President's Message

October 22, 2018

Updated Website

We are pleased to be launching our brand new, rebuilt website, based on feedback we received from Members over the past year. We hope that you find the site easier to navigate and useful to you as you search for our resources. With the launch of a completely redesigned site, there may still be some bugs to work out, so we appreciate your patience as we work to ensure every page is working properly. Each page contains a "website feedback" button on the bottom, so please use that for any comments you want to share with us related to that individual page.

To login to the Member side, fill in your OPC number and your password on the top toolbar. This will be the same password you used on our previous website. If you do not know your OPC number or your password, please click the "Forgot Password" button on the top right-hand corner of the site.

Provincial Council Meeting

Last week we held a very successful Provincial Council meeting, AGM and Awards Dinner. Thank you to the Councillors and Local Leaders who took time away from school to attend and represent your local colleagues. We want to congratulate our six inaugural Difference Makers who were celebrated Friday evening: Sharon Beeler (Simcoe), Dave Isherwood (Lakehead), Chad Mowbray (Ontario North East), Don Oberle (Waterloo), Joan Rankin (Greater Essex) and Jodi Sepkowski (York Region). We also honoured Past-President Mary Linton and OPC Director of Professional Learning Joanne Robinson, as well as bestowing the Outstanding Contribution to Education Award to Dr. Jean Clinton. Highlights of the meeting will be sent to all Members later this week. We will also be posting a video of the AGM to our website by mid-week.

20th Anniversary Video

To celebrate our 20th anniversary, we created a <u>retrospective video</u> chronicling our history. We have showed the video at several OPC events this year, but if you have not yet seen it, we hope you take a look.

Media

School children help design playgrounds that reflect Innu culture

<u>Schools prepare for legalization of recreational cannabis</u>

How a hashtag inspired students to walk out of class

School trustee are spending your money – vote for them

Teaching kids to be allies for disability inclusion

Parent Council grants "on pause" says Minister

Teaching kids to fail is critical to disrupting higher education

Fewer children walking to school

Queen's Park

There were questions in the House last week about <u>wages for early childhood educators</u>, <u>youth employment</u>, <u>status of Partnership Table</u> and <u>cancellation of Parents Reaching Out grants</u>.