additionally, there is an option to terminate LTD coverage and the associated premium costs in some cases. District 10 has a package of retirement information posted on our website here: www.osstfd10.ca/Publications.html

DISTRICT ELECTIONS

2024 is an election year at the AMDA (Annual Meeting of District Assembly), scheduled to be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024. All elected positions on District Executive are for a two-year term. Article 6 of the Constitution outlines the District Organization:

- “6.1 There shall be a District Executive consisting of
 - 6.1.1 Voting Members as follows:
 - 6.1.1.1 President;
 - 6.1.1.2 two (2) Vice-Presidents;
 - 6.1.1.3 Treasurer;
 - 6.1.1.4 two (2) Executive Officers;...”

Nomination forms will be available early March 2024.

IN CONCLUSION

Appreciation is shared to all who continuously serve in formal and informal OSSTF roles within District 10. Your important work is acknowledged in keeping the District strong in representing the membership. Collectively, it is individual members volunteering their time and expertise that makes the Federation work and ALL contributions are appreciated and recognized.

Regardless of the topic, members are always encouraged to reach out to the District Office with any questions, concerns, or issues—we are here to help.

Yours in solidarity,

Jennifer Kumpf, President
jkumpf@osstfd10.ca

February 7, 2024