

It's



May 2023

Elementary

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.

ANNUAL ETFO HASTINGS-PRINCE EDWARD TEACHER LOCAL

Celebration²⁰₂₃

CELEBRATIONS FOR 25 YEAR MEMBERS,
NEW MEMBERS, AND RETIREES

Tuesday, June 13th

AT THE GRAND 70 HARDER DRIVE, BELLEVILLE

You are cordially invited to be our guest!

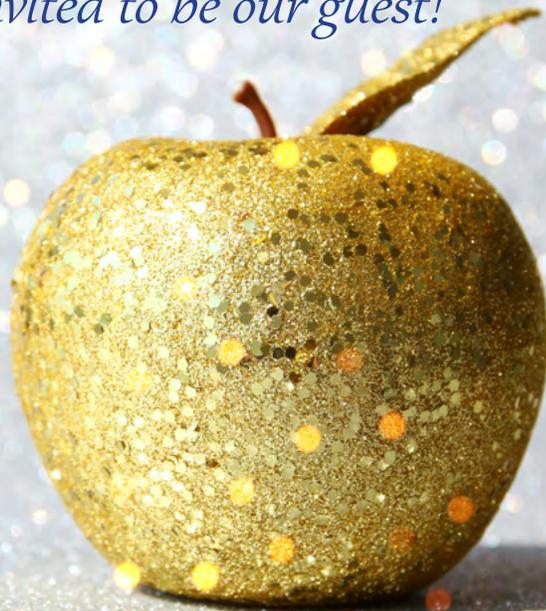
Social 6:00 pm

Dinner 6:30 pm

Followed by Presentations

Tickets: \$25

(to be paid at the door)



PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE WITH
YOUR STEWARD BY MAY 30TH, 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



Staffing

The Elementary Spring Staffing Process has begun. The Joint Staffing Committee met to review enrollment, special education staffing, and central coordinator roles. Unfortunately, due to fewer central roles, an increase in the number of teaching administrators, the number of retirements and leaves, and less transition time, 17 teachers were declared Surplus to the System. After a week-long delay, known school administration placements were announced on May 5. Teachers' "anticipated assignments" for 2023-2024 should have been known prior to May 19th, the revised first day of the 17-day process. Members are reminded that all Phase One, Two, and Mobility placements will be decided by the members of the Expanded Joint Staffing Committee (EJSC) with equal Board and Union representation. The members of the ETFO EJSC are Sarah MacKay, Jason Surgent, Jane Scanlan-Price, Justine Bucknell, and Amira Loney. If you are interested in a move, you might also want to investigate the possibility of a Teacher Exchange. Staffing details and timelines are posted on our Local website.

Central Bargaining Update

ETFO's Central Bargaining continues albeit slowly. On Tuesday, May 23, Provincial ETFO President Karen Brown addressed the Local Executive, Stewards and additional local members regarding central bargaining. Each steward will be holding, or may already have held, a meeting of ETFO members at their school to discuss the issues taking place at the central table that were discussed at this meeting. Further information about Central Bargaining can be found at etfocb.ca.

Local Bargaining Update

On April 13, 2023, the Local held a Preliminary Submission Presentation meeting followed by a ratification vote. The vote was 100% in favour of approving our Preliminary Submission. The Board was notified that we were ready to begin Local Negotiations on April 17. Our first bargaining date has been set for June 21, 2023.

Humanity Fund

ETFO's Humanity Fund assists national and international education projects of direct benefit to teachers and students. The \$20 deduction on the first pay of the school year has helped to support the Stephen Lewis Foundation and has funded projects throughout the world. The \$20 is tax deductible, but if you do not wish to contribute, you should complete the form in Part B on page 151 of the Collective Agreement and submit to HR prior to the processing of the first pay of the new school year.



the *Stephen Lewis*
FOUNDATION

20
Years

LTD

Under the terms of the LTD policy, if you have reached your 85 factor and have 30 or more years of credited service, you are no longer eligible for LTD. Please contact the Local office to enquire about discontinuing premiums.

Pay Periods for 2023-2024

After two years of 27 pay periods, we will be going back to 26 pays in 2023-2024. The first pay period of the 2023-2024 school year is September 8, 2023.

