

President's Message

December 9, 2019

Principal's Day at Queen's Park

Last week the Provincial Executive held our annual advocacy day at Queen's Park, meeting with MPPs from all 4 parties. The main issue we discussed was the increasing number and severity of [violent and aggressive incidents in schools](#). The meetings were productive, well-attended and an important part of our continuing advocacy campaign on behalf of our Members.

Twitter Chat

Our next Twitter chat will take place this Thursday December 12 from 8:00-9:00 pm EST. The topic will be Supporting Student, Staff and Self Wellness and Mindfulness. We've invited Dr. Andrew Miki, Founder of Starling Minds and Dr. Katina Pollock, Researcher at Western University to join us for the chat. To take part, sign into Twitter at 8:00 pm, enter #OPCchat in the search Twitter box in the upper right corner, introduce yourself once the moderator joins and include #OPCchat with all your comments. We hope you can join us!

New Discount Program for Members

We are pleased to announce that we have partnered with Edvantage, a rewards and discounts program offered to the education community, through partnerships with retailers and businesses in Ontario. Edvantage is owned and administered by the Ontario Teachers' Insurance Plan (OTIP).

You and your family will have access to over 70 active participating vendors, including GoodLife Fitness. To participate, you will need to enter your name and OPC number on the Edvantage website once it is live. Your OPC number will be your Edvantage number. An Edvantage card will be issued in the new year. If you already participate in the Edvantage program, you will not have to re-enrol through the OPC partnership.

GoodLife Fitness

The GoodLife Fitness rate through Edvantage is significantly less than what would have been available to us for the upcoming renewal year (\$469 vs \$534 plus taxes). As such, we will not be renewing the current contract with GoodLife on December 31. Instead, you will be able to apply for/renew your membership at the lower rate through the Edvantage website before December 31. Detailed instructions for GoodLife Fitness registration will be provided to you once the Edvantage website is accessible.

Media

- [Reg 274 hinders ability to hire diverse teachers](#)
- [TDSB introduces fee for International Baccalaureate programs](#)
- [Elementary teachers add new work-to-rule withdrawals](#)
- [OSSTF to hold second one-day strike in select boards](#)
- [How education cuts fuel inequality](#)
- [Education students question fairness of new mandatory math test](#)

Queen's Park

There were questions in the House last week about [public consultations on education](#), [lack of support for larger class sizes](#), [loss of daycare spaces](#), [OSSTF walkout](#), [parent consultation on education issues](#), [government position during teacher negotiations](#), [efforts to avoid OSSTF strike](#) and [getting back to bargaining table](#).