



## E-Newsletters from President Amanda

December 8, 2023

### **Teacher/Occasional Teacher Tentative Central Agreement Town Hall Information Meetings:**

**On Monday, December 11**, ETFO will be holding two town hall information meetings to review the terms of the Teacher/Occasional Teacher Tentative Central Agreement and answer members' questions. The first town hall meeting takes place from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm EST. Grand Erie has been assigned the first call out time. If you are an OT with multiple Locals, you can view the call that they have been assigned to if you are unable to attend the 6:30-7:30pm slot. Teacher and occasional teacher (T/OT) members will have an opportunity to listen in on one of these meetings.

Each local has been assigned a town hall time slot. The times are listed at the bottom of this CB eNewsletter, or you can see them [here](#).

#### Connecting to Your Town Hall Meeting: By Telephone

A few minutes before the start of your town hall meeting, you will receive a phone call from ETFO inviting you to join. The phone number that will call you to join the town hall is 416-800-9227. This phone call will go to the telephone number on file with ETFO's Member Records Department as of noon on Friday, December 8, 2023.

If you miss the call, ETFO will leave a voicemail message providing you with a callback number and a confidential PIN to join the meeting.

To update your phone number with ETFO Member Records, please contact them at [memberrecords@etfo.org](mailto:memberrecords@etfo.org) no later than noon on Friday, December 8, 2023. You can also connect with Member Records by calling 1-888-838-3836, ext 3806.

#### Connecting to Your Town Hall Meeting: Online

At approximately 3:00 pm (EST) on Monday, December 11, members who have provided ETFO with their email address will receive a CB eNewsletter with a link (URL) to their allocated town hall meeting. This link will allow members to connect to their town hall online from a laptop or mobile device (cell phone, iPad, etc.).

This online link is being sent to ensure as many members as possible are able to

connect to the meeting if, for some reason, they do not receive a phone call inviting them to their town hall or are not able to connect by phone.

Because online connections tend to be more robust than telephone systems, ETFO strongly encourages as many members as possible to watch for the CB eNewsletter sent at approximately 3:00 pm on Monday, December 11 and use the information in that CB eNewsletter to connect to their town hall online (rather than by phone) a couple of minutes before the meeting starts.

### Town Hall Meetings: Frequently Asked Questions

If you have any questions about the town hall meeting, please review our town hall meeting [FAQs](#).

You can also contact ETFO Collective Bargaining Communications here if you have questions that are not addressed in the [FAQs](#).

### **T/OT Tentative Central Agreement Ratification Vote - Monday, December 11 to Friday, December 15**

At the conclusion of the telephone town hall meeting, the ratification vote for the 2022-2026 T/OT Tentative Central Agreement will begin. All members will be sent a link to the voting site by CB eNewsletter. The voting site link will also be available on the ETFO Collective Bargaining website. Voting will begin at approximately 9:00 p.m. (EST) on December 11 and will end at 8:00 p.m. (EST) on December 15. More information about the ratification process is available [here](#).

**\*Please ensure that you are available to participate in the Town Hall Call and please do not forget to vote on the Tentative Central Agreement.\***

### **IMPORTANT NOTE**

In order to participate in the tentative central agreement ratification vote, teacher and occasional teacher members must be active members.

Teacher and occasional teacher members who are unsure about their status (i.e., active/inactive) should contact Member Records by noon on Friday, December 8.

[December 5, 2023](#)

I hope that your week is going well, the countdown to Winter Break is on! We are hosting our Annual Seasonal Social tomorrow, December 6, 2023 at the Best Western Brantford Hotel and Conference Centre. The event starts at 4:30pm and will be filled with games and prizes as well as a buffet style dinner. I hope to see you there!

On Monday, December 11, 2023 we will be having our Town Hall call with the Provincial ETFO Collective Bargaining Team to discuss the Tentative Central Agreement. If you do not have your information up to date with the Provincial Office, please email [memberrecords@etfo.org](mailto:memberrecords@etfo.org).

We will be hosting a free skate at the Brant Sports Complex on January 3, 2024 from 10-11am. This skate is open to the public.

