

## President's Message

January 30, 2023

### Seeking Rep for Special Education Advisory Council

In June 2023, the ministry will be appointing a new P/VP representative to sit on the Ministry's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE). The Council provides advice to the Minister of Education about the development and delivery of programs and services for students with special education needs, and advice on identifying and providing early intervention programs. The appointment has a maximum six-year term. Learn more about the Council's [mandate and eligibility](#). If you are interested in being considered for this role, please email your name, bio, experience with special education and a letter of motivation to [president@principals.ca](mailto:president@principals.ca) by March 1, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. EST. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Gary Pieters, who has served as the MACSE representative since 2017.

### Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action Presentation

Last November, Chief Cadmus Delorme, Chief of the Cowessess First Nation, presented on Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action as a part of our ongoing Professional Learning [Speaker Series](#). Chief Delorme provided insight into what education leaders can do in support of all learners toward Truth and Reconciliation. There are two short clips from the presentation that outline the [goal of reconciliation](#) and the [definition of truth](#). The full [60-minute recording](#) of the presentation is also available.

### Are You Retiring This Year?

If you are retiring at the end of this school year, email [membership@principals.ca](mailto:membership@principals.ca) with your retirement date so we can record your employment status change. Your school board does not share retirement information with us.

If you have LTD coverage, you are not eligible to maintain it after retirement. Complete and submit the [Application to Terminate LTD Coverage form](#) to [OPC Benefits](#). Premiums are non-refundable. For boards where LTD is a condition of employment, proof of retirement will be required prior to termination. If you have optional insurance (life, accidental death and dismemberment), indicate on the [Application to Terminate or Maintain Optional Insurance Coverage form](#) whether you wish to terminate or maintain it. You can maintain this coverage up to age 70 if you become an OPC [Associate](#) or Term Member within 30 days of retiring. If your premiums were paid through payroll deduction, you'll need to complete the [Pre-authorized Debit Agreement](#) and submit a void cheque for premium withdrawal from your bank account.

We also have [a tip sheet](#) (login required) with general guidelines for retirement. Check the retirement section under [PST resources](#) for additional information.

## Media

- [The stress of high school exams is back](#)
- [Peel board adopts anti-Islamophobia strategy](#)
- [Hitting children is still legal – these lawmakers want to change that](#)
- [Board hires first mental-health worker for staff](#)
- [Teaching kids about the Holocaust earlier can help combat antisemitism](#)
- [Canadian higher education is at a critical crossroads](#)
- [Respiratory infections are stabilizing in Ontario, vigilance urged](#)

## Queen's Park

The House is in recess until February 21.