Dawson Teachers' Union



The OWL HOOTS

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ONLY ONE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING GRADES JUNE 2

There is only ONE grade deadline for all teachers both regular and conted and that is June 2, 2014. This is true with or without exams held in the exam period

Of course, if you do finish your correcting ahead of the deadline, then submitting your grades as soon as you reasonably can does facilitate the processing of grades.

2% SALARY INCREASE ON JUNE 1

Our salaries will increase by 2% as of June 1, 2014. As you may remember, this is the best of a long line of meager increases.

There may be a second increase determined by the difference between the nominal GDP in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 and the increase predicted by the government in nominal GDP. This will be distributed within 60 days of the publication of the nominal GDP for 2013 by Statistics Quebec. We will be notified by the CSN nego team as soon as the information is published.

REMINDER: THE DATES FOR SUMMER HOLIDAYS

The last day of availability will be Friday, June 13 with our holidays beginning June 16. The first day of availability will be Monday, August 18, three days before classes begin on Thursday, August 21.

As the first day of availability is only three days before the first day of classes, department coordinators could be squeezed if they have work to do before the term begins. There is no requirement that coordinators or any teacher comes in before the first day of availability. If a coordinator decides to do so, nevertheless, he/she should request a transfer of availability to get credit for the loss of vacation days or ask for extra pay.

Note: There is no official vacation period for hourly-paid teachers (Continuing Education, A.E.C., non-credit)

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Teachers that are covered by La Capitale's health insurance have travel insurance and trip cancellation insurance to a maximum of \$2 million as long as you are covered by provincial medical insurance. This means that you do not have to purchase medical insurance or trip cancellation insurance when you buy a plane ticket or leave the country by car or travel within Canada.

The coverage is fairly extensive. Just some examples: Besides the basics of hospitalization, access to doctors and prescription drugs during emergencies, it includes TV & parking costs in hospitals, phone calls, provides a telephone interpreters line, repatriation of the teacher, immediate family & travelling companion by public transportation, provides information needed if passports or credit cards are lost and in the US the names of lawyers for travel accidents & civil actions. There are restrictions. It does not cover things like accidents from bungee jumping, gliding and parachuting. Check the brochure if you have any doubts. Phone numbers to dial when travelling appear on the back of your La Capitale medical insurance card (CAPS card).

Cancellation insurance covers not only cancellation of a trip. It also includes reimbursement of up to \$5,000 per person insured for default by a travel supplier including a travel agent. The insured person's trip must include a stay of at least one (1) night at the trip destination, either in or outside the insured person's province of residence.

An existing illness or condition

Anyone covered by travel insurance who has a known illness or condition must ensure before departure that his or her health condition is stable and under control, that he or she can carry out usual daily activities and that he or she is experiencing no symptoms that may reasonably suggest that any complications may arise or that medical care may be required during the planned stay outside the province of residence.

The information in detail can be found on pages 21 to 34 of your English Insurance Guide updated January 1, 2012 (pages 23-36 en Français). It is well worth reading before you travel.

DTU OFFICE — SUMMER HOURS

The DTU Office will remain open until Friday June 20th, 12:00 p.m. The DTU Office will re-open on Monday August 4, 9:00 a.m.

If you require the assistance of the DTU during the period from June 21st – August 3rd please contact us by e-mail:

DTU@DTU.QC.CA

SUPPORT FOR THE CBC/RADIO CANADA

The government has again cut support for the CBC/Radio Canada, the third time in 5 years. Recently the CRTC denied the right for the CBC to receive any benefit from its inclusion on cable systems. Canada provides less support for public broadcasting than most industrial countries. A 2011 study for the CBC of support for public broadcasting using 2009 statistics found that Canada was 16 out of 18 countries with only New Zealand and the U.S. with less support. The per capita support in Canada of \$34 was 60% less than the average of \$87. Norway the country

providing the most support (\$164) gave almost 5 times the Canadian support. You can access the report at <u>http://www.nordicity.com/</u> <u>media/20121112jzxkpxjc.pdf</u>

The DTU has joined the campaign to restore the grants to the CBC/Radio Canada and to guarantee that public broadcasting will expand and provide even better programming. We encourage our members to also sign the petition supporting the CBC at http://www.friends.ca/lLoveCBC/

SUPPORT FOR THE POSTAL WORKERS & POSTAL SERVICE IN CANADA

Canada Post has announced that it will eliminate home mail delivery in urban areas and has also raised significantly postal rates for individuals. The future concentration for Canada Post would therefore be business mail, circulars and parcels. This will lead to layoffs for 6000 to 8000 workers.

At the same time Canada Post has rejected the idea of a postal bank which provides significant revenue for the postal service of other countries especially in Europe. As a result of the above many analysts are suggesting the next stage is to privatize Canada Post. This will likely lead to reduced mail service in rural regions and smaller centres. The impact everywhere will hit primarily the elderly, those with mobility problems and the poor.

As a result the Executive Council of the DTU joined the movement of opposition at our meeting on Wednesday May 14. We will add the DTU to the list of organizations supporting this struggle. We invite our members to sign the on line petition at <u>http://www.cupw.ca/index.cfm/ci_id/15016/</u> <u>la_id/1.htm</u>

THE PEOPLES' SOCIAL FORUM FROM AUGUST 21-24 IN OTTAWA

This year there will be a Peoples' Social Forum, a close relation to the World Social Forum in Ottawa. Supported by unions, citizens groups and NGOs across Canada it will present workshops examining a wider area of public concerns. As classes begin on August 21, anyone taking part on the Thursday or Friday sessions should request a two day professional development leave with no reduction in salary according to 5-17.00 of the collective agreement or a transfer of availability. If you are just attending the weekend workshops this is not necessary. Information about the forum can be found at http://www.peoplessocialforum.org/