



OSSTF Toronto

I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is taking place upon traditional territories. The territories include the Wendat, Anishinabek (Anish-na-bick) Nation, the Haudenosaunee (Ho-di-show-nee) Confederacy, and the Mississaugas of the Credit, in addition to the land or territory where you are participating from today. I would also recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples on this land.

Black, Indigenous, Workers of Colour (BIWOC) Committee – December 1, 2022 Meeting

1. Meeting to order – 4:30pm
2. Land Acknowledgment
3. Introductions
4. Meet the Trustees: 4:45pm – 5:45pm
 - Black, Indigenous, and racialized trustees have been invited to share their plans for their mandate.
 - RSVPs received from: Anu Sriskandarajah & Matias de Dovitiis
 - Each trustee will have 10 minutes to discuss their mandate. Then will take questions/informal discussion
5. Executive Report
 - Project Overseas 2023
 - Centering Wellness in Equity Work
 - OSSTF Research Grant available
6. Review Terms of Reference
7. Annual Goals
 - see page 2
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

This Committee provides a space where issues of concern to Black, Indigenous, and Workers of Colour can be raised and discussed. The Committee also determines an annual set of goals that reflect issues of concern to Black, Indigenous, and Workers of Colour and that advance OSSTF Toronto and public education. The Committee makes recommendations on how to better incorporate anti-racism and decolonization into our union and how to better address the concerns of Black, Indigenous, and Workers of Colour over the long-term and to report same to the District Executive as requested. (District Constitution, BIWOC Terms of Reference)

Black, Indigenous and Workers of Colour Committee tentative meeting dates

Thurs. Dec. 1
 Thurs. Feb. 2
 Tues. Apr. 4
 Thurs. May 25
 Thurs. June 8

Possible Annual Goals	Names	Dates
Review the Terms of Reference		Possible change at DAGM 2023
Land Acknowledgement		
BIWOC name Indigenous, Black, and Racialized Voices (IBRV)		Possible change at DAGM 2023
Engage more BIWOC members in OSSTF Toronto (have the largest gathering of BIWOC members in history) Have various events: picnic, workshops indiv, group workshops		
Effective strategies or supports that could be put in place for coping for injuries as a result of Anti-Black racism (work in conjunction with Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Officers)		

PROJECT OVERSEAS 2023



Are you ready for something more in your professional life?

Are you looking for a larger, more global view of education?

As a teacher, do you feel you have more to offer and more to learn?

Are you ready for a personal and professional adventure?

If yes, Project Overseas (PO) might be for you!

Volunteer for PO with the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF/FCE)

The CTF/FCE is seeking English and French-speaking Canadian teachers at the elementary and secondary levels who are interested in volunteering their time and talents to offer professional development in-service programs in partnership with teacher organizations in developing countries. Each year, over 50 Canadian teachers are chosen to volunteer on CTF/FCE's PO in countries throughout Africa and the Caribbean. The PO in-service projects take place in July.

All candidates must:

- be a Canadian citizen;
- hold a Canadian passport valid until at least July 2024 at the time of application (proof that a passport application has been made will be accepted);
- be a member of a provincial or territorial teacher organization that supports PO;
- hold a valid teaching certificate;
- have completed at least five years of teaching in Canada by July 2023;
- be in excellent health and be able to work in developing country conditions;
- have high standards of professionalism and personal conduct;
- show evidence of flexibility and mature judgment;
- be willing to put the team and project needs above personal needs.

Please note:

PO is a volunteer experience. Administrative, travel, and living expenses are covered by the CTF/FCE and its Member Organizations. No salaries or honoraria are paid to PO participants. No family or friends are permitted to accompany the PO participants during pre-departure orientation or overseas programs.

