

Subject: OSTU News
From: OSTU 2nd Vice President <ostu2vp@outlook.com>
Date: 11/27/2023, 7:59 PM
To: <keith@ostu.ca>

[View this email in your browser](#)

OSTU News

#6 – November 2023



**“Teaching is
the profession
that teaches all the
other professions.”**

—UNKNOWN



Professional Boundary Issues

On our last Pro-D day, we held a professional boundary issues workshop. The following is some of the information covered during the workshop, that may be a helpful reminder to you as our jobs are extremely complex.

Note: This is not a definitive list, nor does each of these behaviours apply to all teachers in every context or situation.

- discussions about the student's or teacher's private life
 - socializing with the student as a friend
- comments or discussions on or about sexual matters
- compliments or comments on the student's physical appearance
 - verbal or written expressions of affection
 - off-duty visits with the student
 - visits to the student's home
 - secrecy surrounding the relationship
- electronic mail/social media conversations

Pensions & Retirement: Divorce or Separation

The end of a spousal relationship may affect your pension; just like a house or car, your former spouse may be entitled to part of it. You and your former spouse may both be members of BC's Teachers' Pension Plan or members of different pension plans; either way, the value of your pensions will be treated just like any other family property.

If you are going through a divorce or separation, before you take any steps that will affect your pension, both you and your former spouse should get independent legal advice about your individual rights. Neither Teachers' Pension Plan nor BC Pension Corporation can provide advice on separation or divorce and your pension.

<https://tpp.pensionsbc.ca/divorce-and-separation>



Meet the OSTU crew! This is Carla Garrett. Her official title is “Mentorship Program Coordinator”. She guides the mentoring program journey by providing ongoing guidance, support, and feedback to program participants. She is grateful to be able to help support the early career teachers in contracts, late career mentors, and the TTOC mentorship program. She runs training sessions and helps facilitate professional development opportunities. Carla works in the union office Wednesday mornings and can be reached at ostumentorship@outlook.com

Applied Skills and French Immersion Teachers...

We want to hear from you! Come join our Focus Groups to share your thoughts and ideas on your role in SD67. Meetings will be held at the OSTU office (697 Martin Street)

Applied Skills Teachers

Wednesday, Dec. 6th at 4pm

French Immersion Teachers

Thursday, Dec. 7th at 4pm

Know Your Contract
Continuing Status

Here are the two ways a teacher can convert to a continuing status:

Path A: The contract that puts you over the finish line (12 continuous months) converts you to a continuing status. Your FTE is the lowest FTE of your contracts in the last 12 months.

Path B: You have four years to work enough contracts to earn the equivalent of 10 FTE months of service. Think of it like a bucket. Every little contract you work gets converted to an amount of FTE time and is added to your bucket. Once your bucket is full, and possibly overflowing, then your NEXT contract will make you convert to a continuing status. Note: one of those contracts must have been 4 continuous teaching months in length.

Contest!

Congrats to Chris Irvine, our lucky winner from the previous newsletter!

The 10th person to reply and tell me who is invited to the focus groups in December, will win a prize! -Lauren



Copyright © 2023 OSTU, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#)

This email was sent to keith@ostu.ca

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Okanagan Skaha Teachers' Union · 697 Martin Street · Penticton, BC V2A 5L5 · Canada