

# D12 TEACHERS' BUZZ

## Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation Toronto

### Crown Solidarity Actions

For two long winters the 120 Steelworkers at a local Crown Holdings plant in Toronto, have walked the picket line in determined refusal to betray the next generation of workers. Crown Holdings is one of the world's largest manufacturers of beer cans. Despite being recognized as the most productive plant of Crown's 140 facilities, the company has "rewarded" the Toronto employees with a demand that all new hires be paid half of the current salary. The workers said no, and were forced on strike to defend their principled position. As the months dragged on the company brought in strike-breakers to run the plant and supply the beer and soft drink producers in Ontario.



OSSTF joins the Canadian Labour Congress in its National Boycott of Crown Cans. Crown's Toronto facility produces over 5 million beverage and food cans per day for customers such as Molson, Coors, Labatt, Budweiser, Moosehead and Creemore. We urge members to not buy Crown cans this summer and until the issues are resolved. For more information on the boycott and to learn how to identify a Crown can, visit: [bottlesnotcans.ca](http://bottlesnotcans.ca)

Members of the Political Action Committee and members of the Executive have also participated in various Days of Action. One action targeted local beer stores in an effort to draw public awareness. Another action targeted the plant itself. OSSTF members helped stop 6 trucks from entering the plant. Stay tuned for further actions.

### STAY INFORMED!

The best place to stay informed about developments related to both central and local bargaining is our website: [osstftoronto.ca](http://osstftoronto.ca). If you have not already registered, do so and you will have access to the members only section of the website. Registration also ensures that you will receive all member email updates related to bargaining. You can also follow us on Twitter ([@osstftoronto](https://twitter.com/osstftoronto)) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/osstftoronto) to read articles of interest and view photos of picket lines, rallies and other events.

### Upcoming Events

- \* May 24 —Blue Jay Game
- \* May 26—Retirement Workshop
- \* June 11 — STBU Council meeting
- \* June 11—District General Meeting
- \* June 21—Jim McQueen Life Celebration

Call the office or visit our website for more details.

### Action re: Action Student Forum

More than three hundred students from across the TDSB attended the Action re: Action student forum organized by OSSTF Toronto Human Rights Committee. Students participated in a wide variety of workshops covering topics

ranging from the environment to LGBTQ issues.

The Camille Natalie awards for political activism and social justice were presented to Weston C.I. student Raaghavi Pushpanathan and Jarvis C.I.

student Aneesah Choudhury.

Keynote speaker, Peter Rosenthal, a professor of law at the University of Toronto, delivered a powerful speech encouraging young people to fight poverty and oppression.

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Secondary Teachers**

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## Update from AMPA

AMPA 2015, the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Assembly, was held in March in Toronto. District 12 was represented with 74 delegates who took part in the proceedings of the house over the three days.

There were several highlights at this year's AMPA; the Student Achievement Award video and presentation was inspiring, as always, as were the awards of recognition for OSSTF member awards, including District 12's own Michael Platt who received the Political Action Award. The keynote speech from award-winning author Joseph Boyden was at times bone-chilling and gut-wrenching, but delivered powerful messages about the role each one of us can play in ending vio-



lence against women. Speeches were also heard from Education Minister Liz Sandals and NDP Leader Andrea Horvath, but they were decidedly less enthusiastically received than the speech from Mr. Boyden.

This year was also an election year at AMPA. Incumbents were returned to office in all of the elected positions on the Provincial Executive. Paul Elliott was re-elected President and Harvey Bischof and Cindy Dubu  were re-elected to the two Vice President positions, while our own Earl Burt was re-elected Treasurer. Jo Dean, Sue Doughty-Smith, and Rob Gascho were all re-elected as Executive Officers. Elections were also held for OTF Table Officer and for five OTF Governor positions. Michael Foulds was elected OTF Table Officer and Shannon Evans was re-elected to a second term as OTF Governor. Also elected as OTF Governors were Kim Appel, Paul Caccamo, Stephen Helleiner, and Toronto's own Michelle Teixeira.

## Upcoming Committee Meetings

Eco Committee —May 14

Gay-Straight Alliance —May 16

Eco Committee —June 2

Political Action Committee —June 16

Gay– Straight Alliance—June 19



- Unless Otherwise noted, all meetings are open to all members and take place on the 4th floor at 1482 Bathurst Street at 4:30 pm. Refreshments are served. Parking is limited. Walking distance from St. Clair West subway station.

***A special thanks to all of our members who volunteer to serve on committees! The work of OSSTF cannot be done without you!***

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