

# President's Message

## May 13, 2019

### Strategic Plan

As mentioned last week, our [2019-2022 Strategic Plan](#) is now operational. It contains four Strategic Priorities or key service areas that are at the core of why you choose to belong to the OPC. The first is Member Support. You have told us that Member Support means advising and representing you when you need support related to your employment, continuing our efforts to promote principal/vice-principal provincial and local terms and conditions of employment and working to improve the quality and reduce the intensity of your daily work to continue to attract and retain the brightest and best in school leadership. We've already set some specific objectives and short-term actions under the Member Support strategic priority. Some of the initiatives include expanding the Protective Services Team to meet the growing needs of Members; building capacity and providing resources to support you with respect to labour relations; and identifying, providing and promoting proactive and responsive mental health and well-being resources, accessible to all Members. We've developed a [one-page information sheet](#) to highlight this first priority for your review.

### Advice on Dealing with the Children's Aid Society

Our Protective Services Team often receives questions about a principal or vice-principal's duty to report to the Children's Aid Society. Our advice is always that if you have a reasonable suspicion that a child may be in need of protection, you should make a report to the CAS. We have updated a previous [Advisory](#) on this issue. The important thing that our new Advisory highlights is that this must be a report to the CAS, and not simply a consult. Seeking advice from the CAS would not fulfil one's duty to report a child in need of protection and can lead to employment discipline, OCT discipline and even a provincial offence charge, not to mention the potential of further harm to a child. If you have any questions about this issue or the advisory, please contact our PST.

### ONE-T Benefits Trust

Last week you received an email from ONE-T outlining the importance of the role you play in the financial security of our benefits plan. Like any other insurance plan, the more claims that are made, the higher the costs. Each year the ONE-T plan's costs will be assessed, and benefits may be adjusted to keep the plan financially stable. We encourage you to use the plan as needed, but to do so in the most cost-effective manner possible, including following the recommendations set out in the newsletter, so that we can continue to offer benefits at a reasonable price to everyone.

## **Media**

[Government considering legislation to cap wages](#)

[Poll shows Ontarians opposed to larger class sizes and mandatory e-learning](#)

[Principals weigh in on how to address violence in elementary schools](#)

[With focus on autism, families of children with disabilities feeling ignored](#)

[Student trustees issue report on education changes, launch survey on e-learning](#)

[Teachers target PC MPP offices condemning controversial education reforms](#)

[Education consultations cost government \\$1 million](#)

[How government will decide on university/college funding](#)

[How schools can support students during Ramadan](#)

## **Queen's Park**

There were questions in the House about cuts to [child care funding](#), [loss of classes due to larger class sizes](#), [delayed funding for autism](#), [cost of education consultations](#) and [children's mental health services](#).