

Bare Essentials: November 27, 2018



Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
Niagara Teacher Local



ETFO Niagara Local, 2601 Highway #20, R.R. #1 Fonthill, ON, Units 5 & 6, L0S 1E6
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Petition to Reverse The Repeal of the 2015 H&PE Curriculum

On September 4th, 2018, the first day of the new school year, ETFO announced legal action against the Ontario government regarding its repeal of the 2015 Health and Physical Education Curriculum and its anonymous parent 'snitch line.' The repeal was an unprecedented and unnecessary attack on kids and professional educators. When the government declared that the Health and Physical Education Curriculum would revert to an older edition, key topics were removed. Students need and deserve modern-day information and answers to their questions. In effect, the government has acted to take educators, and their students, backwards.

In order to send a message to Doug Ford and the Ontario PC government that the repeal of the curriculum will have adverse effects on the students we teach, ETFO Provincial is asking for your support by signing a petition to cancel the repeal of the 2015 Health and Physical Education Curriculum. You will receive a petition in your staff room shortly. If you could support this important initiative, it would be greatly appreciated.

ETFO Niagara Seeking Standing Committee Members

ETFO Niagara has several standing committees that plan programs and activities to serve our local membership. Below is a list of the local standing committees along with the elected committee chair:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>
Professional Development	Sarah Gohm
Public Relations	Stephanie Sims
Political Action	Lindsay Brennan
Equity and Social Justice	Jim Brigham
Status of Women	Sharon Ethier
Social	Kristy VanSoelen

Members are also needed for Constitutional Committees:

o Resolutions Committee - to help examine, review and create motions that Niagara delegates would like to bring to the floor of the Annual Meeting

If you are interested in serving on either a standing committee or a constitutional committee, please contact Brian Barker at vp1@etfoniagara.ca

Upcoming ETFO Niagara Workshops

ETFO Niagara strives to provide a variety of workshops to assist in supporting our members. Below is a list of upcoming workshops:

- **Pregnancy/Parental Leave Workshop – Thurs., January 10, 2019** – Are you a first time parent, or need a brush up on the processes involved with a pregnancy/parental leave? This workshop is designed to give the important details before the birth of your little one. Register at <https://etfoniagarapregparental1819.eventbrite.ca/>

Retirement Information Session – Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Are you in the last 5 years of your career and thinking about retiring? ETFO Niagara will be holding a workshop for those interested members to provide them with information to help guide them through this important life decision. [The workshop will take place on Wednesday, January 30, 2019, at Amici's Banquet Centre,, beginning at 4:30PM.](#) This workshop will be about the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, as well as benefits that are available to retirees through OTIP. There will also be a presentation that talk about the specifics and procedures that are required to retire from the Board. To register for the event, sign up at <http://www.otip.com/events>. Look for a poster that will arrive shortly at your school via the courier.

Pop Goes The World! ETFO Pop Culture Trivia Night

It's that time of year again! [On Friday, February 22, 2019, ETFO Niagara will be hosting its 12th Annual Pop Culture Trivia Night.](#) It will take place at Amici's in Thorold. The cost of the event is \$180 for a table of up to 10, with an early bird rate of \$160/table for registering prior to December 21, 2018. All proceeds from the night will be donated to the Kristen French Child Advocacy Centre in St. Catharines. To register, please send the registration form and a cheque payable to ETFO Niagara through the school courier. For additional information, please look for the poster to arrive shortly in your staffroom. If you have any questions about the event, please contact Brian Barker (vp1@etfoniagara.ca).

Recognizing the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

[December 6 is the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada.](#) Established in 1991 by the Parliament of Canada, this day marks the anniversary of the murders in 1989 of 14 young women at l'École Polytechnique de Montréal. They died because they were women. As well as commemorating the 14 young women whose lives ended in an act of gender-based violence that shocked the nation, December 6 represents an opportunity for Canadians to reflect on the phenomenon of violence against women in our society. It is also an opportunity to consider the women and girls for whom violence is a daily reality, and to remember those who have died as a result of gender-based violence. And finally, it is a day on which communities can consider concrete actions to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls. Use this day as a teachable moment, to raise awareness of this important issue

Health & Safety Corner: Reporting Accidents and Critical Injuries

The District School Board of Niagara must comply with the regulations respecting reporting of an accident or incident made under the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act and the Occupational Health and Safety Act. Incident/accident reporting procedures must be followed in the event of an incident or an accident.

If it is a minor accident or illness:

1. Do not ignore any accident.
2. Provide any immediate assistance that is appropriate in the circumstances.
3. Take the person in need of first aid to the location of a First Aid kit and request additional assistance

from someone with first aid training if needed.

4. Advise the Principal/ Supervisor of the incident.

What Is A Critical Injury and What Should You Do?:

A critical injury is an injury of a serious nature that: places life in jeopardy; produces unconsciousness; results in substantial loss of blood; involves the fracture of a leg or arm, but not a finger or toe; involves the amputation of a leg, arm, hand, or foot but not a finger or toe; consists of burns to a major portion of the body; or causes the loss of sight in an eye. In the event of a critical injury:

1. Send someone or call for additional help. Do not leave the victim alone.
2. Provide any immediate assistance that is appropriate in the circumstances.
3. Advise the Principal/ Supervisor of the incident.
4. Advise the helper to request that someone with first aid training come to the scene, and retrieve the master First Aid kit from the closest area.
5. Make the victim as comfortable as possible until help arrives.
6. DO NOT DISTURB the scene until there has been an investigation by both the Joint Workers' Health and Safety Committee and the Ministry of Labour

SOME CRUCIAL THINGS TO REMEMBER IN ANY EVENT:

1. Ensure that you have completed the Incident/First Aid Report, even if there is no healthcare or lost time. This also includes exposure to biological contaminants such as blood borne pathogens through a needle stick injury, or exposure to saliva (e.g. a student spits on you).
2. Before you hand in your paperwork, please fax (905-892-9733) or email a copy to the ETFO office

A Healthy O-TIP: How To Safe Guard Your Home Against Break-Ins

From our friends at OTIP:

As the holiday season approaches so does an increased risk for home burglary.¹ While holiday shoppers hide presents in their homes, and homeowners leave town to celebrate the season with family and friends, home burglars are left with prime opportunities for break-ins and theft. While there's no way to guarantee your home won't be the target of an attempted break-in, there are some actions that you can take to help defend your home against burglars.

To learn more, visit www.otipinsurance.com/article27

Save The Date

December 2, 2018 - Children's Holiday Winter Festravaganza
January 10, 2019 - Pregnancy/Parental Leave Workshop
January 30, 2019 - Retirement Workshop
February 22, 2019 - ETFO Pop Culture Trivia Night
April 26, 2019 - ETFO Niagara Silent Auction
June 7, 2019 - ETFO Niagara Retirement Dinner