

## President's Message

October 18, 2021

### EDI Update

In September, we shared with you the [OPC Membership Census Report](#). We hope that you have had a chance to review the findings, as well as the recommendations. Our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Advisory Committee and its two sub-committees (Professional Learning and Recruitment, Retention and Advancement) have been meeting over the past few weeks to review the recommendations and identify areas of action. One of the suggested actions is the creation of affinity groups for under-represented identities to gain a better understanding of potential barriers to advancement or inclusion. As the report indicated, certain identities, such as Indigenous, racialized and those identifying as 2SLGBTQ+, are less represented in our membership than in the general population. Information about these groups will be shared with Members in the upcoming weeks.

### Government/Ministry Memos

You may have recently received a copy of a [memo from the ministry about cyber security](#) awareness month. In it, the ministry outlines resources and a calendar for boards to improve cyber resilience and mitigate the impact of cyber threats on students, educators and school boards.

While these memos are shared with school boards, we also post them on our website under [Government/Ministry News](#). We encourage you to check this section if you are ever looking for a ministry memo. It also contains all COVID-19 related memos.

### Media

- ["Stay the course" to keep schools open, advocacy group urges](#)
- [Parents navigate pitfalls of planning safe social activities amid pandemic](#)
- [Schoolyards need upgrading to encourage active play](#)
- [Government encouraging French-language education in the skilled trades](#)
- [Learning about Islamophobia in and out of school](#)
- [TikTok challenge leads to vandalism in schools](#)
- [Money at heart of child care disagreement between Ottawa and Queen's Park](#)

### Queen's Park

The House did not sit last week.

