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Hello OCFA members

At the last AGM, I was re-elected as your Chief Steward and the following members have been elected as your campus Stewards. Starting in the North, Terry Kosowick has been re-elected as your

As directed by the membership at the AGM, I wrote a letter to Jim Hamilton outlining our members' serious concerns about the College's policies and procedures regarding bullying and harassment in the workplace. I have received no reply to this letter either.

A series of accommodations for a variety of medical conditions have been submitted to HR. We have been carefully monitoring these to assure our members are provided adequate and fair accommodations. If anyone is in the process of filing for an accommodation, please let me or your campus Steward know if you have any questions or concerns.

Rod Watkins
First VP/Chief Steward
OCFA

In the last issue of the [OCFA News](#), I reported that the OCFA and the employer would be bargaining this Spring. As it turns out, that statement was overly optimistic.

We met with the employer on April 28, and during our discussion of protocol, recognized that uncertainty over the mechanism to address common agreement issues had to be resolved before we could progress any further. Both sides agreed to stand down, so that the matter, which involves the entire sector, could be addressed by the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators (FPSE) and Post-Secondary Employers' Association (PSEA). While the final details respecting the table to address common agreement issues has not been determined at this time, both the OCFA and Okanagan College have expressed interest in participating. Our negotiations are unlikely to resume before these common table details have been worked out.

Provincially, the Health Sciences Association, BCGEU, Hospital Employees Union, and CUPE workers in the K-12 system have all signed five-year contracts involving 5.5% salary increases, the Economic Stability Dividend, and modest improvements to benefits and expense allowances. The BCGEU agreements also involved additional compensation increases for some employees in low-wage classifications. Collectively, these agreements cover two-thirds of provincial public sector employees. At this point, the BCTF is contesting the pattern, and as most of you know, is heading into the second week of a full strike. How that dispute is resolved may have implications for our negotiations.

a bargaining chair at Northwest Community College, and the OCFA will be very well-

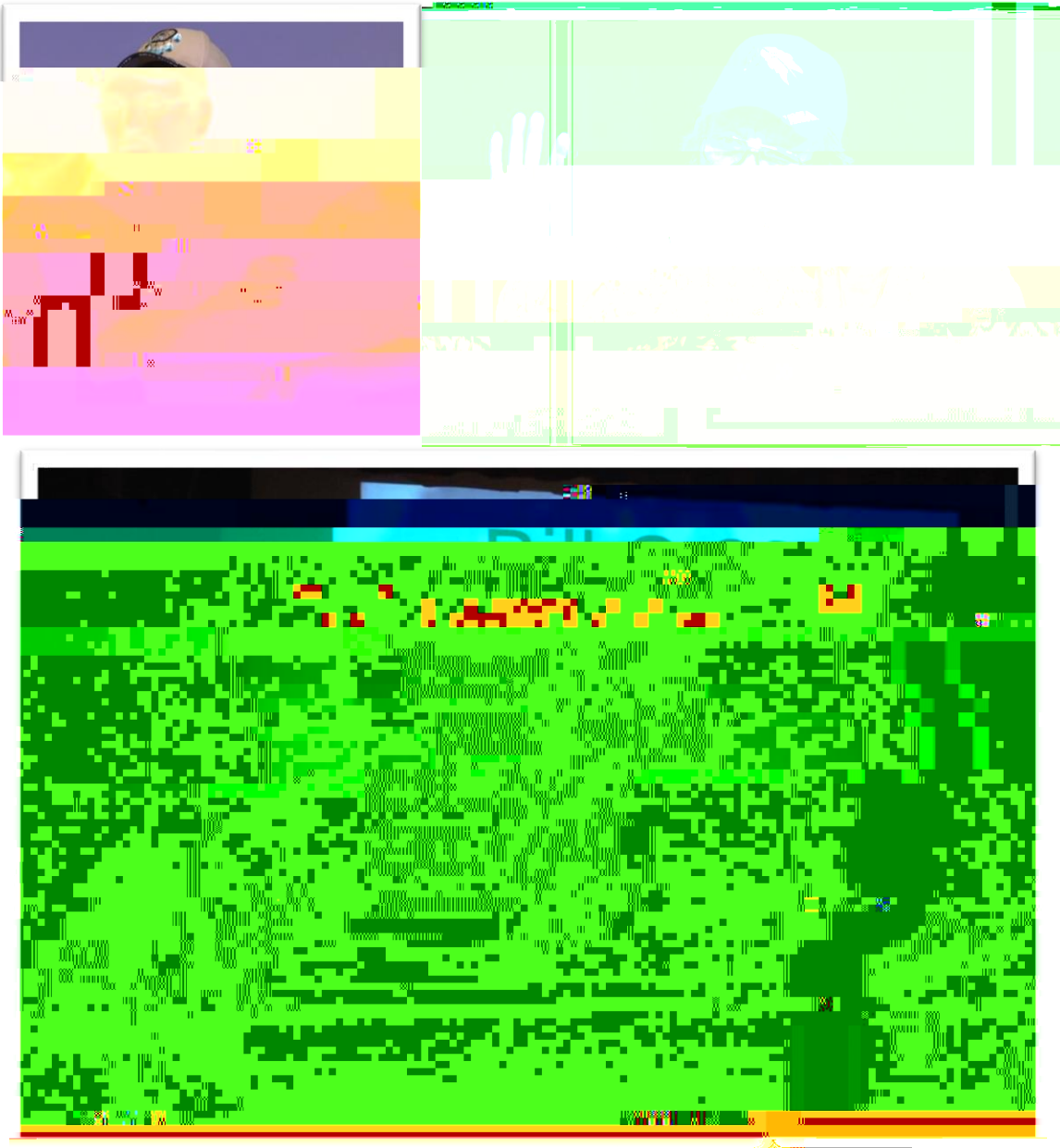
The entire Excess Service Recognition Fund

Tim Walters, OCFA president, and Norah Bowman, Human Rights and International Solidarity representative on council, attended the Canadian Labour Congress Convention.

Some of the central themes that emerged at the CLC convention were the importance of participation in municipal and regional politics, the value of reaching out across social movements in Canada and contributing to diverse activist campaigns, the necessity of teaching Canadians about the gains and goals of the labour movement in Canada, and the urgency of working towards the election of a new federal government majority party and prime minister in the next election.

The CLC passed the following resolutions that relate to our sector:

developing grassroots direct action movements. About 20 people attended, including faculty, staff, students from OC and UBCO, and community members. OCFA sponsored this workshop.



Idle No More Teach-In