Bill 115 Remedy

It's hard to believe, but the Bill 115 Remedy payments have finally been made! If you were to get a payment and did not receive it, please contact the Local office.

Provincial Annual Meeting

ETFO's Annual Meeting will take place in Toronto from August 14-17. In addition to myself, your Local representatives will be Jason Surgent, Jane Scanlan-Price, Justine Bucknell, Amira Loney, and Danielle Saunders. ETFO is celebrating its 25th anniversary and it is also a Provincial Executive election year so we are looking forward to an eventful Annual Meeting!



Sarah MacKay
ETFO-HPE President



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 Club at The County Emporium. It was a fun filled evening of reconnecting and talking about the book. We had a fabulous Women in Stem collaboration with Loyalist on April 27 (see photos on page 8). We have some new ideas and events lined up for next year. Keep your eyes open in the fall. If you are interested in joining this committee and help plan some fun events, please send an email to statuschair.efohp@gmail.com.



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMITTEE

Chair: Lynn VanderWoude, Bird's Creek

The Professional Learning Committee is excited to offer members an opportunity to explore the story creation process using hands on invitations from the natural world in the workshop *Invitations to Create Stories* at Stirling Public School. The workshop will be lead by incoming chair Teresa Hadley. Please register by May 24 at <https://bit.ly/InvitationToWrite>. We are also planning many exciting learning opportunities for the 2023-24 school year. If you would like to join the committee please reach out to plchair.efohp@gmail.com.



EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Chair: Brooke Ray, York River

This month we hosted an equity focused book club at Prince of Wales Public School. We had great discussions about the novel *Daughters of the Deer*, by Danielle Daniel. If you have any suggestions or would like to join the Equity and Social Justice Committee please reach out to equitychair.efohp@gmail.com.



NEW MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Chair: Sherry Simms, Trent River

We are in the home stretch and you have almost made it! To celebrate your first year as a contract teacher, the New Members Committee hosted a social at the Beaufort Pub, Belleville on May 25th from 4:30 to 6:30. Members were able to gather and toast their first year as contract members. The committee looks forward to hosting more events in the new year to support our members.



POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Chair: Danielle Saunders, Queen Elizabeth

The political action committee wants to hear from you! We are asking all members to complete a survey that will allow us to collect information to share with our local MPP Todd Smith. Every member that completes the survey will be entered into a draw. Interested in politics? PAC is always looking for new members. Contact Danielle Saunders at pac.efohp@gmail.com.



SOCIAL AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Chair: Derek Watt, Trent River

It's hard to believe that another school year is almost at an end! Many thanks to everyone who has taken part in any of the various events and activities offered throughout the year. For our last "hurrah," we will be offering members the chance to purchase tickets at a reduced cost, to see a June 17th presentation of "The Addams Family Musical," at Pinnacle Playhouse in Belleville.

On behalf of my Committee: *Sarah Mackay, Jason Surgent, Jane Scanlan-Price, Jade Holloway, Diana Jardine, Lindsay Morey, Ashley Morton and Lynn Van der Woude*, I wish you a safe, relaxing summer and we'll see you in the Fall!



HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chair: Kim Isaak, York River

Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the ETFO HP executive as the Health & Safety Chair for the last 4 years. I encourage everyone to get involved in the local union.

WHAT EDUCATION MEMBERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW FIRST HOME SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Thinking about buying your first home? Good news. The new Tax-Free First Home Savings Account (FHSA), designed to help qualifying first-time home buyers save for their home, is here. So, how exactly does this new account work and how can education members leverage it to save for their first home?

Read on to learn more about the FHSA and why you should consider opening an FHSA, even if you're unsure about buying a home: <https://bit.ly/41YyS7T>. Brought to you by Educators Financial Group.



