

CELEBRATE & NOMINATE

Nominations for OTIP Teaching Awards Now Open!

TORONTO, December 10, 2008 — The Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF) and the Ontario Teachers Insurance Plan (OTIP), joint sponsors of the OTIP Teaching Awards, are pleased to open nominations for the 2009 OTIP Teaching Awards.

If you know a great teacher who inspires students to reach for the stars, a teacher who is an innovator, or a teacher who is a leader of other teachers, you should nominate that teacher for the OTIP Teaching Awards.

Joe Lamoureux, President of OTF, said, "I have been lucky enough to have served on the Awards Committee for the last few years. I am continually impressed by the work of my colleagues. Reading nominations that are written with such passion about teachers is a rewarding experience. Every teacher shares the spotlight with the nominees. I am looking forward to a record number of nominations."

The OTIP Teaching Awards nominations are open to anyone who would like to nominate an excellent teacher in Ontario's publicly funded schools. The process is a simple, on line format. Criteria and nomination forms are found at www.teachingawards.ca.

The deadline for nominations is March 31, 2009. The winners will be announced on Thursday, October 1, 2009 to coincide with World Teachers' Day on October 5.

"This is the sixth year that OTIP has supported this program," Lamoureux continued. "Teachers really appreciate OTIP's continued involvement."

"OTIP is proud to recognize and celebrate teachers from our publicly funded schools," said Randy McGlynn, OTIP's Chief Executive Officer. "Every year, I have been more and more impressed by what our honourees accomplish with their students."

The OTIP Teaching Awards have three categories—Elementary Teacher, Secondary Teacher and Beginning Teacher (first five years of practice.)

Lamoureux concluded, "This year, we are pleased to be partnering on two new awards—the Toronto Star Teacher Award and the Prix d'enseignement TFO."

The Ontario Teachers' Federation is the advocate for the teaching profession in Ontario and for its 155,000 teachers. OTF members are full-time, part-time and occasional teachers in all the publicly funded schools in the province—elementary, secondary, public, Catholic and francophone.

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