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Supporting our Brothers and Sisters

Last Thursday I again had the opportunity to walk with members of OPSEU Local 415 at the Algonquin College Campus in Pembroke. It was the second time I walked with them and this time I was pleased to deliver a cheque on behalf of the members of District 28. They appreciated the contribution to their strike fund, but they really appreciate having people come out and walk with them.

To that end, I am inviting you to come out to the picket line on Tuesday, November 7th from 3:30-6:30 pm in a show of solidarity for our colleagues in education! Their picket line runs daily from 5:30 am to 7:30 pm and they are a small staff (roughly 50) so the increase in numbers would be great! Please feel free to bring your spouse/partner/children to rally around our striking brothers and sisters in OPSEU. Homemade signs, noise makers, whistles always make a great addition to any picket line :)

They are entering their fourth week of their strike and while talks resumed Thursday, there is no settlement as of yet. This strike is not about money. One of the major sticking points is part time professors facing precarious employment and being made to re-apply for their own jobs time and time again. There are also several no cost items that the College Employer Council simply won't agree to.

WSIB

This weekend I attended the OSSTF Health and Safety Conference and one of the workshops I attended was on WSIB. A few things that I took away from the workshop I felt needed to be shared. WSIB is insurance that employers (including RCDSB) pay into that can cover costs associated with sick leave and rehabilitation when workers are hurt or become sick at work. WSIB is a compromise, since workers can NOT sue their employers. It is important that members use WSIB where possible to preserve their own sick days as well as keeping the premium costs of Long Term Disability and Benefits usage for all members down. If you are hurt at work, you must seek medical attention as soon as possible. You must also get the appropriate forms completed. Contact me if you are unsure of what forms need to be completed or any other questions related to WSIB or any other forms.

"If the paperwork is not completed, it never happened!"

December 6th

I am not sure how all the schools in our Board are planning on commemorating the tragic events of December 6, 1989 in Montreal, but I hope there is a focus on making our world a better place. Many will wear white ribbons as a symbol of their commitment to ending violence against women. I would encourage you to check out the [White Ribbon Campaign website](#) for more information. I would also encourage you to watch the documentary "[A Better Man](#)" which will be airing on TV Ontario on Saturday, November 25th at 9

District 28 Update

- District 28's Electronic Newsletter

November 2017

pm. This film, sponsored in part by OSSTF, offers a fresh and nuanced look at the healing and revelation that can happen for everyone involved when men take responsibility for their abuse. Lesson plans are currently being developed to accompany this film for senior classes.

If you were not on the picket lines outside of a school in Ontario 20 years ago as part of the two-week political protest against Mike Harris and his attacks on public education – find someone who was, and pat them on the back. We are standing today on the shoulders of those who fought for our working conditions and student learning conditions. If you were out on the line with me – know that you ultimately made a difference in this province!

Last call for entries in the Student Achievement Awards. An original piece of writing, visual art or video based on this year's theme, "[What's YOUR Super Power?](#)", must be submitted to me no later than November 17, 2017.

Our friends at ETFO are selling 100 Ottawa Senators tickets at a group discounted rate versus the New York Rangers on Saturday, February 17th at 2 pm. The tickets are located in Sections 201, 202 and 203 for only \$88.50 which is a savings of more than \$22 per ticket. Please email allieryan@gmail.com to reserve your tickets. Payment can be made via cheque (payable to the Renfrew County Teachers' Local and sent to Allison Ryan c/o Highview), or via electronic money transfer to allieryan@gmail.com In solidarity! - Jeff



Winter Tires

Thinking about buying winter tires? Here's what you need to know.

Winter tires improve handling and overall traction in snowy, icy and slushy conditions and reduce the likelihood of collisions. They can even reduce braking distances by up to 25%! Their wider tread and softer rubber are designed to eject snow and ice and prevent skidding on the frozen roads.

When shopping for winter tires, here are a few things to remember:

- Check for a logo of a peaked mountain with a snowflake. This is how you differentiate winter tires from regular all-season tires.
- Consider the severity of weather in your area. If you get a lot of snow and ice, be sure to get tires that can handle those conditions.
- Purchase and install your winter tires in sets of four. Many retailers offer discounts for buying a set of four tires.
- Change your tires as soon as you need to. You can check how worn your tires are from the tread-wear indicators.
- Do not mix tires of different sizes or treads. This can create unsafe driving conditions.
- Check the air pressure on your tires frequently. Not only does this help with the overall safety of your vehicle, it also optimizes fuel efficiency!

It's also important to switch out your winter tires when the seasons change. Winter tires are not well suited to warmer weather conditions and they will wear much quicker. If you are diligent about changing your tires, they can last up to five years.

Contact OTIP today at 1-888-892-4935 to see if your policy qualifies for a winter tire discount.

Do you know a student
who could use an extra
\$1,500 for tuition?

They could
WIN
a bursary
from OTIP!

If you're insured with OTIP and you or one of your relatives (e.g. child, step-child, grandchild, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, sister, brother, spouse, etc.) will be a full- or part-time post-secondary student in the upcoming academic year, enter online for the chance to win a bursary from OTIP.

Twelve bursaries of \$1,500 each are awarded annually. The deadline to enter is June 15 each year.

Visit www.otip.com/bursary
for more information.

1.800.267.6847 | www.otip.com



OSSTF District 28 Renfrew is now
on Facebook – come and join our
group!

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