



Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)

Fédération des enseignantes et des enseignants
de l'élémentaire de l'Ontario (FEEO)

136 Isabella Street, Toronto, ON M4Y 0B5

Tel: 416-962-3836 Toll Free: 1-888-838-3836 etfo.ca

Frequently Asked Questions

TOGETHER FOR PUBLICLY FUNDED EDUCATION RALLY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, at 1 p.m. EST

ATTENDANCE AND REGISTRATION

Why is there a rally? And what does it have to do with central bargaining?

Large gatherings of educators and families demonstrate that change is needed in public education. These rallies strengthen our positions during central bargaining, demanding improvements to working conditions and students' learning conditions. Collective actions, like a rally, show that members are united across the province, for improvements to publicly funded education and support our central bargaining demands.

Why is it important to attend?

Community rallies make our concerns visible, earn media attention, and have a lasting impact on the government and employers. High participation numbers signal that ETFO members are organized and ready to act in collective bargaining to improve learning and working conditions. People still talk about the collective action that teachers and education workers took in 2019 and 1997.

Where are the rallies happening?

The rallies are happening in five cities across the province. Each rally is happening on the same day and starting at the same time:

- London - Harris Park, 531 Ridout St. N
- Ottawa - Parliament Hill, Wellington St.
- Sudbury - Bell Park, Paris St.
- Thunder Bay - Waverley Park, Waverley St.
- Toronto - Queen's Park, 111 Wellesley St W

When are they happening?

The rallies are all being held on Saturday, October 24. Entertainment will start at 12:30 p.m. (EST), with the rally beginning at 1:00 p.m. (EST), and lasting 90 minutes. Each family-friendly rally will include speakers, entertainment, and activities.



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How can I register?

[Follow this link to register for a rally.](#) To plan accordingly, please register by October 12.

There are options to catch the bus in central communities along routes to the various rallies.

Who can attend?

In addition to ETFO members and their families, other affiliate union members, parents and community members are also encouraged to participate.

Who is organizing the rallies?

ETFO, AEFO, OECTA, OSBCU-CUPE, and OSSTF are working together to plan the rallies. Each union is taking the lead on an individual regional rally, and representatives from each affiliate are involved in local planning.

TRANSPORTATION

Will transportation be provided?

Busing routes will be arranged so members from each local can attend. Busing will be available for members of ETFO, AEFO, EWAO-ATEO, OECTA, OCEW, OPSEU, OSBCU-CUPE, and OSSTF and their families at no cost, space permitting. You can sign up for the bus in the closest community to where you live. Those with longer travel times will be provided coach buses.

Will there be parking at the bus pick-ups?

Yes, bus pick-up locations will be where parking is available and free. Pick-up locations for each bus route will be shared closer to October 24.

Can I bring my family members on the bus?

Yes, ETFO members can bring family on the bus and children are welcome. Please indicate family members attending on the registration form.

Do I have to take the bus?

No, you can arrange your own transportation to the rally. Personal travel and parking expenses to the rally will not be reimbursed.

Can I go to any rally or is there a designated one for ETFO?

You may attend the rally of your choice.

Can a local book their own buses?

Locals may book their own buses to a rally at their own expense.



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GENERAL INFORMATION

If I have mobility/accessibility needs, who do I contact?

Please indicate your mobility/accessibility needs when you register so that accommodations can be made.

Will there be French and American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation?

There will be live ASL translation at all rallies. Please indicate that you require ASL interpretation when you register. There will be a designated section at each rally, so those who need ASL interpretation have an unobstructed view.

The rallies will have a French language component, and portions of the program will be delivered in French.

Will food be provided?

No, food will not be provided at the rallies or on buses. Members are encouraged to pack their own snacks/drinks for the day.

Who will communicate with us about the rallies in our specific region?

Information about the specific rallies will be sent to local Presidents and through ETFO member e-newsletters.

How can I get more information?

Contact your assigned organizer for more information. The Organizers are Bill Hewitt (bill.hewitt@etfo.org), Stephanie Nakitsas (snakitsas@etfo.org), and Inessa Petersen (ipetersen@etfo.org).