

E.T.F.O. Durham PAC Meeting

May 15, 2012

Present: Pam Harrison, Cheryl Fleury-Eekma, Andres Musta, Neil Redknap

Regrets: Gerard O'Neill, Kent Clark, Barb Haynes, Megan Staples, Joanna Bowman

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 April 10 PAC meeting were presented.

Motion #1

Moved by: Andres Musta
Seconded by: Cheryl Fleury-Eekma

That the minutes from the April 10 PAC meeting be approved. CARRIED

3. Business Arising From The Minutes:

School Trustee Social

ETFO Durham will contact OSSTF to find out what day they are going to have their trustee social. Once we know the date, we will send that out to our members. ETFO Durham is looking at planning their own trustee social once the 2012-2013 school year starts. We are looking at a tentative date of October 2, 2012. Gerard will contact our school board trustees once we have a confirmed date and time.

Video Clip Section For The Website

Barb has video clips for the Political Action page of our website. We will get the clips edited so that they can be uploaded to the website in the fall.

Day Of Action: April 21, 2012

ETFO Durham was proud to send a bus of ETFO members to the Day of Action at Queen's Park. The rally at Queen's Park was to protest the provincial government's austerity measures. The Political Action Committee attended this event and it was a great opportunity to get our message across.

4. New Business:

Postcard Campaign

ETFO Provincial has launched a postcard writing campaign where teachers will write postcards to the Premier, the Minister of Education and their MPP. The postcard campaign is an opportunity for ETFO members to call on the provincial government to respect free collective bargaining.

Workplace stewards have received the postcards to hand out to their members. The completed postcards need to be handed back to each workplace steward in early June. The postcards will be sent to ETFO Provincial by Thursday, June 7.

Labour Day Parade: September 3, 2012

We would like to have a bus of ETFO Durham members at this year's Labour Day Parade. In order to help increase awareness for the parade, the PAC has decided to send out a flyer next month before our members leave for the summer break. Andres has offered to create a series of posters advertising the event. We will let members know there is free CNE admission that day and that we will meet for lunch after the parade. An e-mail will be sent to members late in the summer and we will remind our members again when we are setting up our classrooms before Labour Day.

Political Action For September

The Political Action Committee discussed what our political presence would look like in the fall. We decided that in addition to being aware of what the provincial government is doing, we would also increase our presence at the school board level. We would like our lobbying efforts to include attending school board meetings and communicating positively with board officials and the school board's bargaining team.

Provincial Government: Awareness

We discussed how important it will be to track what the Liberal government is doing by checking their website and the websites of local MPP's. By seeing what events they are attending or where the Premier or Minister of Education is making a public appearance, the Political Action Committee can effectively communicate to our members what events we would like to have a presence at.

The Minister of Education, Laurel Broten, was attending a function at the Zante Restaurant in Bowmanville recently. The Political Action Committee organized a picket and was outside the restaurant when she arrived. We respectfully expressed our concerns to her regarding the government's current demands. Our pictures from the picket will be uploaded to the Political Action section of the ETFO Durham website.

Activism: Photo Montage

We would like to create a photo montage of our activism as a local. As ETFO Durham executive members visit schools for the 2nd time, we would like to have some pictures taken to show our activism. The same could be done at political functions and events. The photo montage could be uploaded to the ETFO Durham website as well as to our individual Political Action Committee page.

Sports Team Sponsorship

Pam received an e-mail about a sponsorship request for the Whitby Chiefs Minor Mosquito AA baseball team. She forwarded the e-mail to all PAC members for their consideration.

Motion #2

Moved by: Pam Harrison
Seconded by: Cheryl Fleury-Eekma

To sponsor the Whitby Chiefs Minor Mosquito AA baseball team in the amount of \$250.00. CARRIED

5. Other:

There are 2 events coming up for Durham Pride. On Saturday, June 9, the Durham Pride Family BBQ is being held at Dnipro Hall from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. There will be vendors and community booths there. ETFO Durham will have a booth at the event and all ETFO Durham members are welcome to attend. Our local has been working in collaboration with Durham Queer Parenting to plan activities for families and children at the June 9 Family BBQ. The Durham Pride Parade is on Sunday, June 10 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. A luncheon will be provided after the parade for ETFO members, courtesy of the GSA Committee.

6. Adjournment:

Motion #3

Moved by: Andres Musta
Seconded by: Cheryl Fleury-Eekma

That the meeting be adjourned at 5:35. CARRIED

Our next PAC meeting will be on Tuesday, June 19.

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