



Unit Update: October 15, 2025

Provincial Bargaining Survey

As the next round of provincial bargaining approaches, it is imperative that all OECTA members have the opportunity to voice their opinions and guide the development of bargaining priorities. The Provincial Bargaining Survey was launched on October 8 and will remain open until October 29, 2025. Messaging regarding the provincial survey was shared to members who have [registered their personal email address with OECTA Provincial](#). Please note that each survey link is unique and it cannot be shared or forwarded. Also, all responses are confidential and will be reported only in aggregate. Please be sure to check your junk/spam folder for the survey. If you have not received the survey, or are experiencing any technical issues completing the survey, you can contact research@catholicteachers.ca.

2025 Pension Workshop-Final Reminder

Whether retirement is in your near future or still far off on the horizon, it is never too early to start planning! This year's OECTA Pension Workshop will be on Saturday, November 1, 2025, at the Ottawa Conference and Event Centre. The session begins at 9:30am, with sign-in and buffet breakfast beginning at 8:30am. **Registration required.** Please [register here](#) early, as space is limited. Registration closes **this Friday, October 17, 2025.**

Ontario Teachers Pension Plan Website - A great resource!

Whether you are attending the in-person Pension Workshop or not, members are strongly encouraged to check out the [Ontario Teachers Pension Plan website](#) as they have many resources to help with retirement planning, including [webinars](#) to help you learn more about your pension.

Teacher Education Grants

Applications for the Fall Teacher Education Grants are now being accepted. Please visit our [website](#) for more information and criteria for applying for a grant. Click [here](#) to access the application form. The deadline to submit your applications is **November 4, 2025 by 4PM.**

Celebrating 20 Years of Teaching?

If you began teaching in the 2005-2006 school year as an Occasional or a Permanent Teacher, we want to celebrate you!! Join us on Thursday, November 27, 2025, from 5pm - 7pm for light refreshments at Blu Legacy for "Cheers to 20 Years." RSVP [here](#) by Thursday, November 13, 2025.

Trivia Night 2025

This super popular annual event is back again, and earlier in the year: Thursday, November 13, 2025, at the Prescott. Doors open at 6:30pm, with trivia beginning at 7:30pm. **Registration opens on Monday, October 20th, at 4pm**, so [bookmark this link](#) and add it to your calendar notifications so that you can register. Space is extremely limited. Be ready with how many people (1-6) are on your team, and a witty team name!

Pregnancy, Parental, and Adoption Leave Virtual Information Session-November 13

Planning on growing your family? The OCSB/OECTA parental leave virtual information session is an opportunity to learn more about leave entitlements and steps to take before and after your leave. Register [here](#) by Friday, November 7th.

Prep and Planning Time and Supervision Minutes

All Teachers are reminded to carefully review their timetables and supervision schedules with these questions in mind to ensure compliance with the Collective Agreement. (*Note that for part-time teachers, Prep and Planning and Supervision minutes are pro-rated to your FTE.*)

1.0 FTE (Full-Time) K-8 Teachers:

- Do you have a minimum of 240 minutes of self-directed Preparation and Planning Time each week, in blocks of 30 minutes or greater?
- Do you have 40 minutes of uninterrupted lunch time each day (including days with “middle duty”)?
- Do you have 80 minutes or less of supervision each week?

1.0 FTE (Full-Time) 9-12 Teachers:

- Do you have 40 minutes of uninterrupted lunch time each day? (Note: it does not need to be at the same time as the students’ lunch)
- Have you been assigned a maximum of 6 credit courses or the equivalent in terms of student instructional time (6 x 75 mins instructional blocks/year)?
- Do you have 75 minutes of self-directed Preparation and Planning time per day?
- Do you have 110 minutes or less of supervision per two weeks?

Injured at Work?

When a teacher (OT or Permanent) experiences an injury at work, no matter how minor, they should complete the Employee Incident Accident Report (EIAR) found on the Staff Portal under the Health and Safety Reporting Tool.

If your injury resulted in loss of earnings (missed work), the need to see a health professional and/or a reduced work schedule, you also need to complete the [WSIB Form 6](#). Information about the forms can be found on the [Health and Safety](#) section of our website.

