

# Unit Updates

## TO OECTA FROM YOUR YOUNG FRIENDS IN LESOTHO: THAKANENG IS A NEW LIFE FOR US

### Important Dates

- Posting of updated vacancy list, June 11
- Staff Reps Meeting, June 20
- OECTA Summer Program, July 24-26
- Kindergarten Matters Symposia, August 20, 21
- World Teacher Day Mass, October 2
- Focus on Faith Workshop, November 6

*The following Article is from two young leaders who are being trained to help with programming at the Thakaneng\* Youth Centre in Pitseng, Lesotho being built through the generosity of OECTA members.*

We are talking to several hundred youth in and near Pitseng who would use Thakaneng Youth Centre. You already



Setloke and Matseko  
(Thakaneng Youth Leaders)

know that Lesotho has the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest rate of HIV/AIDS in the world and we have few parents. We are poor and have no way to look forward. It is hard when you do not have anyone to help you grow up – we get into trouble and make mistakes. Some have stopped caring about life. Some have no hope anymore.



### **Thakaneng Youth Centre is a new life**

**for us.** We will have programs, our first library and a place to get help. We are learning a peer tutoring program to help the orphans and vulnerable children with

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### Contact Us

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## UNIT EXECUTIVE 2007-2008

**Elaine McMahon**, President

**Anne Lamont**, Elementary Bargaining Unit President

**Carol Lo Mascolo**, Secondary Bargaining Unit President

**Mary Major**, Occasional Bargaining Unit President

**Cecilia DiFelice**, Treasurer

**Sharyn Lawrence**, Recording Secretary

**Monique Lortie**, Councillor, Elementary

**Kevin McCarthy**, Councillor, Elementary

**Mara Torcaso**, Councillor, Elementary

**Diane Bolduc**, Councillor, Secondary

**Victoria Cybulski-Blank**, Councillor, Secondary

**Len St. Clair**, Councillor, Secondary

## OECTA SUMMER PROGRAM

There will be two sessions of OECTA summer program courses this year - **July 24th through July 26th and August 21st through August 23rd**. Registration takes place on-line at [www.oecta.on.ca](http://www.oecta.on.ca). **Registration ends June 21st, 2006.**

The following courses are available:

### **E01. Elements of Music in the Classroom**

Gr. 1 - 8 July 24, 25, 26

This hands-on session provides an overview of music notation, rhythms and recorder fingering. Participants will examine the orchestra and journey through the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and 20th Century music periods. Teachers will examine the curriculum expectations for each grade level, their meanings and how to best emphasize these in their program. You will experiment with a variety of games and musical instruments to further reinforce the guidelines, and have an opportunity to lead the group in a bell choir using the three standard conducting patterns. Participants are encouraged to bring their own recorders.

### **E11. Differentiated Learning in the FSL Classroom**

Gr. 4 - 10 July 24, 25, 26

This course is designed to assist F.S.L. teachers in delivering lessons, which focus on differentiated learning. Teachers will be introduced to a variety of resources, activities and ideas, which develop language acquisition in both Core French and French Immersion programs. Teach F.S.L. through high interest kinesthetic, visual and auditory activities

### **E17. D.P.A. Ambassador Program**

Gr. 1 - 8 July 24, 25, 26

This active cross-curricular and collaborative workshop is designed to train teachers to confidently implement D.P.A. in their classrooms and schools. Participants will examine the components of fitness and safety considerations as well as leave with classroom ready lessons to integrate into many subject areas. The end result is a school ready program creating student D.P.A. Ambassadors and a co-operative leadership opportunity between students and teachers.

### **E15. Balanced Mathematics: Organizing For a Fun, Teacher Friendly Year**

Gr. 1 - 6 July 24, 25, 26

This course is an introduction to balanced math through a framework that allows students of all abilities to enjoy math and to develop problem solving and communication skills. Teachers will leave the workshop with much of the planning and organization in place to run a balanced math program in their classrooms for the next school year.

### **G29. Beginning Teachers "What I Wish I Knew When I Started"**

All Teachers July 24, 25, 26

This workshop assists beginning teachers to overcome stress in their lives. Participants will examine what to ask on day one, how the sys-

tem works, records, marking, testing, curriculum documents, antidotal notes, report card comments, administration, who to go to for help, dealing with stress, teenagers, organization, "binders", parents, behavior management, coaching, volunteering and making time for yourself.

### **E20. Teaching Special Education Survival Kit**

Gr. 3 - 8 July 24, 25, 26

This three-art course: "Topping of Math Strands", "Nourishment for the Mind" enhancing literacy and "Learning about the Self" through visual arts explores ways to make learning functional for special needs students. Suggestions, strategies and support for programming for identified and non-identified students with special needs. Participants will engage in professional dialogue and exchange of ideas that may act as a springboard for other ideas. This course will hopefully motivate educators to try new strategies with their students. Participants will leave affirmed and validated and with a survival kit to use in September.

### **S23. Using Graphing Calculators to Enrich Your Math Class**

Gr. 9 - 12 August 21, 22, 23

This workshop is for teachers who are just starting to use graphing calculators in their high school mathematics courses. Develop skills and build confidence with the technology in order to maximize their use with students. Classroom ready, hands-on activities linked to expectations throughout the high school curriculum will be shared. Develop lesson plans/activities specific to the courses you will be teaching in the fall semester. Although emphasis will be placed on use of the T183/84 graphing calculators, teachers will also be exposed to the use of Computer Algebra Systems using the T189/T1 Inspire technology.

