



Annual Meeting, May 12 and 14, 2026 Constitutional Motions

1. Mover: Theo Shivnaraine

Seconded: Sujatha Chintakunta

BIRT:

Article 6, be amended by the deletion of:

[6.1.3.1](#): Notwithstanding Article 6.1.3, no member shall be eligible to hold any released position on the Local Executive after having served a total of five (5) one-year terms at a position for which full time release has been provided/lifetime. This is inclusive of history, going back from the year 2021/2022.

Effective immediately upon approval, allowing members to seek re-election to released positions without restriction, provided they maintain active membership status.

Rationale / Supporting Statement:

- Supports **continuous member participation** and preserves rights guaranteed under the Provincial Constitution.
- Allows the Local to benefit from **experienced leadership** without arbitrary restrictions.
- Ensures **governance flexibility**, particularly in specialized or critical executive roles.
- Aligns with the Provincial Constitution's protection of members' **right to be nominated**.

2. Mover: Gabrielle Blais-Jones

Seconded: Laura Barrett

BIRT:

Article VI, Section 1 be amended to read:

6.1.3 The term of office of the executive shall be two (2) years starting in 2027-2028. The term will commence on July 1 of the year of the election and end on June 30 two years hence.

6.1.3.1 Notwithstanding Article 6.1.3, no member shall be eligible to hold any released position on the Local Executive after having served three (3) consecutive two-year terms at a position for which release has been provided.

Rationale:

6.1.3 - Two-year terms would halve our election costs, and would allow the Executive and Released Officers to carry out longer-term visions for the Local. This would also allow for more time to be dedicated to Constitutional Amendments or other Local business on years that there is no election.

6.1.3.1 - The current language prevents experienced released officers from serving after a lifetime maximum of five years, leading to the loss of institutional knowledge. By including the word "consecutive", this motion aims to balance this knowledge with experience gained by working in the field.

3. Mover: Gabrielle Blais-Jones

Seconder: Laura Barrett

BIRT:

the following sections be amended for housekeeping purposes

Article VII, Section 2 - Duties of Officers:

7.2.1 The President shall:...

Article VII, Section 3 - Duties of the Vice Presidents: heading deleted

7.2.2 The duties of the two (2) vice-presidents shall be determined by the executive...

(h) The Vice-Presidents shall ensure...

7.2.3 The Treasurer shall:...

Article VII, Section 3 - Duties of the Executive Members: heading shifted above
Secretary

7.3.1 The Secretary shall:

7.3.2 The Executive Members shall:...

7.3.3 Any Executive Member...

Article 9, Section 3 - Elections Procedure

9.3.4.1 - Renumber to 9.3.5 - mutatis mutandis

BYLAW I FEES: Renumber 1.1.1, 1.2.1 and 1.3.1 as 1.1.1, 1.1.2 and 1.1.3

Mutatis mutandis

Rationale:

This is a housekeeping motion that would organize the duties of local officers in keeping with the Local's existing structure. It also fixes some erroneous numbering to clean up the document.

4. Mover: Christina Meynell

Seconder: Greg Deitcher

BIRT:

Bylaw 1 - Fees, Section 1.2.1 be amended to read:

A local levy of .005 percent (gross salary x .00005) shall be deducted from each member's salary and the TDSB is authorized to make such deduction at source and remit the deducted funds to ETFO - Toronto Occasional Teachers' Local.

Rationale:

The local has four sources of income:

- ETFO Provincial fee rebates
- Local dues - 0.01% of gross salary
- TDSB PL subsidy = \$25000
- GIC investments

A staggering 75% of the local's budget is spent paying released officers' salaries.

Yet, budget lines that directly benefit members (workshops, socials) have been significantly reduced to 2.6%.

The local no longer rents office space, prints or mails out newsletters and pocket calendars and there has been a substantial reduction in member engagement activities.

Our OT counterparts in the Secondary panel pay .005% to their local.

Local dues should be reduced to ease financial burden.

5. Mover: Christina Meynell

Seconded: John Pacocha

BIRT:

d) Vice-President-woman only position be deleted from **Article VI Section 1-Local Executive** and the current election be declared null and void.

Rationale:

There is a significant reduction in the number of OTs on the TDSB roster with more TDSB cuts to come.

A staggering 75% of the local's total budget goes to paying released officers' salaries. A meager 2.6% of the total budget is actually allocated to budget lines that promote meaningful service to the larger membership.

The local is struggling to attain a balanced budget and at risk of going bankrupt.

Nearly half a million dollars is spent to pay on overstaffing.

Members can reset the priorities by taking control of how the local's funds are spent.

It's your local.

6. Mover: Gabrielle Blais-Jones

Seconded: Laura Barrett

BIRT:

Article 7, Section 3.2 be amended by the deletion of:

(m) ensure that all Member meetings, including Opportunity to Respond Meetings and Follow Up meetings in which members are facing allegations, are documented with hard copy notes. These notes shall be stored in a central file in the Local's office so that they can be accessed by all Local officers when necessary.

Rationale:

The Treasurer is not involved in OTR meetings or other meetings where members are facing allegations and thus does not have notes of these meetings to print.

7. Mover: Andrew Chittka

Seconded: Gabrielle Blais-Jones

BIRT:

Article IX, Section 2 be amended to read:

9.2.2 The nomination form shall be emailed in January in the January newsletter and shall be posted on the Local website in January, and this shall be at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the nomination deadline.

9.3.3 Candidate profiles shall be emailed to the membership in the March newsletter and placed on the Local website within seven (7) days following the Winter General Meeting and at least six (6) weeks prior to the Local Annual Meeting.

Rationale:

This change from 'mailed' to 'emailed' aligns with current practice, codifying the present structure. Other references to mailing in the Constitution and Bylaws already say emailed.

8. Mover: Andrew Chittka

Seconded: Gabrielle Blais-Jones

BIRT:

Article XIII, Section 2 be amended to read:

8.2.2 b) receive the draft budget for the next fiscal year;

AND

BIRT:

Article VII, Section 1 be amended to read:

8.1.2 A General Meeting shall be held no later than November 30 of each year. The agenda shall include a report from the ETFO Annual Meeting and approval of that fiscal year's budget.

Rationale:

The Local does not know how much money it will actually be receiving from ETFO until the fall, at which point a more accurate budget can be presented to the membership for amendments and approval. Presentation of a draft budget at the May Annual Meeting will give members a first opportunity for feedback, and when the Local has a better understanding of its funding levels in the fall, a more accurate budget can be presented and approved by the membership – similar to how the process unfolded this past year, with the Special Meeting in September.

9. Mover: Andrew Chittka

Seconder: Sophie Kroesen

BIRT:

Bylaws 1 - Fees be amended to read:

1.2.1 A local levy of .30 percent (gross salary x .0030) shall be deducted from each member's salary and the TDSB is authorized to make such deduction at source and remit the deducted funds to ETFO - Toronto Occasional Teachers' Local.

Rationale:

This motion is being submitted as a facilitating motion in the event a change is needed for the Local to present a balanced budget. The levy amount in this motion is the levy amount of the Local before Provincial takeover a number of years ago.