ETFO Bluewater OT President's Report

It has been a very busy, busy year as the OT President of Bluewater.

I am thankful and I have had the pleasure of working with diligent and efficient OT members on my Executive this past year. I also look forward to any new members that would help contribute and assist in serving our Local.

On Labour Day, I have had some OT Members from our Local participate in the Labour Day Parade. This is an annual event that takes place in Port Elgin. I have attended the Port Elgin Labour Day's parade and events for at least 6 consecutive years now. With our ETFO flag(s) we have marched proudly down the streets of Port Elgin with other affiliate Labour groups. (e.g. Grey Bruce Labour Council; UNIFOR; OECTA; Canadian Auto Workers etc.) This parade in Port Elgin is second largest in ON. It is a full day of activities for families.

I have had the pleasure of fielding members questions, giving an empathetic ear and being present at meetings during times when our members had issues that needed resolving.

Through many e-mails and phone calls to members, this has given them the opportunity to help reinforce our Collective Agreement and assist them in better understanding their rights and responsibilities. There were many times throughout the year when I have sent an e-mail to members on specific Collective Agreement clauses that needed to be communicated during a specific time of the year. (i.e. Inclement Weather; Reactivation with the Board; Senority and LTO Roster lists; Performance Appraisals; Interview Tips; Dates for Interviews to the LTO Roster etc.

We have a very well-founded Collective Agreement thanks to our ETFO Staff Officer Susan Ansara; to Kathy McCarrel, our Chief Negotiator and to the many Presidents/Chief Negotiators before her. Collectively, they have created a very strong CA to which I have helped reinforce.

Like an OT President stated, being a President is all about relationships, too. We build relationships with our Local Executive, with ETFO Staff; with our Boards; with our OT President colleagues; with other affiliate Union Groups; with our OT Members. Building solid relationships take time. If we keep communicating clearly and positively, together we can maintain Canada's democratic society by continuing to help and serve others in our role.

I feel honoured and privileged to speak on behalf of the Bluewater Occasional Teachers at the many meetings and conferences I have attended this past 2013-14 School Year and am looking forward to another year, if elected.

Please see the attached "Highlights of the Year – 2013-14.

Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario

BLUEWATER OCCASIONAL TEACHERS' LOCAL

www.bluewater-OT.org

Highlights of the Year – 2013/14

1) **Labour Day Parade** – A group of members/Executive marches with ETFO flags.

2) **Grievances settled and ongoing** – Enforcing the contract.

3) **Brag/Website/BEAM/OT Folder** –Ongoing member communication

4) **ETFO Training:**
   - Election Guidelines Meeting – Sept. 25/13
   - Leadership – Sept. 26/13
   - PRS Training – March 20,21/14; April 24, 25/14
   - Political Action Training – April 5, 2014

5) **ETFO Meetings:**
   - Annual Meeting (Toronto, ON)-Aug. 12-15/13
   - Rep Council (Oct./Feb./May)
   - Provincial Town Hall Meeting – Oct. 30/13
   - Provincial CB Conference – Nov. 21/13

- GHOTS (Golden Horseshoe OT Presidents) Meetings (Nov.; Jan.;March;April)
- Provincial OT Local (POTS) Conferences – Sept./13; June/14

6) **Bluewater Board Meetings:**

- Union/Trustees/Administration (UTA Meetings)- Rebecca H. (1st VP); Marcia Shimoda
- NTIP (New Teacher Induction Program) Meetings Oct. 24/13; Feb. 28/14
- Organizational Health Committee Meetings – Nov./13;Dec./13;Jan/14;Feb./14;Mar./14; April 17 May./14; June 14.
- OT Performance Appraisal Meeting – Oct. 3/13
- AODA (Accessibilities for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) meetings – Sept./13; Dec./13; Mar./14
- Labour Management Meeting – May 2, 2014

7) **Other Meetings:**

- Local Executive Meetings – (9)
- Grey Bruce Labour Council Meetings – Rebecca, Marcia
- CLC(Canadian Labour Congress) –Marcia
- Health and Safety – Part 2 JHSC Certification – Ronni
- PLOTS (Professional Learning Ots') – Amanda

8) **Professional Learning** – See P.L. Report – Amanda Anderson

9) Collective Bargaining:

- Local Collective Bargaining Membership Meeting – Nov./13
- Local CB Team Meeting – Dec./13 – Kathy McCarrel and Committee members

10) Working To Improve our Community:

- Donations to four Local Women's Shelters
- Participation in Bluewater Annual Silent Auction
- Affiliate members of the Grey=Bruce Labour Council
- Contribution to the 2013 Labour Day Parade
- Donation to the United Way's Winter Warmth Program
- Donation to the Philippine Relief Efforts

Prepared by: Marcia Shimoda
ETFO Bluewater OT
President