

# President's Message

## May 21, 2019

### Strategic Plan

The second priority of our [2019-2022 Strategic Plan](#) is Advocacy. You told us that you want informed, non-partisan positions developed on issues that affect students, staff, schools and school leaders; advocacy on behalf of principals and vice-principals, the OPC, students and public education in Ontario; and positions articulated publicly through a variety of channels to advance student achievement and well-being.

We've already set some specific objectives and short-term actions and have developed a [one-page information sheet](#) to highlight this priority.

### New PD Resources

In partnership with our Catholic and francophone principal association colleagues, we've developed short (8 to 14 minute) information videos available to all Members to help you in your role. One set will build your understanding of the Ontario [Human Rights Code](#) related to the Code, Duty to Accommodate and Being an Advocate for Your Own Human Rights.

The second series of videos will assist with your understanding of [school generated funds](#) (non-board) related to The Basics, Counting and Storing School Generated Funds and Supervision and Advice. We encourage you to visit our website and take the time to review these video resources.

### Work Intensification Focus Group

Supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), Dr. Katina Pollock is conducting a focus group with practising principals to pilot an online survey that investigates the current status of school principals' health and well-being in Ontario. Participants will pilot the draft survey questions and comment on the survey design, question design and content to ensure that contextual nuances are captured. The survey questions explore strategies principals use to cope with their work-related stress and burnout and provide recommendations/tools on how to enhance coping skills and develop physical and mental resilience at work. The session will run from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. on June 11 in Toronto. Participants can join virtually or in-person at the OPC Office.

For more information or to be a part of this focus group, contact [katina.pollock@uwo.ca](mailto:katina.pollock@uwo.ca).

## **Media**

[The system should not raise a child; families should](#)

[Parties urged to make childcare a ballot issue for upcoming federal election](#)

[What happens when a school loses education workers?](#)

[High school dropouts cost a staggering amount of money](#)

[Ministry to release Indigenous curriculum; consultations to come later](#)

[New proposals may force professors with pensions to work for no salary](#)

[Most Ontarians think Ford is on the wrong track regarding budget cuts](#)

[Prof wants to teach you about “real math”](#)

## **Queen’s Park**

There were questions in the House about the fire at [York Memorial Collegiate](#), [cut in funding to school boards](#), [cuts to OSAP grants](#), [reports by boards of funding cuts](#), [reduced funding for child care](#) and [board’s letter to Minister re funding cuts](#).