

A Message from District 26

We hope all our members had a restful summer vacation. On behalf of District 26 Office and elected representatives, we would like to welcome everyone back and welcome all new members. All members are urged to visit the District website at <http://www.osstf26.com/> for important details on pay, related experience, group rating statements and benefits.

The Economics of Finance and Climate Change – A Curriculum Resource by OSSTF

OSSTF/FEESO has created a cross-curricular resource on the economics of finance and climate change from a social justice perspective that can be used in a number of subject areas based on Jim Stanford's book, *Economics for Everyone: A Short Guide to the Economics of Capitalism* (second edition). Jim Stanford is a Canadian economist and founder of the Progressive Economics Forum. He is currently an advisor to Canada's largest private sector union, Unifor. Stanford wrote *Economics for Everyone* in 2008, with a revised edition in 2015. Stanford understands that economics, far from being the sole domain of experts well-versed in complex models incomprehensible to most, is most essentially a social science. Drawing on chapters 16–22 of Stanford's book, the resource pulls Ministry curriculum expectations from a vast array of courses including Food and Nutrition, Construction Technology, the Sciences, Law, History, and of course, Business and Economics. It is designed to meet the various needs of a classroom teacher and provides stand-alone lessons and assignments as well as a unit plan within a course.

This resource is only available online on the OSSTF/FEESO provincial website. Members can also review a recent article posted on the OSSTF/FEESO Education Forum website on the development of the resource. There are also some links related to this resource: <http://www.osstf.on.ca/resource-centre/curricular-materials-and-classroom-resources/economics-for-everyone.aspx>
<http://economicsforeveryone.ca/>
<http://economicsforeveryone.ca/resources/>

Orange Shirt Day on September 30, 2018

OSSTF/FEESO recognizes September 30, 2018 as Orange Shirt Day and encourages all members to take part in observing this event. Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, which was first held in the spring of 2013. It grew out of an account by a former First Nations student who had her orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission and has evolved into an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools going on an annual basis. The end of September was selected as the date of recognition as it represented the time of year when First Nations, Métis and Inuit children were taken away from their homes to be placed in residential schools. This year, Orange Shirt Day falls on a Sunday. However, members are encouraged to show their support by arranging locally a day near September 30th that is suitable. On that day, members are encouraged to talk to fellow staff and students about the legacy of the residential school system, as well as how we can all work together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come. Members can order their own "Every Child Matters" orange shirt from the [Orange Shirt Day website](http://www.orangeshirtday.org) and access resources from <http://www.orangeshirtday.org>

September 25 is Franco-Ontarian Day

Franco-Ontarian Day is celebrated annually on September 25. OSSTF has approximately 5000 Franco-Ontarian members.

OSSTF Pension and Retirement Workshop

Within 5-10 years of retirement? Now is the time to start planning. OSSTF will only be offering ONE FREE workshop this school year on pension planning & retirement **Tuesday October 23 at 4:30pm** at the District Office. A light meal will be served. To register, email <mailto:office@d26.osstf.ca> as soon as possible. More information coming via email.

Calendar of Events
 "Useful Links" at www.osstf26.com

World Teachers' Day - Oct 5

World Teachers' Day, held annually on October 5th since 1994 - when it was created by UNESCO - celebrates teachers worldwide. Its aim is to mobilise support for teachers and to ensure that the needs of future generations will continue to be met by teachers. Visit <http://www.ctf-fce.ca/en/Pages/Events/WTDA.aspx>



International Day for the Eradication of Poverty – Oct 17

Make Poverty History National Day of Action is a campaign to demand that world leaders take meaningful action to end poverty now. For more info, visit <http://www.un.org/en/events/povertyday/>

Student Achievement Awards

This year, to coincide with OSSTF/FEESO's 100th Anniversary as an education union in Canada, our Student Achievement Awards theme is **"Ahead by a Century"**. Posters and information documents were delivered to each workplace to promote both the \$1,000 provincial prizes and this year's theme.

We are encouraging students, with the support of an OSSTF/FEESO member who has worked directly with them, to submit an original piece of writing, visual art or media based on this year's theme, **"Ahead by a Century"**.

Schools must submit their winning entries to local district offices no later than November 16, 2018. Provincial winners will be acknowledged and celebrated at our 100th Anniversary celebrations at the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Assembly (AMPA) in March 2019. Guidelines and entry forms for the Student Achievement Awards are available online at www.osstf.on.ca/studentachievementawards.

Quick Access for Workplace Violence Reporting Now Available!

