

President's Message

September 14, 2020

I recognize that the enormous workload you continue to carry has not yet subsided. We continue to share your anecdotal information with the Ministry, OPSOA and PCODE, emphasizing the toll this is taking on you, senior team relationships and the need for concrete support and solutions. In addition, our provincial discussions are also focused on how legislative or common operational responsibilities can be postponed or modified to allow you to continue to focus your efforts on core reopening and stabilization activities. Your local Provincial Councillors are also involved in weekly Zoom calls with Protective Services and senior staff. When a best practice is shared, we are endeavouring to highlight it so that other boards may benefit from the idea. If there are particular issues that you believe we are not aware of either locally or provincially, please reach out to your Councillor or to me directly. We hope to see sustained stability soon, but recognize that unique challenges will continue to present themselves on a daily basis.

ICP World Convention – Save the Date!

As you start a new school year, we want to remind you that next August, we'll be hosting the International Confederation of Principals Convention, in partnership with our colleagues at CPCO and ADFO. The event will take place at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre from Aug 16-19, 2021. In light of current events, we are working diligently with the convention centre and public health officials to pay particular attention to health and safety, and are planning a convention that will be engaging, informative and safe. This unique learning event will provide opportunities for school and system leaders to network, collaborate and share practice that will enhance outcomes for students. We invite you to make the ICP Elevate Convention your 2021 learning opportunity to grow your professional leadership expertise in a collegial, supportive environment that puts students at the centre. [Visit our website](#) for more information.

Membership and Groups Benefits Forms Due

Newly appointed administrators must submit their [OPC membership application form](#) to Membership Services within 60 calendar days of your appointment. If your appointment date was September 1, you must submit this by **October 31**. Failure to do so will result in a loss of historical protective services coverage for any employment-related event or circumstance that arose or occurred prior to becoming an OPC Member.

Members in boards* participating in our Benefits plan must also submit their [Group Benefits application](#) for Long Term Disability Insurance (LTDI) by **October 31**. Premiums will be retroactive to the date of appointment. Medical evidence of insurability and Insurer's approval will be required if the forms are received late. Members who did not have LTDI coverage up to their date of appointment must submit medical evidence.

For more information about membership, please contact membership@principals.ca. For more information about Benefits, please contact opcbenefits@principals.ca.

*Boards participating in the OPC Benefits Plan include Algoma, Bluewater, Durham, Grand Erie, Greater Essex, Halton, Hamilton- Wentworth, Lambton Kent, Near North, Niagara, Ottawa-Carlton, Peel, Rainy River, Renfrew, Simcoe, Superior-Greenstone, Toronto, Trillium Lakelands, Upper Canada, Upper Grand, Waterloo Region and York.

Looking for Twitter Chat Moderators

We are seeking two additional moderators for our monthly OPC Twitter chats that take place on the second Tuesday of each month in the evening. Moderators will work with the lead moderator to set up content, participate during the chats and help secure special guests. Experience using Twitter and having run chats previously would be an asset. Please respond to Jamey Byers (jameybyers@gmail.com) with your name, board, relevant experience and how you will bring a unique perspective to the conversations.

Queen's Park

The House resumes sitting today.

Media

- [Anti-racism education can't take back seat to pandemic](#)
- [Choosing between health and children's education](#)
- [Back to school – spotting anxiety and how to cope](#)
- [Spike in number of educators seeking medical exemptions amid COVID-19](#)
- [Ontario's tricky relationship with trade unions](#)
- [Government launches webpage to report COVID-19 cases in schools and child care centres](#)
- [Premier says Halloween may need to be cancelled due to COVID-19](#)
- [Delayed start for online classes as demand grows](#)
- [Legislature resumes as pandemic dominates the agenda](#)