



Setting the Standard for Great Teaching
Fixer la norme pour un enseignement de qualité

November 11, 2020

Stacey Lepine, RECE
President of Council
College of Early Childhood Educators
438 University Avenue – Suite 1900
Toronto ON M5G 2K8

Dear Ms. Lepine,

Thank you, and your Council, for your heartfelt collegiality in support of the proposed legislative changes that will help to shape self-regulation in Ontario.

Our collective work as regulators evolves as it must. Stepping into a new world entails being cognizant of the world as it is and in the changes in self-regulation that help to modernize our operations, help us to become more efficient, transparent and accountable as we remain true to our mandate to serve the public interest.

As reflective leaders and practitioners, we ask ourselves continually how can we remain flexible and current given changing conditions. It's about evolving, adapting to the times, to new operational and political realities, to changing technology, and accommodating the unplanned or unexpected such as COVID-19.

It demands a nimbleness, a mindfulness, the ability to live in the moment as well as to prepare for what may be ahead. It means constantly reflecting on the mandate, testing whether you are still on mission, ensuring that you're meeting public expectations – stated in legislation, unstated or emerging, depending on the issue. Most of all, we continue to focus on serving the public interest in the changing world around us.

We applaud your leadership and courage in engaging in self-review, in closely examining traditions, exploring new options, and holding to the principles and values that enable professionals to self-govern. We walk in collaboration and continue to share information should you and your Council request it.

We look forward to continuing to work with you, learn from you, and share exemplary practices that help us better serve the public interest.

Sincerely,

Nicole van Woudenberg, OCT
Chair of Council

cc. Beth Deazeley, CEO and Registrar, College of Early Childhood Educators
Chantal Bélisle, Ontario Certified Teacher, Deputy Registrar

NvW/RL/cl-ccs

November 10, 2020

Nicole van Woudenberg, OCT
Chair of Council
Ontario College of Teachers
101 Bloor Street West
Toronto ON M5S 0A1

Dear Ms van Woudenberg,

On behalf of the Council of the College of Early Childhood Educators, I wanted to reach out and acknowledge the momentous nature of the changes to the governance structure of the College of Teachers that were recently announced by government. Several years ago, the College of Teachers demonstrated leadership by engaging in an independent governance review, and we appreciated the opportunity to hear directly from you about it at our Council meeting in June 2019.

Such reviews have become increasingly common, and recommendations to move towards smaller Councils with parity between professional and public members and appointments rather than elections have been clearly identified as best practices by experts. Similar changes have been requested by a number of professional regulatory colleges. Moving forward with these changes speaks highly of the leadership of your Council and the diligence of OCT staff.

We have recently completed a similar review and I know firsthand how difficult the decisions can be when we are responsible for making the right decision in the public interest, even when that involves changes to long-held traditions and may potentially impact our own roles with an organization about which we care deeply.

We are excited to see that you will be leading best practices in regulatory governance, and wish you every success. We look forward to learning from your experience and to future opportunities to network with you regarding self-governance in our respective colleges. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time at president@college-ece.ca.

Sincerely,



Stacey Lepine, RECE
President of Council

C: Chantal Bélisle, OCT, (Acting) CEO and Registrar, Ontario College of Teachers
Beth Deazeley, CEO and Registrar, College of Early Childhood Educators