We also have two upcoming Professional Learning opportunities for you. The Flourish with French Workshop is being held on January 10, 2024 and will be Virtual. You can register [here](#) for Flourish with French. We will also be hosting an in-person Classroom Management Workshop on January 31, 2024 at the GEETF Office in the large room starting at 4:30pm.

### [November 22, 2023](#)

I hope that you have been having a good week thus far. I have a few reminders of upcoming events for you as well as information regarding some new events that have been planned for after Winter Break.

We are hosting a Zoom Check-In this evening, November 22, 2023 at 7:00pm. If you have a burning question or want to pop on and meet some of your Executive, you can register [here](#).

We also have two events coming up during the first week of December. On Wednesday, December 6, 2023, we will be hosting our Seasonal Social. This is not a business meeting but a social event for our Members. We will have some games and prizes followed by a buffet style dinner. This event will be held at the Best Western Brantford, Hotel and Conference Centre and will start at 4:30pm. Please register for this event [here](#).

On December 7, 2023, we are co-hosting a Pregnancy/Parental Leave Session at the GEETF Office with the Grand Erie Teacher and DECE Locals. If you are pregnant or planning on becoming pregnant, this session will answer most, if not all of your questions. Registration for this event will close on November 30, 2023. This session will be held at the GEETF Office at 49 Dalkeith Drive, Units 1 & 2 starting with dinner at 4:00pm followed by the information session from 4:30-6:00pm. You can register [here](#) for this event. If you are unable to attend this

session, we are also co-hosting a second Pregnancy/Parental Leave Session with the Hamilton-Wentworth Elementary Occasional Teacher Local on March 18, 2024. The second session will be held in Hamilton at the HWOTL Office. More information will follow closer to the event date.

Other upcoming dates to note in your calendar are January 3, 2024 for our Free Skate and January 10, 2024 for our first Professional Learning event of the year - "Flourish with French." I hope to see you out at our upcoming events!

### [November 10, 2023](#)

This week I have some reminders for you regarding upcoming events as well as a reminder to complete Workplace Violence/Incident Reporting Forms. Information on reporting will be at the end of this email.

We have several upcoming events including our Seasonal Social and a joint Pregnancy and Parental Leave Session. The first event will be our Zoom Check-In on November 22 at 7:00pm. This is a drop in style meeting for anyone who has questions or concerns to ask "in-person." To register for this event, click [here](#). We will also be hosting our Seasonal Social on December 6, 2023 at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Centre in Brantford. This is a social event and an opportunity to mingle and share a meal with other OTs from the Local. To register for the Seasonal Social, please click [here](#). We will be meeting starting at 4:30 with games and prizes. The third event is the Pregnancy and Parental Leave Session with the Teacher and DECE Locals. This event will be held at the GEETF Office. To view the flyer please click [here](#). If you are interested in attending, please register [here](#). I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event!

Workplace Violence/Incident Reporting Forms are critical when it comes to getting support for students and recording incidents. When you completed your Mandatory Annual Health and Safety training, you completed a section on how to report an incident. While I know that reporting can be time consuming, it is important to complete the reports whether you are a Daily OT in an assignment or on an LTO. These reports are viewed monthly by the Joint Health and Safety Committee Workers and as a team we flag incidents and present them to

Management to ensure that all available resources are in place. These reports aid in addressing the need for ongoing EA support in classrooms as well as Social Work, Behaviour Councillors and any other resources such as PPE are available to the classroom in need. If you have questions surrounding reporting, please reach out to the Local Office.

### [November 3, 2023](#)

**Happy Friday!** As the cold weather starts to set in, remember that our clocks go back an hour this weekend. While we do not have an in-person event scheduled for this month, we do have a Zoom Check-In scheduled for November 22 at 7:00pm. The Zoom Check-Ins are a drop-in style and you can pop on with any questions that you might have or just to meet your Executive and hear answers to questions that other Members pose. We will be hosting our Seasonal Social on December 6 at the Best Western Brantford Hotel and Conference Centre starting at 4:30pm. This is not a business meeting but a chance to get out and meet other OTs and win some prizes while enjoying the buffet style dinner. Please register [here](#).

