

April 25, 2018
D/BU #131/2017-2018



Embracing Technology Conference **Registration Now Being Accepted**

To: Presidents and All Members
From: Harvey Bischof, President

For Action

OSSTF/FEESO has been provided with additional funding to support a professional development conference to specifically build the capacity of OSSTF/FEESO members working directly with students. This funding is being specifically offered to support OSSTF/FEESO members working in district school boards.

This one-day conference will be held on **Wednesday, May 30, 2018** at the Sheraton Toronto Airport Hotel and Conference Centre. The conference theme of *Embracing Technology*, will begin with speaker Jesse Brown, a Canadian journalist, media personality, and businessperson, who runs Canadaland, the crowd-funded news site that has disrupted the way the Canadian media works.

Registration for the conference is open to those members working in publicly funded schools – front-line members working with students and who are described as “intermediate learners and users of technology in the classroom” are the target audience for this conference.

The conference will offer 12 workshops – all led by front-line, education workers. As no proposals for French workshops were submitted, we are unable to offer any French language workshops.

Funding for this conference was provided to OSSTF/FEESO by the Ministry of Education to ‘build educator capacity’ in the area of technology. The conference will be open to all teachers and support staff who are supporting the learning of students in schools. Members from Districts 1 to 33 will be invited to register; the allocation for district-based conferences reflects district FTE numbers. Districts are responsible for determining which members are to register. The maximum number of registrants for the conference will be 150 members.

Due to the short timelines between now and May 30, there will be two registration deadlines – the first deadline of May 7, 2018 will process complete registrations received on a first-come, first-served basis as per the district allocations outlined below. In the event that 150 registrations as assigned by the district allocations are not received by May 7, 2018, any remaining spaces in the conference will be filled by registrations received up to May 10, 2018.



District	Total	District	Total
1. Ontario North East	3	17. Simcoe	6
2. Algoma	3	18. Upper Grand	6
3. Rainbow	3	19. Peel	8
4. Near North	3	20. Halton	6
5A. Northern Shield	3	21. Hamilton-Wentworth	6
5B. Rainy River	3	22. Niagara	4
6A. Thunder Bay	3	23. Grand Erie	4
6B. Superior-North	3	24. Waterloo	6
7. Bluewater	4	25. Ottawa-Carleton	9
8. Avon Maitland	4	26. Upper Canada	4
9. Greater Essex	5	27. Limestone	3
10. Lambton Kent	3	28. Renfrew	3
11. Thames Valley	6	29. Hastings-Prince Edward	3
12. Toronto	10	30. PSAT	3
13. Durham	6	31. French - North Region	4
14. Kawartha Pine Ridge	3	32. French - Central Region	4
15. Trillium Lakelands	3	33. French - East Region	4
16. York Region	7		

OSSTF/FEESO provincial office will cover the cost of conference materials, travel, meals, hotel accommodation, dependent care, and, where required, time release for designated district delegates. Conference participants will be reimbursed as per the Federation Guidelines. Accommodation will only be provided to those delegates travelling outside a 100 kilometre range. Conference registrations will be limited to a maximum of 150.

Local leaders are asked to promote this conference as a professional growth opportunity for those members who are reluctant to or minimally use technology in their current educational roles. Registrations for leaders who are not currently in the classroom will not be accepted.

Members interested in attending this Conference should contact their local District Office.