

ARM 18/21

2018 August 27

Active Retired Members of OSSTF

VOL 6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Labour Day Parade

Monday, September 3

Bayfront Park

10:30 AM

HBO CURC

Wednesday, September 12

D21 1423 Upper Ottawa Street, Unit 2

10:00 a.m.

RBG Tour and lunch at the Rose

Garden Restaurant

September 17

RBG Tour, 11:00 AM

Lunch at 12:30 PM

International Day of Older Persons

Monday, October 1

City Hall Council Chambers

10:00 AM

The Egg & I

Tuesday, October 16

1242 Garner Rd., Ancaster

Corner Wilson St. and Garner Rd.

9:30 AM

Editors: R. Giles, M. Payne, C. Wray

OSSTF ARM Website

For a compendium of information regarding ARM chapters from across Ontario, please see <http://www.armcouncil.osstf.ca/>.

Details

Hamilton & District Labour Day

Parade. Line up begins at 9:30 AM. OSSTF will be lining up on Stuart St. at Tiffany St.

The parade begins at 10:30 AM. After the parade there is a licenced beer tent in the park, a BBQ operated by the United Way serving hot dogs and hamburger and live music. Food and beverage tickets are available at the park.

HBO CURC

Topics are Municipal/Trustee Elections and the International Day of Older Persons.

RBG Tour and Lunch

In September, we look forward to an eleven AM tour conducted by ARM executive member Suzanne Burchell. We have chosen mid-September and we expect a beautiful day – let's say 23 degrees C. Lunch is just down the street, on the way back to Hamilton, at one of our favourites, The Rose Garden.

Please RSVP to armchapter21@gmail.com.

International Day of Older Persons.

Topics: Health Care and Retirement Security Issues. Guest speakers will be Lisa Bastien, from the CLC discussing Pharmacare. Dr. Parminder Raina of McMaster University, discussing health care issues and Natalie Mehra from the Ontario Health Coalition.

President's Report: Milt Payne

Each year we try to have 10 Executive meetings; the last Monday in August, the first Monday (if possible) from October to May. Our June meeting occurs the same day as the District 21 Retirement Tea. We also

try to plan a monthly social event that all members are welcome to attend.

ARM District 18/21 List of Activities for 2017/2018.

On September 4, a large group attended the Labour Day parade under the D. 21 OSSTF banner. A breakfast at the Ancaster location of The Egg and I was held on September 19.

We had a great lunch on October 17, at the Olde School Restaurant, just north of Brantford.

On November 21, we had lunch at the Village Restaurant in Stoney Creek.

We had a tour of Whitehern Historic House on December 12 followed by lunch at the George Hamilton Restaurant in downtown Hamilton.

A tour of the Burlington Art Gallery and lunch at the B&B Restaurant in the Waterfront Hotel took place on January 16.

We visited the W.J. McCallion Planetarium at McMaster University on March 20 and had lunch at the Olde Squire Restaurant in Westdale.

On April 17 we held our Annual General Meeting.

May took us to St. Jacobs with the Waterloo ARM Chapter to see a production of West Side Story followed by lunch at Jacks Restaurant.

We had a wine tour in Niagara on June 12.

July had us at Barangas on the Beach for lunch.

Meeting for the executive are scheduled for

Tuesday, October 2, Monday, November 5 and Monday, December 3. Meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. at the D21 Office.



Enjoying lunch at Barangas!

The ARM Newsletter publication dates for 2018/2019 will be August, November, February and April or May.

Labour Day is a tradition in Hamilton. Please try to join D. 21 at the parade in the morning. At night, the Ticats take on the visiting Argos from down the QEW.

The Egg & I. Our October social for the early, early riser takes us back to a fine breakie establishment. New retirees will have their meal compliments of D. 18/21 ARM. We can catch up with long time friends and meet our new ARM members

Visit us at armchapter21@gmail.com

CIVIL REFORM IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Civil Rights in Pubic Education (CRIPE) is an organization composed of citizens of different backgrounds, living in more than 155 communities across Ontario, committed to one strong public education system, which offers neither privilege nor prejudice to anyone.

The CRIPE website is:

www.CRIPEweb.org

Our Group

President: Milt Payne

V.P.: Chester Faulknor

Benefits Officer: Jay Parekh

Secretary: Mary Lou Mattucci

Membership Secretary: Barb Brown

Editors: C. Wray, M. Payne, R. Giles

Treasurer: Bob Thompson

Members at Large: Malcolm, Suzanne Burchell, Susan Coleman, Warren Johnson, Murray Kilby, Pat Lachapelle, Jan Lukas, Brian Radke, Frieda Smyth, Tony Viola, Norm Urhig.

