

## Equity Update since November 2023

OSSTF/FEESO is deeply committed to equity, anti-racism and anti-oppression work so that our Federation, workplaces, and communities are equitable, inclusive, and accessible spaces. The Federation continues to be engaged in several activities as per the Action Plan to Support Equity, Anti-Racism, and Anti-Oppression. A few of the completed and ongoing actions are found below.

- Every February, OSSTF/FEESO celebrates Black History Month, an important opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the contributions of Black Canadians.

In February 2024, the Federation will launch a section under the [‘Member News’](#) webpage of the provincial website that will highlight resources and information that can assist Members with learning about Black history in Ontario and Canada. OSSTF/FEESO social media platforms will amplify the resources and information throughout the year.

- In January 2024, The Canadian Teachers’ Federation (CTF/FCE) sought an education consultant with experience preparing classroom resources and developing lesson plans for their [International Decade for People of African Descent](#). Teachers who identify as members of the African diaspora were invited to apply for this contract position (January 2024 to April 2024). This opportunity was shared with OSSTF/FEESO members through an *Update News* email.
- OSSTF/FEESO provided a sponsorship contribution to [Harmony Movement](#) for their upcoming in-person [Educator’s Anti-Racism Conference](#) on February 21, 2024 (9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.- Old Mill Inn) Members interested in attending should confirm with their Bargaining Unit President if they are eligible for time release to attend.

This conference will:

- Outline the impacts of racism on Black, Indigenous, and other racialized student mental health and wellbeing.
  - Educate attendees on how to establish inclusive teaching practices in their classroom and improve the well-being of the school community.
  - Create a space for attendees to engage in cross-cultural dialogue to foster solidarity across diverse communities.
- Provincial funding is available through accounts [#2016 \(Anti-Racism and Equity Training for Members\)](#) and [#2018 \(Anti-Racism and Equity Training\)](#). Districts and Bargaining Units are encouraged to submit an application.

- The Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) International Women's Day (IWD) Pin Project has supported women's organizations across Ontario as they rise, resist, and organize for equity across the province. OSSTF/FEESO will again be supporting this project and encourages all Districts and Bargaining Units to support this worthwhile project. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

Save the date: [IWD Toronto March](#) - Saturday, March 2  
Event details coming soon.

- The Status of Women Committee will host their regionals for District Status of Women Officers during April 2024. A D/BU Memo with registration instructions will be issued in the upcoming month.
- The sixty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women will take place in-person at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from March 11 to 16, 2024. OSSTF/FEESO invited three women Members to participate, by application, as part of the CLC delegation to the 68th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68). Preference was given to Members of First Nations, Métis, Inuit and equity-seeking groups.
- The Human Rights Committee will host their triennial conference from Friday, April 19 to Saturday, April 20, 2024. The Addressing Anti-Black Racism/Racism Committee along with a variety of other workshop presenters, facilitators, and panelists will participate in this event. More details to follow.