When you experience or see workplace violence, do you know what to do? Check your local OSSTF website for general information about health and safety in the workplace, as well as reporting violence in the workplace, reporting workplace harassment, and your right to refuse unsafe work. For more information, go to www.osstf26.com and click on the Health and Safety tab at the top of the page.

OHCOW – Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers

The demands of our workplace are always increasing. As a result, OHCOW's aim is to protect workers and their communities from occupational disease, injuries and illnesses. They strive to address occupational hazards, to promote the social, mental and physical well-being of workers and their families. They work for you, the worker, to ensure that your workplace is healthy and safe. Many resources are available including resources for heat exposure in the workplace, ergonomics, air quality, noise awareness, workplace stress, and much more. For more information, go to <https://www.ohcow.on.ca/>

StressAssess Officially Launches

StressAssess is a free, evidence-based online survey tool designed to assist workplaces in identifying psychosocial hazards that can lead to stress and mental injury, providing suggestions and pathways to address them, and thus preventing harm. It is simple to use, fosters a team approach, and includes a Wizard to support preparation, implementation and subsequent problem solving. StressAssess is particularly timely given the recognition of Chronic Mental Stress as compensable in Ontario as of January 1, 2018. Plus, reducing stress and promoting Workplace Mental Health is good business on many levels. For more information visit www.stressassess.ca today. Inquiries or requests for additional support can be addressed to stressassess@ohcow.on.ca.



Mediation Services Resource Bank Vacancy

In order to ensure that all members are aware of the vacancy on the OSSTF/FEESO Mediation Services Resource Bank (MSRB) and have the opportunity to apply for the appointment, we encourage you to share the following information with your members. An advertisement about the vacancy and application procedure will be appearing in the September edition of Update. The Provincial Executive is seeking to fill one vacancy on the OSSTF/FEESO Mediation Services Resource Bank. **Duties:** Prepare and set the groundwork for mediation sessions as assigned; Travel to potentially every part of the province to perform mediations between members; Provide training in conflict resolution for members. **Requirements:** The MSRB meets two times per year (Fall and Spring) for up to 1½ days; MSRB members must be willing to engage in ongoing training; MSRB members must be able to secure release time (paid for by the provincial office) from their District and/or bargaining unit to attend meetings, perform mediations, and participate in training. **Qualifications:** An interest in and knowledge of addressing conflict using mediation, restorative practice, and/or alternative dispute resolution; Previous experience in successful conflict resolution at the workplace, bargaining unit, and/or district level would be beneficial. OSSTF/FEESO values the participation of members with different voices from lived experiences. We recognize that the selection of candidates for federation positions from members of equity seeking groups is an asset. Self-identification of membership in equity seeking group(s) is voluntary. If you choose to self-identify, please let us know any that apply to you: Woman; Racialized Person; LGBTQ2SI; FNMI (First Nations, Métis, Inuit); Person with a Disability; Francophone. The deadline for application is September 28, 2018. Interested candidates are to submit, via mail, email or fax: (1) a letter of application describing your interest and experience in mediation and conflict resolution; (2) a resume or curriculum vitae, and (3) a letter of reference from an elected/appointed OSSTF/FEESO District/Bargaining Unit Representative. Please direct submissions and inquiries to Randy Banderob, OSSTF/FEESO 60 Mobile Drive, ON, M4A 2P3; Fax: 416.751.7079; Email: randy.banderob@osstf.ca

How to Deal with Floods

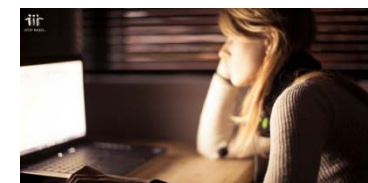
Floods are a common – and often costly – natural hazard in Ontario that can happen at any time of year. Overland water flooding can be caused by melting snow, ice jams, fresh-water hurricanes, breaking dams and heavy rainfall that over saturates the ground. Summer thunderstorms in particular can pose a major flood risk in Canada.



Overland water flooding can leave you and your family at risk for serious injury, and your property at risk for extensive damages. Below are some tips to help you and your loved ones stay safe and mitigate potential losses from overland water flooding before, during and after the flood occurs. To learn more, visit www.otipinsurance.com/article23

5 Reasons You Should Consider Unplugging

Between texts, emails, phone calls, calendar alerts and notifications from multiple social media platforms, being connected can seem like a full-time job. So much so that it's easy to forget that an off switch even exists.



It's a good idea to periodically re-evaluate your relationship with technology and consider making the choice to 'unplug' yourself from your devices more often. To learn more, visit www.otipinsurance.com/article24



As a member of OSSTF, you are also a member of Edvantage, a rewards program offered exclusively to Ontario's Education Community! Visit <http://www.edvantage.ca/>.

