

It's Elementary

April 2024

ETFO Hastings-Prince Edward Teacher Local

Supports and Promotes the Professional and Personal Development and the well-being of its Members.
It does so in a Climate of Mutual Respect, Fairness, Equal Opportunity, Collegiality, Clarity of Process and Democracy.

General Business Session: In accordance with the Local Constitution, Article VIII, the Annual Meeting shall:

Approve
Amendments
to the
Constitution

Approve a
Draft Budget
for 2024-2025

Receive
Annual
Reports

Provide
Direction
for the
Local for
2024-2025

Undertake
New
Business

Election of:
President
1st Vice-President
2nd Vice-President
Treasurer

ETFO-HPE

LOCAL ANNUAL M·E·E·T·I·N·G

THE GRAND
70 Harder Drive, Belleville

April 23rd, 2024 | 5:00 P.M. START

— NORTHERN LOCATION: York River PS (Room 137) —

Article VIII, Constitution: "The Annual Meeting of the Local shall be held prior to May 1st each year"

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



Now that the 2022-2026 Collective Agreement has been ratified by both parties, both the Central and Local terms are now in effect. We are currently working with Human Resources on the creation of a new document which will incorporate all current language new language from this round, and the Central items. A printed copy of the 2022-2026 Collective Agreement will not be available

until after the salary arbitration process for this collective agreement has been completed (it is to begin this month).

Highlights of the new Local Agreement include:

- OCT fee deductions will be deducted equally over the first 2 pays in January
- Improved language for including OT experience for grid placement
- Changes in language for Acting VP's
- Clarification in travel expenses for teachers who teach between two schools
- Improved language for missed preparation time
- Improvement in staff meeting language
- Clarification in Report Card dates (not to be due on a PA Day)
- Changes in the maximum number of members on School Staffing Committees
- Improvement in days absent with pay; two family illness days can be used as personal days

- Right to Return language for teachers who were surplus to their school
- A change in the available FTE to .4, .5, .6, .7, .8, .9, and 1.0 for greater flexibility for members
- Ability to work from home on Assessment and Evaluation PA Days
- A commitment to scheduling preparation time subjects that is fair, equitable, and balances everyone's interests.

An update on the new Collective Agreement will be provided to stewards at the Stewards' Council meeting on April 23rd.

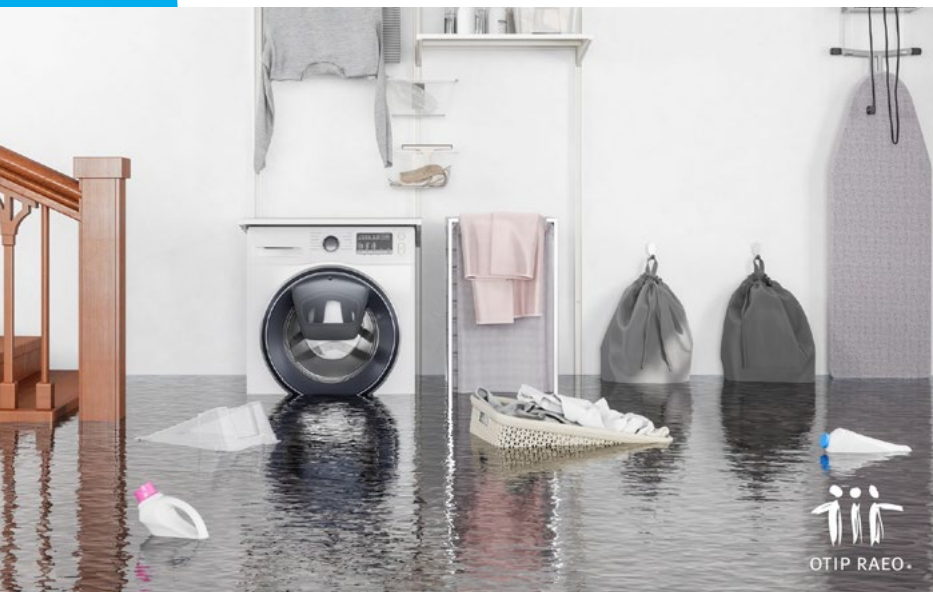
All members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting at *The Grand* on Tuesday, April 23rd at 5:00 p.m. There will be a satellite meeting at York River PS for members in the Bancroft area. This is an election year for the President, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer. Nominations are due by April 9th. Members will also be asked to approve constitutional changes and a draft budget for 2024-25.

The spring staffing process is about to get underway. If you are looking for a move, or if you find that you are surplus to your school, contact the Local Office at any time during the process.

