

# OT UPDATE

**ESL Workshops:** After 2 successful workshops in January, Tania Gonsalves and Karen Thompson presented Part 1 again at the Derry Byrne Centre to 50 more OT's. There were even 20 OT's on a waiting list! As before, each participant received a ½ day compensation and a certificate for personal portfolios. Part 1 and a new Part 2 will be presented next Fall. Watch for the information and sign up! Sign up will only be accepted when the workshops are posted.

**Special Education ADHD:** A very informative and interactive workshop was presented by Margaret Labelle on March 25<sup>th</sup>. This is a Provincial OECTA initiative and much valuable documentation was distributed as well as certification. Many thanks to Margaret Labelle who is a specialist in this area with our Board.

**Updated OT Lists:** Brian Cano, a fellow Occasional teacher, has been painstakingly reviewing the OT address information so that e-mails sent from the office will be sent to as many OT's as possible. We have experienced some glitches but the "bugs" are becoming less obvious. If you have a new e-mail address please let us know so we can keep you in the OT Info loop. We also put information on the [oectaottawa.ca](http://oectaottawa.ca) site and on the in-school OT UPDATE

**Sabrina's Law:** It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to make sure you are ready to respond to any emergency in this respect. The Board has prepared an online course that you must complete before school resumes in September, 2010. This is a requirement for OT employment from this time forward. If you have any questions of any difficulties accessing the course, please contact John Spencer at 613-224-4455.

Note: The certificate that you receive after successful completion of the course can be downloaded and added to your portfolio. The Board will record your successful completion.

**Smartboard Workshop:** The workshop for this year is now full. There will be a future workshop scheduled for next school year.

**BE WARY, BE WISE:** After a great workshop given by Provincial's Bill Stratton, the nearly 100 OT's present were well prepared to meet the legal aspects of being a teacher in today's Ontario. This workshop will certainly be repeated in the future. If you have any questions on what is expected of you as a teacher. . .ask, don't take chances!

**Remember : Unit General Meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 pm at Notre Dame High School.**

Mary Major, Occasional Teacher President

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