

President's Message

February 3, 2020

Labour Situation

As labour negotiations and strike action continue to unfold we want to thank you for your ongoing hard work to support schools and students. During job action we know that everyone — students, parents, teachers, principals, vice-principals, educational support workers, board and all other school staff — experience more stress which can in turn, strain these important relationships. Your continued effort to maintain calm, supportive and respectful interactions will benefit us all. We know these are not easy times, and we want to continue to encourage you to make sure you seek assistance and support if and wherever necessary. Don't hesitate to call us for support at 416-322-6600 or toll free at 1-800-701-2362, or check out the website for [resources](#) and access [Starling Minds](#).

Provincial Council Meeting

Our Provincial Council will be meeting later this week. We will be devoting some of this meeting to discussing ongoing labour action, equity, inclusion and diversity and planning for our provincial and local T & C negotiations. If you have any questions, comments or input you would like considered by Council, please communicate with your local Councillor by Wednesday February 5th.

Keeping You Informed – Our Resources and Reserves Policy

In February 2018, our Provincial Council approved the OPC's Resources and Reserves Policy. The policy outlines our rationale for building financial resources and the types and quantum of reserves that we are striving to accumulate.

The objectives of the policy are to ensure

- adequate financial resources to serve Members now and in the future
- prudent stewardship of the funds with which we are entrusted
- compliance with the Canada Revenue Agency's reserves position.

We have achieved our target for unrestricted reserves and are working towards achieving the internally restricted reserves targets. [View this informative graphic](#) for helpful information.

Media

- [Rolling teacher strikes begin this week with elementary teachers in Ontario](#)
- [Young people who need mental health services can't wait](#)
- [With no negotiations scheduled, what happens next?](#)
- [Elementary teachers to hold weekly strikes until deal reached](#)
- [CUPE claims government not flowing money to re-hire support staff](#)

- [Boards try to reassure parents as coronavirus spreads](#)
- [Students describe lax standards at “credit mills”](#)
- [Indigenous culture for credit – getting students on track to graduation](#)

Queen’s Park

The House is in recess until February 18.