Also, reminders that our [PL Survey](#) will be closing next week and that there are funds available for your own professional growth. You can access up to \$450 for professional learning per school year. You can find the PL Fund Guidelines [here](#) and the Form 1 application [here](#). If you are purchasing a professional resource, you could also qualify for up to \$35 per school year. Find out more [here](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Local Office by phone at 519-427-6993 or via [email](#).

### [October 10, 2023](#)

We will also be hosting our first General Meeting of the year. This meeting will be held at the Best Western, Brantford Hotel and Conference Centre on October 25, 2023. We will be sharing our Preliminary Submission for Local Bargaining as well as our Budget for the 2023/2024 year. A buffet style dinner will be provided. Our General Meetings start at 4:30pm and run until approximately 7:00 (including dinner). Please register [here](#) for this event. I hope to see you all there. Please bring any questions or concerns.

Our next Local Event will be the Seasonal Social which will be held on December 6, 2023 at the Best Western, Brantford Hotel and Conference Centre.

In November we will hold our first Zoom Check-In. The Zoom Check-Ins are a great opportunity to pop on with any questions or concerns and to meet with your Local Executive. Zoom Check-Ins will be held during months that we are not meeting in-person for a Local Meeting and will be open from 7-8pm. They are drop-ins and no registration is required.

Our PL Chair, Maryanne Goldsmith, has created a survey in order to develop a Professional Learning Plan for this year. Please complete the survey [here](#). I am looking forward to year filled with events both Professional and Social and I hope to see you out at these!

You can reach out to the Local Office with any questions or concerns at 519-427-6993 or via [email](#).

Stay Safe and Healthy,  
President Amanda

[September 30, 2023](#)

My apologies for a second email today. This email is the one that many of you have been waiting for! The Itinerant LTO posting is active.

There is also an opportunity to attend an event at the Rope Factory in Brantford with our Education Affiliates. Please see the flyer [here](#). This event will take place on Thursday, October 12, 2023.

As always, the Local Office is available for any questions or concerns that you might have by phone 519-427-6993 or via [email](#).

Stay Safe and Healthy,  
President Amanda

*"United we stand, divided we fall." Aesop*

[September 5, 2023](#)

Welcome to the 2023/2024 School Year! I hope that you had a restful summer and are excited to be back in the classroom this year!

We will be hosting the majority of our events in-person unless it becomes necessary for us to switch to a Virtual Format. I am looking forward to working with you this year and wanted to provide you with some important dates. While your Executive Members meet monthly (excluding February), we also have three Membership Meetings throughout the school year. These meetings are being hosted at the Best Western in Brantford and will be held on October 25, December 6 and May 22. While our December meeting is a Social, the October and May meetings will be business meetings including Local Elections in May. I hope to see you out at these events!

We will also be hosting various workshops and other Social (some Family & Friends) events throughout the school year. These meetings are great for bringing your questions and concerns forward to the Executive.

We will also host Zoom Check-Ins throughout the year. These dates have not yet been set but I will send them out once they have been finalized. The Check-Ins are open for an hour and are a great opportunity to drop-in and ask any burning questions.

As we are still in negotiations, Centrally, we will be holding a Central Strike Vote in the next month or so. Details will be sent out when they become available. Local Bargaining will commence this year and we will be hosting a Local Vote on our Preliminary Submission in order to start these Local negotiations. Please keep an eye on your emails in order to ensure that you are able to participate in these meetings as it is so important that all Members have a say in our negotiation process and this will be your opportunity to ask questions of your Local Bargaining Team.

Please check out last Wednesday's Trending, August 30, 2023. There is information on the Mandatory H&S Training that must be completed by October 15, 2023.

I hope that you have a great first week back at school. The Local Office can be reached by phone at 519-427-6993 or via [email](#).

Stay Safe and Healthy,  
President Amanda

*"United we Stand, divided we fall." Aesop*

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## ***A Message from OTIP***

Feeling refreshed for a new school year

Summer break is an excellent time to refresh yourself for the next school year. It's also an ideal time to align your goals, including those that support your health, wellness, and financial security. Let OTIP help you with that! Read more at [www.otip.com/article168](http://www.otip.com/article168).

#OTIPUpdate