

TSU Weekly Wrap Up – October 11, 2019

By Pete McKay-TSU 1st VP

Crisis Averted! – That seemed to be the sentiment on Sunday night/Monday morning after CUPE reached a tentative agreement with the government. What that means for teachers in our bargaining remains to be seen.

Daily Occasional Teachers –OTs experienced disruption to begin the week as the Board cancelled all previously assigned jobs for Monday, despite the suggestions of TSU not to do so. Many were reassigned to other jobs but some did not receive an assignment, losing out on a previously scheduled day's pay. This also caused disruption for many classes as permanent teachers had requested specific OTs and tailored lesson plans to them. An email was sent out on Monday requesting feedback from OTs regarding the situation. Please check your TSU emails for information on this. TSU is in the process of preparing grievances for those adversely affected by the Board's actions, in an attempt to recover any lost wages.

Association Reps – Sunday saw the opening of the annual Reps In-service, held at the Kingbridge Conference Centre. Reps and Assistant Reps participated in a number of sessions intended to assist them as leaders in their schools, and expand their knowledge of processes and procedures associated with TSU. It was also an excellent networking opportunity, allowing Reps to gain insights and share methods of handling issues in their school from each other. They had the chance not only to interact with members of the TSU Executive but also Executive and Staff from OECTA. A huge thank you to all who attended for giving up your Sunday and Monday in service to your colleagues.

Jt. Committees – The Jt. Committees are getting into full swing preparing for and meeting with the Board. This week saw Medical Physical, Safe Schools, Technology, and Health and Safety joint committees in action.

Release Officers – As well as the committee busyness in the office, the release officers found themselves engaged in quite a number of facilitation, mediation and return to work/ accommodation meetings this week. Add to this grievances and numerous calls on a variety of issues and it was both a full and satisfying week looking after the needs of the members. Please call the office on any issue you have questions about...that's why we're here.

Budget and Finance Committee – The Committee put in a long night reviewing budget requests this week in preparation for the upcoming Budget General Meeting on October 22. Everyone is encouraged to participate and provide input on how your money is spent for you this year.

Upcoming Events – Be sure to check your TSU emails for notices about upcoming events. October 16 is the always popular Maternity and Parental Workshop.