

**To:** ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members

**From:** Craig Smith, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)

**Date:** January 14, 2022

**Regarding:** Update regarding Sexual Abuse and Prevention Program (SAPP)

Presidents, I am happy to confirm that we have had some success with our lobbying efforts on the requirement to complete the OCT Sexual Abuse and Prevention Program. The government has now confirmed the following news:

1. That they have filed for a regulatory amendment to extend the deadline for completion of the SAPP until September 15, 2022.
2. That the Ministry intends to provide half of a Ministry PD day prior to the start of 2022 school year to allow time for the SAAP training (for permanent and LTO staff).
3. That the Ministry is preparing a memo to the sector to address the issue of the PD days and it will include this directive to school boards.

Unfortunately, we were not successful in our efforts to ensure that all ETFO members were included in this paid training, specifically our daily occasional members. We pushed back on this aspect but were unable to get agreement on this piece due to costs that would be incurred.

As you will recall, the government recently confirmed that the training is not “mandatory” for existing members and will not result in decertification. For current members who do not complete the training, a notation of incomplete will be made by the College but they will not be deemed to be a member “not in good standing.”

Only new applicants to the OCT after January 1 will be required to complete the training.

We expect to hear more information about this requirement from the CECE in the very near future as well. We will share this as it becomes available.

This news will be shared with ETFO members in the next newsletter but you are also welcome and encouraged to share it through your local channels.

Thanks and have a good day!

Sharon O’Halloran  
General Secretary

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