

Equity Update since April 2024

OSSTF/FEESO is deeply committed to equity, anti-racism and anti-oppression work so that our Federation, workplaces, and communities are equitable, inclusive, and accessible spaces. The Federation continues to be engaged in several activities as per the Action Plan to Support Equity, Anti-Racism, and Anti-Oppression. A few of the completed and ongoing actions are found below.

- OSSTF/FEESO annually commits funds for an [International Assistance Program](#) to support projects that reflect our commitment to protecting and enhancing public education, social justice and equality in various parts of the world. The International Assistance Advisory Work Group (Human Rights Committee) meets to review applications.

For the 2023-2024 Federation year, the committee reviewed 154 applications and approved 18 from organizations in Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

- In May 2024, OSSTF/FEESO sought applications from members for vacancies on the 2SLGBTQIA+ Committee, Equity Advisory Work Group, and Long-Term Disability Advisory Work Group.

The application deadline for the Persons Living with Disability(ies) Advisory Work Group is June 14, 2024.

- The second cohort of the OSSTF/FEESO Equity Mentorship Program (2024-2026) launched in May 2024. A D/BU memo (#130) seeking mentee candidates for the program was issued in May 2024, and a D/BU memo seeking mentor candidates will be issued in the Fall of 2024.
- The National Indigenous Education and Reconciliation National Gathering (NIERNG) is a grassroots collective of individuals representing organizations and involved in Indigenous Education across Turtle Island. The Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation hosted NIERNG 2024 from May 14 – 16, 2024 in sunny Saskatoon. Provincial staff attended and learned about decolonizing education, continuing to build relationships, and moving reconciliation forward with partners across Canada.
- [The Canadian Teachers' Federation \(CTF/FCE\) Women's Symposium](#) is an important event that brings together women leaders from across CTF/FCE Member and Associate Organizations to explore topics aimed at strengthening women's status in the education sector and society.

The 2024 CTF/FCE Women's Symposium was held from June 2 to 4, in Fredericton, New Brunswick. This year's theme, "Unite, Inspire, Uplift," explored topics that recognized women's unique, lived experiences of women, and the obstacles they face, particularly in education.

The Symposium program, designed with diversity in mind, offered a rich mix of discussion panels, workshops, social events, and networking opportunities.

Thirty-six (36) members from across the province submitted their indication of interest in attending this Symposium and from those 36, ten members were chosen based on whether applicants were actively working on women's issues not only in their Bargaining Units and Districts, but also in their worksites and communities.

- Registration will open in June for Bargaining Unit Equity, Anti-Racism and Equity Officer training, which will be conducted in Fall 2024 and Spring 2025. Bargaining Units are encouraged to email Membership-Database@osstf.ca with the name of the elected/appointed Bargaining Unit Equity, Anti-Racism and Equity Officer so that they receive correspondence from the provincial office.

A D/BU Memo with registration details will be issued in June 2024.

- In July 2024, OSSTF/FEESO will be sending a delegation, including two members from an OSSTF/FEESO advisory work group, council, or standing committee to the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists' (CBTU) Region 1 Conference in Syracuse, New York. The president of the CBTU-Canada chapter and CUPE's Secretary-Treasurer, [Yolanda K. McClean](#), will lead the conference. The Ontario Chapter consists of members from international and national unions residing predominately in Ontario, Quebec, and across Canada.

OSSTF/FEESO members, Bargaining Units and Districts interested in attending this conference can register and apply for provincial funding under accounts #2015 (Union/Health and Safety Training Programs), #2016 (Anti-Racism and Equity Training for Members), and #2018 (Anti-Racism and Equity Training).

Please click [HERE](#) for access to up-to-date registration information.

- This year, The Toronto Caribbean Carnival will kick off its festivities from June 15, 2024, through to the Grand Parade on August 3, 2024. Once again, OSSTF/FEESO will sponsor the Junior Carnival activities that celebrate youth. The organizers expect over 40,000 parents and youth to take part or spectate at this family-friendly event. OSSTF/FEESO members and their families are encouraged to attend this event. A D/BU Memo will be issued with the details for the OSSTF/FEESO Information Booth. Volunteers are welcome.

- The Pride Toronto Street Fair will occur from Friday, June 28, until Sunday, June 30, 2024. A D/BU memo detailing the annual OSSTF/FEESO Information Booth and Toronto Pride Parade will be issued. Please visit [Pride Toronto](#) for more information.
- Please click [HERE](#) for the updated version of the OSSTF/FEESO Action Plan to Support Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression for the 2024-2025 year.
- Account #2085 (The Advancing Human Rights Special District Programs) has increased in usage and a broadening of funded projects. Account #2085 has been exhausted for the 2023-2024 school year. Applications will open on July 1, 2024, for the 2024-2025 Federation year.
- Applications for the 2024-2025 school year for provincial funding for Account #2018 (Anti-Racism and Equity Training) and Account #2016 (Anti-Racism and Equity Training for Members) will open on July 1, 2024.