



February 25, 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 alert you to an important governance issue that is facing the Ontario College of Teachers.

In October of 2018, your government introduced the Safe and Supportive Classrooms Act which introduced a number of changes to the Governance structure of the College. That legislation was given third reading and royal assent on April 3, 2019.

At the same time, the College commissioned an external review of our Governance structure adopting many of those recommendations.

As it stands, key recommendations from our Council cannot be implemented without further amendments to our Act. Further, the government's original set of legislative reforms have yet to be proclaimed and there is considerable work to be done on regulations to underpin these reforms.

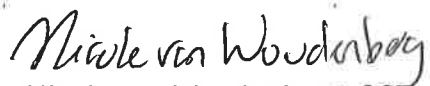
While the College continues to meet bi-weekly with Ministry staff, there has been no clarity on any of the outstanding issues.

Our current Council term ends on June 30, 2021. If we are to undertake an election process, as is currently required by regulation, the election call and call for nominations will open August 18, 2020. In order to administratively prepare for this election call, the College must complete preparatory work by July 10, 2020.

As the legislature conducts its Spring business, we wish to stress the urgency in introducing these amendments. If indeed it is the will of the government to move forward with Council's recommendations for our governance enhancements, it would be helpful to have the legislative changes occur in conjunction with the Council renewal cycle without having to initiate the election call.

We look forward to working with you to enact these changes to statute and regulation in a timely manner.

Sincerely,



Nicole van Woudenberg, OCT
Chair of Council



Paul Picard, OCT
Interim Deputy Registrar