

## President's Message

September 13, 2021

### Ontario College of Teachers Seeks Administrator Panelists

You may be aware that the Ontario College of Teachers continues a significant transformation (an initial call for transition positions occurred in spring 2021), and as part of that process, is inviting applications for a variety of positions to support its governance of the profession. Peer review – the assurance that the conduct of a principal or vice-principal will be adjudicated by at least one committee member who has worked as an administrator - is now law and required by the *Ontario College of Teachers Act*. In order for peer review to be meaningful, it is critical that there be robust participation of current or retired practising school leaders on the governing Council and serving on its Committees and roster of panelists, particularly and as a priority, on the Investigations, Discipline and Fitness to Practice Committees. It is for this reason that we share the information and application process. If you, or someone you know, would like to serve in any of these positions, please review the [information](#) and apply. If interested, please contact me at [president@principals.ca](mailto:president@principals.ca) and we will be pleased to provide additional background information and/or support with applications.

### Chris Hadfield To Speak at ICP

We are excited to announce that Colonel Chris Hadfield, the first Canadian Commander of the International Space Station, will be the opening keynote speaker for our convention in July 2022! Based on his experience as an astronaut, author, musician, professor and documentary series host, Colonel Commander Hadfield will share his perspectives on leadership with convention participants on July 26. For more information or to register, please visit the [convention website](#). Stay tuned for more information on other speakers.

### Ministry Memos Related to Pandemic and Back-to-School Protocols

There have been many memos sent out by the ministry over the course of the pandemic, including a number in recent weeks, regarding new, updated or revamped protocols and practices for the current school year. These memos are sent to your board and should be passed on to you by them. We post all ministry memos [on our website](#) for your information and review. We encourage you to ensure you are reading and following all direction outlined in the memos, and following up with your board if you have any questions. Please let me know if you have specific concerns about the memos that we can in turn raise as part of our advocacy on your behalf during our regular meetings with ministry staff.

### Media

- [Principals weigh in on what worked and didn't during pandemic](#)
- [Minister committed to keeping schools open amid fourth wave](#)
- [Nursing shortage means medically fragile children may not be able to return to school](#)

- [Students urged to consider trades as labour shortage continues](#)
- [Schools brace for surge in demand of mental health services](#)
- [Extracurriculars and sports cancelled in Toronto](#)
- [Muslim group launches national education campaign](#)

## **Queen's Park**

The House is in recess until October 4.