

# President's Message

November 29, 2021

## Anti-bullying PPM

Last week the ministry released [PPM 144](#), providing direction to school boards to support the development of plans, policies and guidelines that boards must establish to support bullying prevention and intervention in schools. Boards have until September 2022 to update their policies to align with these revisions. The revisions include updated descriptions of bullying and cyber bullying, and an equity alignment.

## Protective Services Team Podcast

Do you want to know more about our Protective Services Team (PST)? Do you know the team members and what their responsibilities are? Do you wonder when you should call or what you should call about? We've [recorded a podcast](#) about the PST with one of our Consultants, Naeem Siddiq. We encourage you to listen and learn more about this important department and the impact it can have on you and your role.

## Finance Department Update

Since March 2020, and in part driven by the pandemic, our accounting department has gone paperless. We believe there are many benefits to this move, as it:

- saves staff time, which would be spent filing, organizing and searching for paper documents
- saves space, as we are drastically reducing the number of file cabinets in the office
- saves money, as we spend less on paper, printers, ink and postage
- eases the transfer of information
- reduces our impact on the environment.

We continue to look for ways to make our operations more efficient, cost-effective and environmentally responsible.

## Pension Entitlement

Today the three P/VP associations [sent a letter](#) to OTF requesting an extension of the 95-day working rule without pension penalty for retired teachers and administrators. We believe this is one step, but an important one, to address the continued staff shortages we know you are experiencing right now.

## Media

- [Funding for Second Career program expanded](#)  
[Snow days to be converted to online learning days](#)

- [Cybersecurity education program gets funding](#)
- [Substitute teacher shortage plaguing schools](#)
- [Weaving Nuu-chah-nulth culture into curriculum](#)
- [Vaccination of kids provides hope as school cases soar](#)
- [Parents of children with autism still waiting for specifics of program](#)

## **Queen's Park**

There were questions in the House last week about [provincial registry for youth COVID-19 vaccinations](#), [anti-racism legislation](#), [staffing crisis in child care](#), [measures to keep kids safe in school](#), [child care agreement with federal government](#), [vaccine portal for children](#), [return to in-class instruction for post-secondary students](#), [anti-bullying initiatives](#) and [wait list for youth mental health services](#).