

## President's Message

October 16, 2023

### Bargaining Survey

By now you should have received an email from Abacus Data with the Bargaining Survey. The information collected will assist the 3 P/VP groups as we prepare our priorities for the upcoming provincial negotiations. Your feedback will remain confidential and anonymous. Please complete the survey **by October 27, 2023**. Those who complete the survey will be entered to win one of eight \$100 gift cards. You can contact us at [negotiations2023@principals.ca](mailto:negotiations2023@principals.ca) if you have any questions about the negotiations process. Thank you in advance for your participation.

### EDI Update

In 2021, our Provincial Council approved a motion to create the position of District EDI Representatives. This position on the local OPC executive is intended to bring a dedicated voice providing advice, recommendations and representation of different identities to Districts. Local constitutions should be updated to reflect this position. District EDI Reps provide updates to the local executive on provincial EDI initiatives, liaise with OPC Provincial by attending regular meetings and have an opportunity to attend a Provincial Council meeting. Some coordinate professional learning for their colleagues and conduct surveys to gain a sense of who their Members are and their learning needs. Reach out to your local OPC Executive or [Irfan Toor](#), Director of EDI, to find out more.

Identity-based [Affinity Spaces](#) for Members have started again. The Jewish network will meet November 1 (virtual) and the Black administrators will meet November 22 (virtual).

### Seeking Interim Legal Counsel for our PST

We are seeking an [Interim Legal Counsel](#) from January 3 – August 2, 2024. As part of our Protective Services Team, this position provides advice and legal support to our Members facing legal jeopardy; defends P/VPs in professional discipline proceedings at the Ontario College of Teachers; assists in responding to other legal proceedings related to the performance of employment duties; provides legal advice to the Association on policy, contract and corporate matters; researches and analyzes new legislation; contributes to materials for Members; and participates in T&C negotiations. Candidates should have 3 – 5 years of legal experience. A background in the education sector and/or experience in labour law and/or professional discipline would be considered an asset.

### Quote to Ponder

*“Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at 20 or 80. Anyone who keeps learning stays young.”*  
– Henry Ford

## Media

- [Saskatchewan tables school pronoun bill, invokes Notwithstanding Clause](#)
- [Rally protests Saskatchewan government plan over parental consent policy](#)
- [Monument memorializes those involved with residential schools](#)
- [Canadian universities bet on international students](#)
- [B.C. teachers push to get rid of standardized tests](#)
- [Schools grapple with discussion about Israel-Hamas war](#)
- [Jane Goodall encourages students to make a difference](#)
- [How ChatGPT is changing post-secondary](#)

## Queen's Park

The House did not sit last week.