

THE Picketpost

March 13

YOUR DAILY LINK TO LIFE ON THE LINES!

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Provincial Rally

To maximize media exposure, a provincial rally at Queen's Park in Toronto has been scheduled for **Thursday 16 March**. At least one bus load from Niagara (that's 47 people) will be going and if interest is high additional buses can be booked.

Planning time is short so a commitment is needed from members ASAP. To underscore the importance of this event AND as an added incentive, members who go to the rally will be given credit for **two days of picketing**.

We believe that this event has the power to pressure the government and rally the members who attend.

If you are interested please get in touch with your picket captain or email opseu242@bellnet.ca ASAP. The bus or buses will leave from the Soccer Club around 9:00 am. Final details will follow.

From the Lines

Thanks to Lucchetta Homes for their generous donation of Tim Horton's certificates on the Welland lines and to Shelley Jones from Support Staff who supplied the Niagara-on-the-Lake line with cookies.

Comments from the lines

"It's cold. I'm wet. Where's the coffee?"

A surprising benefit of walking the line:

"It's really a joy to talk to our colleagues. We share concerns about our students and get to know each other at the same time."

"Has anybody seen Jim's keys? His lights are on (again)!"

"All we are saying is...give fleece a chance!"



Guy Guindon grabs a nap after Friday's picketing

Fashion trend on the lines

The weather hasn't dampened our creative spirit when it comes to dressing for the line. Fashion tips include

- Kitchen Catchers make great boot liners.
- Ski wear without snow is **in** this year.
- Layers work especially when they're plastic.
- Duct tape your sign to your body in high winds.
- Use Mop & Glo to waterproof your sign (really!)
- Even though we've abandoned hair care and makeup, the dental folks remind us to continue to brush and floss in view of our high carb consumption.

Media Watch

"They're doing this for us." (a marketing student, National Post)

"The issues here are class size and overcrowding. These issues were clearly identified in Bob Rae's review of the college system, which was commissioned by the Liberal government." (Peter Kormos, St. Catharines Standard)

These quotes reflect the some of the published support for our cause.

It's your turn. Contact Premier McGuinty, Minister Chris Bentley and your MPP. Tell them about the real issues at stake. Remind him we are standing up for quality education. Check www.opseu242.741.com for contact information and letter templates.

Weather Advice

Tuesday March 13

The forecast for Tuesday is...No more full moons are in sight! 60% chance of rain or snow with 30 km/h winds.

Dear Ms. Pick-It:

Dear Ms. Pick It

Some people are writing nasty things about us. I think they're being mean! Help!

Signed,

A true 'blue' picketer
in the Falls



Carol Overholt shows off the latest in picket-line fashion.

Dear True Blue,

Thick skins are in this year! Sometimes it's hard being right! Take action. Talk to family and friends, write a letter to the editor or send an email to your MPP. You'll feel better.

OLRB/CRC/FYI

The Ontario Labour Relations Board and the College Relations Commission have notified OPSEU that they have been flooded with e-mails which they believe might have originated from our members. We have been advised by our legal counsel that the OLRB and the CRC should not be approached or lobbied. No good or useful purpose can be served by approaching them.

There is no indication that these e-mails are coming from OPSEU members, but please be advised that you should avoid this activity.

Ms Pick-It advises you
to check the websites for up-dates.

Stay Connected!

Visit these websites for up-to-date news releases and local announcements:

www.opseu.org and

opseu242.741.com

Strike HQ phone:

905.735.2519