

# President's Message

## December 10, 2018

### Principal's Day at Queen's Park

Last week we held our annual Principal's Day at Queen's Park. Our Executive met with [28 MPPs](#) from the PC, NDP and Liberal Caucuses. It was part of our ongoing advocacy campaign to bring the concerns of school leaders to the attention of legislators, offer to be a resource to them in their work and hear what is happening in schools in their riding. We also took the opportunity to discuss our position paper on [Violent Incidents in Schools](#).

### Consultation Papers

Last week we submitted 5 more papers to the Ministry of Education Consultations including [STEM](#), preparing students for [needed job skills](#), [ensuring students graduate with needed life skills](#), a [Parents' Bill of Rights](#) and [Violent Incidents in Schools](#). We want to remind you that everyone has the opportunity to [take part in the consultations](#) by making a submission until December 15.

### Starling Minds Program for Mental Wellness

It's a busy time of year. You're trying to wrap up all the 2018 events at your school, finish your year's to-do list, prepare for the holidays, meet with family and friends, organize your home and more. December's activities can take a toll on your mental balance and wellness. Have you registered for our Starling Minds program yet? If not, now is a great time to do so. Starling is a new online resource to help support you in strengthening your mental resilience and wellness, providing education and training to help manage stress and prevent or minimize anxiety and depression. The program is based on Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT). It is a confidential platform. Registration is free and available to all OPC Members and your families. [Visit our website to learn more](#) or to [register for Starling Minds](#).

### ONE-T Trustee

The 3 provincial principal associations have chosen Kelly Kempel to be the Representative Trustee for the ONE-T (Ontario Non-Union Education Trust) Board of Trustees. Working with Trustees from both the government/school boards and other non-union employees, Kelly will have shared responsibility for administering the trust and ensuring its operational and financial sustainability. Kelly is a recently retired secondary school principal from the Waterloo Region District School Board who was involved in the development and negotiation of the plan, as well as being a plan member prior to her retirement.

We were pleased to see a large number of very capable applicants to the role, including many OPC Members.

## **Media**

[Educators worry about future of Indigenous curriculum](#)

[We need a plan for the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace](#)

[Motor skills of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder need focus](#)

[Canada and Indigenous leaders develop plan to co-develop child welfare legislation](#)

[Ontario's trans youth need support](#)

[Grassy Narrows children have more health problems and learning disabilities](#)

## **Queen's Park**

There was a question in the House about [school repairs](#).

The House is now in recess until February 2019.