



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

February 19, 2021

The Honourable Stephen Lecce  
Minister of Education  
438 University Avenue, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 2A5

Dear Minister Lecce,

I am writing to you in my new role as Transition Supervisory Officer for the Ontario College of Teachers. I am currently in the process of completing a series of foundational briefings associated with the College and its mandate. I look forward to meeting with you in the coming weeks to provide you with a project plan for the governance reform initiative as well as to update you on other deliverables associated with the passage of Bill 229.

Together with the College Registrar and Chief Executive Officer, we are writing to you today to share the recent motions approved by the College's 8<sup>th</sup> Council at a Special Meeting held on December 11, 2020, and at a regular meeting on December 3-4, 2020. We also wanted to follow-up on the outstanding additional qualifications recommendations forwarded to the Ministry in June 2018.

### **Additional Qualifications (AQs) Recommendations – December 3-4, 2020**

#### ***Anti-Audism***

Audism is the oppressive practice of discrimination and/or prejudice against Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing persons. It is defined as the notion that one is superior based on one's ability to hear and speak, or behave in the manner of one who hears and speaks (Audism Unveiled, 2017). Audism profoundly impacts the present-day lived experiences of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing staff and students throughout Ontario's education system.

Council passed the following motions approving of a proposed amendment to the College's Teachers' Qualifications Regulation (O. Reg. 176/10):

**That Council recommend to the Minister of Education that: a new *Anti-Audism* Additional Qualification course be enacted in Schedule C of the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation.**

The creation of an Anti-Audism AQ course guideline, in partnership with the Deaf community, exemplifies the College's ongoing commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion by fostering greater awareness and acceptance of Deaf students' rights across the Province.

### ***Supporting Cultures of Well-Being***

Council passed a regulatory motion for a new Supporting Cultures of Well-Being Additional Qualification course to be enacted in Schedules D of the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation:

**That Council recommend to the Minister of Education that a new *Supporting Cultures of Well-Being* Additional Qualification course be enacted in Schedule D of the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation**

### **Outstanding Additional Qualifications (AQs) Recommendations – June 2018**

Council passed a motion related to 11 outstanding Council approved additional qualifications regulatory motions:

**That Council request from the Minister of Education an update on the 11 Council recommended Additional Qualification Regulatory changes that were forwarded to the Ministry in June 2018.**

Accordingly, we are appending the list of recommended amendments to this letter for your convenience and consideration.

### **Temporary Certificate Motion – December 11, 2020**

We are pleased to report that the College is in full operation to accept applications and issue temporary certificates to teacher education candidates since the amendments made to the Teachers' Qualification regulation, which came into force on January 30, 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused severe teacher shortages in Ontario school boards due to depleted Occasional Teacher availability lists or many OTs declining assignments citing health concerns. The shortages are a serious public interest risk as students are not being taught by qualified teachers. In order to help address these recent shortages, Council passed the following motion at its December 11, 2020 meeting approving of a proposal by the Ministry of Education, with the support of the Ontario Association of Deans of Education and the Council of Directors of Education, to amend the College's Teachers' Qualifications Regulation (O. Reg. 176/10) to create a new class of certificate:

**That Council approve the creation of a new class of emergency one-time and one-year Temporary Certificate of Qualification and Registration in the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation to help address teacher shortages caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.**

We look forward to working with you to implement the necessary regulatory amendments to support the creation of the new Temporary Certificate and new AQs, as described above.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Paul Boniferro in black ink.

Paul Boniferro  
Transition Supervisory Officer

Handwritten signature of Dr. Derek Haime in blue ink.

Dr. Derek Haime, OCT  
Registrar and Chief Executive Officer

Enclosure: Appendix – Outstanding AQs Recommendations – June 2018

PB/DH/RL/DB/cl-ccs



## Appendix

### Outstanding Additional Qualifications (AQs) Recommendations – June 2018

1. The name of the Classroom Management, Additional Qualification course be changed to The Learning Environment in Schedule C of the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation
2. The name of the Inclusive Classroom, Additional Qualification course be changed to Equitable and Inclusive Schools in Schedule D of the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation
3. That the French name of the Health and Physical Education, Grades 7 and 8 / *Santé et éducation physique – 7e et 8e année*, Additional Qualification Course be changed to *Éducation Physique et Santé – 7e et 8e année* in Schedule C of the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation to align with the title of the French curriculum guideline
4. The French name of the Pre-School Education for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing / *Éducation préscolaire des élèves sourds ou malentendants*, Additional Qualification Course be changed to *Éducation préscolaire: Qualification additionnelle en surdit * in Schedule C of the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation
5. A Supervisory Officer's Development Course, Additional Qualification be added to the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation
6. The name of the Supporting First Nations, M tis and Inuit Students: Guidance and Counselling, Additional Qualification course be changed to First Nations, M tis and Inuit Students: Counselling and Support in Schedule D of the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation
7. The Teaching Students with Communication Needs (Autism Spectrum Disorders), Additional Qualification course be revoked in Schedule C of the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation
8. A new Teaching Students with Communication Needs (Autism Spectrum Disorders), Additional Qualification course be enacted in Schedule D of the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation
9. The French name of the Teaching Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing / *Enseigner aux  l ves Sourds ou Malentendants*, Additional Qualification Program be changed to *Qualification additionnelle en surdit * in the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation
10. The following Additional Qualification courses be revoked in the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation:
  - Teaching Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing - American Sign Language (ASL)
  - Teaching Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing - *Langue des signes qu b coise (LSQ)*
  - Teaching Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing - Aural and Oral Communication
11. A new Teaching Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing Program be enacted within the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation