

President's Message

February 7, 2021

EDI Update

Our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Advisory Committee began meeting in June 2020 with 12 OPC Members from across the province with diverse personal and professional identities, supported by OPC staff. The committee collaborates on several equity issues and provides advice and makes recommendations to our Executive and Provincial Council on matters of policy, governance and operational matters. We want to thank two of our committee members, Nancy Brady and Yonnette Dey, for their past contributions and celebrate their recent promotions. As a result, we currently have some vacancies on the committee. If you are interested in becoming a member of this committee, and are willing to serve your colleagues for at least a two-year term, please complete the [form](#) expressing your interest by February 18, 2022.

As our work in equity and anti-oppression deepens, we have updated our website to reflect that work. Under the Who We Are tab on our homepage, you will see a [dedicated section for EDI](#). There is information about the [Member Census and Report](#), the [EDI Advisory Committee and its associated sub-committees](#), the new EDI [Director's Blog](#), [affinity groups](#) and professional resources. We'll be holding a [virtual information session](#) regarding affinity groups on February 23, 2022 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. EST. The site and pages will continue to evolve. We welcome your feedback at equity@principals.ca.

IEL Fireside Chat

To support the dialogue and exchange of ideas among school and system leaders, the Ontario Institute for Education Leadership (IEL) is offering a virtual Fireside Chat on Wednesday, February 16th from 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. EST. The theme of the chat is [The Differences Between Allies, Accomplices & Co-Conspirators May Surprise You](#) by [Dr. Tiffany Jana](#). Participants will have opportunities for informal dialogue focused on common interests, sharing experiences and lessons learned. [Register](#) by February 15.

OPSBA Awards

The Ontario Public School Boards Association (OPSBA) is seeking nominations for its 2022 Education Awards, recognizing teachers, education workers, administrators, trustees, students or community members who have demonstrated their commitment to public education. [Learn more](#) or access the [nomination form online](#).

Media

- [Yukon parents create First Nations school board](#)
- [More rapid tests coming to schools](#)

- [Childcare deal with federal government “in reach”](#)
- [High school students must complete 2 online courses to graduate](#)
- [The delay in certifying teachers](#)
- [Provincial governments need an education recovery plan](#)
- [Stories of Black excellence missing from Canadian history](#)

Articles requiring a paid subscription

- [Students become pandemic pen pals with seniors](#)
- [Boards continue to struggle with increasing staff absences](#)

Queen’s Park

The House is in recess until February 22.