

To: ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members
From: Mike Thomas, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)
Date: August 27, 2025
Regarding: **A Thank You and Hello from Your New President**

Dear ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members,

As the new school year begins, I want to start with a big and heartfelt THANK YOU! I know how much time and energy goes into getting ready for the first day — setting up classrooms, planning lessons, organizing materials, and making sure everything is in place so students feel welcome the moment they walk in. All that behind-the-scenes work happens before the first bell even rings, but it's what makes our schools such positive and caring places for students right from day one. It speaks to the incredible dedication you bring to your role as educators and helps make the start of the year feel exciting and full of possibility.

In the middle of all that preparation, I'd like to take a moment to introduce myself as your new President of ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local. I am honoured to be stepping into this role and grateful for the opportunity to serve you and work alongside such a passionate and committed group of professionals. My goals this year are to strengthen our collective voice, advocate for your concerns, and ensure that each of you feels supported in your work. I also look forward to connecting with as many of you as possible, hearing about your experiences, and learning how we as a Local can best support you.

Teaching is both inspiring and demanding, and I know the extra energy it takes to prepare for the year ahead while also balancing your own lives and families. Please know that your efforts are seen and deeply appreciated.

So once again — thank you. Thank you for the work you've already done to get the year started, and thank you for the incredible commitment you bring to your students, your colleagues, and to your Local every day. I'm excited to walk alongside you this year, and I look forward to hearing from you.

With appreciation,

Mike Thomas
President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local

