



Public Engagement in Education Assessment

To: Presidents and All Members

From: Harvey Bischof, President

For Action

Please share the following information with your members.

An independent review of Ontario's assessment and reporting practices is currently underway. We are encouraging local leaders and members to participate in this review.

If you do participate in the review, please keep in mind that OSSTF/FEESO believes that province-wide testing is not the best way to assess students and should not be used to compare schools and/or district school boards.

As per OSSTF/FEESO policies, when province-wide and/or system-wide tests are used, they should:

- take into account the diversity of the student population in Ontario
- be based on curriculum objectives
- be used to make recommendations to improve student achievement
- be used to make recommendations to improve teaching strategies and/or modify program
- be free from discriminatory bias
- be reported to the student and parent by appropriate personnel who have access to pertinent printed information
- be accompanied by current information useful in interpreting scores from test programs
- employ a transparent and consistent passing standard, which is similar to that required for any secondary school credit, and which is established and released prior to the administration of the test
- have their design and evaluation procedures clearly and concisely explained to all members of the education community, including parents and students.

Province wide and/or system wide tests should not:

- be administered in a format that disadvantages any students or limits them from full participation
- identify any student by class section or teacher.



OSSTF/FEESO believes that the classroom teacher should be the primary assessor/evaluator of student progress and those students should be assessed and evaluated through a variety of written and non-written strategies.

There are four ways that you can participate in the review:

1. Participate in a regional consultation. While some of the regional consultation sessions have already taken place, opportunities are still available for members to participate in Toronto and Thunder Bay:
 - Friday, December 8 – Toronto (French and English)
Daniels Spectrum, 585 Dundas Street East, Toronto, ON M5A 2B7
Open House: 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Roundtable Session: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
(Registration link <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/engagement-session-on-education-assessment-in-ontario-consultation-publiques-sur-levaluation-de-tickets-39939232319>)
 - Tuesday, December 12 – Thunder Bay
Valhalla Inn
Open House: 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Roundtable Session: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
(Registration link <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/engagement-session-on-education-assessment-in-ontario-consultation-publiques-sur-levaluation-de-tickets-39939292499>)
2. Complete the survey <http://ontariolearningprovince.ca/participate>.
3. Provide feedback on Twitter using Hashtag #OntEdAssessment.
4. Participate in the public webcast: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/engagement-session-on-education-assessment-in-ontario-consultation-publiques-sur-levaluation-de-tickets-40877564897>.

Members are encouraged to participate and to share their experiences regarding the impact that province-wide testing has on their workload, student learning and student well-being. Please direct any questions you may have to Cathy Renfrew at cathy.renfrew@ossf.ca.

CR/km - cope 343
066 - Public Engagement in Ed Assessment