ARTICLES



On July 31, Ontario's Conservative government cancelled a ground-breaking anti-poverty pilot project, despite Doug Ford vowing he wouldn't do so during the election campaign just weeks ago.

Ontario's Children, Community and Social Services Minister Lisa MacLeod, announced the cancellation of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, a year-old project that gives low-income people a guaranteed basic income regardless of their employment status. With about 4,000 participants in the Hamilton, Brant, Lindsay, and Thunder Bay areas, the pilot program promised participants a set annual income for three years of roughly double the standard welfare rate.

The idea was to study if a universal basic income would support vulnerable workers and improve health and education outcomes for people living on very low incomes or

provincial support programs. An additional 2,000 low income Ontarians agreed to not receive the basic income supplement, but still report on their lives, thereby giving a control group.

Minister MacLeod thinks this study – the largest of its kind in North America – is unnecessary and claimed that all that is required to “restore dignity” in people who access social assistance is to find them a job. In fact, 70 per cent of the people in the pilot project have jobs yet they still don't earn enough to feed their families, pay their rent, or complete their education.

By all accounts, the Basic Income Pilot was working and made it possible for participants to move into better housing, enroll in school programs, support their families, and improve their health, nutrition and community involvement.

The Ford government's war on the poor doesn't stop there though. Social Services Minister, Lisa MacLeod, also announced plans to cut the scheduled increase to social assistance rate by 50 per cent. The increase won't even keep up with inflation. This means nearly one million Ontario residents will be poorer than before and won't be able to meet their basic needs due to rising housing, childcare and food cost.

Today, with our Ontario-based chapters and Council of Canadian supporters across the province, we're standing with the thousands of people in the Basic Income Pilot Program in calling on the federal government to assume responsibility for this project and fund the remaining two years that were promised. In addition to supporting the participants, this will allow the valuable research project to conclude as planned and for the results to be adequately studied.

Cutting this program two years early would pull the rug out from under thousands of vulnerable people across our province.

Mark Calzavara and Rachel Small
Regional Organizing Team Ont., Quebec & Nunavut
The Council of Canadians

Please sign our petition. Contact:

The Council of Canadians,
| inquiries@canadians.org |
<https://canadians.org>
[Facebook Page](#) | [@CouncilofCDNS](#)

Sex Ed changes backward, dangerous and divisive, says OSSTF/FEESO President

Toronto, Aug. 16 – Speaking in Toronto, Harvey Bischof, President of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation, repeated his opposition to the Ford government’s decision to repeal Ontario’s 2015 Health and Physical Education curriculum and revert to a curriculum that reverts back to 1998.

Addressing more than 400 delegates and guests at OSSTF/FEESO’s annual Leadership Conference, Bischof said, “The premise for this backward step is false from the outset. This is not about consultation. It is a political pay-off that jeopardizes students’ health and well-being while pandering to a certain kind of extreme intolerance, consequences be damned.”

“We will work with whomever we can,” he said “to oppose this backward, dangerous, divisive initiative.”

“We know that we have members who feel trapped between their obligation to follow employer direction and their ethical imperative to keep students safe,” continued Bischof. “We will defend to the hilt any

member who, in the good faith exercise of professional judgment, stray outside the confines of the 1998 curriculum in her or his students’ best interests.”

Bischof stated the OSSTF/FEESO remains open to establish a productive relationship with the government. “We are entirely willing to establish a meaningful dialogue through which to advocate for the interest of OSSTF/FEESO members and the interests of publicly-funded education. Should the Ford government wish to listen to the advice of professionals in the field, from JK to University, we will work with them. But we will be absolutely firm and resolute in the defence of those interests should the government move in any direction that poses a threat”

OSSTF/FEESO, founded in 1919, has 60,000 members across Ontario

High school teacher’s union vows to fight ‘dangerous’ sex-ed rollback.

The union representing Ontario’s 60,000 public high school teachers has joined the battle with elementary school teachers in opposing Premier Doug Ford’s planned rollback of the sex-ed curriculum.

“We will work with whomever we can to oppose this backward, dangerous, divisive initiative,” Harvey Bischof, president of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation, said Thursday to more than 400 delegates at its annual leadership conference in Toronto.

