

OCTU Newsletter

September 2009

Our first membership meeting will be held at the District 21 Office (1423 Upper Ottawa St. – Units 2&3) on Thursday September 24 at 5pm sharp.

All are welcome!



Dear Members:

Welcome Back! I hope you had a terrific summer and took a well deserved vacation. Challenges will continue with issues such as increased workload, staffing inadequacies, new computer programs etc., impacting on our work environment and the stress level in our lives. There is one thing I would like to remind members as we start off our 2009-2010 school year, the most common breach of our collective agreement is members who work additional hours without compensation. We cannot address workload issues if the work has been done by our members during their own personal time. So please, if you work outside regular hours be sure to take the lieu time or fill in a time sheet for monetary compensation.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like clarification on issues pertaining to the OCTU bargaining unit, please do not hesitate to call me at (905) 574-8285 or e-mail me from your home at osstf21octu@quickelc.net. It is most important that we stay informed and communicate effectively with each other. Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to working with you again this year.

Mary Lou Matteucci
President

Seniority List

A new seniority list will be published by the Human Resources Department showing changes up to and including September 30, 2009. A copy of the new seniority list will be available at all work sites by October 1, 2009 for your perusal. Please check the list to ensure that your personal information is accurate. If there is a discrepancy please call or email Susan Reid at 905-527-5092 Ext. 2239

District 21 Website

The website is an excellent communication tool and I will continue to post items of interest on a regular basis. Currently, you can find a copy of our Collective Agreement, the most current newsletter, benefit information and other items of interest. www.district21.ca



Scholarship Awards

The recipient for the Dorothy Collingwood Scholarship Award this year at Hill Park (June 2009 Graduation) was Hannah Turnbull.

The winner for the Phillip Cheng award at Orchard Park was Brandon Sarbdial. We wish them all the best in future endeavours.

Workshops and Training

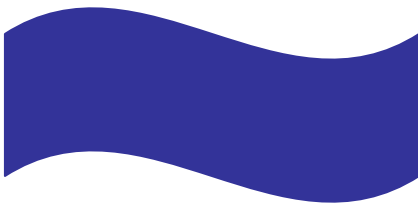
The District and Provincial Office will be offering training workshops for members at different times throughout the year.

I encourage you to take advantage of the various workshops.

You will be notified of the workshops being offered through e-mail or the newsletters as they become available.

OMERS Workshop

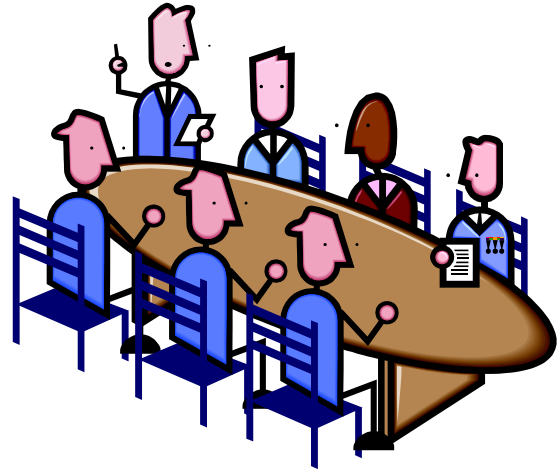
We will be hosting an OMERS Workshop on Tuesday November 24, 2009 at the District 21 Office. Wait until you receive the flyer to register as this is a joint workshop with all the District Support Staff Units.



Overtime

A reminder to all members that any overtime worked must be pre-approved by your immediate supervisor and all overtime must be reported on time sheets regardless of whether it will be taken in lieu time off or paid overtime.

Committees



We are looking for members to participate in committee work. Your Branch Reps and Executive are always very involved in union activities and committee work. While they do enjoy being involved in union activities and sharing information, their time is also precious and they need your help. We would like to get more members involved in committee work.

Committee work is less time consuming than that of a Branch Rep. Some committees are ad hoc and meet infrequently, i.e., The Health and Safety Committee will meet 4 times in the school year for approximately 1 hour. Some committees are during Board time. Your contributions, suggestions and concerns on these committees are always informative and well received. Currently, we are looking for members to sit on the following committees

- Workload Committee – *First Meeting Tuesday October 6, 5:00 p.m. District 21 Office*
- Hamilton District Labour Council Meetings – *3rd Thursday of Every Month – Steelworkers Hall, Barton Street*
- Health and Safety Committee – *First Meeting Monday October 26, 2009 5:00 p.m District 21 Office*
- Human Rights Committee
- Status of Women Committee

Please contact me if you are interested in any of the above committees or would like more information (905) 574-8285.