



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

Memo

Date: February 6, 2024
To: Council of the Ontario College of Teachers
From: Diana Miles
Council Chair
Subject: Chair's Report to Council – March 21, 2024

I am pleased to acknowledge that the College senior leadership team, under the direction of the Registrar, has begun the work of implementing the strategic plan for 2024-2028 that Council approved last fall. We look forward to receiving updates through the Registrar's Report at the June 2024 Council meeting that align with the new goals set out in the plan.

At the March 21, 2024 meeting, Council will receive information regarding a proposed enforcement mechanism for the legally mandated Sexual Abuse Prevention Program. The College is proposing regulatory amendments that would trigger an administrative suspension for members of the College who have not completed the Program by January 1, 2025. Additional details will be shared by the Registrar when the topic is introduced as a new business item.

In response to the April 17, 2023 letter from the Minister and subsequent regulatory changes, the College has worked to comply with the new 60-day certification requirement for internationally educated teacher applicants by continuing to refine its certification processes and focusing all available resources toward reducing licensure timelines for those applicants. More details about this important initiative will be addressed by the Registrar in her report to Council.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Council continues to operate with one unfilled position and I can share that the College is working with the government to fill this position as soon as possible. We will provide an update about any appointments as soon as information is received.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Jamie Robertson, OCT on his recent appointment to the role of Deputy Registrar. Jamie has been very capably serving as Interim Deputy Registrar over the past several months while also serving as the Director of Investigations and Professional Conduct. On behalf of Council, I am delighted to welcome you to this important position, Jamie.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Briefing and Development

Immediately following adjournment of the formal meeting on March 21, 2024, Council will receive a presentation on the accreditation of initial teacher education programs, the development of Additional Qualification guidelines, and the process for approving Additional Qualification courses. As outlined in the briefing and development plan approved by Council, this will be the first of two sessions on this topic, with the second session scheduled to follow the June 2024 Council meeting. Continuing a single briefing topic over two sessions will afford Council members time to reflect on the information provided and bring forward questions that may arise from the initial presentation.

Subcommittee Reports

We look forward to receiving the report of the Audit and Finance Subcommittee, which will include financial results for the fourth quarter of 2023.

Committee Reports

In accordance with the *Schedule of Committee Reports*, I am pleased to welcome Anne Resnick, Chair of the Investigation Committee, to present a report on behalf of the committee.

The statutory and regulatory committees continue to play critical roles in the College's ability to meet its regulatory mandate. Council regularly invites committee Chairs and/or Vice-Chairs to attend meetings and report on their activities. Maintaining a connection with these seven committees will help Council understand how the College is functioning "on the ground" and consider legislative, regulatory and policy improvements where necessary. It also helps the committees understand the strategic decision-making role of Council and enhances transparency up and down the governance framework.

Future Meeting Dates

Looking ahead for the balance of 2024, future meetings of Council have been scheduled for June 6, October 1 and December 12. The October meeting will be held in person, while the June and December meetings will be conducted virtually.