

## The Election Special Newsletter

Provincial elections are an ideal time for faculty associations to connect with their members. Election special newsletters provide important voting information, and can help tighten the political community on campus. Newsletters need not only go to faculty; they can also be distributed to students, other unions, and the broader community.

### Possible content could include:

- Voting information – key dates, riding boundaries, voting times, advance polls, candidate names, contact information for campaign offices, times and places of all-candidates meetings.
- Questionnaire results – prior to the election, OCUFA will circulate draft candidate questionnaires to send to local candidates. The answers can be included as part of the newsletter. Care must be taken to treat all candidates fairly and objectively, while giving an accurate description of their positions.
- Candidate profiles – one of the prime objectives of faculty association involvement in the election is to generate interest among members and provide information which will help place post-secondary issues before the candidates and the public.

It is important that faculty members have information about the candidates. A profile giving the service record and biographical information of the candidates, accompanied by a photograph if possible, would be helpful.

You can contact the campaign headquarters of each candidate to get accurate biographical information. They may provide you with a photo as well.

- Issues profile – your newsletter may want to highlight concerns about faculty hiring, educational quality, and tuition fees in higher education. You may also want to highlight campus-specific concerns. Issues should be expressed in a straight-forward, journalistic style.

*Adapted from the OSSTF/FEESO Election Kit*