

The Call Out



Volume 14, Issue 5

May 2016

Election Issue 2016

May 2016 is election time for our bargaining unit, The Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit (OTB) of District 12 OSSTF, City of Toronto. Once every two years, Occasional Teachers are given the opportunity to elect the Executive which will lead them through the next two years (2016-2018).

In this issue, the candidates running for Executive positions may, in brief present themselves and some of their ideas to you, the members for consideration. This issue also will contain information about how and when the vote will take place and how each member can participate in the vote .



Our electoral system has been structured with two main principles in mind. Firstly that every member will have a ballot and an opportunity to vote. Given the somewhat nomadic nature of our work and our membership, it is important that everyone be given the opportunity to cast a ballot. It is believed that our electoral system does that.

Your vote is your voice - Let it be heard

The second important principle is that every elector's vote shall be private and free. Using the mail out, double blind system guarantees that every member who votes shall be anonymous and that the system should be tamper proof.

All that remains is for each member to return their ballot, or vote in person when such an opportunity is provided. Our union can only remain strong, if people take the time to read the campaign statements enclosed in this newsletter, come to the Annual General Meeting to hear candidates speak and make an informed choice of candidates to lead the bargaining unit. Only then can we continue to move forward with confidence that our leadership has been chosen democratically, and with the assurance that a majority of the membership has placed their trust in the elected executive leaders to speak and act on our behalf for the next two years.



OTBU D12

AGM May 25, 2016

An opportunity to hear election speeches and vote on your union business.

Kick off at 4:30

pm Steelworker's Hall

25 Cecil Street (east of Spadina, just north of Dundas St.)

Enjoy a great dinner at 7:00 pm followed by a superb band—**Thelonious Hank!**

Free parking behind the hall—or get off the Spadina car at Nassau Street.

EXECUTIVE CANDIDATES FOR THE 2016 – 2018 TERM

PRESIDENT



**RE-ELECT
LINDA BARTRAM
PRESIDENT**

EXPERIENCE: OTBU President for the past 6 years, former Vice-President and Executive Officer. Member of the Collective Bargaining Committee, District 12 Executive Committee, D12 Constitution Committee, OSSTF Provincial Councillor, Secondary OT Consultation and Staffing Committee, Editorial Board of *The Call Out*.

DEDICATION: During my 10 years on the OTBU Executive, I have met, talked to and advocated for hundreds of OTBU members. I have worked hard to improve OT working conditions and resolve member issues with the TDSB.

COMMITMENT: I am proud of my proven record of success in fighting for members' rights at the Board and at the school level. I am proud to represent you as your President. I will continue to fight on your behalf to improve your working conditions at the TDSB and at the negotiations table. I ask for your continued support for me and my excellent, experienced Executive Team.

VOTE FOR PROVEN, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP



For Jobs and Dignity Elect Janine Carter – President

Janine served as an Executive Officer, and on OSSTF Provincial Council. She was an OTBU Health and Safety rep. Janine teaches Mathematics and Science, worked as a tutorial assistant at several universities, and as a substitute teacher at the TDSB for the past 16 years. Once we had the best collective agreement **The 'cap' was surrendered without a fight. We need to establish a job security system based on a capped dispatch list reduced to 1000 names.** We once were the most active, democratic OT bargaining unit in Canada. This can be true again if we stop secrecy and repression. Rescind the 10 Year Ban on union founder Barry Weisleder. Hold more frequent and accessible meetings. Elect negotiators. For a democratic OTBU.

I've been involved in OSSTF in various Districts since 1999 standing up for OTs as Executive Member, PD Committee, CBC, Secretary, and Vice President. I'm proud to have been to 6 AMPAs, including representing you D12 OTs three times. You, the D12 members have asked me to run for OTBU President so I can give a voice to your issues. I've seen the diversity of TDSB, the need for OTs to know their rights and have an advocate for their concerns in the schools, board wide and provincially. I'm here for you sharing information, and supporting you. Empower me to be your voice. Visit my website <http://lauradrexler.wix.com/d12exec> Tell me what issues you want someone to stand up for. lauradrexler@hotmail.com Vote for someone experienced who wants to be involved to make a difference. Vote Laura Drexler for OTBU President



FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

For Jobs and Dignity! Elect Peterr Wilson - 1st Vice President

Peterr has been teaching for thirty-six years. He was a Bargaining Unit president, a chief negotiator for several OSSTF districts, a district treasurer, and served on the provincial collective bargaining committee. Peterr was elected as a delegate and did represent you at AMPA 2016. Members deserve fair and equal work opportunities and improved benefits. We need some control of the dispatch list, such as a Cap, to help ensure a **fair distribution of jobs** to all members. Hold more frequent and accessible meetings.

Members deserve fair and **equal work opportunities**. **Bullying by students** must be addressed.



RE-ELECT VINCENT
ZAMBRANO
1ST VICE PRESIDENT

EXPERIENCE: As OTBU Vice-President, Chief Negotiator, Chair of the Collective Bargaining Committee and member of the Constitution and Steering Committee I have served the members for the past 8 years. As a life-long member of OSSTF I have been a District Executive Officer, served on the District Constitution and Steering Committees, as Chair of the District 12 Professional Development Committee, and I have represented the members as an AMPA Delegate for over two decades.

DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT: Working with the OTBU Executive, on behalf of all members of the Bargaining Unit, we have made tremendous progress. In these demanding times for teachers and education, we have an experienced, trustworthy and proven Executive that is best prepared to meet the challenge. My commitment in the past, as in the future, will be to serve and represent the members and continue to make progress in ameliorating the working conditions for the diverse membership that is the hallmark of the OTBU.

VOTE FOR PROVEN, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT



RE-ELECT
PAUL BOCKING
2nd VICE PRESIDENT

EXPERIENCE: Current OTBU Executive Officer, Negotiations Team & Collective Bargaining Committee, AMPA Delegate, Six Years LTO and daily experience, District Political Action Committee, Toronto District Labour Council Delegate, Ontario Federation of Labour Delegate, District Human Rights Committee, Provincial OSSTF Political Action Committee, Former Branch President.

OUR CONTEXT: As Occasional Teachers, we face challenges relating to the distribution of work, including LTOs, as well as discipline issues and the protection of our labour rights at the TDSB. As education workers, we are confronted by the new two tiered central/local bargaining structure, making broader solidarity more important than ever in the face of a provincial government driven by austerity.

COMMITMENT: My goals are to build greater unity among our membership, with a focus on supporting newer OTs and helping connect them with the union. I am pleased to support the candidacy of Michael Fraschetti, a passionate, energetic new teacher for Executive Officer. With central bargaining now determining our pay and benefits, I would also like to assist in working with OT bargaining units across Ontario to ensure we are well represented in the next round of provincial negotiations.

VOTE FOR PROVEN, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP



For Jobs and Dignity

Elect Satvinder Saini - 2nd Vice President

Satvinder teaches Science, Family Studies and ESL, and is a veteran substitute teacher working in both the secondary and elementary panels of the Toronto District School Board.

Members deserve fair and equal work opportunities and improved benefits. We need a Cap on the OT dispatch list, paid professional development, and an end to bullying by students. Rescind the 10 Year Ban on union founder Barry Weisleder. Elect negotiators. For a democratic OTBU.

TREASURER



**RE-ELECT SHAK AHAD
TREASURER**

EXPERIENCE: 12 years of business and financial experience, 8 years as your elected Treasurer and AMPA delegate. 3 years as Health and Safety Officer, 2.5 years in Member Representation. Member of the Collective Bargaining Committee, Joint Health & Safety Committee, Budget Committee and Newsletter Editorial Board. I've acted on your behalf on the D12 Finance Committee and D12 Health and Safety Committee.

DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT: Our clear, complete and accurate finances are endorsed by the OSSTF Provincial Auditor and Chief Financial Officer. We've maintained a 0% increase in our levy for over 8 years. We've created a separate strike fund, a first in our history. I know what it takes to run this organization efficiently, effectively and responsibly. I enjoy meeting with you and listening to your concerns when I'm teaching in the schools. I've been fortunate to have represented you in response meetings with school administrators. I want to continue to use my years of financial and union experience to serve and represent you to the best of my ability. We must stay strong and united in these uncertain times..

VOTE FOR PROVEN, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP



For Jobs and Dignity

Elect Igor Turjansky - Treasurer

A substitute teacher for 21 years, Igor is qualified in art, science and chemistry. An active member of OSSTF, he worked previously in the building trades as a member of the Labourers' International Union. Igor sings in the Bandura Capella choir in the Ukrainian community. Members deserve complete financial statements, with full transparency and accountability. Which executive officers are being paid, and how much? Why waste thousands of dollars on private meeting halls when any school auditorium or OSSTF site is free? Our huge reserve fund can support better service for members, without the 'special levy'.

SECRETARY

MAUREEN MALMUD



**RE-ELECT LILLIAN
SPEEDIE
SECRETARY**

ENERGY: Currently serving as the OTBU Secretary, 2 years as OTBU Executive Officer, 15 years as an Occasional Teacher with the TDSB, 13 years previous union experience. OTBU Collective Bargaining Committee, OSSTF Leadership Conference. Experience with contract maintenance, workload and scheduling, grievance and arbitration, member representation and contract negotiations.

ENTHUSIASM: I know what issues affect Occasional Teachers and I have the knowledge and experience to advocate for policies which will benefit us in our daily working lives. I intend to continue as an Occasional Teacher in the TDSB for the next decade at least. I have made the commitment to work for the Bargaining Unit over the long haul, and have made positive changes to the way we do day to day business at the office that will benefit our union and members into the future.

EXCELLENCE: My experience in the union movement over the past many years is a testament to my willingness work for the occasional teachers of the D12 OTBU. Vote for someone willing to work for you.

VOTE FOR PROVEN, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP

EXECUTIVE OFFICER (4 TO BE ELECTED)



RE-ELECT
COLERIDGE M. BROWNE
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

EXPERIENCE: Taught for 48 years. Worked with a diverse student body and staff at Central Technical School. Background in Tech education. Represented members as Branch President and Councilor at CTS.

