

President's Message

August 29, 2022

Welcome Back!

My name is Patsy Agard and I am the OPC Provincial President for 2022-23. I want to welcome you all back to a new school year. With a little bit of sun, rest and relaxation under our belts, it's time to re-open our school doors for our students, staff and school communities.

I would especially like to welcome all the new OPC Members who have joined our association since June. We are here to support you in your new role. Please reach out to our staff if you have any questions. You'll find information about all our services and supports on our <u>website</u>.

Today, my President's Message is in the form of a <u>video message</u> so I can introduce myself more personally.

OPC Statement Released Today

As we prepare for a new school year, and after 2 ½ years of pandemic learning, we know that our education system needs a thorough review, to ensure it is meeting the needs of today's students and our global economy. Today we released a <u>public statement</u> outlining our concerns and recommendations. We will continue to advocate for these measures on your behalf.

Free Resources for School Leaders

For your professional learning needs, we have a variety of practical <u>resources on relevant topics</u>, including Autism Spectrum Disorder, Human Trafficking Awareness, Math, Science and Technology and Healthy Relationships for school leaders as part of ministry funded projects. To access the latest professional learning resources and opportunities, <u>subscribe</u> to our weekly email.

Media

- <u>Government says wage cap law does not infringe Charter rights</u>
- Science advisory table recommends measures for schools around COVID-19
- <u>CUPE sets strike vote for end of September</u>
- <u>2SLGBTQQ+ advocates raise concern about trustees</u>
- Salary increases, end of hybrid learning among teacher contract priorities
- <u>Union says proposals cost less than government estimates</u>

Articles Requiring a Paid Subscription

- <u>CUPE support staff to begin strike vote</u>
- <u>Schools should re-evaluate temporary COVID-19 measures</u>

- <u>Universities differ on mask mandates for back-to-school</u>
- Millions in scholarship money remains unclaimed each year

Queen's Park

There were questions in the House last week about <u>catch-up tutoring funding to parents</u>, <u>backlog</u> <u>of cases for children waiting for autism treatment</u>, and <u>funding for children with disabilities</u>.