

Report from the February Meeting of Provincial Council – February 21, 2014

1. **President's Report**

- Bill 122 - OSSTF/FEESO had a meeting with the Minister of Education. The government is willing to address some of our issues. We will not see the proposed amendments until March. The first hearing date on the bill will be Feb. 26, 2014. We will be attending. Committee meetings have been scheduled for March 5, 19 meetings for clause by clause review. (PC#60A-14, page 1)
- Planning is underway for the next election. Local leaders will be brought in to discuss our election strategy. We are working with the campaigns of the CLC (Together Fairness Works) and the OFL (Fairness Works).
- Results from the survey of our members re: their opinions about the union were shared. (PC#60A-21, page 5)

2. **Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE) – update. (PC#60-8 page 5)**

The Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education continues to meet three times per year. OSSTF/FEESO member, Robert Savage, District 9, has been named Chair of the Building the Next Phase in Ontario working group. Staff will connect with Robert regularly. There are vacancies on the council that members may be interested in. DBU 34 and DBU 125 contain information about the application process.

3. **Summit on Children and Youth Mental Health – April 3-4, 2014 (PC#60-9, page 5)**

OSSTF/FEESO members are encouraged to consider attending the April 3-4, 2014 Summit on Children and Youth Mental Health at the Allstream Centre in Toronto, Ontario. Keynote speakers are Dr. Michael Unger, Jan Sanderson, and Dan Hill and the conference program offers a wide variety of workshops that will build capacity to meet the mental health needs of Ontario's children and youth. Summit 2014 qualifies for funding under account #2010.

4. **Ontario Federation of Labour Campaign Research and Messaging Group (PC#60-11, page 8)**

There are 2 components to the OFL campaign - an internal campaign to defend workers' rights; and an external campaign to mobilize with community allies to put forward a People's Agenda. Staff has been assigned to attend these meetings.

The OFL is proposing to hold regional meetings in cooperation with labour councils and affiliates during the same months of the CLC Engager Training sessions. It would appear

that the meetings are aiming for different activists within each affiliate. Please encourage others to attend.

5. Canadian Labour Congress (PC#60-12 appendix H, page 9)

OSSTF/FEESO has submitted 15 motions to the CLC for the convention taking place May 5-9, 2014. These motions address a variety of areas including anti-bullying legislation for schools, aboriginal education, funding for adult education and ESL, Canada Post Bank, a young worker engagement summit, adoption of the Post-Secondary Act, youth employment, and World Pride 2014

6. Bill 143: The Child Care Modernization Act (2013) (PC#60A-18 appendix L, page 4)

OSSTF/FEESO provided a submission to the government concerning Bill 143, the proposed legislation that will create a new Child Care Act, amend the Early Childhood Educators act and repeal the Day Nurseries Act.

7. Correspondence from the Ontario College of Teachers

Liz Papadopoulos, Chair of Ontario College of Teachers' Governing Council, responded to the President's letter of December 12, 2013, regarding the Council's decision to increase the membership fee. DBU 124 outlines the process for returning the March Issue of *Professionally Speaking*.

8. Motions

- BIRT that the Provincial Executive examine the feasibility of electronic submission of expenses with a report to April Provincial Council.
- BIRT that Provincial Council approve the 2014-2015 OSSTF/FEESO Negotiating Priorities as outlined in PC #68-2013/2014.
- BIRT that the following Provincial Councilors be appointed to the Provincial Council Nominations Committee:
 - Lynn Auger-Parent, District 33
 - Paul Caccamo, District 6A
 - Jeff Denys, District 8
 - Brad Fisher, District 20
 - Karen Littlewood, District 17
 - Anthony Marco, District 21
 - Michelle Teixeira, District 12
 - Paula Walpole, District 7

- **BIRT** that Provincial Council direct the Provincial Executive to investigate the feasibility of a master WSIB account for all members participating in provincial and local activities with a report to April 2014 Provincial Council.
- **BIRT** that Provincial Council approve the Provincial Executive spending beyond 50% of the Contingency Account.
- **BIRT** that Provincial Council approve the following additional allocations to the Member Protection Account:

Account	Name	YTD	Allocation	Additional Allocation
31363	Bill 115 Legal Challenge	\$91,056	\$50,000	\$200,000
31384	Pay Equity	\$12,195	\$50,000	\$100,000
31392	Special Negotiations Meetings	\$86,863	\$100,000	\$400,000
31394	PDT AD HOC Advisory Work Groups	\$4,199	\$10,000	\$200,000
31395	Bargaining Communication Plan	\$64,275	\$100,000	\$1,000,000
31396	Election Readiness	\$213,304	\$500,000	\$1,000,000