



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING RÉUNION DU CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION

Ottawa • April 16-17, 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

The [Board of Directors](#) of the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF-FCE) works year-round in service of all teachers at the provincial and territorial level. At the national level, Board members play an important role in [setting priorities for the Federation](#) and advocating for the teaching profession and publicly funded public education. Three times throughout the year, Board members meet in person to discuss important policy matters and to review the Federation's progress in meeting its strategic goals. The Board met April 16-17, 2019, in Ottawa. Here are the main highlights.



Board members gathered in solidarity to show their support for Ontario's embattled teachers.

The [CTF-FCE Board members](#) received various reports from President H. Mark Ramsankar, Secretary General Cassandra Hallett as well as minutes related to Executive Committee meetings and reports of various advisory committee meetings chaired by CTF-FCVE vice-presidents. They also received reports from the organization's Trust Fund and its representative on the Education International Executive Board, Dianne Woloschuk.

At every Board meeting, time is spent on "Cross Canada" reports during which Board members share updates about the current political climate, collective bargaining, professional issues, and pension in their province or territory. This allows members to share successes and challenges as well as to identify trends and strategies.

This is a busy time of year for the Federation with many major events around the corner and many member AGMs taking place around the country.

In anticipation of the 2019 AGM, taking place in Ottawa July 10-12, the Board continued its review of the revised Constitution and By-laws and discussed plans for this year's "I Teach, I Vote" campaign to be launched at the AGM in advance of the anticipated fall election. Discussion also focused on the upcoming Education International 8th World Congress taking place in Bangkok, Thailand from July 19-26. The CTF-FCE is sending a delegation of 23 representatives plus observers.

But before those two major events kick-off, the CTF-FCE Women's Symposium is being held June 3rd in Vancouver and hosted by the BCTF, which is followed days later by the Teacher Collective Bargaining Conference from June 9-11 in St. John's Newfoundland and hosted by the NLTA.

Major Board decisions

- The introduction of designated Executive Committee seats for women to be recommended to the 2019 AGM;
- Final selection of the 2019 CTF-FCE Award and Recognition recipients;
- No recommended fee increase in the CTF-FCE draft budget up for approval at the 2019 AGM;
- A motion was passed approving a new CTF-FCE logo to be unveiled in advance of the organization's centenary

The Board is also recommending that the current ADVOCACY priorities are to remain for the coming year:

- Adequate resourcing of schools, particularly to support effective inclusion
- Gender equity
- Indigenous education
- Labour rights
- Mental health
- Poverty
- Privatization
- Unionization
- Violence in the workplace

- Environment and climate change education
- The right to freedom from discrimination
- Bill S206/Section 43

CTF-FCE Advocacy at the federal level

The Federation is often invited by federal government agencies and elected officials to take part in consultations or to make presentations before legislators. Here is a glimpse of some of the issues that CTF-FCE is currently involved in (while other advocacy priorities related to children and youth mental health and child poverty continue to move forward):

- **Copyright** legislation review currently underway which involved the CTF-FCE making a presentation before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology;
- **Bill S-206** which aims to repeal **Section 43** of the *Criminal Code* of Canada;
- **Prime Minister’s Awards for Teaching Excellence** National Selection Committee.



CTF-FCE Board member Linda Thériault, President of the Syndicat des enseignantes et enseignants du programme francophone de la Colombie-Britannique, thanks colleagues as she prepares to step down from the Board.



Longtime Board member and former CTF-FCE Vice-President, and President of the Manitoba Teachers' Society, Norm Gould, takes a moment to reflect on his time with the Federation as he gets set to retire from the Board.