



## OPSEU 330

### **Welcome Back OPSEU LOCAL 330 Members,**

I hope this message finds you well-rested, excited and ready for another school year. I am not sure where the time goes! The beautiful weather this summer made July feel like I had forever and lots of time to file, organize, write and be ready for the school year, but with the blink of an eye, August was here and gone before I was ready and had accomplished all I had planned. Hopefully you had lots of time relaxing, enjoying friends and family, and most importantly to take time for yourself

My apologies for not having this message out last week and before your first pay. It was a very busy start to the school year. You may have noticed a little more on your pay than the last pay in June. I am happy to say, we received our 1% pay increase from the 2017-2019 Contract Extension effective September 2018. We can also look forward to another 1% pay increase in February 2019. Yay!

### **OMERS**

I am looking forward to hosting OMERS One on One Sessions again this year. One in the fall and another in the spring. These sessions provide a good opportunity to meet one on one with an OMERS Rep to review, understand and discuss your pension. Please watch for registration information in the coming weeks and be sure to send in your registration to reserve one of the 20 spaces offered per session.

You will have received information from OMERS, over the summer regarding some significant changes and discussions regarding OMERS Pensions. They have had two conference calls and Webinars Tuesday and today. I was on the information call today. As local President and the Provincial Sector Chair, I assure you that I will be scheduling a meeting with our OPSEU Negotiator and OPSEU's Pension Department to discuss OPSEU's engagement, communication and action they have taken. You may have heard some information from CUPE employees as they have been provided some information from their union. This will also be an agenda item at our first Boards of Education, Sector meeting October 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. An update will follow.

### **Elections/General Membership Meeting**

I cannot believe it has almost been two years since being re-elected as your Local President. We are quickly approaching our next Executive Elections. OPSEU's Constitution requires local unions to conduct elections for Stewards and the Executive Positions every two years. It also requires that we host two General Membership Meetings a year. We will be scheduling our Election/General Membership Meeting for late October/Early November, at a location to be determined. We will be electing stewards to

represent our districts as well as members at large. We will also be electing your 2019-2020 Local Executive. If you wish to hold an Executive position, you need to be elected as a Steward first. A call will come out by the end of this month, as notice for all interested applicants to submit a candidacy biography, if they wish. Please watch for "SAVE THE DATE" information and save the date in your calendars, with a meeting invite and agenda, including location to follow. Looking forward to another great General Membership Meeting!

### **Negotiations/Demand Setting**

Feels like we are always getting ready to or are in negotiations. As our contract will expire August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019, we will be required to start the process of polling the membership for demand sets in the new year. We are looking forward to the implementation of the Central Demand Set and Negotiation Procedures. This will allow membership engagement and provide a thorough understanding of the process and the demands being negotiated. The lack of understanding has been identified as a concern from past rounds of negotiations. It is the goal of your new Sector Executive and your Local, to engage members during Central and Local negotiations. We will be working to survey members in the new year, and then present the collected demands gathered and ranked. As far as we know, contract negotiations will remain, as Central negotiations; dealing with the monetary items of wages, job security, vacation time, sick leave and benefits plan and Local negotiations dealing with specific collective agreement language with the SCDSB. Elections for the Local bargaining team will be held at our Election/GMM meeting in late October/early November.

### **Benefits-Benefit Trust**

After years of waiting for the Benefit Trust roll over, it has happened. Those entitled to benefits with the Benefit Trust, have been enrolled in the new plan. July and August months of benefits were pro-rated, with the new Benefit year beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. If you have specific questions regarding your benefits and entitlements please contact OTIP directly, if you hit road blocks, or have concerns please contact me at 705-739-7232 or [opseu330@bellnet.ca](mailto:opseu330@bellnet.ca). I have heard from a lot of upset members who understood that "every" full time permanent OPSEU member would be eligible for the mandatory benefit plan, and as I have shared before, I also understood that as being the case and have continued to address the issue with OCEW and OPSEU. Eligibility for the benefit trust will be a priority when it comes to the next round of Central Negotiations.

### **E-Mail Lists and Messages to the Membership**

It has come to my attention that members are attempting to contact me/the office by replying to the emails we send through our distribution list. Please note, when you receive emails from the Local, that the email address is not a contact email for correspondence and is meant for outgoing emails only. We have set it to prevent these emails from being replied-to therefore your email will not make its way to us.

**IMPORTANT** - If you are not on our email lists, please be sure to sign up, as we use our OPSEU email lists to communicate information, updates and events. Follow the instructions on the OPSEU330.com webpage to sign up by your job classification. If you have any problems doing so, contact the office with your desired list and email address. These email lists are distribution lists, and your addresses are not shared with anyone else, or used for anything beyond OPSEU 330 purposes. You must use a personal email address. We do not allow SCDSB emails to register for our emails.

### **OPSEU 330 Social Media**

OPSEU 330 has both Facebook and Twitter! Both social media accounts mirror information posted on our webpage (OPSEU330.com). We also use them to share articles and information that we feel are important for our members to be aware of. This may be important news related to education, political activity, OPSEU events and protests. Please like and follow us on both and stay informed!

As a new school year begins, it can bring questions and concerns. If you have any questions, concerns or issues relating to **anything** that you are unsure of or maybe doesn't sound right, please make your UNION the first point of contact. We like to know what is happening at our schools and want to ensure that our negotiated language is being adhered to and that you know and understand your Collective Agreement.

### **Sector 3- Boards of Education- T-Shirts**

If you took the time to complete the OPSEU Sector 3 Violence in the Workplace-Health and Safety Survey in the Spring you will be receiving your FREE T-Shirt in the mail. The shirts were mailed out to home addresses last week and should be arriving by end of this week. If you completed and do not receive a t-shirt by the beginning of next week please let me know so I can look into it.

Wishing you all a great start to the 2018-2019 school year!

*Kelly Martin*  
President

### **How to communicate with your Local**

Website: [www.opseu330.com](http://www.opseu330.com)

Like us on Facebook and Twitter: OPSEU Local 330

Call our local office - 705-739-7232 or email [opseu330@bellnet.ca](mailto:opseu330@bellnet.ca)

### **Local Executive Members**

President: Kelly Martin

Vice Presidents: Andrea Gordon and Sandra Cadeau

Secretary: Linda Parsons

Treasurer: Dan Taylor

Chief Steward: Jason Barker

Area Stewards: Bonnie Eddy, Siobhan Campbell, Valerie Fraser, Donna Caissie, Kris Kaiserling, and Bruce Askey