



**ETFO - Toronto Occasional Teachers' Local  
Winter General Meeting  
Wednesday, February 25, 2026  
Location: Online (via Zoom)  
Time: 5:00pm - 7:30pm**

**Released Executive:** Marisa Gallippi, Laura Barrett, Gabrielle Blais-Jones, Sophie Kroesen, Andrew Chittka

**Executive Members:** Sujatha Chintakunta, Beverley Flynn-Samuels, Nathan Goveas, Melissa Major, Jeishan Rajakulasingam, Theo Shivnaraine

**Parliamentarian:** Yolanda B'Dacy

**Secretary:** K. Justin Ngo

**Human Rights Officer:** Yolanda B'Dacy

**5:00pm - Meeting Called to Order**

**Number of members in attendance at the time it was called: 20**

**Quorum: 10**

- 1. Land Acknowledgement** - Jason Martorino (English) / Danielle Ingster (French)
- 2. Human Rights Statement** - Theo Shivnaraine
- 3. Approval of the Agenda** - Rajakulasingam / McCarrey

**Winter GM Motion 1**

**Rajakulasingam / McCarrey**

BIRT The 2026 Winter General Meeting Agenda be approved

**CARRIED**

**4. Approval of the Fall GM November 2025 minutes - James / Ingster**

**Winter GM Motion 2**

**James / Ingster**

BIRT The 2025 Fall General Meeting minutes be approved.

***CARRIED as Amended***

**5. Timed Item: 5:15 p.m.** AM ETFO RESOLUTION #1

**Winter GM Motion 3**

**Blais-Jones / Barrett**

BIRT ETFO launch, in consultation with Occasional Teacher local leaders, a digital PA/PR campaign on the staffing crisis in our schools: unfilled vacancies, loss of preparation time, and the persistent use of uncertified persons who stand in for education workers. This would include a discussion of the underlying reasons, the impact this is having on providing a quality public education system, key demands to address this issue, and an internal educational campaign on the role and importance of certified occasional teachers.

***CARRIED***

**8. Timed Item 5:30** Treasurer Report and **5:45pm** Q & A

**Andrew Chittka** addresses the local.

**6. President Report - Marisa Gallippi**

-Lianne Wyatt Benevolent Fund which provides financial assistance to ETFO members experiencing hardship. Maximum lifetime grant of \$5000 Please email release officers for information and application form

-Prep loss grievances is currently waiting on arbitration date

-SFE's job visibility (Jobs not appearing). As of January 20th we moved it to arbitration process

- There is evidence that schools are failing the proper LTO posting procedures and grievance has been filed
- There is an active policy grievance concerning a privacy breach by the board. We are working with the board to resolve this issue.
- Attendance Support (monitoring) program. Members who have medical documentation should not be receiving letters in regards to the attendance support program. Please contact us right away if you are receiving these letters.
- ETFO podcast that you can access through [ETFO.ca](https://www.etfo.ca)
- New member orientation conference. Application will open up February 26, 2026. Dates are April 15 and April 16th
- 2026 Summer Academy, more info coming soon through the ETFO e-newsletter at [ETFO.ca](https://www.etfo.ca) costs about 75\$. Many courses that will be offered.

### **Jennifer Huang, the Toronto & York Region Labour Council Guest Speaker**

130 affiliates with over 220,000 union members in Toronto and York Region

- Work toward social justice, climate justice and racial justice
  - Jennifer staff in the Education Committee. Holds monthly meetings of different education affiliates to talk about common issues within education and how they are dealing with it.
- Landscape of Education in Ontario
1. Underfunding
  2. Bill 33
  3. Supervision

[www.fundourschools.ca](https://www.fundourschools.ca) website for more information.

### **7. Chief Negotiator/Vice-President Report - Sophie Kroesen**

Collective Bargaining Report

- Meeting on March 3rd to develop our collective bargaining survey.

### **9. Elections Officer - Yolanda B'Dacy**

- a. Introduction of the AM Delegates Candidates
  - (1) one-minute speeches

<https://etfo-torots.org/etfo-annual-meeting-delegates-august-2026-candidates/>

**Successful AM Delegates in Bold (numbers shown are percentages)**

<b>Laura Barrett</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Jeishan Rajakulasingam</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Gabrielle Blais-Jones</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Marisa Gallippi</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Sophie Kroesen</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Efstathia Sotiropoulos</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>K. Justin Ngo</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Jason Martorino</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Melissa Major</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Danielle Ingster</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Nathan Goveas</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Loreen Gale</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Cynthia McCarrey</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Gail James</b>	<b>41</b>
Sarah Boomhower	38
Lisa De Santis	14
Greg Deitcher	38
Beverley Flynn-Samuels	28
Theo Shivnaraine	38
<b>Andrew Chittka</b>	<b>Acclaimed</b>

**Vote #2**

<b>Sarah Boomhower</b>	<b>38</b>
Greg Deitcher	31
Theo Shivnaraine	31

**12. Timed Item: 7:00 p.m-7:30 p.m** Question and Answer

**Q:** Will the Annual Meeting in the Spring be In-person or Virtual?

**A:** Survey will go out to ask the membership that will direct how the executive moves forward in regards to the annual meeting.

**Q:** The number of days occasional teachers need to work for the next year should be lowered due to SFE's job visibility and how it is hard to find jobs. The Attendance monitoring policy also contributes to this. Could you bring this concern to the board?

**A:** We would need to hear strongly from the membership through our collective bargaining survey that that's something they want because the board will not give that up easily at all. I also agree with you and it is not okay for them to approve or not to approve our sick days, because they are collectively bargained rights. To our LTO members, we are doing everything we can to ensure that members have access to their sick days, and when they have an issue with that they need to call us. Once that survey comes out, please do put everything and anything that you want your collective bargaining team to advocate for.

**13. Adjournment: 7:30 p.m**

- b. Introduction of Executive Election Candidates  
(2) two-minute speeches

<https://ctfo-toronts.org/executive-elections/>

~~10. First Vice-President Report~~—Laura Barrett

~~11. Vice-President Report~~—Gabrielle Blais-Jones

## Winter GM 2026 Attendance

Alice Zywiell  
Andrew Chittka  
Arlene Lax  
Byron Stevenson  
Catherine Hritzun-MacLean  
Christina Meynell  
Cynthia Boem  
Cynthia McCarrey  
Daniel Kinrys  
Danielle Ingster  
Efstathia Sotiropoulos  
Erin Silbiger  
Gabrielle Blais-Jones  
Gail James  
Greg Deitcher  
Helene Bauer  
Isabella De Luca  
Jason Martorino  
Jeishan Rajakulasingam  
John Pacocha  
Justin Ngo  
Laura Barrett  
Loreen Gale  
Margaret Fiaz  
Marisa Gallippi  
Mary Carrino  
Melissa Major  
Nathan Goveas  
Niser Tookhi  
Robina Sultan  
Sandra Van Elslander  
Sophie Kroesen  
Sreten Marilovic  
Sujatha Chintakunta  
Susan Richmond  
Tarquin Singh  
Theo Shivnaraine