



PEU SALUTES TEACHERS ON THEIR SPECIAL DAY

The professional educators' union joins the world in recognizing and honouring teachers for dedicating their lives in leading in crisis while re-imagining the future as the world teacher's day theme says "teachers: leading in crisis, re-imagining the future" October 5, 2021 marks a special day for all teachers in the world, yet our joy competes with the sorrow and frustration brought by this deadly pandemic (Covid -19).

Yes, **PEU** honours, Militancy, Selflessness, Dedication and love displayed while serving as a source of intellectual liberation of all nations, like 2020, 2021 is one year that we would wish to quickly leave behind as all challenges faced by teachers continue to threaten our lives which might also be transferred to our kids and ultimately affecting the nations. Families lost bread winners, Parents, Siblings, Sons and daughters due to this deadly virus. Schools lost quality teachers and this led to kids attending without being properly taken care of.

Some of the challenges we refer to are the following:

- Continued disputes with the employer leaving teachers demoralized.
- Poor infrastructure in our schools leading to health hazards sometimes.
- Failure of the department to appoint new teachers, Leaving most schools with teacher shortages.
- Some provinces failing to properly provide **PPE's** in our schools posing health challenges to school communities.
- Corruption in some schools leading to community unrest.
- Violence in our schools compromising the safety of all school community members as we cannot keep quiet when our teachers are assaulted by learners in schools and some are brutally murdered.
- The lack of a uniform approach in conducting **SSIP** classes by provinces.

We appreciate the fact that even if the system continues to pose challenges as highlighted above but teachers continue to show love for the kids and for the nation at large as they work tirelessly to make sure that learners are ready for any kind of assessments.

PEU, like all trade unions in the public sector is noting with concern the delay by the employer to implement the pay progression as per the **PSCBC** collective agreements 1 of 2021 as teachers showed enough patience yet the employer continues to act in a worrying fashion. We would like to remind the employer that they made it difficult for us to completely trust them as they showed us with **PSCBC** resolution 1 of 2018 that we need to limit our trust for them.

As the fourth term draws closer and some of our teachers are in recess and others busy with the grade 12 last push, We wish you all the best in your fight for quality results, may the fruits of your toil show in this 2021 grade 12 class, Without forgetting those who laid foundation for these learners in their lower classes. We will forever be grateful for such remarkable efforts.

The joint statements from **UNESCO, ILO, UNICEF** and **EI** says, "On world teachers' day we are not only celebrating every teacher, we are calling on countries to invest in them and prioritize them in global

education recovery efforts so that every learner has access to a qualified and supported teacher. Let's stand with our teachers! "

In line with the statement above **PEU** wishes to emphasize that the teacher is at the heart of education recovery and therefore let's all rally behind our teachers not only on this day but throughout the year.

Teachers!!! **PEU LOVES YOU**, please, please, please remain careful, wear your mask, wash your hands, sanitise and also vaccinate, **WE NEED YOU!!**

GOD BLESS ALL TEACHERS GENERALLY AND ALL PEU MEMBERS IN PARTICULAR.

QUOTABLE QUOTES: "TEACHERS AFFECT ETERNITY NO ONE CAN TELL WHERE THEIR INFLUENCE STOPS." HENRY BROOKS ADAMS.

ISSUED BY:

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