

President's Message

March 8, 2021

OPC Seeking an Equity and Inclusion Specialist to Join our Team

We are looking for a candidate to help guide and support our anti-oppression, equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives, including coordinating the work of our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Advisory Committee, liaising with our District EDI leads and striving to imbue these commitments in all aspects of our operations and structures. A complete application package must be received electronically by **4:30 p.m. on March 25, 2021**. Applicants being considered for interviews must be available on **April 19, 2021**. Second interviews, if necessary, will be held on **April 21, 2021**. See the [posting on our website](#) for further details.

Free Webinars – Wellness and Equity Series

The next session in our [wellness series](#) on March 30 will feature Starling Minds on *Managing Your Mental Fitness in a COVID-19 World*. On March 31, as part of our [equity series](#), Tana Turner will introduce the importance of language in anti-oppression work.

Phase 2 Vaccination Schedule to Include Educators

We were pleased to see that, following our extensive advocacy work over the past several months, a [memo from the ministry](#) last week confirmed that Phase Two of the government's vaccine distribution system will include education and childcare workers. It is expected to begin in April and be completed by the end of July. Prioritization will commence with those who work directly with children in schools and licensed childcare settings. Local public health units are responsible for distribution of vaccines and will provide further information on how educators can access vaccines in their communities.

Media

- [Pandemic taking a toll on P/VPs](#) (Global TV interview with Ann Pace)
- [Principal pressures during the pandemic](#) (CP24 TV panel with Ann Pace and Lisa Collins)
- [Ontario increasing supports for Black students](#)
- [Changes to child welfare system to stop teens from aging out](#)
- [Parents of Black children launch school racism reporting tool](#)
- [Ottawa-Carleton board gives parents 2 weeks to decide about September return](#)
- [Teachers, ed workers being recruited for COVID-19 study](#)
- [Government memo hints at funding cuts and layoffs](#)
- [Youth advisory body calling for free menstrual products in all Ontario schools](#)

Queen's Park

There were questions in the House last week about [isolation policies for children with COVID-19 symptoms](#), [supports for youth in care after age 18](#) and [number of asymptomatic tests in schools](#).