



Committee Report

Item: Standards of Practice and Education Committee Report

Public Interest Rationale: The Standards of Practice and Education Committee (the Committee) is a regulatory committee that serves the public interest by providing oversight to the development and ongoing quality assurance of Additional Qualification (AQ) programs, Professional Advisories and Professional Standards.

Strategic Alignment: The work of the Committee supports the strategic goal of *teachers who are informed by, and held accountable to, professional standards*. The Committee's work upholds the strategic enabler of *a regulatory model that strives to be free from barriers to truth and reconciliation, and equity, diversity, inclusion and access*.

Submitted By: Deani Van Pelt, OCT Chair, Standards of Practice and Education Committee

Committee Meeting Dates

At the time of this report to Council, the Committee will have held three of four quarterly meetings on the following dates:

- February 6, 2025
- May 14, 2025
- September 10, 2025

Summary of Discussions

In 2025, the Committee's work was driven by a strong sense of commitment and collaboration. With the addition of two new members, the cohesion of experienced and new perspectives enriched discussions and kept momentum going across key initiatives, leading to some being completed and maintaining progress on others in line with the Committee's mandate.

In May, the Committee approved the new *Professional Advisory (PA), Addressing Hate and Discrimination*, to support safe, inclusive, and equitable learning environments. Although PAs are submitted to Council for receipt, it is the Standards of Practice and Education Committee that reviews and approves PAs. The unanimous approval marked a first for this Committee since Professional Advisories became part of its mandate under the new governance model. The Committee's responsibility to review, approve, and promote ethical and practice standards for College members directly supports strategic goal number two – teachers are informed of and held accountable to professional standards.

The *Professional Advisory Addressing Hate and Discrimination* offers clear-language summaries of policies, legislation, and laws that guide Ontario Certified Teachers (OCTs), aligning with the *Ethical Standards* and the *Standards of Practice for the Teaching Profession*. College staff provided a guiding framework and transparent process that supported Committee members to make decisions, confident that the Professional Advisory underwent a thorough, iterative development and provincial input process to ensure clarity, relevance, and consistency with regulation.

The College is conducting a review of the professional standards. The last review of the professional standards was nearly 20 years ago. These standards form an important foundation for initial teacher education courses and programs, the College’s professional advisories, ongoing professional development, and the expectations to which Ontario Certified Teachers (OCTs) hold themselves accountable.

At each of its meetings in 2025, the Committee has received comprehensive updates on the Professional Standards Review (PSR). The College has prioritized listening to OCTs and members of the public to gain insights from diverse perspectives and professional experiences. This approach is essential for developing refreshed standards that better reflect the current educational landscape and relate to teaching practices and professional conduct.

In September, members of the Standards of Practice and Education Committee and the Accreditation Committee held a joint meeting, recognising the interconnectedness of their respective work regarding professional standards. Committee members contributed input to the PSR process by co-developing guiding principles that will support the review and approval of refreshed professional standards, which are expected to be presented to the Committee in 2026.

Review and Approval of AQ Guidelines

This year Committee members observed positive impacts of guidance provided by the Committee over the past several years on AQ guideline format and content.

During the first three quarters of 2025, the Committee approved the final publication of 18 English and 18 French AQ course guidelines:

| AQ Guideline | Schedule(s) |
|--|-------------|
| Adapting Curriculum for Second-language Learners | C |
| Geography | A, C, E |
| Mathematics | A, C, D, E |

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|--|---|
| Safe and Accepting Schools | C |
| Special Education | D |
| Special Education for Administrators | C |
| Teaching in the Catholic School System | C |
| Teaching LGBTQ Students | C |

In the final quarter of 2025, the Committee will review the following AQ course guidelines:

| AQ Guideline | Schedule(s) |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Business Studies – Accounting | A, D |
| Business Studies – Entrepreneurship | A, D |
| Business Studies – General | A, E |

Motions Referred to Council

No motions are being referred to Council for consideration at this time.

Committee Mandate and Duties

The duties of the Standards of Practice and Education Committee are:

- reviewing and approving professional learning requirements for members of the College;
- reviewing and approving policies to support the ongoing promotion of continuing competence by members of the College;
- reviewing, approving and promoting ethical and practice standards for members of the College;
- reviewing and approving policy guidelines for programs of additional qualification; and
- reviewing and approving professional advisories to guide the practice of members of the College.

Future Meeting Dates as of April 17, 2025

- November 19, 2025



Committee Members

- Danny Anckle (Vice-Chair)
- Natalie Joncas Raymond, OCT
- Stephen Maniscalco, OCT
- Roselynn Okobia
- Victoria Scott
- Deani Van Pelt, OCT (Chair)