



## 2024 Black History Month poster curriculum activities

This year's Black History Month poster is on the theme of Black joy.

There are a variety of ways that educators can use the [2024 Black History Month poster](#) to enhance their classroom activities and school wide engagement. These include announcements, open-ended questions by division, potential assignments, and curriculum expectations. These can be used throughout the school year, not only in February.

Make sure you check out the [2024 resources](#) available for ETFO members on Black history.



## Are you in your first five years?

You are invited to an interactive town hall on Zoom with ETFO's president Karen Brown.

Learn about your membership services, professional opportunities, the structure of the union and much more. There are two possible dates: Monday, February 12 or Tuesday, February 13 at 7 p.m. EST.

**Register** before **Friday, February 9 at 2 p.m.**

For more information, please contact Denise Hammond at [dhammond@etfo.org](mailto:dhammond@etfo.org).



## Day of Pink

April 10 is the Day of Pink and pre-ordering for Day of Pink T-shirts is open from now until February 29.

Visit [shop.etfo.ca](http://shop.etfo.ca) to order your Day of Pink shirt. For more information, contact Matthew Sinclair, [msinclair@etfo.org](mailto:msinclair@etfo.org).



**ETFO is seeking course leaders for Summer Academy 2024**

Summer Academy offers three-day courses in person and virtually across the province throughout July and August. Being a course leader is a great opportunity to share your knowledge and be active in your union!

Full application details can be found at [members.etfo.ca](https://members.etfo.ca).

**Interested applicants should [apply](#) by 9 a.m. on February 26.**



## **Do you want to be on an ETFO standing committee?**

Get involved at the committee level of your Federation! The [vacancies for the 2024-2026 term](#) and the online application form are at [members.etfo.ca](https://members.etfo.ca). Registration and log in are required.



## Coming soon: Ontario Teachers' Federation survey for associate teachers

The Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF), in partnership with the Ontario Association of Deans of Education, is inviting teachers who have been or are thinking about becoming associate teachers to complete a survey on associate teaching.

The survey will be open from mid-February to mid-March.

Look out for a link to the completely anonymous survey in ETFO's next e-newsletter on Feb. 21.

A promotional banner for ETFO awards and scholarships. The banner is divided into three horizontal sections. The top section is dark blue with the text 'APPLY TODAY!' in large, bold, orange letters, and 'ETFO Bursaries &amp; Scholarships' in smaller white text below it. The middle section is white with the text 'DEADLINE IS APRIL 30' in bold, orange letters. The bottom section is teal with the URL 'etfo.ca/awards' in white text. On the right side of the banner is a photograph of a smiling woman with grey hair, wearing a grey top and a dark jacket. In the bottom right corner of the banner, there are small logos for ETFO and FEO.

## ETFO bursaries and scholarships: apply now!

Did you know that ETFO offers financial support to its members and others to pursue higher education?

There are scholarships and bursaries for doctoral and master's candidates, bursaries for members of designated groups and Indigenous education, and bursaries for children of ETFO members.

Learn more by visiting [etfo.ca/awards](https://etfo.ca/awards). **Apply by April 30!**

## Professional learning events in 2024



### Second Annual Native Language Gathering

**March 23, 2024**

Do you teach Native as a Second Language classes?



### Advanced Public Speaking Skills for Women

**April 4-5, 2024**

This advanced level of training is for ETFO women members who wish to enhance their **public speaking skills beyond a basic**

ETFO invites members to register for a [one-day language gathering](#) on Saturday, March 23.

Participants will have opportunities to connect, collaborate, and network with other language educators from across the province.

For details, [see the flyer](#).

**Registration closes on February 14.**

[level](#) as part of their leadership work in the union and community. [The program](#) focuses on voice work, overcoming nervousness, structuring speeches/messaging, the importance of integrating stories, engaging audiences, and managing questions.

**Registration opens Feb. 14 and closes Feb. 28.**



## Financial Health and Wealth Conference

**April 5-6, 2024**

ETFO's [Financial Health and Wealth Conference](#) is designed to help members increase their financial literacy and learn about proactive strategies to address their financial fitness and monetary well-being. This year's conference features a dynamic keynote presentation by Credit Canada CEO Bruce Sellery, special seminars to support your positive



## Navigating Barriers to Wellness: An ETFO Women's Health Conference

**April 11-12, 2024**

Through workshops, networking, and a keynote speaker, [this women's conference](#) will explore issues of equity in women's health and provide strategies to identify, address, and overcome barriers to wellness faced by women.

For details, [see the flyer](#).

outlook, and a variety of engaging workshops.

For details, [see the flyer](#).

**Registration closes February 26.**

**Registration closes February 23.**



## Conscious Classrooms: Responding to Gender- Based Violence (WP)

**April 11-12, 2024**

Regional Conference #3

ETFO has partnered with the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre/Multicultural Women Against Rape and White Ribbon to develop Conscious Classrooms Responding to Gender-Based Violence.

**The two-day regional conference** is a women's program that aims to enhance participants' understanding of trauma-informed and gender-inclusive classrooms, as well as the impact of gender-based violence (GBV) within school communities.

For details, [see the flyer](#).



## Anti-Oppressive Framework Program

**April 16-17, 2024**

ETFO will be hosting the **Anti-Oppression Framework training program** on April 16 and 17. Both a general program and women's program will be offered on these days.

**This program** is now a prerequisite for Union School, CB Academy, and parliamentary training. Attendees will participate in a variety of workshops, scenarios and discussions that will provide tools and strategies for actively engaging in dismantling systemic inequities.

**Registration closes February 21.**

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[Learn more about programs here.](#)

[Register for ETFO events here.](#)

## Member Services

### Cultivating calm: mindfulness strategies for chronic stress



Starling Minds™ will help you discover the secrets to reducing chronic stress and unlocking emotional resilience, empowering you to face life's challenges with more peace and serenity.

Workshop highlights:

- Restore your energy balance with meditation, yoga, and mindful breathing practices
- Promote tranquillity and alleviate stress, anxiety, and fear through proven relaxation techniques
- Enhance your overall well-being by embracing a holistic approach that nurtures your mental and physical health

**Date:** Tuesdays from February 20, 2024 - March 12, 2024

**Time:** 4 p.m. PT / 7 p.m. ET

[Register Now.](#)

## Claims counselling – our dedicated team is here to help

The unfortunate reality is that accidents happen. That's why insurance exists.



However, we recommend you speak with your licensed insurance broker about whether making an official claim with your insurance company is in your best interest. That's where claims counselling comes in handy.

[Read more.](#) #OTIPUpdate

## Educator Blogs



- [Empowering the future: The significance of the International Decade of People of African Descent in elementary education](#) by Iyanuoluwa Akinrinola
- [YOL](#) by Will Gourley
- [Lifting each other up](#) by Brenda MacNaughton

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**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario**  
represents 83,000 teachers and education workers.

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