

– Vote for –

J.P. Desilets

for TBU/OTBU President

I am seeking your support for my candidacy for the position of President of the Teacher/Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit of OSSTF/FEESO District 1. The experience that I bring to this role is extensive and comprehensive.

Chief Negotiator Teacher Bargaining Unit, 2011-2013. This was one of the most trying times in labour relations in our union's history as we faced the oppressive nature of Bill 115, a repressive piece of legislation that contained numerous strips to our collective agreement. Although local negotiating was stifled, I was able to initiate changes to the surplus and redundancy process in the collective agreement. Additionally, I was the Chief Negotiator for the Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit, 2015-2019. I provided the skills and abilities that had been developed in other areas to work with the OTBU to negotiate the local collective agreement.

District President OSSTF/FEESO District 1, 2012-2020. I worked collaboratively with the leadership of 8 different Bargaining Units on a host of issues. I was called upon to lead the bargaining process, to represent individual members in disciplinary meetings and return-to-work meetings, provide ongoing advice in the grievance and arbitration process and negotiate grievance settlements.

Provincial Collective Bargaining Committee 2013-2018. I served on two subcommittees: Contract Maintenance & the Negotiations Advisory subcommittee. The Contract Maintenance subcommittee developed workshops to train leaders throughout Ontario, while the Negotiations Advisory subcommittee developed model language to be shared with Bargaining Committees across the province.

Grievance Officer Teacher Bargaining Unit, 2019-2020. Working as the chairperson of the Grievance Committee, I offered advice on pursuing grievances to rectify contractual violations and resolve member issues.

Provincial Protective Services Committee 2020-2023. I am a member of the Trends in Arbitration subcommittee that examines patterns in labour relations, using that information to develop materials to enhance the knowledge base of union leaders, and provide advice and guidance regarding contract maintenance and grievances.

Teachers'/Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit President, 2021-2023. Working to uphold the terms of the collective agreements during one of the most trying times in recent history. I have done my utmost to foster positive relationships at all levels to achieve resolutions to ongoing issues. I continue to specialize in member protection by pursuing further training in conducting workplace investigations. We are also finally entering the first phase of issuing rebates to deal with surplus funds currently being held in trust by OTIP.

President of the Timmins & District Labour Council since 2013. Working in conjunction with the Ontario Federation of Labour & the Canadian Labour Congress on a number of initiatives and campaigns.

I have a wealth of experience and a proven track record to offer as a candidate for the position of T/OT Bargaining Unit President. I have always fought for what is fair and just. I continually explore ways to improve our collective agreement and the provisions that impact the day-to-day working lives of our members. My solemn promise to you is to continue to offer the level of service I have delivered over the past 17 years of continuous service to the Federation.

