



Stronger together Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA Office,
4:00 pm unless otherwise
indicated

October 24
Adult Ed Exec 10:00-12:00

NEW Teacher Induction

October 25
TTOC Pro-D day 8:30-12:00
"Life Teaching on Call"

Provincial PSA Pro- D Day

October 29
Health and Safety

TTOC committee

October 30
Aboriginal Education

November 4
Anti-Poverty

November 12
TTOC committee

NEWS: Union Jobs Benefit Everyone

"The labour movement supports decent wages by negotiating good collective agreements for Canadian workers. The average **unionized worker earned \$4.97 an hour more** than a non-union worker in 2012. **But unionized women earned \$6.65 more an hour than non-union women.**" <http://www.canadianlabour.ca/about-clc/canada>

YOU are WANTED on a VESTA Ad Hoc Committee!

At our last Staff Rep Assembly, VESTA announced that committees need people! We really need your input and participation to make these new ad hoc committees function.

They are: a new Social committee to organize events, a Staff Rep Assembly Steering Committee, a Technology Implementation committee, and a Public Education Advocacy committee. Staff reps are encouraged to hold a VESTA meeting at their school, publicize these committees and send in completed application forms to VESTA. Get engaged, make our union stronger, and help problem solve!



VSF Flu Vaccination Clinics

For those members who are interested, free flu vaccination clinics will be offered starting first on November 13th at Gladstone Secondary, 3:00 to 6:00 pm. Complete list of locations, dates and times should have been posted at your school!

ADVICE CORNER:

Release Time for Health & Safety Reps!

Did you know that H&S school reps are entitled to release time for doing their duties?

Under the *Workers' Compensation Act*, Part 3 Div.4 (134), a member of the school committee is entitled to time off from work to attend committee meetings, and other time necessary to fulfill other functions and duties of the committee (such as safety inspections). The employer must pay the member for that time.

Also, under Section 135, each member is entitled to "an annual educational leave totalling 8 hours... for the purposes of attending occupational health and safety training courses conducted by or with the approval of the Board." For full info: <http://www.bctf.ca/uploadedFiles/Public/HealthSafety/Resources/HealthAndSafetyHandbook.pdf>

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