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Thank you for establishing your private account in the Members' Area of the Ontario College of Teachers' web site and for your interest in receiving breaking news and professional information from the College.

In this Issue:

- **College Holds Presentations Across Province to Launch First Professional Advisory**

College Hold Presentations Across Province to Launch First Professional Advisory

Federation officials, parents, trustees, the children's aid society and the media were among those on hand for the successful Toronto launch of the College's first Professional Advisory on October 8.

The advisory – *Professional Advisory on Professional Misconduct Related to Sexual Abuse and Sexual Misconduct* – highlights employer's and College members' responsibilities and duties with regard to sexual abuse and sexual misconduct. In particular, it outlines new responsibilities that stem from the *Student Protection Act* that came into effect in September.

Copies of the advisory will be sent to all members with the December issue of *Professionally Speaking/Pour parler profession*. To see it now, [click here](#).

The advisory describes what may constitute sexual abuse, sexual harassment and sexual relationships in light of the *Student Protection Act*, the *Ontario College of Teachers Act* and the College's Professional Misconduct Regulation. It also provides examples of situations that teachers should avoid or consider carefully.

College Council decided to develop the professional advisory following the publication of the Robins Report – *Protecting Our Students*. The report led to the adoption of the *Student Protection Act* by the Ontario government, which came into force September 3.

"The feedback we received following the release of the Robins Report on sexual misconduct made it clear that the teaching profession wants clear guidelines when it comes to inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature, and the College Council wholeheartedly endorses that direction," said Council Chair Larry Capstick.

To ensure broad dissemination of the advisory and to enhance member and public understanding, the College staff will make presentations in 15 Ontario cities to provide a thorough briefing to regional school boards, federation representatives, trustees, children's aid societies, parents, and other authorities charged with child care responsibilities.

Briefings are scheduled to take place on: October 16, Sudbury; October 17, Sault Ste. Marie; October 18, Timmins; October 21, Barrie; October 23, Thunder Bay; October 24, Kenora; October 30, Kingston; October 31, Ottawa; November 5, Toronto; November 6, Oakville; November 7, St. Catharines; November 8, Oshawa; November 12, Windsor; November 13, London; November 14, Kitchener; and November 18, 19, 20, in Toronto.

For additional information, please visit the College web site to read the [news release](#) and [backgrounder](#).