



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

# Memo

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**Date:** August 10, 2023  
**To:** Members of Council  
**From:** Paige Bennett, OCT  
Chair, Accreditation Committee  
**Subject:** Report of the Accreditation Committee

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## Committee Meeting Dates

The Accreditation Committee has convened for five decision-rendering meetings since the last report to Council made in September 15, 2022:

- November 24, 2022
- March 7, 2023
- June 7, 2023
- August 10, 2023
- October 3, 2023

## Orientation and Ongoing Training

Staff from the Standards of Practice and Accreditation Department coordinated a training session for Council at their December 8, 2022 meeting. The focus of the session was “What role does the College play in promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion in Ontario’s classrooms?” and “What regulatory tools are available to achieve these goals?”

The Chairs and Vice-Chairs of both the Accreditation and the Standards of Practice and Education Committees were asked to present at the Council meeting. An overview of the Accreditation Committee and Roster member’s learning and work specific to equity, diversity and inclusion in 2022 was summarized to inform this presentation.

Members of the Accreditation Committee were invited to participate in the provincial consultations in the summer and fall of 2022 to refresh the Accreditation Resource Guide (the Guide). At its June 7, 2023 meeting, Associate Professor Kathy Broad from OISE/UT provided a presentation to the Accreditation Committee on the initial development and refresh of the Guide. At this meeting, College staff also walked the Committee through updates in the refreshed Guide in detail.

At its March 7, 2023 meeting, the Accreditation Committee participated in a professional learning activity facilitated by Accreditation Unit Staff to promote a collective understanding on the distinction between Accreditation Requirements 3iii and 5ii, specifically on the topic of connections between theory to practice.

Specialized knowledge and skills are required of Accreditation Committee and Roster members to render informed decisions. Staff provides 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 current Strategic Priorities and will draw attention to:

- Decisions rendered
- 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 the last report to Council on September 15, 2022, the Accreditation Committee has rendered eight decisions pertaining to fourteen programs of professional education offered by eight different providers in the province.

Accreditation Decisions				Decision Date
Renewals/ Initial Accreditation	With or Without Conditions	8 programs	<b>Pôle d'études et de recherche en enseignement et apprentissage, Université de l'Ontario français</b>  Initial accreditation with conditions granted to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consecutive multi-session program of professional education with areas of study in the Primary/Junior divisions, leading to a Bachelor of Education degree.</li> </ul>	November 24, 2022
			<b>École d'éducation/School of Education of the Faculté d'éducation et de la santé of Université Laurentienne:</b>	March 7, 2023

Accreditation Decisions			Decision Date
		<p>General accreditation granted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consecutive program of professional education, with areas of study in the Primary/Junior and Junior/Intermediate divisions, leading to a Bachelor of Education degree;</li> <li>• Multi-session consecutive program of professional education, with areas of study in the Primary/Junior and Junior/Intermediate divisions, leading to a Bachelor of Education degree;</li> <li>• Concurrent program of professional education, with areas of study in the Primary/Junior and Junior/Intermediate divisions, leading to a Bachelor of Education degree.</li> </ul> <p><b>Niagara University:</b></p> <p>General accreditation granted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consecutive program of professional education with areas of study in the Primary/Junior and Intermediate/Senior divisions, leading to a Bachelor of Professional Studies in Education degree</li> </ul>	<p>June 7, 2023</p>

Accreditation Decisions			Decision Date	
			<p><b>Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) at the University of Toronto:</b></p> <p>General accreditation granted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consecutive program of professional education with areas of study in the Primary/Junior, Junior/Intermediate and Intermediate/Senior divisions, leading to a Master of Teaching degree</li> <li>• Consecutive program of professional education with areas of study in the Primary/Junior divisions, leading to a Master of Arts in Child Study and Education degree</li> </ul> <p>And the addition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consecutive program of professional education with areas of study in the Primary/Junior divisions with a focus on teaching French as a Second Language, leading to a Master of Teaching degree or a Master of Arts in Child Study in Education degree</li> </ul>	August 10, 2023
Program Changes	Substantial Change in Program or Addition to Program	4 programs	<p><b>Lakehead University</b></p> <p>Addition of Technological Education to Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-session consecutive program of professional education with areas of study in Technological Education (Grades 9/10 and Grades 11/12), leading to a diploma or a degree</li> </ul> <p><b>Queen's University</b></p> <p>Substantial Change to Character of Program by Adding Two Subject Areas to Intermediate/Senior</p>	<p>June 7, 2023</p> <p>June 7, 2023</p>

Accreditation Decisions			Decision Date
		Division Programs: Health and Physical Education and Social Sciences – General: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consecutive program of professional education with areas of study in the Intermediate/Senior divisions, leading to a Bachelor of Education degree</li> <li>• Concurrent program of professional education with areas of study in the Intermediate/Senior divisions, leading to a Bachelor of Education degree</li> </ul> <b>Tyndale University</b> Substantial Change to Program by Shifting Coursework and Practicum Blocks Earlier: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consecutive program of professional education with areas of study in the Primary/Junior and Junior/Intermediate divisions, including the Primary/Junior divisions with a focus on teaching French as a Second Language, leading to a Bachelor of Education degree</li> </ul>	August 10, 2023
Removal of Conditions	1 programs	Université d'Ottawa - French-language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal of conditions on Requirements 3.1 and 4;</li> </ul>	November 24, 2022
Revocation	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

### **Accreditation Resource Guide Refresh**

To reflect currency of the Ontario context in which elementary and secondary schools operate and priority areas in Ontario education, the Accreditation Unit is engaging in a refresh of the Accreditation Resource Guide (the Guide). The Guide was last revised in 2017.

As part of the 2022-2023 Guide refresh, College staff gathered input from education stakeholders through consultations and an online survey. Contracted writers consolidated the input from all sources into a revised draft of the Guide.

The Ministry of Education was provided with the second draft of the Guide, which included the input provided by the external review process. Various Ministry of Education branches reviewed the second draft and provide input. The finalization process incorporated the Ministry of Education's input into the final content and a re-branding of the Guide.

Technical briefings on the revised Guide took place at Spring 2023 meetings of the Ontario Association of Deans of Education (OADe) and the Independent Deans and Directors of Education (IODDE). A draft of the revised Guide was distributed to all providers with upcoming reviews and Accreditation Unit staff held technical briefings on the updates with each provider. Posting of the final version of the Guide is scheduled for Fall 2023, with another fulsome technical briefing for all providers delivered at this time.

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

There are accreditation decisions for 6 different providers on the horizon:

#### **Initial Accreditation Review:**

- Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College

#### **General Accreditation Review:**

- EduTek (University of Ottawa)
- Wilfrid Laurier University
- Western University
- University of Windsor
- Nipissing University

### **Future Meeting Dates**

October 3, 2023

## **Committee Members**

Paige Bennett, OCT (Chair)  
Robert Kyle (Vice-Chair)  
Brenda Brown  
Leisa Desmoulins  
Sam Eskenasi  
Catherine Foy  
Christian Lortie, OCT (from April 2023)  
Jacques Pavesi, OCT

## **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.