

THE OCT/TS OUTPOST

OFFICE, CLERICAL, TECHNICAL AND
TRANSPORTATION UNIT OF DISTRICT
#18

JANUARY 2018

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KEEP THESE DATES IN MIND:

Seasonal Break

December 25th 2017, return to
schools January 8, 2018

February 28, 2018 Pink Shirt Day

April 11, 2018 Day of Pink

*Although care has been taken in preparing the
information contained in this publication,
accuracy cannot be guaranteed. The opinions
and views expressed do not necessarily reflect
those of OSSTF District #18. We reserve the
right to edit for content and/or space.*

SOME USEFUL CONTACTS:

OTIP: 800 267 6847

519 888 9683

OR www.otip.com

EAP: 1 800 387 4765

100% CONFIDENTIAL

OMERS:

1 800 387 0813 OR

416 752 6843

OSSTF Provincial Office:

1 800 267 7867

416 751 3394 FAX

My OSSTF if you have forgotten

Your password email

osstf-member-help@osstf.ca

www.osstf.on.ca

YOU ARE ENTITLED:

To have union representation in any
meeting you are called into by your
administrator/management. Please
use the numbers above if you need
my support and or assistance.

Dear Members,

A new year has been gifted to us
and what are you going to do with
it!

I am planning to grow on a
personal level this year. I want to
try new experiences, hear about
new concepts and ideas and I am
asking for your help with my goals.

Throughout my time as your
President, since 2010 I have
always strived to put the needs of
our members at the top of my
priorities and together we have
seen improvement in several
areas;

- We have an ongoing open
dialogue with HR
- We have only filed 4
grievances since 2010
- Formalized training for
casual members
- We have built and sustain
a valuable relationship
with the Wellness
Department
- Needs of our members
with medical/mental
concerns are being met
with assistance and
compassion at all levels
from our employer

We are doing very well! This year
I want to build better and stronger
relationships with the members
themselves. Please see the
reverse side for the planning of
our next adventure!

Susan Brighton

COLLECTIVELY SPEAKING!

Globally, people have been
inspired by the actions of a
group of students in Nova
Scotia, following an incident of
bullying when a grade 9 student
faced homophobic taunts and
threats of violence for wearing a
pink shirt. Other students at the
school purchased pink T-shirts
and wore them as a proud
gesture of solidarity, sending a
message that homophobia and
bullying will not be tolerated.
OSSTF/FEESO members take
seriously their responsibilities to
address all forms of bullying
and harassment in our schools
and workplaces. In 2018, Pink
Shirt Day on February 28th and
Day of Pink on April 11th,
provide opportunities to take
positive action to end bullying,
homophobia and transphobia,
while celebrating diversity.
**OSSTF/FEESO Think, Speak,
Act – Stop Bullying** pink T-
shirts can again be purchased
online through the
OSSTF/FEESO Boutique.
Districts, schools or individuals
can now order the T-shirts and
have the entire order shipped to
any location. As usual, the T-
shirts are available in both
English and French at a **cost of
\$8.50 each plus HST and
shipping**. The link to order is
live from **December 11, 2017
to January 12, 2018 ONLY**
and all orders must be placed
during that timeframe. Orders
will be **shipped direct on
February 12, 2018**. To place
your order, go to: <http://osstfca.com>.
(Sorry we missed the deadline but
you still can wear pink on the
appointed days.)

Please, Meet us Half Way!

This year your Executive has been talking and planning on how to best encourage our members to have the ability to network with fellow members on an informal and not necessarily work related fashion.

Many ideas were discussed and the one we have decided to try is to start a program called "Meet us Half Way!" which would involve getting together on a Wednesday, after work at a local restaurant for a light repast and liquid refreshments.

The next step is how to do this efficiently. The membership as a whole meeting would not be a reasonable way to meet, greet and mingle so we devised a different strategy.

So as not to reinvent the wheel we decided that our meetings would be planned by using the Secondary Schools and their Elementary feeder schools as a group to meet.

I.E. all Dufferin Area Secondary Schools and all of their Elementary feeder schools would meet on a specified Wednesday at a centrally located restaurant for their area.

Those of the Executive that were available on that date would join our members for refreshments paid for by the Union for a couple of hours of mingling and networking.

The Guelph area of schools being larger than that of the Dufferin

area would be split into the north of Guelph and the south of Guelph and they would meet on a different scheduled Wednesday after school.

North Wellington would also have a separate night to meet and mingle.

All non-school sites of the board are welcome to join the most appropriate Wednesday festivities to their work sites.

If for any reason the date of your group does not suit your schedule you are of course welcome to join any of the other events that best suits your situation.

Of course these events are not mandatory but I hope that you will consider coming out.

A final schedule will be coming out in the Spring of 2018 please watch for your date and we hope you will [meet us half way!](#)

Winter Blahs!

Don't miss out on the great deals offered through Edvantage on winter getaways.

- Deerhurst Lodge
A Skyline Resort - Muskoka
- Great Wolf Lodge
Splash into 2018
Save on a family adventure
- Medieval Times
Dinner and entertainment
- Plus 21 other travel and entertainment deals

It's a Wacky World

Inc. Magazine compiled a list of the "10 Stupidest Emails of All Time." Here are just a few...

- "We have decided to cancel the training for our new computer system on the grounds that once people learn the system, they usually leave."
- "After several strong sales months, we have decided to print Employee Appreciation T-shirts! These shirts will go on sale next Monday."
- "We have decided against creating a Customer Support Department on the grounds that it might encourage customers to complain more often."

Here are some of the stupidest reasons people phone a 911 call center in British Columbia this past year:

1. To complain that a salon won't change their nail polish color.
2. To complain a car is refusing to move forward at a gas pump.
3. To report a restaurant won't give a refund for inedible food.
4. To gripe that someone else parked in their parking spot.
5. To ask if a sign that says a washroom is closed is legitimate.
6. To inquire about whether raccoons are dangerous animals.
7. To ask if it's illegal to wash clothes at 6 a.m.
8. To double check the time after daylight saving time ends in the fall.