Congratulations To:

- **Sarah Noble** (PCB): Baby Boy
- **Susannah Duff** (Athol): Baby Girl
- **Brittany Gray** (SJAM): Baby Boy
- **Mekenzie Nix** (POW): Baby Boy
- **Joanna Shae** (QEB): Baby Boy
- **Laura Dolamore** (PCT): Baby Boy
- **Kaley Rushlow** (Tyendinaga): Baby Girl
- **Shauna Dunkley** (York River): Baby Boy
- **Anne Marie Christie-Sharpe** (Stirling): Baby Boy
- **Karli Jaques** (Harmony): Baby Boy
- **Catrina Gadway** (Coe Hill): Wedding

Our Sincere Condolences To:

- **Carla Moore** (Stirling): loss of father
- **Erin Sommerville** (Ed Centre): loss of grandmother
- **Marie Reid** (Stirling): loss of mother
- **Taylor Merritt** (Mass Red): loss of grandmother
- **Matt and Susan Charles** (Sophiasburg/Mass Red): loss of father/father-in-law
- **Glenda McComb** (Ed Centre): loss of mother-in-law
- **Jennifer O'Toole** (Bayside SS): loss of mother
- **Ashley Ridder** (SMES): loss of mother
- **Leonora Aucoin Satri** (Bayside SS): loss of mother
- **Nathan Lumsden** (PCT): loss of father
- **Nikki Binaris** (PCT): loss of mother

Introducing Starling Minds Mental Fitness

Personalized. Proactive. Confidential. Free.

Starling Minds is a digital program to help you better manage stress, anxiety, burnout and depression. Take simple steps to help you lead a healthier, happier life.

How to get started

- ☑ Go to member.starlingminds.com
- ☑ Enter your access code: **ETFOMEMBER**
- ☑ Enter your email address and create a password
- ☑ Enter your profile information
- ☑ Get started!

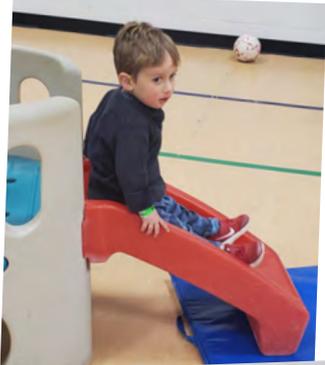
How your family can get started

- ☑ Family members 16 years or older can register
- ☑ Go to member.starlingminds.com
- ☑ Enter the access code: **ETFOFAMILY**

Learn more at [members.starlingminds.com](https://member.starlingminds.com)

"This program has already made me think more deeply about my thoughts and feelings and where they are coming from. It's allowed me to kind of work beyond a road block and move forward on my journey."

Learn more at member.starlingminds.com



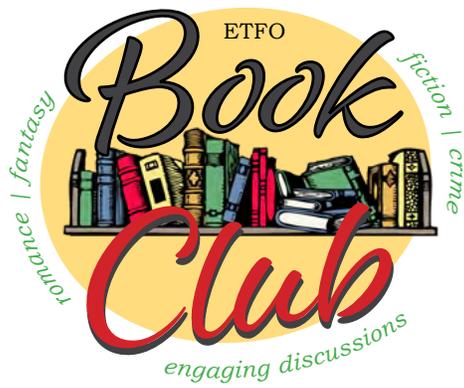
The Social and Wellness Committee, in partnership with OSSTF and HAPEOTL was so excited to host the return of Wellness Day at the Quinte Sports and Wellness Centre. We had open gym time, swimming and yoga available for members to enjoy. We had a great turnout with approximately 100 people able to take part. We look forward to next year's 10th anniversary of the event.



ETFO-HPE
Axe Throwing Social
 at Breakout Belleville
 Saturday, January 21st

Axe throwing!! What a way to relieve stress and have fun. We had a wonderful evening at Breakout Belleville.





On March 23rd, the Status of Women Committee hosted a very lively event at the County Emporium to discuss the novel, *The Spectacular*, by Zoe Whittall. The members discussed a wide range of themes and enjoyed delicious food provided by the County Emporium staff.



Inviting Students to Create Stories Inspired by Nature
 A Professional Learning Opportunity for Teachers

May 30 @ Stirling PS 5:00 to 8:00

STORY WORKSHOP
 New Possibilities for Young Writers

Register at <https://bit.ly/InvitationToCreateStories> by May 24



The Ontario Nurses' Association held pickets across Ontario on Feb. 23 to call for better staffing and better wages to ensure they can provide better hospital care to their patients.

The picket in North Hastings was attended by Local Executive members Kim Isaak and Jason Surgent.

Belleville Senators

The Social Committee was thrilled to offer 2 opportunities to support our local Belleville Senators against the Laval Rockets and the Toronto Marlies. As you can see from the smiles, everyone had a great time.



