

Elementary teachers soon in legal strike position; talks unproductive

Halton's public elementary teachers will be in a legal strike position by Monday.

Negotiators for the Halton chapter of the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO) recently gave notice of a request for a no-board report to their Halton board counterparts and the conciliator the two sides have been working

That means 17 days from the issuing of the notice a union is able to strike.

The teachers' action came after one day of two scheduled days of meetings. Teacher and board representatives met all day June 12 but not the next day.

No new dates for talks have been set.

The 1,500 full-time equivalent public elementary teachers in Halton voted 96 per cent in favour of a strike mandate on June

The ETFO Halton contract expired August 31, 2002.

"The potential is there not to have a deal before the end of June" and the conclusion of the school year, said Maureen Weinberger, president of the local ETFO.

If there's no deal by the end of June there's still the opportunity to get one during the summer, she said.

Ms Weinberger said she doesn't feel a lot was accomplished in the last round of conciliation.

"There was some movement on working conditions, a little," she said. "It was frustrating, I'm sure, for both sides."

Ms Weinberger's counterpart with the Halton board expressed similar sentiments.

"Very little, unfortunately," was achieved last week, said Dawn Beckett-Morton.

"We need to have discussions and I think we will soon."

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TODAY'S CHILD NEEDS YOU!

Many individuals within our society possess new mindsets, modern paradigms and fresh approaches to traditional concerns. The church is challenged to keep up with the times, to maintain a modern relevancy and to address current issues, yet, not to compromise the truth of the unchanging gospel.

Perhaps you have heard it said: "The more things change, the more they stay the same!" Methods of modern ministry may change both the message remains the same! The method is not sacred, the message is!

While many churches are learning to confront the culture, and are engaging in pro-active ministry, the challenge of reaching a new generation is daunting. Conditioned by video games, today's child expects a continuous change of direction, constant motion and antic-

ipates a greater level of excitement around every corner. If there's a pause in the action, or if an activity has lost its excitement, they are quick to say "this is boring!" and before you know it, they have mentally checked out and moved on to something else.

Today's child loves action, adventure, mystery and intrigue! Songs and children's chorus can have actions assigned to them. Bible stories can be dramatized, complete with villains and heroes, depictions of bravery and cowardice, love and jealousy. By distributing some simple costumes, and narrative comes alive. Today's child will more readily understand the age old concepts of Scripture if they have had the opportunity to put themselves into the shoes of these historical fig-

Today's child is desperately searching for caring individuals who will

take time out of a busy day to listen, to love and to communicate with them. Death, separation, abandonment or divorce has fractured many families. Today's child must be given the opportunity to open up and share the heartfelt emotion that lies just beneath the surface.

Today's child needs to be educated, not just entertained! A church's life-changing ministry will do more than titillate the emotion, it will touch the heart with the transforming power of the gospel. Games can be used effectively to introduce a lesson, yet, a steady diet of entertainment alone will leave children spiritually starved, hinder their Christian walk and stunt their spiritual growth. As we examine the life of Christ, He did not entertain His disciples, rather He involved them in ministry. Let's look for opportunities to do the same! Let's challenge children with ministry opportunities, within the church and

community. Let's assist them, believe in them, empower them! It works!

Mom! Dad! Grandmother! Grandfather! Today's child needs you! Make an investment into your child's future by involving them in a family-friendly church near you! Attend with them! Help them to establish a strong moral and ethical base upon which sound decisions may be made! Today's church is seeking to meet the needs of today's child, but the truth is... Today's child needs YOU!

Submitted by Reverend Dan Rogge, Senior of New Life Church, Milton

St. George's Anglican Church, Lowville

7051 Guelph Line, just north of Derry Road Sunday, June 29, 2003 - TRINITY 2

8:30 a.m. - Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer 10:30 Family Service in the auditorium Nursery and Sunday School provided

Summer Service Hours begin Sun. July 6/03 9:30 a.m. - Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. - Family Service in the auditorium Rector: The Reverend Canon Charlie Masters

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Church School & Coffee Hour

THURSDAY

10:00 am Holy Communion



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John 1.1



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