

# President's Message

## November 26, 2018

### Strategic Plan Survey

Last week you should have received an email with a survey pertaining to our ongoing strategic planning process. This process has been underway for several months to look at where we have been, where we are now and where we want to go in the future. We want to hear from all OPC Members through the online survey. This is your professional association and your voice is integral to this process.

If you have NOT received the email, please check your spam filter, as some emails were caught by board firewalls and sent to the spam/junk folder. Your responses will be confidential. Please reply by **Wednesday December 5**.

### Starling Minds Program for Mental Wellness

Starling Minds 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. To learn more, [click here](#). To register [Click here](#).

### Open Enrolment for Members Without LTD Coverage

This is the last call to apply for LTD coverage if you have previously been denied, missed the initial 60-day window after your appointment to a P/VP position or have LTD coverage a condition of employment but are not currently covered for any reason.

We have negotiated an open enrolment for Members. The deadline to apply is **November 30, 2018**. Once you are enrolled, premiums will be retroactive to September 1, 2018, the start of our policy contract with Great-West Life.

### People for Education Survey

People for Education has extended the deadline for its Annual Ontario School Survey. If you are able, we encourage you to participate. The survey can be found [here](#). Individual school data is confidential, but the overall findings are published in the [Annual Report on Ontario's Publicly Funded Schools](#). The survey will be closing on **Monday, December 3**.

### Media

[Child care called key to ending child poverty](#)

[Ford pledges to stop motion calling for gender identity to be removed from curriculum](#)

[Axing child advocate puts most vulnerable kids at greater risk](#)

[Students can use headphones, online calculators during EQAO test](#)

[Ex foster kids flocking to universities for free tuition](#)

[Who has to report sexual assaults at schools?](#)

[Teaching kids to stand up to tormentors](#)

## **Queen's Park**

There were questions in the House about [cuts to children, youth and social services](#), [cuts to support for vulnerable children](#), [elimination of the Child Advocate's Office](#), [PC Party motion around gender identity in curriculum](#), [funding for school improvements](#), [seat belts in school buses](#), [potential education cuts](#) and [anti-bullying initiatives](#).

Debate on [Bill 48](#) continued, the *Safe and Supportive Classrooms Act*.