### **G27. Accessing the Curriculum with Assistive Technology**

All Teachers August 21, 22, 23

Explore and assess the various technologies available that enable elementary and high school students to access the curriculum. Match the learner with the technology. Devise an implementation plan for the integration of this equipment and programs into the classroom. Learn how to support students with homework by optimizing the home computer to meet their needs. Review the Specialized Equipment Amount to access assistive technology for students in need. Tutorials, websites, and first hand knowledge will be shared liberally.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Congratulations to .....*

Natalie Albrough (St. Daniel) and her husband Brett on their marriage  
Andrew Currie (St. Joseph) on the birth of his son, Benjamin Andrew  
Jennifer MacDonald (Frank Ryan) on the birth of her daughter, Kathleen Elizabeth  
Tracy Murray (St. Joseph) on the birth of her daughter, Jessica Juliette  
Heather O'Shaughnessy (St. Joseph) on the birth of her daughter, Brooke  
Sandra deSouza on the birth of her son, Sabastian Paul

### *Sincere condolences to .....*

Christianne Bartoszewicz (St. Catherine) on the death of her father, Antoni Bartoszewicz  
Richard Bercuson (St. Nicholas) on the death of his mother-in-law Anne Cooplestone Harris  
Brad Boucher (St. Pius X) on the death of his grandfather  
Derek Britt (St. Matthew) on the death of his aunt, Jean Fortier  
Josee Charbonneau (Good Shepherd) on the death of her mother, Gertie Charbonneau  
Elisa Condon (Notre Dame) on the death of her aunt, Dorothy Brown  
Hugh Connolly (St. Bernard) on the death of his mother, Helen Connolly  
Dan Coulombe (St. Patrick's HS) on the death of his aunt, Blanche MacNeill  
Rene Coutu (St. Joseph) and Laura Shanahan (Student Services) on the death of their mother, Aline Boivin Coutu  
Chuck Deighton (L.B. Pearson) on the death of his sister, Mathilda Joan Deighton  
Linda Desharnais-Simser (St. Catherine) on the death of her father, Sylvio Desharnais  
Johanne Fowler (Immaculata) on the death of her brother-in-law, Michel Raymond  
Kim Kenna (Good Shepherd) on the death of her grandfather, Tom Traer  
Kelly Kinahan (L.B. Pearson) on the death of her brother Eugene Patrick Kinahan  
Rose-Mary Kolanko (St. John the Apostle) on the death of her father, John Krushelnyski  
Oriana Laderoute (All Saints) on the death of her father, Guido Scocchia  
Linda Legault (St. Bernard) on the death of her brother, Cameron Greenough  
Julie Letourneau (St. Patrick's HS) on the death of her grandmother, Simone Carriere  
Meg Lunney (St. Catherine) on the death of her father, Edmund Lunney  
Penny-Lynne Martin (St. Claire) and Shawn Martin (John Paul II) on the death of their grandfather, Edgar Lalande  
Gabriel Massicotte (Info. Tech.) on the death of his father, Renald Massicotte  
France Mathieu (St. Marguerite d'Youville) on the death of her mother, Suzanne Mathieu  
Bernadette Murphy (St. Phillip) on the death of her husband, Gary Murphy  
Jody Myles (Notre Dame) on the death of his grandfather, Dennis Gillespie  
Marion Pora (Holy Family) on the death of her sister, Elaine Campbell  
Dawn Quigley (St. Pius X) on the death of her uncle, Daniel Duggan  
July Reid (Notre Dame) on the death of her grandfather, James Reid  
Michael Rowley (St. Patrick's HS) on the death of his grandmother, Kathleen Clark  
Kevin Shannon (St. Andrew) and Sandra Shannon (Assumption) on the death of their grandmother, Jean Massiah  
Martin Wee (Our Lady of Peace) on the death of his mother, Mrs. K.B. Wee  
Claire Wilson (All Saints) on the death of her father, Charles Bagnell  
John Yemensky (St. Patrick's HS) on the death of his grandmother, Mildred McKenna  
Karen Zappia (Immaculata) on the death of her husband, Tony Zappia  
Sandra Zirollo (Guardian Angels) on the death of her father, Silvio Zirollo

## THAKANENG

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school work when the Centre opens. There will be a counsellor to listen to us (*funded by the Stephen Lewis Foundation*). A day each month grandmothers looking after many orphans will come to get support. Teachers will come to learn good ways to teach children. We will learn life and pre-employment skills, about HIV/AIDS and gender equity, communication, problem solving, sexual health and sexual violence. We will learn to make a difference in our communities and become leaders in Lesotho. You see, for those of us who cannot pay the school fees, this Centre will give us a chance to learn. We will learn how to help each other. We will learn that there is hope and we are not forgotten.

After our mothers and fathers died we worried that no-one would look after us but now we see that we will be cared for... we now feel like we have a Canadian family. If our mothers were alive, they would thank you. Words cannot tell

you how much we appreciate that you are raising money for this Youth Centre...the only way we can thank you is to learn and to become good citizens in Lesotho.

We speak for every person in the entire Pitseng area, especially the youth,

**Rea leboha haholo**  
*(We thank you very much)*



## OECTA OTTAWA SELECTS NEW LOGO

The Unit recently went through a process of selecting a new logo. The Unit Executive selected the winning design at their May meeting. **Cindy Nevins**, a sign language interpreter with the Board, submitted the winning design. In describing her design, Cindy says "The flame symbolizes the spiritual, emotional and social knowledge and values that every child needs to thrive. The OECTA teacher is cradling this flame in her hand, ready to pass it along to the child. The child's hand is reaching up, ready to take the flame that he will carry with him in his own hand, and one day will pass along to another child."



Ontario English  
**CATHOLIC TEACHERS**  
Association

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