Please contact your provincial or territorial teacher organization for additional information and an application form.



www.ctf-fce.ca

**The Addressing Anti-Black Racism/Racism Committee presents
Kamilah Clayton – Centering Wellness in Equity Work**

To: Presidents and All Members
From: Jennifer Seif, Executive Assistant

For Action

Prioritizing self-care and well-being is an integral component of social justice and equity, anti-racism and anti-oppression work.

The OSSTF/FEESO Addressing Anti-Black Racism/Racism Committee has invited Kamilah Clayton to host a virtual workshop on wellness and self-care in December 2022. OSSTF/FEESO Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Officers and Members who hold equity, diversity, and inclusion portfolios are encouraged to attend. In order to accommodate the range of job classes and work schedules that exist within the Federation, this workshop will be offered twice to Members.

Kamilah Clayton is a Registered Social Worker and Psychotherapist, and owner of ADWO Counselling & Consulting Services Inc., specializing in African Centered psychotherapy, and the facilitation of learning opportunities around Black mental health and wellness. Kamilah is a PhD student with a research focus on the Role of Social Work in Affirming Black Student Identities in the Ontario Secondary School System. Kamilah utilizes an Identity Affirming approach to mental health and wellness for people of African descent/heritage, and her practice areas include anxiety, depression, stress and racial identity. Kamilah believes strongly in the power of community building as a mechanism for healing and resilience, as such her practice approach is grounded Black identity affirming frameworks such as Afrocentricity and the Nguzo Saba (7 Principles of Kwanzaa).

The purpose of this session is to provide a safe and inclusive space for OSSTF/FEESO members engaged in equity work to share and process their experiences trauma, including racial experiences of trauma and harm and be supported in developing strategies for self and community care.

During the session, participants will be supported to:

1. Centre and contextualize their experiences of trauma and harm
2. Establish balance and boundaries in their work
3. Build a community of support

4. Adopt wellness practices into their day-to-day routines

Dates:

Saturday, December 10 (4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, December 14 (6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.) *ASL Interpretation provided

Note: Due to the interactive nature of the workshop, there is a limit of 50 OSSTF/FEESO Members per event. A waitlist will be enabled, and resources will be shared with all registrants including those on the waitlist. The workshop will be presented in English only.

To register, please click on the [CVENT link](#).

For more information, please contact Jennifer.Seif@osstf.ca.

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OSSTF/FEESO Research Grant for Emergent Issues and Priorities

To: Presidents and All Members

From: Cathy Renfrew, Associate General Secretary – Professional Services

For Information

OSSTF/FEESO is strongly committed to supporting and promoting evidence-informed practices in public education. As part of that commitment, OSSTF/FEESO supports high-quality research and is pleased to announce up to three research grants of up to \$3,500 each, to support conducting, presenting, and publishing research in support of public education and anti-racism.

Award Criteria:

- Relevance to 2022-2023 research priorities, listed below;
- Willingness to write a summary report for OSSTF/FEESO and/or an article for Forum;
- Evidence of support for public education and/or the labour movement in previous publications and activities;
- Quality and feasibility of the project for which funding is sought;
- A budget of estimated research expenses.

Theme Identified for the 2022 – 2023 Academic Year:

- Recruitment and Retention of Workers in Education: OSSTF/FEESO is interested in research around issues about, and solutions to, attracting new workers in education, and the retention of employees in education, from Ontario, as well as from national and international contexts or perspectives. Research looking at the recruitment and retention of workers from equity-seeking groups are of particular interest.

Note: At least one of the three awards will be reserved for researchers who identify as Indigenous, Black or racialized.

The application deadline for the 2022 – 2023 Academic year is November 30, 2022. All successful applicants will be informed by December 15, 2022.

The application form can be found at:

English: [OSSTF / FEESO Research Grant for Emergent Issues and Priorities Application Form](#) French: [OSSTF / FEESO Research Grant for Emergent Issues and Priorities Application Form](#)

If you have any questions regarding this D/BU memo, please contact Peter Bates peter.bates@osstf.ca and Chris Samuel chris.samuel@osstf.ca.

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