



E.T.F.O. Etc.

Editor:
Maria Bouwmeester

President's Message By: Barb Blasutti



It seems like only yesterday that I began my role as President and welcomed the new school year. Now it's December and you've already survived an entire term and report cards! Parent interviews, and of course Christmas

Assemblies are just around the corner. Upon the completion of so many stressful and time-consuming responsibilities, I'm sure that everyone will be looking forward to a well deserved holiday! Make sure you take time over the next few weeks to reflect upon all you've accomplished this term - Rainbow students are indeed fortunate to have such dedicated and devoted teachers!

Our new Collective Agreement has brought about many improvements, one of the more notable ones being the Assessment and Reporting Day. This PA Day, designated for the purpose of assessment, evaluation and completion of report cards took place on November 27th. Next year, two (2) PA Days will be designated for this purpose. New Collective Agreements can also bring on new challenges, since implementation of change does not always go smoothly. Thanks to the vigilance of stewards and members we have been able to deal with difficulties quickly. One problem that remains

outstanding, however, is the issue of preparation time. As you may be aware, a grievance has been filed by the Local in respect to preparation time entitlements. Members wishing to learn more about this issue are encouraged to speak to their Steward.

Your Local Executive has been busy setting goals and planning activities for the year. Make sure you check out the "Upcoming Events" section on page 2 to see what's currently being offered. If you have any suggestions for other events, or are interested in sitting on a committee this year, please contact the Local office.

School visits have begun and many more are being scheduled. School visits are an ideal way for me to keep in touch with members and address your concerns. We also have General Membership meetings, which provide an opportunity for the Local to share information with members and to give voice to your questions/concerns. I look forward to seeing you at some time this year. In the meantime, if I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to call -my door is always open.

Barb

What's Inside:

-President's Message	1
-Where Are We?	
-Highlights from your CA	
-ETFO Summer Academy	2
-Upcoming Events	
-New Rainbow Executive	
-The Wellness Window	3
-Donations	
-Professional Resources	
-FAQ's	4
-FYI	
-website address	



Where Are We?

1351-E Kelly Lake Rd
Unit 6
Sudbury, Ontario
P3E 5P5

Highlights from our new CA!

CA = Collective Agreement

Did you know?

- **Article 16.06** in our CA guarantees all members 210 minutes of preparation time per 5 day cycle during the 2009-2010 academic year.

Did you know?

- There have been changes to the **personal leave** clause in our CA. (**Article 9.08**)





Summer Academy held at the local ETFO office in late August was appreciated by all participants.

Teachers Across Province Attend Summer Academy in Rainbow

At the end of August ETFO Rainbow, in partnership with ETFO Provincial, held a Summer Academy at the local office. Teresa Kingston delivered the 3 day workshop on 'Finding The Right Combination To Combined Grades In the Primary Division'. Participants from across the province examined 'big ideas' between grades and across subjects. Helpful hints on how to engage learners through the use of effective instructional strategies, centre-based activities, and incorporating energizers to keep the students motivated were shared. Some of the comments made by the participants were; "I learned so much about combining grades! Thanks, Thanks, Thanks!" "Wow what a great 'hands on' practical workshop. So worth taking the time just before school. I've got great ideas to put into practice right away!"

Upcoming Events

1. ETFO Family Christmas Party

Saturday, December 5th, 2009



Information can be found on our website: www.etforainbow.on.ca

2. Imagine a World that is

Free From Fear

January 21st, 2010



3. Classroom Assessment

—3 part session

January, February & March



Classroom Assessment That Works
2009/2010

Your new executive 2009—2011



Released officers

President—Barb Blasutti 1st Vice—Maria Bouwmeester

Other Executive Officers

2nd Vice—Liana Holm

Secretary—Heather Kokko

Treasurer—Sara Pidgen

Espanola Rep.—Edith Presseau

Island Rep.—Lara Pennie

—Pat Christopher

—Diane Fortin-Lapointe

—Gloria Kowch

—Tanja Schaeffer

—Arynn Frantz

—Cindy Plint

The Wellness Window

CAREpath

If you or one of your colleagues is living with cancer this important benefit can help. People living with cancer who are comfortable with their current care can still benefit from CAREpath when they or their families:

