

**To:** ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members  
**From:** Craig Smith, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)  
**Date:** November 15, 2024  
**Regarding:** **Weekly Update 11**

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## **Veterans Week and Remembrance Day**

Thanks to all who participated in Veterans Week activities and Remembrance Day Services throughout the district. Lest we forget.

## **Sixteen Days of Activism**

Sixteen Days of Activism is a national movement to raise awareness about the crisis of gender-based violence. Teachers are asked to wear purple on November 25, which is the kickoff date for Sixteen Days of Activism.

## **Managing School Board Expenses**

Accompanying this update is a link to the Education Minister's memo to school boards advising them of the Ministry's intent to review discretionary expenses bi-annually moving forward.

While the ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local agrees with the Minister on the need to review discretionary expenses, we must strongly disagree with the statement that the Conservative government of Doug Ford is "making historic investments in public education". In fact, the provincial government has cut \$3.2 billion in education funding since 2018, which, coincidentally, is the cost of the government's pre-election rebate/bribe of \$200.00 that will be doled out to all Ontarians in January.

## **Collective Agreement**

Accompanying this update is a link to the joint TVDSB/ETFO memorandum regarding the posting of the ratified collective agreement.

## **Upcoming Events**

- New Teacher Orientation and Workshop – November 20, 2024
- ETFO Trivia Night – St. Thomas – November 21, 2024
- Workplace Stewards' Training – November 26, 27, 28, 2024
- Language Curriculum Workshop – December 3, 2024 - Full
- Workplace Stewards' Meeting – December 11, 2024

## **Communication Protocol**

Teachers are reminded that the **Communication Protocol** remains in effect, **from** Friday, November 15 at 6:00 p.m. **until** Sunday, November 17 at 6:00 p.m.

The Board's **Disconnecting from Work Employee Procedure** came into effect on Thursday, June 2 in compliance with the **Working for Workers Act, 2021**.

Violations of the **Communication Protocol** and the **TVDSB Disconnecting from Work Procedure** must be reported to the Local office immediately.

## **Duty of the Local**

- Defend the **Collective Agreement** and the rights of Teachers under it.
- Ensure that the provisions of the **Occupational Health and Safety Act** are enforced.
- Bring to the attention of TVDSB ongoing Teacher concerns, with the expectation that these concerns will be taken seriously and resolved quickly.
- Communicate with Teachers in a clear, concise, and timely manner

For more information regarding this *Communiqué* please contact the Local office by phone at 519-474-3150, or by email at [etfotvtl@etfothamesvalley.com](mailto:etfotvtl@etfothamesvalley.com)