If you have been exposed to a hazard in the workplace, such as a substance (mould), material, or condition in the workplace that may cause illness or disease over time, you should complete the [WSIB Worker Exposure Form](#). This form can also be used for any psychological hazard you may experience in the workplace and you want to document the exposure in case of future health issues and WSIB coverage at a later time. Please reach out to membersupport@ottawacatholicteachers.ca if you have any questions.



THANK AN ALLY with the AIDE Committee

The Ottawa Catholic Teachers' Accessibility, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity (A.I.D.E.) Committee recognizes and celebrates OECTA members who make a positive impact in the lives of their colleagues by being true allies. An ally actively offers support, assistance, and empathy to fellow members, including those with disabilities; Black, racialized, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit members; and those who identify as two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, or asexual.

If you have an ally who you wish to recognize, please complete this [form](#) so that Ottawa Catholic Teachers can formally acknowledge their positive actions to promote Accessibility, Inclusion, Diversity and Equity.

Meet the Unit Executive!

In this update, we are pleased to share a new feature with you-Meet the Unit Executive! This is a way for members to learn who serves on the Unit Executive and represents them at the local exec table. This week we are highlighting Occasional Teacher Representative Donnub Jafarzadeh.



Donnub Jafarzadeh (she/her) is the Occasional Teacher Representative on the Ottawa Unit Executive. As an occasional teacher for both Elementary and High School, she brings a love of learning and a deep commitment to supporting students wherever she teaches.

She is passionate about ensuring that the voices of occasional teachers are heard and valued within the profession. Outside the classroom, Donnub enjoys the arts, politics, and literature, which continue to inspire her both personally and professionally.

Bill 33 - Share your thoughts with Premier Ford!

Bill 33 is a wide-ranging provincial bill that would represent a fundamental power shift in our education system, away from democratically-elected local school boards and into the hands of unelected supervisors appointed by the government. It silences parents and blocks their access to local representatives (trustees). It strips parents and community members of a real voice in decisions about school funding, programs, and repairs. Click [this link](#) to email your MPP to let them know that Ontario's students need real support, smaller classes, and better-resourced schools.

Bill 33 Rally - Come and join us!

On Thursday, October 16th at 6:00PM teachers, trustees, parents, education workers, and Ottawa West-Nepean MPP Chandra Pasma will be gathering at Carleton MPP George Darouze's office at 1128 Mill Street in Manotick to rally against Bill 33. **It's time to fight and protect our schools from Bill 33!**

Upcoming Events	
Event	Date and Location
Unit General Meeting, open to all members:	Thursday, October 30, Blu Legacy Registration link will be emailed to members

OECTA Ottawa Pension Workshop	Saturday, November 1, Ottawa Conference and Event Centre Register (closes Friday, October 17th)
OECTA/OCSB Pregnancy and Parental Leave Virtual Session	Thursday, November 13, 2025, 4:30pm (VIRTUAL) Register
Trivia Night!	Thursday, November 13, 7:30pm start at The Prescott Registration opens October 20
Cheers to 20 Years!	Thursday, November 27, 5pm Blu Legacy Register by November 13

Stay Connected!

Know a fellow OECTA member who isn't getting the bi-weekly updates? Remind them to register their personal email with OECTA Provincial using this [link](#). We use Provincial's database to update our local email list. Registering with Provincial also ensures you are kept up to date with all information regarding Provincial events such as conferences and any other important communications. If you are a newly hired Teacher and do not yet have your OECTA number, you can also access all updates on our website: <https://www.ottawacatholicteachers.ca/unit-updates-bi-weekly>

Unit Office Staff and Contact Information

Office Phone Number: 613-723-0959

Natalie Andrews, Staff Officer/Health and Safety: membersupport@ottawacatholicteachers.ca

Kavitha Gokara, Office Administrator: officeadmin@ottawacatholicteachers.ca

Julie Guèvremont, Secondary Vice-President: secondaryvp@ottawacatholicteachers.ca

Erin Hagan, Elementary Vice-President: elementaryvp@ottawacatholicteachers.ca

Mary Catherine Hogan, Unit President: president@ottawacatholicteachers.ca

Gabe Leury, Staff Officer/Medical Leave Support: staffofficer@ottawacatholicteachers.ca