

**Provincial Councillors' Report
To the Teachers' Annual General Meeting
Wed., May 18, 2011**

Pensions: Throughout the year Provincial Council has received updates about the status of both the OTPP and OMERS. In addition, we were provided with updates from the Ad-Hoc Committee to Protect Post-Secondary Pensions. The pensions of our members in colleges and universities are decided at the bargaining table, and vary a great deal from institution to institution. OSSTF would like to press for greater pension protection for these workers and the workgroup has been extended another year.

Elections: Across the province we had considerable success in electing progressive/public education trustees in the fall. Since then, the focus has been on preparing for the **Provincial Election on Oct. 6**. The outcome of this election will have a significant impact on us as workers in education, as well as more broadly as citizens in this province.

Reorganization: Political and Governance Structure – Three years ago, AMPA approved a motion to create a workgroup to examine the political and governance structure of OSSTF/FESSO, in recognition that the organization has changed significantly since its beginnings as a teacher-only federation. The proposal for “COR,” or Council of Representatives, did not carry at AMPA, although the report of the Strategy and Structure Review Committee (SSRC) was endorsed. Provincial Council has been informed that the SSRC will be bringing forward recommendations for next steps to June Council.

Internal Restructuring at Provincial Office: AMPA approved a proposal to restructure departments and non-elected leadership/management roles at Provincial Office, with an eye to increasing efficiency and service to members. To facilitate this change, an architect has been hired to assess the use of space at 60 Mobile and to make proposals about how to best reorganize the space. Provincial Council as well as the Sector Councils of Presidents should receive regular updates as to the progress/implementation of these changes.

AMPA: It was a busy AMPA, with a number of significant motions/reports that came to the floor (and some that did not), along with Provincial Executive elections. A big thank you to our delegation members for their participation! On a District level, our pre-AMPA meeting was deemed to be a success, with a suggestion for more unit break-out time.

District:

Health & Safety: While they are always concerning, issues related to health and safety are taking up more time for all bargaining units. There has been some discussion about the possibility/feasibility of a full-time time release position for a Health and Safety Officer at the District level; at this point in time, there is a proposal in the District budget for additional release time for Joint Health and Safety Reps.

AMDA: A reminder that tomorrow evening, May 19, is the Annual Meeting of District Assembly, which is where your Provincial Councillors will be elected and where the District budget is approved. I hope to be able to continue to represent your interests at Provincial Council next year.

While Bob has been unable to attend meetings for the last while, he would like to pass on his appreciation for all the messages of support he has received.

Stephanie and Bob