

February 28, 2022

Memorandum to: Chairs of District School Boards
Directors of Education
Secretary/Treasurers of School Authorities

From: Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education

Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister

Subject: Updates on the Ontario College of Teachers

We are writing to inform you of important changes that will support greater public faith in the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) and ensure it functions efficiently in the best interest of students and the public.

On February 1, 2022, the new Governing Council assumed responsibility for governing the OCT. This marks the start of a new period of professional regulation in Ontario and concludes Mr. Paul Boniferro's one-year term as the Transition Supervisory Officer (TSO). This transition also reflects an important move towards modernized standards in governance and increased protections for both the profession and the public.

Thanks to the reforms introduced by the provincial government, the new Council will now be made up of six members of the teaching profession appointed by the TSO, and six members of the public appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. You may find information on each member at <https://www.oct.ca/about-the-college/council/council-members>. This new Council will focus on the important job of governing Ontario's world class teaching profession in a transparent, publicly accountable, and efficient way.

The TSO has also appointed equal members of the public and the profession to separate committees with expert panels to review and make decisions on all regulatory matters, including complaints of professional misconduct, accreditation of teacher education programs, and appeals of registration decisions. Experienced individuals from diverse backgrounds have been selected for their specific competencies and knowledge to carry out these important regulatory functions.

In addition to the province's efforts to modernize the governance of the OCT, over the past year, our ministry has worked with the OCT to implement unprecedented statutory and regulatory reforms. These include title protection for Ontario Certified Teachers and addressing pandemic-induced teacher shortages through introducing and expanding temporary teacher certificates. Together, these reforms have helped to uphold the high standards of Ontario's teaching profession and protect the public interest.

These are among the important priorities brought forward by the TSO, in partnership with the ministry, during the governance transition period. We would like to express our

sincere appreciation to Mr. Boniferro for his dedication to advancing regulatory standards for the teaching profession and improving public education. These are outstanding achievements that will bring long-term benefits to Ontario's teachers and students.

We look forward to working together with the OCT's new governing Council in its responsibility for regulating the teaching profession.

Sincerely,

Stephen Lecce
Minister

Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister

- c: Council Chair, Ontario College of Teachers
Registrar, Ontario College of Teachers
President, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO)
Executive Director, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO)
President, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)
Executive Director, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)
President, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA)
Executive Director, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA)
President, Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)
Executive Director, Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)
Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)
President, Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO)
Executive Director and Secretary-Treasurer, Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO)
President, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA)
General Secretary, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA)
President, Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)
General Secretary, Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)
President, Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF)
General Secretary, Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF)
Chair, Ontario Council of Educational Workers (OCEW)
Chair, Education Workers' Alliance of Ontario (EWAO)
President of OSBCU, Canadian Union of Public Employees – Ontario (CUPE-ON)
Co-ordinator, Canadian Union of Public Employees – Ontario (CUPE-ON)
Executive Director, Association des directions et directions adjointes des écoles franco-ontariennes (ADFO)
Executive Director, Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario (CPCO)
Executive Director, Ontario Principals' Council (OPC)