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New Provincial Benefits Enrolment

I am currently in Toronto at the annual OTIP Conference. The primary focus this year is the new Provincial Benefits programs that are being rolled out for school Board employees across Ontario. Over the course of the year 600,000 workers in over 200 plans will be moving to 4 plans! There will invariably be some bumps along this road, but OSSTF and OTIP are committed to making this as smooth a transition as possible for members.

You should be receiving a "Welcome Package" at your home address in the mail this week, which will include a ten step checklist for enrolment. Please read this package and the 10 step checklist carefully! Please ensure that our Board has your correct home address! I am also in the process of organizing a "town hall" phone meeting in the coming weeks with some experts from OTIP to answer some of the questions and concerns members may be having.

During the week of October 11th, you will be receiving an email sent to your Board email address, with enrolment instructions. The following week, I am hoping to have meetings at each high school to go through the process of enrolment together as a group, ideally in a computer lab.

I would advise you to start thinking about a few decisions you will need to make when you enroll. Are you going to be getting single or family coverage? What level of life insurance do you require and how much would it cost if you were

to buy it privately? Who is going to be your beneficiary?

I really try not to send items to your home email unless it is important. Expect to be getting more emails from me than normal over the next two months during this enrolment process. IT IS CRITICAL THAT MEMBERS ENROL PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 30TH! For more information on the enrolment process, including how-to videos and Frequently Asked Questions click:

<http://www.otip.com/loginhelp>

For more information on our new benefit plan click: <http://www.osstf.on.ca/services/member-login/members-login/osstf-benefits-plan-bulletin.aspx>

Professional Development Fund and Benevolent Fund

At our District 28, Annual General Meeting in May two funds were created to support members of our District.

Members will soon be able to apply to the CPAC Ed Services Committee for up to \$200 to cover the cost of taking a course for their own professional development related to their work, extra-curricular involvement or to attend an OSSTF-sponsored workshop or conference. Eligible expenses include the following (and must be according to the Provincial Guidelines, where applicable): registration fees; transportation and parking (mileage shall be at OSSTF District 28 rates); accommodations; meals; and dependent care. In their application, members must include the name and brief description of the course, workshop, or conference, and a list of anticipated expenses. Members will first pay their own

District 28 Update

- District 28's Electronic Newsletter

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expenses and then submit receipts for reimbursement.

Our AGM also established a local Benevolent Fund. The fund exists for the purpose of providing assistance to active members who find themselves in extreme financial need due to : (a) prolonged illness; (b) accident; or (c) extreme emergency. This assistance can be benevolent relief grants of up to \$1,000 in a Federation year. Please contact the District President for more information or application.

Retirement Workshop

We will be hosting the "OSSTF Retirement Workshop" at Fellowes High School in the Library Seminar room on Wednesday October 26th at 6:30 pm. If you have never attended a retirement workshop, you should go! It does not matter if you are not retiring anytime soon – you should go at least three times in your career: early, mid and late. Please let your Branch President know if you will be attending so that the correct number of packages can be ordered.

Orange Shirts Tomorrow

Please wear an orange shirt on Friday September 30th to remember the impact of the Residential Schools and the Every Child Matters campaign. <http://www.orangeshirtday.org/>

Educators Financial Group

I believe EFG is one of OSSTF's greatest benefits and I encourage you to check out their services at <https://educatorsfinancialgroup.ca/>. Book a meeting with our local Financial Advisor Darryl Martella [1.800.263.9541](tel:18002639541)
In Solidarity!
Jeff

INTRODUCING THE NEWLY REDESIGNED OTIP.COM WEBSITE!



Ontario Teachers Insurance Plan (OTIP) has made it even easier for members to access the insurance products and services offered exclusively to the Ontario education community.

Visit the newly redesigned www.otip.com today and discover the fresh new look and the mobile-friendly experience!

OTIP is a not-for-profit organization that provides insurance solutions including home, auto, life and retiree health plans to the Ontario education community.

Visit www.otip.com to learn more.



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OTIP is a proud
partner of Edvantage.

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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.



Auto | Home | Life | Retiree Benefits
INSURANCE

1.800.267.6847 | www.otip.com



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

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 613-585-2899

Email: osstf28@gmail.com

Website: under construction

Twitter: @osstfd28

Facebook: OSSTF District 28 Renfrew