OTIP: RAEO

ALAVIDA

A LIFE SPEAK COMMUNITY

**Wish you didn't
need something to
help you unwind?**



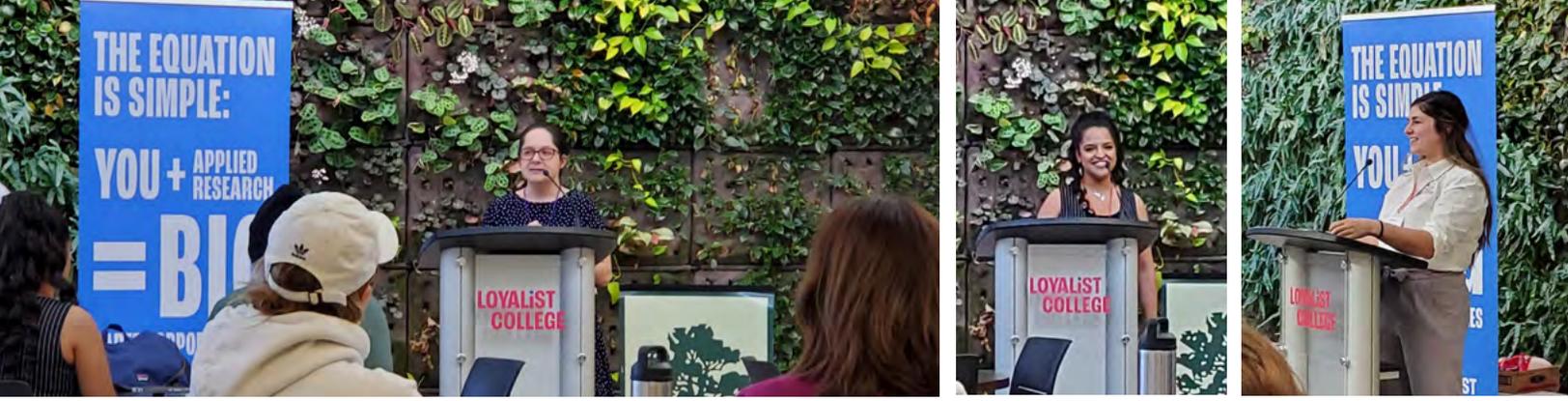
OTIP members have access to ALAVIDA, which offers evidence-based substance use support from the privacy of a device. Whether you're looking to gain control over alcohol or substance use for the first time, have been trying to quit for years, or want to be proactive about your health, ALAVIDA is tailored to your needs. No awkward conversations, no shame and 100% confidential. Also available to family members over the age of majority.

The ALAVIDA TRAIL is a secure app where you can track your journey and access self-guided resources available 24/7 including:

- ✔ Substance use awareness self-assessments
- ✔ Self-tracking tools and daily notifications
- ✔ Progress and health outcome reporting
- ✔ Personalized learning plan with iCBT modules (Internet-based Cognitive Behavioural Therapy)

Learn more at try.alavida.com/otip

Questions? Call (1) 888.315.3634



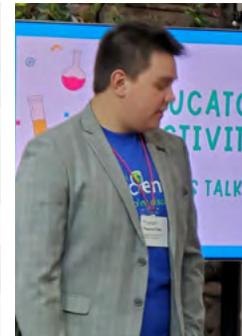
The Status of Women Committee was very excited to be partnering with Loyalist College to bring a **Science and STEM** event to the Local that focused on engaging women and girls. The event was hosted by Let's Talk Science and Loyalist College in the Link Lounge at Loyalist College. The evening began with guest speaker Alexandra Griffith, lead chemist at Cheekbone Beauty. This was followed by presentations by Ainsley Latour and Mahadeo Sukhai from Idea-STEM. Let's Talk Science, then lead the group through a variety of hands-on activities. The event was wrapped by guest speaker Natasha Matthieu, Water Source Protection Lead at Quinte Conservation.



For more information on any of our presenters go to the following.
<https://www.cheekbonebeauty.com/>
<https://www.quinteconservation.ca/en/index.aspx>
<https://idea-stem.ca/>
<https://letstalkscience.ca/>
<https://loyalistcollege.com/>



LOYALIST COLLEGE Applied Research & Innovation Office



ETFO Hastings-Prince Edward Teacher Local

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Affiliated with the
 Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario



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www.etfohp.on.ca