Please join us at *The Grand* on Tuesday, June 11 for this year's Celebration Dinner and help us celebrate the end of the school year by recognizing our new teachers, 25-year teachers, and, most especially, our retiring members.

Sarah MacKay
ETFO-HPE President

Protect your home from basement flooding



After a cold winter, the springtime is a welcome change. But with the longer days and warmer weather comes new challenges. The potential for flooding increases as the snow melts and heavy rain falls. Canadians are experiencing more floods than ever before. According to the Government of Canada, flooding has increased 300% since the 1960s. But many homeowners haven't taken the proper steps to protect themselves or their properties. No matter what area you live in, flooding can happen to you. Don't wait for the water – take these proactive steps to minimize your risk of a flood damaging your home.

Read more at www.otip.com/article180.

#OTIPUpdate



STATUS OF WOMEN COMMITTEE

Chair: Shani Doucet, Prince of Wales

Spring is upon us and this time of year goes quickly. Thank you to everyone who participated in our Book Clubs and Period Product drive. We are looking forward to our "Unstuck" workshop and movie night coming up. We have some new ideas and events lined up for next year including a fall wellness day and Women's retreat. Keep your eyes open in the fall. If you are interested in joining this committee and help plan some fun events, please talk to Adrienne Deveau-Wachner, Danille Miller, Jane Scanlon-Price or myself. We would love to have you join us on the committee. Or you can send an email to statuschair.ettohp@gmail.com.



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMITTEE

Chair: Teresa Hadley, Stirling

In February, we hosted a wet felting workshop. Members created their own handmade wet felted play mat and other accessories for small world play. The book club we co-hosted with HPEDSB and author Laurie Faith focussed on her book, *Executive Function Skills in the Classroom* is wrapped up in March. In March we also hosted ReNEWal in the Arts and sign making with Andrea Bird. Watch for registration for upcoming workshops including *Inspire and Inquire*, a math make and take and a coding workshop. We will be hosting another meeting of the Professional Learning Committee soon. If you would like to be part of the committee or have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to Teresa Hadley at plchair.ettohp@gmail.com



EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Chair: Jamie Stevenson, Coe Hill School

The Equity and Social Justice Committee successfully hosted an in-person and virtual book club in February. Participants enjoyed reading and sharing their thoughts about Richard Wagamese's book *Embers*. For Black History Month, our committee posted a variety of profiles featuring influential African-Canadians who have had a positive impact on the labour movement here in what we now call Canada. These were featured on our ETFO-HP Facebook page if you would like to read them. Moving into the months of March and April, our committee will be finalizing ETFO-HP's new land acknowledgement, as well as working on a member feedback survey to gather information and input into planning for the 2024-2025 school year. We continue to welcome and encourage new members to join the Equity and Social Justice Committee, in particular member's in equity-seeking groups. Keep an eye on ETFO-HP's Facebook page for our next meeting later this month. All are welcome!



NEW MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Chair: Sherry Simms, Trent River

Happy Spring Everyone! I hope you enjoyed your report card writing Kit Kat bar that you received in February! There are a few ETFO activities coming up in the near future that I hope you take advantage of those. Keep looking at your school's ETFO board for the posters with more information.

Please reach out if you have questions or concerns.



POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Chair: Danielle Saunders, Queen Elizabeth

Your Political Action Committee is busy gathering information to bring to a meeting with Todd Smith. If you have a recount of violence in the classroom please forward it to pac.ettohp@gmail.com. Fact Fridays will continue in April as we look at clarifying some of Lecce's misleading comments. If you are interested in politics please reach out to Danielle Saunders.



SOCIAL AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Chair: Derek Watt, Trent River

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the events offered so far, including BSens hockey, public skating and sign making! If you haven't had the chance, we invite you to join us for a paint night, our 10th Wellness Day, bowling or to listen to the "Sound of Music!" Watch for the emails and Facebook posts, and we look forward to seeing you there!



HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chair: Stephanie Donaldson, Tyendinaga

Health & Safety - Do you know your rights?

Employers and supervisors have an obligation to take every reasonable precaution to protect workers. It is the law! Workers in Ontario are protected by the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* which gives them:

1. The **right to know** about health and safety hazards and their controls.
2. The **right to participate** in health and safety processes.
3. The **right to refuse work** that could affect their health and safety and that of others.

Find more information here → [Workers' Rights](#)

Axe Throwing Social

at Breakout Belleville



Felted Mat Workshop



Professional Learning Chair Teresa Hadley led members through the process of creating felted mats. It was fun and a workout! The mats turned out great and in part 2 members made figures and buildings to be used with it.



