

Press Release

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Ontario teachers send financial support to BC teachers

TORONTO, September 12, 2014 — The Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF) and three Affiliate members—the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO), the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) and the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF)—have forwarded \$100,000 to the BC teachers to assist in their struggle with the BC Government.

“Speaking on behalf of 160,000 teachers in Ontario’s public education system, it is an honour to stand in solidarity with the BC teachers,” stated Rian McLaughlin, OTF President. “Their struggle is our struggle. The BC teachers have been in this conflict for over ten years and it is time for the BC Government to admit their mistakes.”

“ETFO members stand behind their teacher colleagues in British Columbia because they know that their fight for a fair bargaining process is our fight too,” added Sam Hammond, ETFO President.

“Ontario’s Catholic teachers are proud to stand with the BC teachers in their struggle with a government which continues to attack teachers and students,” stated James Ryan, OECTA President.

“OSSTF members are inspired by the courage and resolve of our colleagues in British Columbia in the face of their government’s relentless attack on bargaining rights and on the very future of public education. We are proud to stand in solidarity with BCTF,” said OSSTF President Paul Elliott.

The Ontario Teachers' Federation is the advocate for the teaching profession in Ontario and for its 160,000 teachers. OTF members are full-time, part-time and occasional teachers in all publicly funded schools in the province—elementary, secondary, public, Catholic and francophone.

ETFO represents 76,000 elementary public school teachers and education professionals across the province and is the largest teacher federation in Canada.

OECTA represents the 45,000 professional women and men who teach all grades in publicly funded English Catholic schools in Ontario.

OSSTF, founded in 1919, has 60,000 members across Ontario. They include public high school teachers, occasional teachers, educational assistants, continuing education teachers and instructors, early childhood educators, psychologists, secretaries, speech-language pathologists, social workers, plant support personnel, university support staff, and many others in education.

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