



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

Memo

Date: November 13, 2019
To: Members of Council
From: Michael Salvatori, OCT
Chief Executive Officer and Registrar
Subject: **Math Proficiency Test – Certificate and Public Register**

On October 25, 2018, the Ontario Government introduced the *Safe and Supportive Classrooms Act*, which proposed changes to the *Ontario College of Teachers Act* that would require all applicants for licensure to pass a Mathematics Proficiency Test.

On September 25, 2019, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Education wrote to the College requesting that Council consider amending Ontario Regulation 176/10 (Teachers' Qualifications) to provide that a member's certificate of qualification and registration indicate that a member has successfully completed the math proficiency test. In anticipation of the Ministry request, a Notice of Motion for a bylaw amendment was introduced at the September Council meeting to provide for consequential changes to the public register.

Proposed motions for Council's consideration are included in the attached detailed briefing note.

Michael Salvatori, OCT



Ontario
College of
Teachers

Setting the Standard
for Great Teaching

Briefing Note

Math Proficiency Test: Certificate and Public Register

Background

On October 25, 2018, the Ontario Government introduced the *Safe and Supportive Classrooms Act*, which proposed changes to the *Ontario College of Teachers Act* that would require all applicants for licensure to pass a Mathematics Proficiency Test.

On September 1, 2019, these amendments came into force and the Ontario Government introduced a regulation under the College's Act, the Proficiency in Mathematics Regulation (O. Reg. 271/19). This regulation sets out operational details for the certification requirement.

The College is currently working with faculties of education, the Ministry of Education and the Education Quality and Accountability Office to implement the new certification requirement on March 31, 2020. Council will continue to be regularly updated on the progress of these efforts.

On September 25, 2019, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Education wrote to the College requesting that Council, "...Consider amending Ontario Regulation 176/10 (Teachers' Qualifications) to provide that a member's certificate of qualification and registration shall indicate that a member has successfully completed the math proficiency test. The notation would highlight the commitment to public accountability and high standards of teaching excellence."

In anticipation of the Ministry request, a Notice of Motion for a bylaw amendment was introduced at the September 2019 Council meeting to provide for consequential changes to be made to the public register.

Regulatory and Bylaw Considerations

Teachers' Qualifications Regulation

The Teachers' Qualifications Regulation (TQR) lists the contents of the certificate of qualification and registration. In order to list successful completion of the math test on the certificate, subsection 19(1) of the TQR would require amendment as follows:

Contents of a Certificate

19. (1) Every general or transitional certificate of qualification and registration shall be issued in the form prescribed by the by-laws, and shall indicate,

...

(g) a statement indicating successful completion of the mathematics test by an applicant, as identified to the Registrar pursuant to s. 4(7) of Regulation 271/19 of the Ontario College of Teachers Act.

College Bylaws

The College's bylaws set out what can appear on the public register. In order to reflect the successful completion of the math test on the public register, as it appears on the certificate, the following amendment would be required:

25.01 In addition to the information prescribed by section 23 of the Act, the register shall contain:

...

2.01(n) a statement indicating successful completion of the mathematics test by a member, as identified to the Registrar pursuant to s. 4 (7) of Regulation 271/19 of the Ontario College of Teachers Act.

Bylaw amendments allowing for successful completion of the Mathematics Proficiency Test to appear on the public register would take effect upon Council approval at the December 5-6, 2019 meeting.

Council Motions

It is recommended that Council approve the following motion at its December 5-6, 2019 meeting:

1. That Council recommend that the Minister of Education amend the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation (Regulation 176/10) to place a statement on a certificate indicating successful completion of the Mathematics Proficiency Test, and
2. That Council approve an amendment, by addition, to s. 25.01 of the College bylaws, as set out below:

25.01 In addition to the information prescribed by section 23 of the Act, the register shall contain:

...

2.01(n) a statement indicating successful completion of the mathematics proficiency test by a member, as identified to the Registrar pursuant to s. 4 (7) of Regulation 271/19 of the Ontario College of Teachers Act.

Strategic Priority

These amendments would align with Council's Strategic Priority to strengthen transparency and accountability. The certificate and public register demonstrate the College's mandate to regulate the teaching profession.

Next Steps

If Council approves the direction noted above, the College would work with the Ministry of Education in the development of regulatory language for Council's consideration.

Prepared by:

Policy and Research Unit

Date:

November 8, 2019