

Letters to the editor

Editorial was just more 'neo-con press cheerleading'

Dear editor,

Rarely have I seen a piece of work like your editorial on Sunday (October 4). The total one-sidedness, the blatant disregard for facts, the sheer vindictiveness of it would be hard to match, even in an openly right-wing newspaper like the Toronto Sun.

It appears that you are, as usual, striving to whip up anti-teacher sentiment. U.S. media expert Noam Chomsky would have a field-day with, for example, your repetitive use of the term "union", instead of the more accurate "federation". I am only surprised that you refrained from using the even more perjorative "union bosses".

Why is it that the media never refer to the Ontario Medical Association or the Canadian Bar Association as unions when, to all intents and purposes, that is exactly what they are?

For you to pretend to be even-handed in your editorial "...there are two distinct sides to the story with the truth hidden somewhere in the middle..." when your very next sentence derides the teachers' federations and lauds the government changes, speaks volumes for the level of bias throughout. An appropriate analogy would be the name of your newspaper— The Independent— when, in reality, it is just another member of the cheerleading section of the "neo-con press".

Your editorial implies that teachers can expect little support from the public this time around. Correct me if I'm wrong, but where in the Ontario Labour Code does it state that public support must be garnered prior to job action?

As both a parent and a former public school trustee with the Wellington County Board of Education, I was a witness to the carnage the Harris Tories brought to education in their first two years in office, and I say, Bravo! to the teachers for again taking a stand when others in the system, most notably trustees, seem to be rolling over and playing dead.

The cuts to education have been made in order to finance the Tory tax break for wealthy Ontarians. If the public still doesn't get it, and still buys the, "No cuts to education" big lie, then the public be damned.

Maggie Laidlaw, Guelph

Crisis Centre thanks Royal Bank

Dear editor,

The women at the Halton Rape Crisis Centre would like to express their sincere thanks to the Royal Bank in Halton. They have generously donated to our Centre \$10,000. As a result of this donation, the centre will be able to expand its education on date rape drugs and anti-harassment and discrimination in the workplace.

These are serious problems existing today and the Royal Bank realizes the necessity of enlightening the community on these issues. Special thanks to Marjorie Dawson at the Royal Bank for making this donation possible.

Louise Carlin, Financial Co-ordinator,
Halton Rape Crisis Centre

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