DEDICATION: Member of District Political Action and Antiracism Committees. Member of OTBU Executive (12 years). Member of the Constitution, Steering and the Collective Bargaining Committee. Bargaining Unit's Education. Health and Safety Representative and Inspector.

COMMITMENT: Continue to provide the best possible service to members calling the OTBU office for assistance. Continue to be a productive and cooperative member of the OTBU Executive team. Continue to provide and ensure a safe, equitable work environment for Occasional Teachers. Continue to work on strong Collective Bargaining positions which will enhance the economic status and working lives of all Occasional teachers in District 12. I ask for your support.

VOTE FOR PROVEN, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP



RE-ELECT
ANN BURKE
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

EXPERIENCE: 6 years as 2nd. VP, member of the Negotiations Team, and Editorial Board of *The Call Out*, Member protection, Secondary Consultation Committee and Calendar Committee, PD organizer and OTBU event planning.

DEDICATION: Continue with outreach to new members and member engagement through social and learning opportunities. Creative problem solving and getting the job done.

COMMITMENT: Commitment, to the membership and willing to serve you to the best of my abilities. If you need member protection, 'Burke's got your back'. I have worked in solidarity with Paul Bocking for six years and strongly endorse his candidacy for 2nd. VP.

VOTE FOR PROVEN, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP



Elect Janine Carter – drop down candidate for Executive Officer

Janine served as an Executive Officer, and on OSSTF Provincial Council. She was a Health and Safety rep and a regular newsletter contributor. Janine teaches Mathematics and Science, worked as a tutorial assistant at several universities for 6 years, and as a substitute teacher at the TDSB for the past 14 years. We once had the best collective agreement and the most active, democratic OT bargaining unit in Canada. This can be true again if we reject secrecy and repression. Restore democracy to the OTBU.

I've been involved in OSSTF in various Districts since 1999 standing up for OTs as Executive Member, PD Committee, CBC, Secretary, and Vice President. I'm proud to have been to 6 AMPAs, including representing you D12 OTs three times. You, the D12 members have asked me to run for OTBU President so I can give a voice to your issues. I've seen the diversity of TDSB, the need for OTs to know their rights and have an advocate for their concerns in the schools, board wide and provincially. I'm here for you sharing information, and supporting you. Empower me to be your voice. Visit my website

<http://lauradrexler.wix.com/d12exec> Tell me what issues you want someone to stand up for. lauradrexler@hotmail.com Vote for someone experienced who wants to be involved to make a difference.





ELECT
MICHAEL FRASCETTI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

EXPERIENCE: Current member of both the Employment Equity Committee and Race/Ethnicity Labour Management committee for CUPE 3903 (York University Teaching Assistants).

DEDICATION: I will do my best to help inform current and new members about the nuances that are not always clear regarding their rights as an Occasional Teacher. I intend to reach out and appeal to members in our Bargaining Unit that would normally not see themselves associating with union actions and activities in an attempt to help strengthen our ranks.

COMMITMENT: I am proud to associate myself with the current Executive because I am inspired by their dedication and savviness in making sure the OTBU not only runs smoothly, but also in how they assist in making our employer accountable in its actions. I hope to replicate the passion that the current executive exudes in their quest for social justice and worker's rights.

VOTE FOR PROVEN, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP



**Elect Ian Johnston –
Executive Officer**

Ian taught Science and Physical Education full-time for 34 years at the TDSB and is now a substitute teacher. He served on the D12 political action committee and was a delegate to AMPA at least four times. Ian would like to see a more transparent, democratic and participatory union. The OTBU can be strong, democratic, and united again. Many members need more work, union support, and paid professional development.



RE-ELECT JAMIE
WHITAKER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

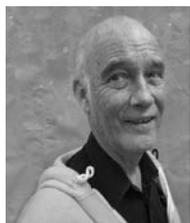
EXPERIENCE: Current OTBU Executive officer, website administrator, *Call Out* Newsletter Editorial Board. Over the years I have been Professional Development Representative, Branch President and AMPA delegate. I have been with the Toronto Board for over 30 years, as both teacher and Curriculum Leader in three different schools: WTCS, ESA and YMCI. I have taught ESL, adults, applied, advanced, gifted and AP classes.

COMMITMENT: I have been involved in union activities since my first year teaching. A two month strike was my introduction to labour management relations. I have a positive working arrangement with the current D12 STBU. I am committed to working on behalf of the OTBU members to preserve and expand their rights. I am proud to be associated with all of the members of the current Executive.

VOTE FOR PROVEN, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP

Elect Peterr Wilson - drop down candidate for Executive Officer

Peterr has been teaching for thirty-six years. He was a Bargaining Unit president, a chief negotiator for several OSSTF districts, a district treasurer, and served on the provincial collective bargaining committee. Peterr led and won the fight to have the OTBU executive hold a rally at TDSB to end bullying of OTs and to let membes see, before ratification, a complete copy of any tentative agreement.



Members deserve fair and **equal work opportunities** and **improved benefits**. We need a Cap on the OT dispatch list, paid professional development, and an **end to bullying by students**.

