



OAPCE Report to CPIC June 14, 2021

The work around the OAPCE provincial table has been ongoing, and hasn't hesitated all year - With the decision for all students to remain in remote learning until the end of the school year, our focus is to ensure that a plan for the return to school in September must commence now with the input of parents, and these plans should be communicated to parents in their boards well before they have to decide which model they are going to choose for their children's education.

In March of 2021 OAPCE hosted a Webinar Series "Parent Engagement and Education" with several presentations over the month including Paul Davis providing his first presentation focused on parents and social media information for their personal use, followed by Anthony Perrotta "Watch. Talk. Create: A March Family Movie guide", and then our last webinar providing positive strength and inspiration from Wes "Maestro Fresh Wes" Williams. They were well received and A. Perrotta's webinar is on the website.

We have met several times with Ministry of Education staff to provide input after a news conference or decision that the Ministry has made - we also met with them to discuss concerns re: the allocations and distributions of PPE Parent grants and the barriers to parents actually receiving these grant monies at the local parent school level.

OAPCE Board of Directors met in April and discussed our strategic plan and making changes to it and focusing on how to reach out to parents now in this virtual world enabling us to bring more parents together within the regions and across the province. Our last meeting of the School year is scheduled for the middle of June.

OAPCE hosted a two day conference "Empowering Parents" on May 14 and 15, Cardinal Collins joined us for a wonderful presentation

and blessing and we had Kevin Frankish as the keynote speaker, we also have webinars with Dr. Josephine Lomabrdi, Wayne Jones and Teresa Hartnett that are all on our website as well. We have created an OAPCE Resource Tool Kit that includes several Books, resources and OAPCE Swag that all participants will receive in the mail. Three lifetime honorary memberships were given to Ab Falconi, Liz Stuart and a longtime advocate and parent from Halton Pat Grisoni. We also gave our Face Of Mercy student award to two students from YCDSB for their advocacy of Climate Change and exemplifying the CGE in their ongoing lives.

We have requested the Minister and Ministry to participate in an Education Town Hall “Stop, Continue, Start” pertaining to end of school, and return to school but have not heard back so we will proceed with an End of Year survey that will go out to all parents, with the data we will prepare an end of school year Feedback letter to the Minister and provide recommendations.

Ongoing communication with all parents and OAPCE reps have continued to take place through emails, and our new “Parents 4 Parents Press” newsletter as well as currently updating our website and adding more Resources and webinars for parents as well as the webinars that were presented.

In Toronto, we have had our OAPCE TO meetings very well attended with several guest speakers and presentations provided with consultations included - we just held our last meeting of the school year where we had Dr. Brendan Brown, Director of Education and Dan Koeing, Associate Director, attend to discuss returning to school in September as well as answer questions from parents. Our meetings are always engaging and provide our OAPCE TO Representatives with information and resources to share with their councils.

OAPCE TO will be submitting a third feedback letter to the board by the end of the school year to offer points of concerns regarding parent engagement and other issues, and recommendations to help address them.

