

# OPC

## Thames Valley

# Information Update

April, 2015

### **President's Remarks**

It's nice to finally look ahead to the 14 day weather forecast and see that we just might be on our way to spring. It truly has been a very long winter. In any case, as you know along with the spring weather comes our busiest time of the year as we enter staffing and all of our other year end responsibilities, including keeping on top of the day-to-day 'stuff' that allows us to ensure that our schools run efficiently and effectively. As your OPC representatives, we are proud of your work, professionalism and of your dedication to making our schools better places to learn.

On the provincial front you may be aware that seven boards across the province have been designated to participate in full strike action, which will likely begin later this month. It has been the lack of progress in local contract discussions that has resulted in the pending OSSTF job action. ETFO provincial has been relatively quiet thus far.

Locally, your OPC executive is working with our senior administration to organize our May 14 Principal / Senior Administration symposium. Please note that everyone is invited to join us for our social, dinner and general meeting that will follow. During our general meeting, we will be electing our new executive for the 2015-16 school year and recognizing our retirees and OPC scholarship recipients. Your presence and support at our general meetings are always appreciated. Furthermore, please consider running or nominating a colleague for one of our executive positions – the nomination form is attached to this update. Representing and serving your colleagues as part of an experienced, committed and competent team is both exciting and rewarding.

Thank you to those of you who have stepped forward to represent OPC on district-wide committees and initiatives. Your efforts and commitment are greatly appreciated. Our active involvement with many committees as well as the committee work your local executive shares with our senior administration, is evidence of the open and collegial relationship we have with each other and how our shared efforts continue to help strengthen our working relationship and move our system forward in solution based ways.

Feel free to contact any of our executive members if you have questions or if you would like to bring a topic forward.

Enjoy a wonderful spring and our upcoming Easter long weekend!

Jason Pratt  
President, Thames Valley OPC

### **OPC Assistance**

Members are reminded that, if at any time they find themselves in a situation where they have questions or feel the need for additional support, they are encourage to contact OPC either locally or provincially.

The local executive would be happy to provide advice or assistance up to and including supporting members in a difficult meeting situation where such support is requested.

Where the situation would be better handled by provincial representation your local executive will encourage members to seek that assistance while providing the support possible at the local level.

OPC both locally and provincially are there to support the members. Please do not hesitate to seek this assistance at any time.

### **OPC - Thames Valley Elections**

Members are reminded that we are now accepting nominations for the 2015 - 2016 OPC Thames Valley Executive.

Nomination materials and forms were sent to all members by e-mail, however if you have misplaced yours please contact Staff Officer, Ron Jones.

Nominations should be sent to Linda Carswell at the Education Centre.

The strength of the organization is in the willingness of the members to be involved.

Please consider standing for an executive position.

### **Member Involvement**

Appreciation is extended to the following members for representing OPC Thames Valley:

Interview Preparatory Workshop Committee – **Janet Lee, Susan Bruyns, Ron Duffy, Carol Edy, Cory Barlow, Nancy Tustin, Kerby Waud, Jody Campbell, Scott Purvis, Sharon McManus, Colin Milligan**

Labour Management Committee – **Katrin Gaur**

TVRA – **Mike Moore**

Working Conditions – **Paul Sydor, Paul Panayi**

Award of Distinction – **Jane Lashbrook-Sherman**

Environmental Committee – **Keith Baia**

Capital Planning Advisory Committee – **Paul Panayi, Murray MacDonald, Melanie Stanley**

Copyright Committee – **Jim Robertson**

### **Your Executive At Work**

Some of the issues that the executive has been dealing with recently include:

OPC Advocacy Program, Staffing, Terms & Conditions, Reg.274, Workload, Unfilled Occasional Positions, Professional Development

Jason Pratt

OPC President

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