ETFO's SHATTER & HOUSE SOCIAL

February 10th



The ETFO-HPE Social Committee hosted an evening at the Belleville *Shatter House* on February 10th. Frustrations were definitely relieved with crowbars and bats! Everyone had a great time.

ETFO-HPE's Professional Learning Committee is excited to offer:

2 Hands-On Math Sessions

These sessions are open to teachers of all grades.

PART 1

Make & Take Math Workshop

Make and share hands-on math manipulatives and lessons.

May 1st, 2024

4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
at Federation House



PART 2

Coding Workshop

Part of ETFO's Presenters on the Road Series

May 8th, 2024

4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
at Stirling PS



Register for 1 or both sessions by April 19th:

<https://bit.ly/HandsOnMathHP>

Materials and refreshments will be available.

The ETFO-HPE Social & Wellness Committee Presents:



BOWLING NIGHT

5 pin & 10 pin Laser Bowling
for ETFO members, family, and guests

Sat. May 4th, 2024

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Quinte Bowl
17 Roy Blvd, Belleville

\$10
per person

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Wed., May 1st

<https://bit.ly/QuinteBowl2024>

Payment will be sent via e-transfer once registration is confirmed.

SIGN UP AS A TEAM OF 4 TO 6 (or individually)



WellnessDay

10th year

Family Fun for Members



SKATING

2:00–3:00 pm
(Wally Dever Arena)



GYM

2:00–5:00 pm



POOL

3:15–5:15 pm
(All 3 pools)

SATURDAY, APRIL 27th, 2024

Participate in One Activity or All

FREE for Members!

Just ask your School Steward or Branch President
for a 2024 Wellness Day Family Pass

ETFO Occasional Teachers, email Cynthia Riordon: cyndowneast@gmail.com

Cookie Decorating
2:00 – 5:00 pm

(Multipurpose Meeting Room)



At the
QUINTE
SPORTS & WELLNESS CENTRE

285 CANNIFTON RD., BELLEVILLE

Brought to you by: ETFO-HPE, HAPE-OTL, and OSSTF D29

ANNUAL ETFO HASTINGS-PRINCE EDWARD TEACHER LOCAL

Celebration²⁰₂₄

CELEBRATIONS FOR 25 YEAR MEMBERS,
NEW MEMBERS, AND RETIREES

Tuesday, June 11th

AT THE GRAND 70 HARDER DRIVE, BELLEVILLE

Social 6:00 pm

Dinner 6:30 pm

Tickets: \$25

Retiring Members attend as
guests of the Local



We hope to see you there!

PLEASE REPLY TO YOUR STEWARD BY MAY 27TH

ETFO Hastings-Prince Edward Teacher Local



The ETFO-HPE Status of Women Committee brings you:

Get Unstuck Workshop

Get Unstuck is a wellness workshop that empowers employees & creates positive work cultures. She is dedicated to helping women and educators reconnect with their power.



Lyne Frank

Presenter / ETFO
member from Halton

Lyne has presented at ETFO
provincial events including the
popular women's program
"And Still We Rise!"

TUESDAY,
APRIL 30TH, 2024

5:00 – 8:00 PM



FEDERATION HOUSE
114 VICTORIA AVE. BELLEVILLE

RSVP by: April 25th

<https://bit.ly/GetUnstuckHPE>

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO WOMEN MEMBERS OR MEMBERS WHO IDENTIFY AS WOMEN.

ETFO Hastings-Prince Edward Teacher Local

Classroom Sign Making 2024

Member Andrea Bird led members in a fun classroom sign making workshop on April 3 at Harmony Public School. This session was sponsored by the Professional Learning, Social and Wellness and New Member's Committees, with 3 new members joining us Nadine Adair, Jenna Cook and Stephanie Phinmore.



