

OPSEU Local 2100 News & Views



Role of the Union

We have been receiving a lot of messages from members inquiring about Peel Board issues. Please remember that we are your UNION, not your employer. If you have a question or need information related to your work, first look for the information or contact HR for the answers. The Union provides support to members when you are having difficulty with the employer. We want to ensure our members can advocate for themselves, and we want to have time available for our members. When we are constantly answering questions related to the employer, we don't have as much time to serve our members.

Respect your Role!

We often get calls asking if it's okay to engage in roles of other bargaining groups. We have also been contacted by CUPE 1628 stating that some of our members are being asked to fill in when office staff are away or unavailable. DO NOT do the job of another bargaining group. It diminishes our own bargaining unit, as well as that of the group whose job we are filling. If you are asked to fill in for a member of another bargaining unit, decline. If it is a problem, ask your administrator to call the union. If you are aware of someone else doing the role of an EA or DECE, notify your administrator and contact the union.

Role of the Teacher

With the decrease in allocations at the school level, we know the EA's are overwhelmed with the number of students they are assigned to. It is extremely important to take your lunches and breaks. It is also important to know that EA's do not need to be relieved to go on a break. Unless the student(s) present safety concerns, they are generally fine to be left in the class with their teacher (and DECE in the case of kindergarten classes). Teachers are increasingly hesitant to keep the students in their class, without additional support. Again, unless there is a safety or flight risk, they should be left in class with their teacher. If this presents a problem with the teacher or administrator, please contact the union.

Annual Offence Declarations

All Peel District School Board Employees are required to complete an Annual Offence Declaration (OD) online via Vista Self-Service.

- The annual OD process should be submitted online by **April 30, 2023**. The OD cannot be completed using a mobile device (such as a tablet or smart phone) due to possible display issues.
- The Action Required icon on your My Site page will take you directly to the Vista Self-Service login screen. You may also click on the following link <https://myvista.peelschools.org> to access the login screen. Once you have logged into Vista, click on the Annual Offence Declaration icon to complete your OD.
- A confirmation email will be sent to your inbox once you have completed your OD. Please ensure you save this confirmation email for your records.
- **Please note that casual members who have not completed the declaration WILL be terminated from employment.**

Please direct any questions you may have to criminalbackgroundcheck@peelsb.com.

Minimum Working Hours for Casual Employees

As per the Collective Agreement, both casual and retired casual employees shall be deemed to be terminated if they do not meet their minimum working hours. Please note the hours required for both casual and retired casuals that need be fulfilled by June 29, 2023.

- Casual Employees – forty (40) days, equivalent to two hundred and eighty (280) working hours.
- Retired Casual Employees – twenty (20) days, equivalent to one hundred and forty (140) working hours.

Local 2100 Website

Please familiarize yourself with our website by visiting www.opseu2100.ca. To view documents and information related to Local 2100 members only, and/or update your member profile you will need to login. Members can find valuable resources and information related to incident reporting, HPASP, pregnancy/parental/adoption leaves, retirement, employment insurance and much more. Please note that members cannot login using their email address at this time. **Your username** is your employee number without any preceding letters or number. For example, If your employee number is PO123456, your username is 123456.

If you need help logging in, forgot your password, or need help finding something on our website, please email Paulina Medeiros at secretary-treasurer@opseu2100.ca.

Bargaining Update

We are getting a lot of questions about the negotiated pay increase. While the Central Agreement has been ratified, it's important to note that any pay increases won't take effect until ALL locals that are a part of OCEW have ratified their local agreements. We don't know when that will be completed, but it is not likely to be before the new 2023-2024 school year.

Your Local Bargaining Committee has been hard at work on your behalf. They have been reviewing the current Collective Agreement, along with the Demand Set items members voted for, and have been working on proposals, along with our OPSEU Staff Representative. The Bargaining Committee has not yet met with the employer's parties. There have been delays, but we continue to work on setting up dates to meet with the employer. We value the trust the members have given us in negotiating your requests.

Your Bargaining Committee



Back: Jason Hughes, Natacha Verdiel, Melody Hurtubise, Gena Di Giovanni

Front: Patricia Rizzo, April Bello, Krista Den Braasem

Edvantage

Edvantage offers great rewards and discounts to Local 2100 members and their families through partnerships with retailers and businesses. Edvantage cards are no longer being printed as members can access a digital version of their card by visiting www.edvantage.ca. Members are asked to provide their organization name (OPSEU Local 2100), their last name and Edvantage number.

If you do not have an Edvantage card or have forgotten your Edvantage number, please email Paulina Medeiros at secretary-treasurer@opseu2100.ca.

Homewood Health

The Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) is offered through Homewood Health and is available free of charge to all Peel District School employees. They can be reached by calling 1-800-663- 1142 or by visiting www.homeweb.ca. Homewood Health has also launched a new program called Homewood Pathfinder, which can be found on their website or at <https://eap.homewoodpathfinder.com>. We strongly encourage members to familiarize themselves with this great resource. We are very fortunate to have this resource at our fingertips.

OPSEU Emails

We are still receiving a lot of calls and emails from members regarding the increasing number of emails being sent from OPSEU. Emails from “OPSEU Local 2100” provide our members with specific updates and information from your Local Executives and we strongly encourage all members to open and read these emails.

Please email Paulina Medeiros at secretary-treasurer@opseu2100.ca for any questions regarding your Local 2100 username or password.

Emails sent from OPSEU/SEPFO Regional office show “OPSEU/SEFPO” displayed as the sender. These emails provide updates from OPSEU as a whole and include all Sector and OPSEU updates.

For any questions regarding your OPSEU Regional username or password, please email OPSEUCommunications@opseu.org.