

South Okanagan Similkameen Teachers' Union

ATTENTION!

Smattering of News

- For January to March, few if any workshops will be offered during the day as not to pull teachers from their schools / this is a new directive hoping to limit failure to fill during the winter months
- TTOC list will remain 'open' as long as there is failure to fill (very little failure to fill thus far)
- TTOC deadline to enroll in School District administered Blue Cross Extended Health Benefits plan is the end of November – please see prior email or TTOC section on SOSTU website
- February Pro-D zonal day is being planned for Friday, Feb 14th / your conference fee is paid by SOSTU
- Sick day usage for medical appointments / teachers will only be charged for the exact time if time required is less than .5 and the teacher returns to work
- Inter-office mail is not picked up consistently from the SBO, we are doing our best to distribute Pro-D reimbursement cheques quickly

Local Bargaining continues on Friday, Nov 29th.

There are 4 days scheduled in early Dec.

Employer had 2 proposals: TTOC Employment Rights & Post and Fill "housekeeping" changes.

Attention New Teachers!

New Teachers' Conference (NTC): Cross-Pollination Feb 8th, 2025 in Vancouver. This conference is a place for new teachers to connect with their early career colleagues across British Columbia. It is designed for teachers in their first five years of teaching, teacher candidates, Teachers Teaching-on-Call, and those who are coming back to teaching after moving or being away from the classroom.

SOSTU will pay your conference registration fee; please email Ernie sostu@telus.net for details

Did You Know?

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Teacher Tuesdays Survey Sent

A Survey Monkey link was sent to your private email address on Tuesday, Nov 12th; please complete.

Teacher Tuesdays are a SOSTU initiative offering Pro-D options free for all staff every Tuesday night from 4:00 – 5:30 pm at the SOSTU office.

These sessions may be used towards personal plan days. Three (3) sessions of Teacher Tuesday will count as 1 personal plan day.

Any teacher is welcome to offer a short, ninety-minute presentation on the topic of their choice and will receive an honorarium of \$100.

General Leaves G.20 (unpaid) may be asked for anytime and for any length of time. Last round, our barg team tried to bargain specific language on this issue and were told "it already exists" in G.20 and there are examples of teachers asking for this request.

General Rule is you must have tenure (at least 5 years working in the district) and the leave must correspond with natural breaks in the school year.

Survey Link will be sent again.