

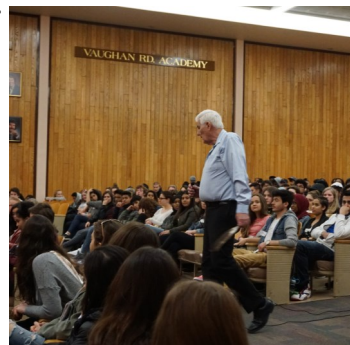
# T.O. TEACHERS' BUZZ

## Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation Toronto

### ACTION re:ACTION CONFERENCE

The 4th annual OSSTF Toronto Action re:Action conference, held by the Human Rights Committee on April 28 at Vaughan Road Academy, was larger than ever, maxing out in less than a week at 385 students, 24 OSSTF members, and 25 community and teacher workshop facilitators.

The conference began with Indigenous elder Bob Phillips (Great Bear), a non-Status Urban Mi'kmaq, opening the conference. Next Sadia Khan, a community organizer with Thorncliffe Reach-Out Teach-In was invited to the stage where she delivered a strident and inspiring keynote address.



We also presented the Human Rights and Political Action Committees' Camille Natale Student Awards to Debbie Dada from Weston C.I. and to the S.M.I.L.E. Warriors from C.W. Jefferys C.I. The annual Camille Natale Awards reflect OSSTF Toronto's belief in the power of student action to make a difference for peace, social justice, equity and human rights locally and globally. The awards are administered by both the District's Political Action and Human Rights Committees.

Everyone then split into their workshops and returned for lunch and an afternoon presentation on reclaiming Indigenous treaty partner identities. We owe the success of this conference to our many Committee volunteer coordinators and our workshop facilitators.—Derik Chica

#### Airbnb & Home Sharing this Summer

Many educators cannot wait for summer. It's when we pack our bags and hit the road, travelling to wherever our hearts desire. With the popularity of Airbnb and home sharing on the rise, you might be considering taking advantage of one of these services or perhaps renting out your own home while you're away.

Visit [www.otipinsurance.com/article2](http://www.otipinsurance.com/article2) to read the full article.

#### Upcoming Events

- \* June 24 —Annual Dyke March Brunch
- \* June 24—Pride & Remembrance Run
- \* Sept. 4 —Labour Day Parade
- \* Sept. 28 —TTBU Council Meeting

Call the office or visit our website for more details about these events.

### IWOC Workshops

In May, the Indigenous and Workers of Colour Committee offered two workshops: *Decolonization and Intersectionality* and *Reclaiming the Treaty Partner Identity*.

Teddy Syrette delivered a powerful, and pedagogically engaging, workshop on two-spirit identity and its relation to decolonization and intersectionality.

Participants not only learned about the long history of resilience and resistance of Indigenous people on Turtle Island, but also discussed the power and privilege of various identity markers on this land.

Janet Csontos' workshop on treaty partners should be experienced by all educators. Anyone who lives on this land is a

treaty partner, yet most of us have no idea what that means. Such ignorance is supported by our institutions, allowing the intentions of original treaties to continuously be ignored. Janet's passion and knowledge runs deep as she provided a thorough analysis of the very foundation of this nation through its broken promises. - Herdeep Chauhan and Derik Chica

**OSSTF Toronto  
Secondary Teachers**

1482 Bathurst Street  
Suite 300  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5P 3H1

Tel: 416 -393-8900  
Fax: 416-393-8912



[www.osstftoronto.com](http://www.osstftoronto.com)

follow us on  
**twitter**



[www.twitter.com/osstftoronto](http://www.twitter.com/osstftoronto)



[www.facebook.com/osstftoronto](http://www.facebook.com/osstftoronto)



## OSSTF Toronto Pride!

OSSTF Toronto and the Elementary Teachers of Toronto will again co-host our Annual Dyke March Lunch on June 24 from 12:30 - 1:45 pm at [Spirits Bar and Grill](#). OSSTF members of all sexual orientations and gender identities and allies are welcome to join in celebration, and then for those who wish, join in the Dyke March under the OSSTF Rainbow Flag.

OSSTF Toronto also has a team running in the 22nd Annual Pride and Remembrance Run which is an event that promotes and fosters community spirit, good will and sportsmanship in the LGBTQ+ community. To donate, visit [priderun.org](http://priderun.org) and search for team OSSTF Toronto.

Provincial OSSTF will have a marching contingent in the parade. The parade starts at Church and Bloor and ends at Dundas Square. OSSTF will have music, T-shirts for marchers, and swag to hand out along the parade route. The Provincial Office and OSSTF Toronto both encourage members to attend the festival and join members from across the province to march with OSSTF in the parade.

Provincial OSSTF will also have a booth at the Street Fair on June 24 and 25 and members are encouraged to volunteer to take a shift as an OSSTF ambassador. To put your name in as a volunteer, [contact Wayne Milliner](#) at provincial OSSTF.

## Upcoming Committee Meetings

- June 20—Political Action and Communications Committee
- June 22—Indigenous and Workers of Colour Committee

Meetings are held at 1482 Bathurst Street on the 4th floor at 4:30pm.



Thanks to the numerous members who volunteer their time to participate in our local committees. The work of OSSTF Toronto could not be done without you. Meetings will resume in September. Please check our website for dates and times and for more information on the various committees. If you are not already a committee member, please consider joining. Most committees meet on a drop-in basis, so feel free to check it out. Have a good summer!

## ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!