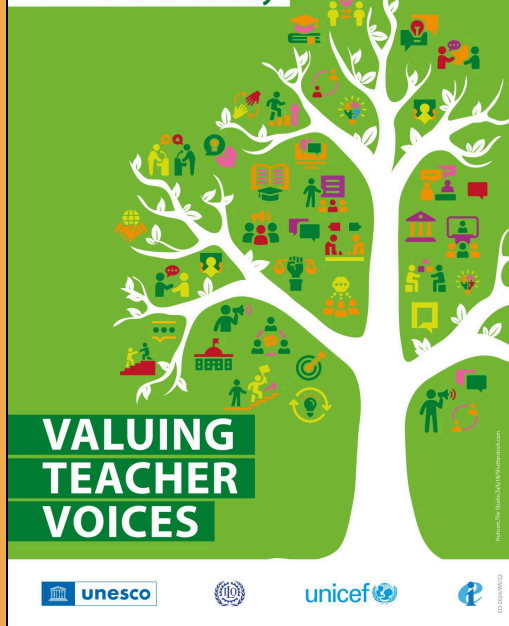


5 October 2024

World Teachers' Day

"This year's World Teachers' Day highlights the need to address the systemic challenges teachers face and to establish a more inclusive dialogue about their role in education. The 2024 celebrations will focus on "Valuing teacher voices: towards a new social contract for education", underscoring the urgency of calling for and attending to teachers' voices to address their challenges but, most importantly, to acknowledge and benefit from the expert knowledge and input that they bring to education."

Source:

<https://www.unesco.org/en/days/teachers>

Happy World Teachers' Day from ETFO Niagara!

Congratulations

ETFO Niagara would like to congratulate Keith Tait (Forestview) who received the *Rainbow Visions Award* at the 2024 ETFO Provincial Annual Meeting in Toronto this year.

ETFO Provincial Membership Meeting

During the fall, ETFO will be holding membership meetings across the province. This will be an opportunity for members to share their experiences in the workplace and to discuss what issues are most important to them. The Niagara membership meeting will be held at 4:30 pm on Thursday, October 24, 2024, at Amici's Banquet and Conference Centre.

Fall General Meeting

The Fall General Meeting will take place at 4:30 pm on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at the ETFO Niagara Local office on York Rd. If registrations exceed capacity, we will let registered participants know of an alternate location well in advance of the meeting. Register [here](#) by 4 pm on October 24, 2024.

PD Fund Updated Operating Procedures

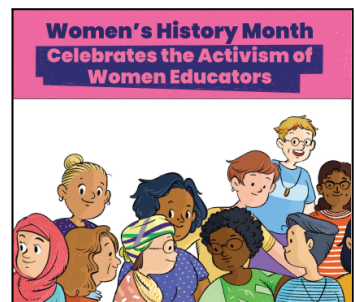
The PD Fund Operating Procedures and application form are available on our local website on the new [PD fund page](#). To access the application form, members must read and agree to abide by all of the PD fund operating procedures. All funding is on a pre-approval basis. To be eligible for funding, a PD Fund Application form must be received by the ETFO Office a minimum of one (1) day prior to the earliest start date of the requested PD event. All questions related to the PD fund should be directed to the PD Fund Administrator (pd@etfoniagara.ca).

Retirement Workshop

Join OTIP and Educators Financial Group for a free retirement workshop at Amici's Banquet and Conference Centre on October 23, 2024, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The workshop is open to members and spouses. As a courtesy, refreshments will be provided. Please note any dietary or accessibility requirements at the time of registration. Register [here](#).

Women's History Month

October is Women's History Month in Canada. Labour history often excludes women and their role in winning rights, dignity, and protections for all. This year ETFO's poster celebrates women educators as union activists who were instrumental in advocating for better working conditions and advancing women's issues. View the full poster [here](#).



Collective Agreement Walk-through & Steward Training

During the month of October, school stewards will be given an in-depth look at the new 2022-26 ETFO Niagara-DSBN Collective Agreement. This walk-through will be followed by updated steward training.

Follow ETFO Niagara on Social Media



Our Collective Agreement

Article 27 Evaluation / Peer Coaching and Mentoring

27.01 Only supervisory officers and elementary principals and vice-principals shall evaluate a teacher's competence using an evaluation policy/procedure developed in consultation with the Local. No member of the Union shall be required or requested to evaluate a teacher's competence.

27.02 The Board and the Local agree that Teacher Performance Appraisal (New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP), Performance Appraisal for Experienced Teachers (PAET), shall be conducted in accordance with the Education Act, relevant legislation, and in accordance with the Ministry of Education's technical manuals.

27.03 Except as otherwise required in the Education Act or in regulation, no teacher shall be required to act as a peer coach or mentor to another teacher. No information obtained from a coach or mentor, as part of their coaching or mentoring, shall be used in the assessment or evaluation of any teacher.
p. 197

Note: this means that temporary vice principals cannot evaluate teachers formally or informally. Coaches and peer mentors cannot provide evaluative comments to administrators on the teachers they are working with or mentoring.

If you have questions or concerns about our Collective Agreement, please contact the Local office.

If you have specific questions related to the teacher performance appraisal process, consider attending our TPA workshop for experienced teachers on October 16, 2024 at the Local office.

TPA Workshop

Are you curious about the teacher performance appraisal process? Have you been informed that you're in an evaluation year?

This workshop for experienced teachers will take you through the evaluation process and provide practical tips and resources to help you successfully navigate your TPA.

When: Wednesday, October 16
4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Where: ETFO Niagara Office

Register at
<https://forms.gle/BB9YCRWtKcn2SkQT9> by 4:00 p.m. on October 11.

Dinner and refreshments will be provided for all registered participants.

Save the Date

October

- 5 - World Teachers' Day
- 7 - Budget Committee
- 15 - [Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day](#)
- 16 - TPA Workshop
- 23 - OTIP Retirement Workshop
- 24 - Member Engagement Meeting - Amici's
- 30 - Fall General Meeting

November

- 8 - Executive Meeting
- 14 - New Member Welcome
- 20 - National Child Day
- 25 - 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence begins



ETFO Provincial

Professional Judgement and the IEP

Professional Judgement and the Individual Education Plan (IEP) discusses how and when to use professional judgement when writing IEPs, within the context of following required regulations, policies, and professional obligations. Login to the ETFO Secure [Professional Judgement Matters](#) page to find this and other documents related to your professional judgement.

PRS Matters: 50 - Annual Learning Plan (ALP) Advice to Members

The Annual Learning Plan (ALP) is a component of the Teacher Performance Appraisal (TPA) process for experienced teachers. The sample form is available on the Ministry [website](#). The form may have been adapted slightly within your particular school board. Read the full bulletin on the [ETFO secure PRS site](#). (sign-in required)

Home Fire Safety



One of the most common emergencies Canadians experience is a fire in their home. House fires can happen anywhere and anytime, but they're most common between December and March. Since Fire Prevention Week is October 6 to 12, it's the perfect time to learn how to protect your home and loved ones from the impacts of fire. A house fire can pose a severe threat in just a few minutes, which is why it's so important to be informed and prepared.

Read more at <https://bit.ly/3N4JLQ4>. #OTIPUpdate