

**Provincial Council Report**  
**September 28th-29<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

O.S.S.T.F. Provincial council hit the ground running this year. We welcomed the newest bargaining unit, the University of Ottawa Support Staff. I attended a New Councillor's Orientation Session where, I learned the role and duties of Provincial Council and tips to assist in this role including: Motions from the District, and Bargaining Unit .I received a pin, name tag, and the Provincial Councillors Hand Book and met with approximately 16 other new Councillors and several Provincial Executives.

***Some of the resolutions that were passed are:***

- Use of the member protection account for the support of negotiations on behalf of the members in the E.A., Support Staff, Plant Support, P.S.S.P Bargaining Unit in District 25 Ottawa-Carlton.
- Provincial Council authorize the Provincial Executive, to determine the dates of commencement and completion of possible benefits and loans to members in the E.A., Support Staff, Plant Support, P.S.S.P. Bargaining Unit in District 25, Ottawa-Carleton.
- As directed by June 8th-9th 2007 Provincial Council. The Provincial Executive believes that O.S.S.T.F. should refrain from purchasing and distributing bottled water wherever possible.

**The following motions were approved:**

- BIRT bottle water should not be purchased or distributed at Provincial Office, or at provincial/regional OSSTF meeting raining and conferences, wherever potable tap water exits.
- BIRT fair trade coffee should be severed at Provincial Office, and at Provincial/Office, and at provincial / regional OSSTF meetings, training and conferences whenever possible.
- BIRT: The AGS ensure that the Office Procedures Manual is updated to reflect the O.S.S.T.F's efforts to refrain from the purchase and distribution of bottled water, and to serve Fair Trade coffee.

Districts and Bargaining Units which have not already done so are encouraged to pass their own motions regarding the use of bottled water and Fair Trade coffee at D/BU meetings and events.

I strongly encourage our members to be informed about the current Common Threads 3: initiative *Tapped Out, The World Water Crisis*, to learn more about the negative effects of using bottled water:

- [www.insidethebottle.org](http://www.insidethebottle.org)
- [www.polarinstitute.org](http://www.polarinstitute.org)
- [www.stopcorporateabuse.org](http://www.stopcorporateabuse.org)
- [www.kNOwbottledwater.org](http://www.kNOwbottledwater.org)
- [www.bottlebill.org](http://www.bottlebill.org)

To learn more about the reasons to serve Fair Trade coffee:

- [www.TransFair.ca](http://www.TransFair.ca)
- [www.oxfamfairtrade.ca](http://www.oxfamfairtrade.ca)

**2010 Account Funding.** Near North 2010 funding for 2006-2007 was \$6,850. The amount remaining is \$1,800 to date.

**2007-2008 Final FTE Count** Near North EA/PSSP is 240.4 Teacher and Con-Ed Teacher 309.7 Occasionals 51.6.

Bargaining Units and Districts were reminded that they are required to establish anti-bully and anti-harassment policies.

The Provincial Office Procedures Manual' was updated with the following information:  
*"Support employees should make every effort to use hotels that are unionized when making hotel reservations for committee/council/sector, etc meetings"*

Attached is the O.S.S.T.F. calendar of Events.

The next Provincial Council Meeting is November 16th-17th at the Westin Bristol Place Toronto airport.

**Lorraine Peace**  
**O.S.S.T.F. District 4 Vice President**  
**O.S.S.T.F. District 4 Provincial Councillor**