



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

# Memo

---

**Date:** August 5, 2022

**To:** Council of the Ontario College of Teachers

**From:** Paige Bennett, OCT  
Chair, Accreditation Committee

**Subject:** Report of the Accreditation Committee

---

## Committee Meeting Dates

The committee met for three decision-rendering meetings since the authority under the *Ontario College of Teachers Act, 1996* was transferred on February 1, 2022:

- March 3
- April 14
- June 14

## Summary of Discussions

To be prepared for the decisions that would come before the Accreditation Committee, staff facilitated a scaffolded orientation in February and March. This onboarding, including sessions with legal counsel and staff from the Policy team served to outline the committee's mandate, role and responsibilities. On February 24, committee and roster members participated together in a virtual training session to experience the development of a Panel Report, based on evidence provided by faculties of education in their accreditation applications, site visits and interviews. These Panel Reports serve to inform committee decisions.

Specialized knowledge and skills are required of Accreditation Committee and roster members to render informed decisions. Staff provide ongoing training that is highly valued in this development. The training has been impactful and has contributed significantly to the competency of the Accreditation Committee and roster members.

## Mandate and Strategic Priorities

The duties of the Accreditation Committee are outlined in Section 28. (5) of Ontario Regulation 563/21 General and are described in Appendix 1 of this document. Further, Ontario Regulation 347/02 Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs describes the decision-rendering mandate of the committee.

This report to Council is organized within the [Objects of the College](#) and the existing [Strategic Priorities](#) and will draw attention to:

- Decisions rendered;
- Trends, including the impact of COVID-19 on teacher education programs; and
- Forecast of upcoming decisions and anticipated reviews.

### **Object 3: To accredit professional teacher education programs offered by post-secondary educational institutions**

#### **Accreditation Pre-service Reviews and Program Change Decisions**

Since its appointment in February 2022, the Accreditation Committee has rendered four decisions pertaining to nine programs of professional education and one program of Additional Qualification, offered by four different providers in the province.

<b>Accreditation Decisions</b>				<b>Decision Date</b>
<b>Renewals/ Initial Accreditation</b>	<b>No Conditions</b>	2 programs	Trent University General accreditation granted to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consecutive program with areas of study in the Primary/Junior and Intermediate/Senior divisions</li> <li>• Concurrent program that combines studies in Indigenous Education with areas of study in the Primary/Junior and Intermediate/Senior divisions</li> </ul>	June 14, 2022
<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>Substantial Change in Program</b>	4 programs	Nipissing University <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. extend the duration of two multi-session consecutive, Indigenous programs</li> <li>2. change in character of the consecutive and concurrent programs</li> </ol>	April 14, 2022
<b>Removal of Conditions</b>		3 programs	Université d'Ottawa - French-language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal of conditions on Requirements 2,6 and 10; conditions remain on Requirements 3.1 and 4</li> </ul>	June 14, 2022
<b>Revocation</b>		1 AQ program	Lakehead District School Board - ceased to offer First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies, Part 2	June 14, 2022

## **Strategic Priority 2: Manage Risk More Strategically**

### **Accreditation Accountability At-a-Glance and Attestation (AAAA) Reports**

The Accreditation Committee has been briefed regarding general trends of the adjustments made in teacher education program delivery of accredited programs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Short-term changes to program delivery and practicum expectations were documented and provided to the College by all program providers through Pivot Reports in 2020 and 2021.

As faculties of education have prepared for intake of candidates for the 2022-2023 academic year, accountability processes have been shared with the committee. Faculty submission of the AAAA Reports 2022 will be reviewed and consolidated for committee member briefings in upcoming meetings.

## **Strategic Priority 3: Relational Work with Educational Stakeholders**

### **Accreditation Resource Guide Refresh**

In the spirit of reflecting currency of the Ontario context in which elementary and secondary schools operate, the Accreditation Unit is engaged in a refresh of the Accreditation Resource Guide. The Guide is a companion to requirements set out in Regulation 347/02 Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs. Its purpose is to clarify the intent, through additional information and examples, of the core content that should be included in Ontario teacher education programs.

Accreditation Committee and Roster members bring a critical perspective to this review. Committee members have had opportunities to join with key stakeholders, including Indigenous knowledge keepers, scholars, researchers, faculties of education and Ministry of Education personnel, to provide revision input. The consultation process will continue through Fall 2022 with an anticipated soft launch for implementation in faculties of education effective September 2023.

## **Forecast of Anticipated Reviews and Upcoming Decisions**

There are accreditation decisions for French-language programs from two different providers on the horizon:

1. A renewal anticipated as part of the cyclical nature of accreditation for the programs offered at Université Laurentienne; and
2. a new French-language provider - Université de l'Ontario français.

## **Motions Referred to Council**

No motions were referred to Council.

**Future Meeting Dates**

- September 22, 2022
- November [*date to be determined*], 2022

**Committee Members**

Paige Bennett, OCT (Chair)

Brenda Brown

Leisa Desmoulins

Sam Eskenasi

Catherine Foy, OCT

Robert Kyle (Vice-Chair)

Michelle Longlade, OCT

Claudia Patenaude-Daniels, OCT

## **Appendix 1 – Duties and Mandate of the Accreditation Committee**

The duties of the Accreditation Committee are limited to,

- (a) determining whether programs of professional education qualify for accreditation under the accreditation regulation;
- (b) determining if accredited programs of professional education qualify for a renewal of accreditation under the accreditation regulation;
- (c) granting accreditation, with or without conditions, to programs of professional education that qualify for accreditation under the accreditation regulation;
- (d) determining, at the direction of the Registrar and in the circumstances permitted by the accreditation regulation, if accredited programs of professional education and accredited programs of additional qualification continue to qualify for accreditation; and
- (e) carrying out any duties assigned to it under Part IV of the accreditation regulation.

Institutions must apply for accreditation before offering a new or substantially changed program of professional education in Ontario.

If a program is accredited, it will be reviewed within the seven-year cycle.

If a program is accredited with conditions, the Accreditation Committee receives and reviews an annual report from the institution on its progress satisfying the accreditation conditions. The committee may issue a decision to modify or remove the conditions.

If a program is denied accreditation, the institution may appeal within 60 days of receiving a copy of the decision. The appeal must set out the grounds and the facts on which it relies and be accompanied by the fee prescribed by the College bylaw.

All Accreditation Committee decisions are posted on the Ontario College of Teachers website for public access and review.