Brought to you by the ETFO-HPE Social & Wellness Committee

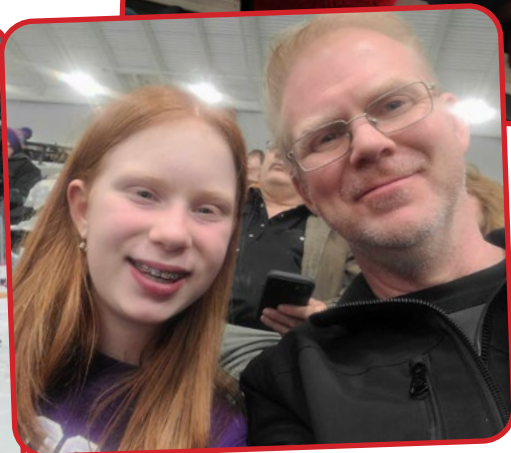
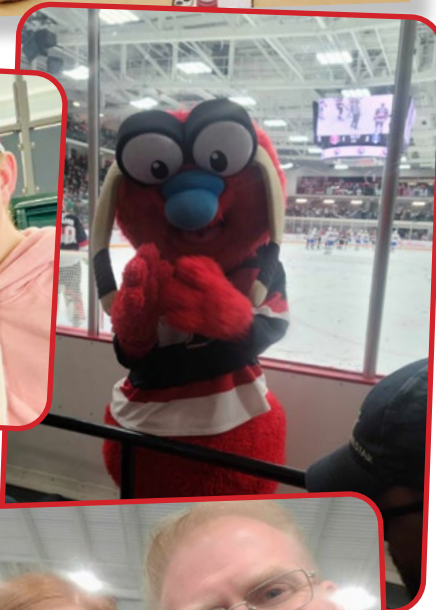


Saturday, March 23

The Social Committee hosted a great evening at the Belleville Sens and Laval Rocket, unfortunately a loss for the Sens, but a great night was had by the fans.



Sarah and Oliver Eady



Derek and Emma Watt

The ETFO-HPE Status of Women Committee brings you:

Period Products Drive

Period products, are one of the least donated items at food banks!



SCHOOLS WILL COLLECT PRODUCTS DONATED BY MEMBERS
AND BRING THEM TO THE NEXT STEWARD COUNCIL ON:

| APRIL 23RD, 2024 |

(TO BE DONATED TO THE LOCAL FOOD BANKS)

ETFO Hastings-Prince Edward Teacher Local



Congratulations To:

- **Melissa Hayse** (PCB) — baby girl
- **Noah Bishop** (Athol) — baby girl

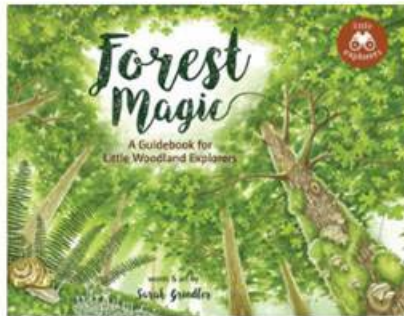


Our Sincere Condolences To:

- **Rachel Seaver** (Stirling) —
Loss of Step Father
- **Jodie Hannah** (Harmony) — Loss of Father
- **Jennifer Black** (Kente) — Loss of Father
- **Danielle Saunders** (QEB) —
Loss of Grandmother
- **Katrina Henshaw** (Deseronto) —
Loss of Father



Teresa Hadley's book review in "Voice"



FOREST MAGIC: A GUIDEBOOK FOR LITTLE WOODLAND EXPLORERS

By Sarah Grindler
Nimbus Publishing, 2021
32 pages, \$16.95



Reviewed by Teresa Hadley

Forest Magic: A Guidebook for Little Woodland Explorers is a beautiful book with rich illustrations that are full of magical details to entice a reader. From the very first page, author-illustrator Sarah Grindler draws the reader in with an image of a forest and the question, "What do you notice when you are walking in the forest?" She then invites readers to engage their senses as they investigate the forest's magic.

This nature guide for young learners showcases the diverse forest ecosystem and includes simple information about nurse logs, trees, birds and other creatures, as well as fungi, lichen, moss and wildflowers. Each page highlights plants and animals through illustrations, interesting facts, vocabulary and questions to encourage further curiosity.

Before closing the book with a question that prompts children to consider their next adventure in the forest, Grindler shares images of some things that are safe to touch and some things that are not. This is an important reminder to have conversations with children about safety and caring for ourselves and for nature.

I would recommend this book to anyone wishing to take their children outside to engage in nature inquiry as it encourages readers to look closely and explore all the magic that the forest has to offer. Our Kindergarten students loved the simple language, the beautiful illustrations and learning new vocabulary. We began by reading the first few pages, which were enough to spark curiosity and an adventure in search of nurse logs. We now keep the book in our outdoor backpack and continue to revisit it to further our exploration. This is aided by open-ended questions throughout the book such as, "If you planted a sapling today, would it grow faster than you?" and "What other creatures can you think of that might make their homes in the forest?"

Forest Magic would be a great addition to any Kindergarten class, and I can see it being supportive of inquiries related to the grades 1-3 life systems Science curriculum.

Teresa Hadley is a member of the Hastings Prince Edward Teacher Local.

ELEMENTARY TEACHERS' FEDERATION OF ONTARIO 45

ETFO Hastings-Prince Edward Teacher Local

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