



## President's Message

**May 31, 2021**

It is with heartfelt sorrow, respect and compassion that we stand in support with the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation community, residential school survivors and their families in mourning the devastating loss of the 215 children whose lives were tragically taken at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia.

As school leaders, we acknowledge that there is much work to be done in our schools and communities to teach the truth about the history and horrific impact of Canada's residential schools, and the continued resulting harm done to Indigenous families and communities. We also affirm our responsibility and intention to uphold the implementation of the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Reports.

To honour and respect those children who did not return home, the survivors who did, and the many generations of families impacted by the terrible legacy of residential schools, we join our colleagues, families and communities in observing May 31 as a remembrance that Every Child Matters.

### Letter to Premier

Last week, we [released a statement](#) providing our input and suggestions for the safe reopening of schools. We support students' return based on the advice of local public health units, even for a few weeks, provided appropriate safety measures are in place and appropriate notice is given with preparation time before students are welcomed back. We also indicated that it's not practical to plan a return after the week of June 7th. This is about students' social, emotional and mental health. If we can get them back to school safely, we should make that happen.

### Principal Associations Intervene in Aurora Court Case

The OPC, CPCO and ADFO have been granted leave to intervene in an ongoing court case called *UFCW v. Aurora Cannabis (Aurora)*, scheduled for hearings in June. We do not have party status in the litigation; rather, the purpose of our intervention is to help the court reach a decision by offering our perspective on the law in support of the agricultural workers. It is our view that this case could have implications for the s.2(d) Charter rights of P/VPs. Our latest [update](#) has more details. You can read our legal arguments in our [Factum](#). Once a decision is rendered, we will send out an update with a summary of the decision.

## Join Us for ICP 2022

We are excited to remind you that we will be hosting the International Confederation of Principals (ICP) World Convention July 25-28, 2022 in Toronto! Our colleagues from ADFO and CPCO are partnering with us. Registration is now open! This global event will provide opportunities for school and system leaders to network, collaborate and share practices to enhance student outcomes. Check our convention website for updates and highlights.

## Media

- [Youth showing up in droves for vaccinations](#)
- [Parents fear lack of life skills could lead to restraint collapse](#)
- [Should parents have choice to keep kids in same grade after disrupted year?](#)
- [Some boards could resume in-person learning with a few days' notice](#)
- [Tackling teen vaccine hesitancy](#)
- [Student mental wellness should be top of mind when kids return to school](#)
- [Ontario's science table calls for school reopenings on a regional basis](#)

## Queen's Park

The House did not sit last week.