

President's Message

February 13, 2023

Staff Shortages Poll

If you have not already done so, we encourage you to [complete this poll](#) by **February 19** on staff shortages. The data we collect will be used for our upcoming Advocacy Week with MPPs in early March, as well as for feedback we have been requested to provide to the Minister. We know all of you are dealing with this challenge almost daily in your schools. Please respond if you are currently working in a school. It will take you about 4 minutes and should not require you to look for any data. We are asking you to provide us with your best estimates regarding staff shortages, based on an average 5-day week in January. We also welcome any suggestions or recommendations you have to tackle this issue. Thank you for your prompt attention to this very important issue.

EDI Update

In January, members of the OPC EDI Advisory Committee and sub-committees met at our office to identify priorities, discuss strategies and set goals. It was a very fulfilling day, and we appreciated the opportunity to discuss different issues and hear the perspectives of the committee members. We also identified some vacancies on our committees due to retirements, promotions or withdrawals. If you are interested in adding your voice and input to one of these committees, please complete this [form](#) by **February 22, 2023**. Also, the affinity spaces program is continuing, and in the next few weeks several groups are meeting: the 2SLGBTQ+ administrators (Feb. 13), East-Asian administrators (Feb. 22), Muslim administrators (Feb 28), South Asian administrators (March 8) and Black administrators (March 20). There is also an opportunity for administrators who identify as autistic or otherwise neurodivergent to connect on Feb. 22. For more information on committees or affinity spaces, visit [our website](#) or contact Irfan Toor at equity@principals.ca.

Media

- [Toronto board spending millions on administrative leaves](#) (Paid subscription)
- [ETFO launches survey to address rise of violence in schools](#)
- [High school students sworn into army for co-op program](#)
- [Students learn about dangers of hate, intolerance](#)
- [Financial watchdog says province underspending on education](#)
- [Province seeks to add 50,000 child care spots](#)
- [Why some schools aren't celebrating Valentine's Day](#)
- [Parents continue to advocate against bullying 25 years after son's death](#)

Queen's Park

The House is in recess until February 21.