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ISSUE 13

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Professional Development for Ontario's Teachers - Advice to the Minister of Education

The Ontario College of Teachers presented advice on professional development for Ontario teachers to Education Minister Gerard Kennedy February 20.

The advice, passed by the College's governing council, follows the Minister of Education's declaration in December that he would introduce legislation this spring to repeal the Professional Learning Program.

"The College's research and program initiatives track the best ideas to have emerged about professional development in recent years," says College Chair Marilyn Laframboise. "As teaching continues to evolve, we want to do our part to ensure that PD is teacher driven and supports school improvement and student achievement."

The College recommended that effective professional learning for College members be based on the Professional Learning Framework for the Teaching Profession. The framework is a widely accepted, practical guide to effective, teacher-driven professional development.

The advice also recommended:

- more equitable access to professional learning for Ontario teachers
- expansion of job-embedded professional development
- continued accessibility to the wide variety of professional learning opportunities
- encouraging co-operation among professional learning providers

The Council approved the advice to the Minister of Education at a special meeting February 20.

"Our mandate to provide for the ongoing education of our members is based on building effective learning communities," says College Registrar Doug Wilson. "We welcome the chance to participate in the process of change."

[Click here](#) for a copy of the advice that went to the Minister.

[Click here](#) for the Professional Learning Framework for the Teaching Profession.