



September 1, 2024

A message from OSSTF/FEESO President Karen Littlewood

Welcome to the **Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation**/La Fédération des enseignantes-enseignants des écoles secondaires de l'Ontario, also known as **OSSTF/FEESO**!

I encourage you to become active and involved in your union.

Your career choice reflects your deep commitment to Ontario's vital system of publicly funded education. But this system can be so much better! From kindergarten to post-secondary, Ontario's publicly funded education system has been shortchanged for years. The result has been larger classes, fewer supports for students, and a growing shortage of teachers and education workers at every level. Working collectively, we can ensure that Ontario continues to provide a world-class, robust, fully-funded, public education system that values the diversity of students and OSSTF/FEESO members.

In advance of the next provincial election, we must work together through our union to call on every political party in Ontario to make a strong commitment to re-invest in students, re-invest in schools, and re-invest in public education.

Your involvement in your union can help bring about meaningful change in the lives of your coworkers, your students, and their families.

Founded in 1919, OSSTF/FEESO represents more than 60,000 anglophone and francophone education workers and teachers in more than 150 Bargaining Units across Ontario in public and Catholic schools, including members who work in the university sector and in independent education programs. Our union is allied provincially with other unions through the [Ontario Federation of Labour](#) and [Ontario Teachers' Federation](#), nationally through the [Canadian Labour Congress](#) and [Canadian Teachers' Federation](#), and internationally through [Education International](#).

Our motto is "Let us not take thought for our separate interests but let us help one another" and our slogan is "protecting and enhancing public education." These words serve as our guideposts, signaling our united commitment to bettering the lives of all the students we serve and, in turn, bettering the future of our province. We are a strong, diverse union with the knowledge and power to advocate for the professional concerns of our members while protecting the rights of members in their workplaces.

The collective expertise and resources of our union are focused on helping our members achieve their personal and professional goals; while helping students succeed in strong, well-funded publicly-funded educational institutions. We have established pensions, benefits, and advocated for improved working conditions for our members, and we play a leading role in defending equitable access to high quality education in Canada and around the world.





Take a moment to [register an account](#) on the OSSTF/FEESO Website to get updates and access your personal portal for information, documents and members-only surveys. You will find [New Member Information](#) on the OSSTF/FEESO Website, and member support is only a click away.

Register now: <https://www.osstf.on.ca/en-CA/services/member-login/Registration>

You are now part of a united team that includes your co-workers, your local union representatives at the Bargaining Unit and District levels, and your Federation team at the Provincial Office. Together we set goals for our union, actively pursue workplace protections and enhancements, and strive to represent the very best in publicly funded education.

OSSTF/FEESO is also committed to dismantling anti-Black racism, anti-Indigeneity, and other forms of racism, discrimination, and oppression within our workplaces, our communities, and our union. Our diversity is our strength, and it must be celebrated, centered, and valued.

Your union provides you with a variety of personal and professional opportunities. Likewise, you have access to a broad range of services and resources such as collective bargaining, political action, professional growth, equity advocacy, labour solidarity, mediation, benefits support, and pension information. These services are here for your benefit. If you need assistance, do not hesitate to contact your local Bargaining Unit.

To stay active and engaged, follow your union on social media:

[Facebook/Meta](#) @osstfnews

[X/Twitter](#) @osstf

[Instagram](#) @osstf_feeso

[YouTube](#) @OSSTF/FEESO

And sign up for your union news:

[Website](#): OSSTF.on.ca

[Magazine](#): Education Forum

[E-Newsletter](#): OSSTF Update

The strength of our union – and our publicly funded education system – depends on you.

I hope to meet you and work together for a brighter future.

Until then, I wish you an inspiring, safe, and empowering year.

In solidarity,

Karen Littlewood, President



Protecting and Enhancing Public Education
Protéger et faire avancer l'éducation publique

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