



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

April 3, 2020

The Honourable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
438 University Avenue, 5th floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2A5

Dear Minister Lecce,

Re: College Governance

We are writing to highlight an important issue that the current public health crisis presents in the Ontario College of Teachers' ability to license new teachers in Ontario.

With Ontario's schools closed, many candidates in Ontario's accredited teacher education programs are unable to complete practice teaching requirements that are required in order to meet Ontario College of Teachers certification requirements, as prescribed by regulation.

This situation could be addressed by a regulatory amendment that would permit the College to address this obstacle, and certify affected candidates with a condition to complete remaining practice teaching in a prescribed period.

To enable this, we ask that you direct Ministry of Education staff, on an expedited basis, to begin work on developing regulatory language with College counterparts. The regulation would then be provided to College Council for approval in the form of proposed amendments to Regulation 176/10, Teachers' Qualifications.

We want to stress the urgency in beginning work on developing these amendments to ensure barrier-free certification to a sizeable portion of new Ontario teachers. We look forward to working with Ministry staff to enable these changes to regulation in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Nicole van Woudenberg, OCT
Chair of Council

Paul Picard, OCT
Interim Deputy Registrar

NVW/PP/DT/cl-ccs