

E.T.F.O. Durham PAC Meeting

October 13, 2011

Present: Pam Harrison, Barb Haynes, Andres Musta, Neil Redknap

Regrets: Tim Snodden, Gerard O'Neill, Megan Staples, Joanna Bowman, Cheryl Fleury-Eekma

1. Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:35.

The ETFO Human Rights Statement was read by Andres Musta.

2. Previous Minutes:

The minutes from the September 29 PAC meeting were presented.

Motion #1

Moved by: Barb Haynes
Seconded by: Pam Harrison

That the minutes from the September 29 PAC meeting be approved. CARRIED

3. Election Reflection:

We had a great turnout of endorsed candidates at Heydenshore Pavilion for the all-affiliate barbecue and meet and greet. Since we would like to see more ETFO/CUPE/OSSTF members attend political functions, we will focus our efforts how on how to engage more members to become involved.

Everyone on the PAC was involved in the provincial election and the release time provided was much appreciated. In future elections, the PAC decided we would start to advertise events earlier and that we would connect with other Political Action Committees in other ETFO locals. We discussed that as soon as candidates have been endorsed, we should organize a phone message to go out to all members. Release time could also be offered to hand out literature so that names of the endorsed candidates would be familiar with members right from the outset. We would encourage our stewards to let their staff know that release time is available. Stickers and balloons that encouraged people to vote could also be handed out at schools. From when the writ is dropped to election day, we could advertise to our members how many teacher days we have available and encourage members to sign up so that they become involved.

With the topic of advertising events earlier, we discussed that this could also apply to the Labour Day Parade. The PAC was thinking that for the next Labour Day Parade, a flyer could be sent out in June as well as in late August, we might hold a barbecue to promote the event and use funds to provide free bus transportation to encourage more members to participate in the parade.

4. New Business:

At our next meeting, we will discuss the Standing Together newsletter and how we would like to promote it in our schools. We talked about having bins or baskets at staff room bulletin boards that would have issues of the newsletter in them. We will also discuss at our next meeting when we might have a Union

History workshop. The workshop could be run multiple times. It would be valuable to have a workshop that members could attend as we head into contract negotiations. This way they could educate themselves on the issues and help spread the word to other members.

We have received literature from the Durham Family Court Clinic and from the Whitby Minor Hockey Association. At our next meeting, we will discuss advertising possibilities and what groups or organizations we would like to support. We will also look at supporting free public skating days in various communities around Durham. This would help increase our presence in the northern areas of ETFO Durham. We will plan out locations and dates soon.

The PAC would like to continue our involvement with the Eastview Boys and Girls Club. We are going to check on what events they have coming up. We discussed putting a section in an upcoming issue of Standing Together about what volunteer opportunities ETFO members could participate in.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 29 at 4:30 pm.

5. Adjournment:

Motion #2

Moved by: Andres Musta
Seconded by: Barb Haynes

That the meeting be adjourned at 5:35. CARRIED

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