- feel wait times for tests or treatments are too long
- feel appointments are often short or rushed
- are unsure which questions to ask or have difficulty remembering the answers
- want to know what to expect each step of the way
- want to understand all the options for tests or treatments
- feel overwhelmed

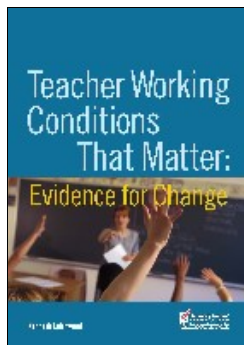
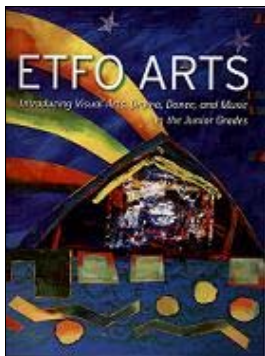
Call 1-800-290-5106 now if you, your spouse, or your dependant child has recently been diagnosed with cancer. They CAN help!

To access CAREpath services you must be covered under OTIP's LTD policy.

*Participation in the LTD plan is a condition of employment for Rainbow teachers, except for those who opted out prior to Januray 1, 1998 with the predecessor boards.

Food for Thought
-
Perspective is what keeps you balanced.
-

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES



Come and check out these and other resources at our local office and/or purchase them from www.shopetfo.etfo.ca



ETFO Rainbow Local supports Local 6500 Steelworkers.

Other Donations

Throughout the year your executive officers (on your behalf) pass motions to donate funds to various organizations. Since September donations have been made to: Canadian Hearing Society; Kiwanis; Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary and Local 6500 Steelworkers.

In October your executive passed a motion to make a donation to the striking Steelworkers. An additional motion was passed to ask stewards to 'pass the hat' at their worksites to try and generate more funds. A huge thank you goes out to the stewards and our members. It is through your generosity that we were able to double the donation made to Local 6500 Steelworkers at our General Meeting on October 21st, 2009. Thank you!

F.Y.I.

50/50 draws are held at all ETFO Rainbow steward and general meetings to generate funds to pay for the grand prize of a supply teacher for a day. You can win this prize by attending 2 general meetings and having your ETFO Grand Prize Draw card stamped.

Last year's 50/50 draws generated enough funds to pay for a full day release and an additional half day release. Last year's grand prize winner was Jenny Lavigne and the half day was won by Sue Young.

Most of us end up with no more than five or six people who remember us. Teachers have thousands of people who remember them for the rest of their lives.

-Andrew A. Rooney

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS :

Question: When can I cancel my LTD coverage?

Answer: You may qualify to cancel your long term disability (LTD) insurance if you meet one of the following criteria.

- A) You will retire within the next 12 months (your letter of retirement will be required as proof)
- B) You will qualify for a 66% unreduced service pension, or
- C) You will attain your 65th birthday

Question: How do I cancel my LTD coverage?

Answer: You must fill out an ETFO Rainbow Application for Termination of LTD Coverage form and attach a copy of your most recent Teachers' Pension Plan Statement or your letter of retirement.

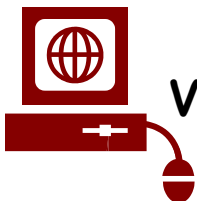
*****See your steward for this form*****



We want to hear from YOU!

If you have any questions and/or concerns please call us at the office and/or e-mail us. We are always interested in knowing what is happening at your school and/or worksite.

Interested in learning more about your local union—come out to our next general meeting on Wednesday, February 10th, 2010 in Sudbury or Thursday, February 18th, 2010 on the Island. Don't forget your Grand Prize Draw card!



Visit our local website at www.etforainbow.on.ca