

President's Message

April 26, 2021

National Principal's Day

May 1 is National Principal's Day! We want to take this opportunity to acknowledge, thank and publicly celebrate principals and vice-principals. This Friday, watch our social media platforms (#NationalPVPDay) as we highlight the day and promote some of our Members. And on Saturday May 1, we'll be publishing a full-page ad in the Toronto Star to help the public learn more about our roles and our Members.

Bargaining Update

We're providing you with a [second update on provincial bargaining](#). A further update will be provided in the coming weeks.

Retiring This Year?

If you are retiring at the end of this school year, email membership@principals.ca with your retirement date so we can record your employment status change. Your school board does not share this information with us. Review your [OPC Benefits Profile](#). If you have LTD coverage, you are not eligible to maintain it after retirement or after your retirement eligibility should you choose to continue to work. 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 of LTD.

If you have optional insurance (life, AD&D), indicate on the [Application to Terminate or Maintain Optional Insurance Coverage form](#) whether you wish to terminate or maintain the coverage. You can do this up to age 70, if you become an [OPC Associate or Term Member](#) within 30 days of your retirement. If your premiums were paid through payroll deduction, after retirement you must complete the [Pre-authorized Debit Agreement](#) and submit a void cheque for premium withdrawal from your bank account. We also have a [retirement tip sheet](#) for more items to consider. Check the retirement section under PST resources for additional information.

Next Twitter Chat and book Giveaway

Our next Twitter chat will take place this **Thursday April 29 at 8:00 pm EST**. The topic will be Supporting Planning for Graduation. We'll be giving away the book *Culturally Responsive School Leadership* by Dr. Muhammad Khalifa to 1 participant of the chat. This book will be used in our Summer book club. Hope you can join us!

Media

- [Police forces to focus on education rather than enforcement](#)

- [Educators still working in person fear for their safety](#)
- [Epidemiologists say kids should be playing outdoors](#)
- [Ontarians have learned that democratic participation matters](#)
- [Ontario's sex ed curriculum needs to do better](#)
- [Boards encourage families to keep students with special needs at home](#)
- [Child care workers demand vaccines as centres stay open](#)
- [Parents juggle wi-fi, time crunches and constant change this year](#)
- [Anti-depressant use among youth skyrocketing](#)

Queen's Park

There were questions in the House last week about [changes to Ontario post-secondary institutions](#), [changes to programming at Laurentian and Lakehead universities](#), [Covid-19 safety plans for schools](#) and [concerns about children/youth health and wellness during pandemic](#).