



Ontario's Teaching Regulator
L'organisme de réglementation
de l'enseignement en Ontario

December 4, 2023

Yves Durocher, OCT
President
Ontario Teachers' Federation
10 Alcorn Avenue, Suite 100
Toronto ON M4V 3A9

Dear Mr. Durocher,

Thank you for sharing your thoughts regarding the College's new Strategic Plan in your November 21, 2023 correspondence. I appreciate that you see value in our updated goals while also identifying your concerns. As you know, the College has consistently sought Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF) input on various initiatives and we welcome continued collaboration.

As Chair of the College's Council, I acknowledge OTF's contributions that were a product of that collaboration: expert and diverse subject-specific expertise and significant input to the Provincial Validation phase for Additional Qualification guideline development, thoughtful contributions to the College's response to the Ontario Human Rights Commission's *Right to Read* report while also developing OTF's own position paper on the topic, and additional well-researched insights into sector-specific issues.

I would also like to note that OTF meets with members of the College's Professional Conduct team biannually and recently provided insight on protocols for Ontario Certified Teachers attending oral cautions or admonishments.

As you observed, the Sexual Abuse Prevention Program was legislated by the Government of Ontario and was not the creation of the College. The Program was developed with the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, who were selected based on established expertise and their history of productive partnerships with organizations that include multiple Canadian governments and youth safety advocates. We are continuing to work with education stakeholders to ensure full compliance with this regulation and look forward to collaborating with OTF on this initiative.

It should also be noted that the new Transitional Certificate of Qualification and Registration (TCQR) was an initiative requested by the Government of Ontario. From the outset, the College consistently messaged to stakeholders and teacher candidates the expectation that TCQR holders prioritize the completion of their initial teacher education program.

It is Council's responsibility to ensure that all stakeholders have equal access to Council and that their interests are considered in conjunction with subjects of concern raised by OTF. The College carefully considers all requests to communicate directly with Council through a number of forums so that the voices of all stakeholders have an equal opportunity to be heard.

In the meantime, the College and OTF will have numerous opportunities to collaborate on near and long-term education issues, including Initial Teacher Education, the Focus on Teaching survey, and a future Professional Advisory.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and for being a valued and communicative education stakeholder.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Diana Miles', with a stylized, cursive script.

Diana Miles
Council Chair

Copy: Linda Lacroix, OCT/EAO
Registrar and Chief Executive Officer

DM/NW/kb-pgt