

Professional Learning Committee Report- Annual Meeting 2026

Professional Learning is coming to an end for the 2025-2026 school year. We had a very mixed bag of workshops this year with collaborations from the Equity committee for the local and the Health and Safety committee. It has been my pleasure to be able to bring 21 workshops to the members this year. We have had workshops presented from the DDSB, ETFO and permanent and OT colleagues. The committee and I are grateful to everyone who attended a workshop or event and to those who spent their time preparing and presenting workshops for our OT members. An extra special shout out to Ryan Tindale who did many workshops for us this year. We always enjoy having him and always benefit from his knowledge.

As always, I am forever grateful to my committee members: Edina Toth, Trissa Masih and Umaima Motiwala who were always able and willing to help me in whatever way they could. I could not do this job without each of you and I am blessed to have you as a part of the DOTL family.

The Professional Learning Committee has a budget for Professional Funding. We are able to give funding for things like AQ courses and conferences and professional texts and books. This year we have given almost \$7,000 dollars (and counting) in reimbursements to members requesting it. Each member is eligible for \$300 maximum in a school year. I am so pleased to be able to continue offering this support to members. For next year I am hoping to be able to increase the amount members can receive to \$350. You can find applications and funding criteria on the secure side of our website or you can email me at dotlplfunding@gmail.com or pl@etfodotl.com and I can help guide you through the process. There is a cut off date each year so please inquire to see if you might be eligible.

Thank you again for all the support and for your attendance on so many evenings after long, often hard, days at work. Thank you to all of the local executive members for always supporting my ideas and helping to find a way to make them happen. An extra thank you to our president George Taylor who always says yes to whatever I need to assist members in their PL endeavours, to Ann Webb our First VP for all she does in organizing social events and keeping the member list up to date and to our treasurer Connie Zoet who is always selfless in asking where she can assist me, especially in the catering department. I am beyond grateful to all of you.

I hope everyone has a restful and eventful summer making memories with family and friends and I look forward to seeing many returning faces and hopefully many new faces in the fall.

Yours in Solidarity,

Heather Gillette

DOTL PL Chair