



THE AMAZING SPRING CONFERENCE PLANNING TEAM!

OCEA e-NEWS



May 2017

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SOUTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

## Keeping you connected across the province!

This year's annual spring conference was held at the beautiful Westin Prince Hotel in North York. Congratulations goes to the entire conference planning team for hosting a fantastic event!

**Paul Lafrance**, HGTV's "Deck Guy" was OCEA's keynote speaker. He shared many stories about his years as a struggling high school student with ADHD. The best advice he got from his Grade 12 English teacher helped him sort out what he wanted to do: "Do what makes you come alive".



### From the Ministry

The Ministry of Education attended the 2017 OCEA Spring Conference, facilitating a plenary session on Planning, Promoting and Engaging with the new co-op course. If you were unable to attend, you can still provide feedback by clicking on these links: [Planning](#), [Promoting](#), and [Engaging](#). **Click here to access the Ministry of Education's Plenary session PowerPoint presentation from the OCEA Fall Symposium 2016. The presentation provides information about the new cooperative education curriculum anticipated for release in the Fall of 2018.**

### More Ministry News!

**Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD)** needs assessment survey for **labour market information (LMI)** is still open for feedback. This will assist in creating better **LMI and career resources** to support students and teachers. They are undertaking user research to better understand the tools and resources that are currently being used. Educators are invited to complete the [MAESD labour market survey](#).

### Student Showcase

The automotive industry is an industry that you wouldn't think many women would want to pursue a career in. For me, Katia Palmer, this

is a reason why I wanted to pursue a career as an Auto Service Technician. This interest prompted me to explore a co-op experience. I want to go to school and become the best technician out there. I want to be able to be an inspiration to other



women that are afraid to pursue a career in an industry like this. Everyday there is something new and different. I have proven to them that a woman can be as good at this career as any man can be!

Katia, Co-operative Education student, Dominion Collision Holy Names High School, Windsor, ON

### Website Redesign

The new and improved website continues to evolve. OCEA's website will be easier to navigate and device friendly!

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**FALL SYMPOSIUM, October 29-30**

### Awards Banquet

Congratulations goes to this year's OCEA award recipients!

**Linda Schmitter, George King Award of Excellence.** Linda's proven dedication to excellence, quality and integrity stand out in all of her accomplishments throughout 37 years in education. The Waterloo Region DSB was privileged to have Linda's leadership as a consultant in Co-op and Experiential Learning.

### SJ Jack Ulan Professional Contribution recipients:

- **BARB FINAN, HALTON DSB**
- **LIANA PAGOTTO, OTTAWA CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD**
- **MONA SAFARIAN, CEC DU CENTRE-EST**
- **TONY SCHOAHS, ALGOMA DSB**



## Upcoming Events

### The Waterloo Catholic

**District School Board** will be celebrating 30 years of experiential learning with a reception on June 30<sup>th</sup> in appreciation of our past and present community partners. This evolution is a direct outcome of the belief of our community partners that learning goes well beyond the classroom. A big thank-you for their commitment and for continuing to breathe life into learning each day.”

*Leonard Bumbacco, Student Achievement Consultant, Cooperative Education/OYAP/ Technology, Waterloo Catholic District School Board*

**Stratford Northwestern** has had another successful semester with all pathways but particularly with the apprenticeship pathway. The month of April brought about students getting signed up as registered OYAP students in the following areas: General Carpenter, Cabinetmaker, Tool & Die, Electrician, Refrigeration & A/C Mechanic, Heavy Diesel Mechanic, Automotive Service Technician, Truck & Coach Technician, Hairstylist, and Agricultural Equipment Technician.



The co-op department hosted an employer appreciation lunch on May 15th in conjunction with the Culinary Dual Credit at Conestoga College. It was a great day celebrating our community partners that participate in our co-op program and help to mentor the future workforce.