“We have members who feel trapped between their obligation to follow employer direction and their ethical imperative to keep students safe,” he said at the Fairmont Royal York. “We will defend to the hilt any member who, in the good faith exercise of professional

judgment, strays outside the confines of the 1998 curriculum in her or his students' best interests."

The OSSTF has 60,000 members, including public high school teachers and support staff from junior kindergarten to university. Similarly, this week the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, which represents public elementary school educators, also criticized the curriculum change and urged its 83,000 members to use their professional judgment, vowing to defend anyone from disciplinary action.

These unions, along with numerous educators, health care groups and school boards, have been critical of an election promise made by the Progressive Conservatives to repeal the Health and Physical Education curriculum introduced in 2015 by the Liberals. The government plans to hold public consultations this fall with parents about what they believe is appropriate to teach children. In the meantime, Education Minister Lisa Thompson says she expects teachers to use the previous lesson plans, which were introduced in 1998 and taught until 2014. In his speech, Bischof said "this backward step" isn't about consulting with parents, but rather "a political payoff that jeopardizes students' health and well-being while pandering to a certain kind of extreme intolerance, consequences be damned."

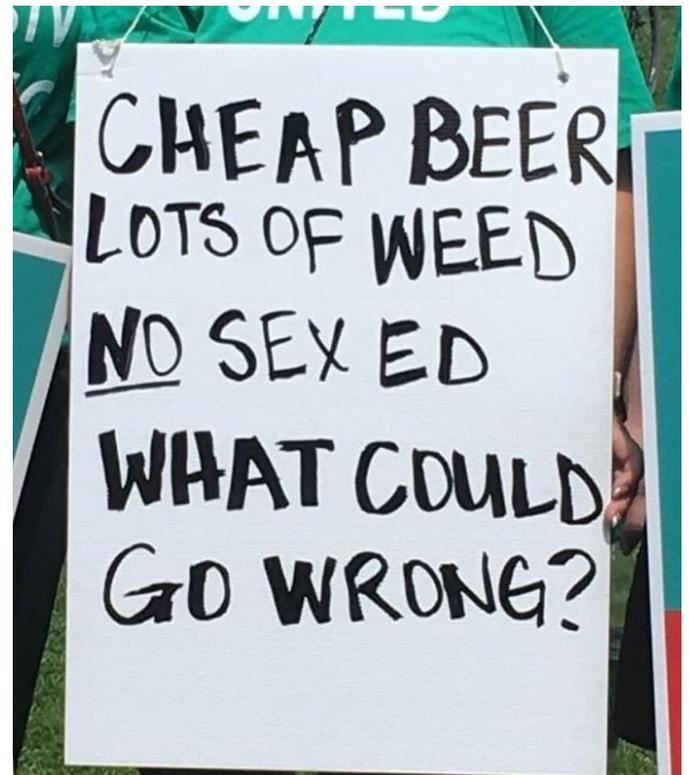
Critics of the rollback say the old curriculum doesn't address issues that are relevant today, such as same-sex families, gender, consent, sexting and online safety. In addition, educators say they are especially confused because they have not received an official directive from the Ministry of Education regarding the curriculum change.

But Ben Menka, spokesperson for Minister Thompson, says, "The ministry will be sharing details in the near future."

"When the ministry makes revisions to any piece of curriculum, updates are communicated to the school boards and materials are provided that are required to teach it," said Menka.

When Bischof was asked by the Star what lesson plans teachers should follow — 1998 or 2015 — he said the union will provide answers in the week before school starts.

By Isabel Teotonio, THE STAR



Panchal Mansaram

ARM member and retired Art teacher, Panchal Mansaram, is an acclaimed Canadian artist. Over 700 of his works have been acquired by the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM). To see some of his amazing artworks go to www.youtube.com and search pmansaram to view two videos about the man and his work.

On the lighter side....

Paraprosdokians

Paraprosdokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and is frequently humorous (Winston Churchill loved them).

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you ... but it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up – we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right, only who is left.
7. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting fruit in a salad.
8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
9. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
10. In filling out an application, where it says, "In case of an emergency, notify..." I answered "a doctor".
11. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

12. I used to be indecisive, but now I'm not sure.
13. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
14. You are never too old to learn something stupid.
15. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.
16. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

Submitted by Malcolm Buchanan

