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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.

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Professional Learning Program To Be Cancelled

Chair of the College Council, Marilyn Laframboise, received official notice today from Minister of Education Gerard Kennedy that he will take steps in 2004 to cancel the Professional Learning Program (PLP).

"The Minister's letter today makes his intentions clear about the future of the Professional Learning Program," said Laframboise, who also indicated she wanted to share this news with College members immediately.

"I know that our members will continue to pursue the professional learning they need to support student achievement. The College is looking forward to working with the provincial government to ensure that effective and high quality learning opportunities are available to our members."

"The Professional Learning Program has been a source of concern for our members and I think they will appreciate the timing of this announcement. We can all look forward to working together in the new year to continue to support and improve the teaching profession on behalf of students and the public," said Registrar Doug Wilson.

Mr. Kennedy said in his letter to the College that he plans to work with education partners to develop a professional learning framework that "recognizes teachers' learning needs at each stage of their teaching career and supports them with programs and incentives to achieve ongoing teaching excellence for Ontario students."

Laframboise noted that the College Council endorsed in 2000 the Professional Learning Framework for the Teaching Profession following extensive consultation with our members and the public. "This framework has been very well received by our education partners and we will be bringing this framework to the table in future discussions about professional learning."

In April 2000, at the request of the government of the day, the College prepared a report on "teacher testing" - Maintaining, Ensuring and Demonstrating Competency in the Teaching Profession. Council in its recommendations to the government clearly advised against linking any program of professional learning to teacher certification.

Background Documents

- **Letter from Minister of Education Gerard Kennedy, December 19, 2003**

- Response from Chair of College Council, Marilyn A. Laframboise, December 19, 2003
- *Professional Learning Framework for the Teaching Profession*
- *Maintaining, Ensuring and Demonstrating Competency in the Teaching Profession*