

President's Message

September 13, 2021

It's Federal Election Day!

Please take the opportunity to vote today. If you have any questions about the voting process, contact your local District Returning Office by using this [Voter Information Service](#). Polls are open from 9:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m. in the Eastern Time Zone and from 8:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Central Time Zone.

Membership and Group Benefits Application Forms Due

All newly appointed administrators must submit your OPC [membership application form](#) within 60 calendar days of your appointment. If your appointment date was effective September 1, 2021, you must submit your application by **October 31, 2021**. Failure to do so will result in a loss of historical protective services coverage for any employment-related event or circumstance that arose or occurred prior to becoming an OPC Member. For more information, please contact membership@principals.ca.

Members in boards* participating in the **OPC Benefits plan** must also submit their [Group Benefits application](#) for Long-term Disability Insurance (LTDI) to the OPC by **October 31, 2021**. Premiums will be retroactive to the date of appointment. Medical evidence of insurability and Insurer's approval will be required if the forms are received after October 31, 2021. Members who did not have LTDI coverage up to their date of appointment must submit medical evidence. For more information, please contact opcbenefits@principals.ca.

*Boards participating in the OPC Benefits Plan include Algoma, Bluewater, **Durham**, Grand Erie, **Greater Essex**, Halton, Hamilton-Wentworth, Lambton Kent, Near North, Niagara, **Ottawa-Carleton**, **Peel**, Rainy River, Renfrew, Simcoe, **Superior-Greenstone**, Toronto, **Trillium Lakelands**, Upper Canada, **Upper Grand**, Waterloo Region and York. Boards where LTD coverage is mandatory are shown in bold font.

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

Last week, the ministry [released a memo](#) outlining some guidelines for commemorating the history and legacy of Residential Schools in Canada on September 30, designated the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Schools are encouraged to use this opportunity to provide education on the Indigenous history, cultures, legacy of systemic discrimination and the residential school system, and their ongoing impacts on First Nation, Métis and Inuit children, families and communities.

Media

- [COVID-19 spreading faster in schools](#)
- [Women urge party leaders to prioritize child care](#)
- [COVID-19 response program funding money remains unspent](#)
- [Government directs universities to strengthen sexual assault reporting policies](#)
- [BC district goes into lockdown as vaccine protesters enter schools](#)

Queen's Park

The House is in recess until October 4.