

For immediate release

Toronto elementary school teacher receives OTIP award for teaching excellence

TORONTO, September 26, 2018 — My-Linh Hang-Coleman, who taught at Eastview Public School in Toronto last year, received the OTIP Teaching Award in the Elementary Teacher Category at the OTIP awards ceremony last night.

My-Linh is the role model of caring and sharing in teaching. My-Linh, who has taught in several elementary grades, prepares her students to be future engaged citizens. Her students not only achieve academic success, but also learn to be accountable, to respect others and to care about the world around them.

My-Linh, in the classroom, tries to put herself in the “shoes of the children.” She gears her teaching to what might inspire them. She is constantly trying new techniques such as using song lyrics to which students can relate, new and different field trips, and cooking lessons. Daily communications with parents and monthly slideshows not only “bring the parent into the classroom,” but allow the student to share his/her culture and identity.

She infuses character education into her lessons and encourages students to learn about and understand others through visits to the classroom from such groups as veterans, elders and farmers.

Beyond the classroom, My-Linh is active in several extra-curricular clubs and events to inspire students to be leaders and positive change-makers. She promotes community spirit through such activities as the production of the film, “The Road Less Travelled” which shares the richness of the culture of the Eastview Indigenous community. She developed the first elementary “WE schools” curriculum and K-12 social justice program for schools. She shares her experience and learning with school colleagues as well as being a presenter at conferences and teaching AQ courses.

This year, My-Linh is on secondment to work on an Inuktitut curriculum development project with Inhabit Media & the Nunavut government.

More information and a video honouring My-Linh are posted on the Teaching Awards website: teachingawards.ca.

The Ontario Teachers Insurance Plan (OTIP) and the Ontario Teachers' Federation co-sponsor the OTIP Teaching Awards for excellence in teaching in the publicly funded school system. Three awards are presented: elementary school teacher, secondary school teacher and beginning teacher.

About OTIP: Creating Insured Members for Life. At OTIP (www.otip.com), we not only understand the education system, we believe in it. OTIP has been committed to providing quality insurance benefits and advice for the best value since 1977. Across all lines of insurance, OTIP provides coverage to over 160,000 education employees in the province. Owned by Ontario's four education affiliates (AEFO, ETFO, OECTA and OSSTF) and directed by a Board of Trustees, OTIP was built on the belief that educators would be better served by a not-for-profit insurance advocate that was part of the education community. This remains our philosophy today.

OTF is the advocate for the teaching profession in Ontario and for its 160,000 teachers. OTF members are full-time, part-time and occasional teachers in all publicly-funded schools in the province – elementary, secondary, public, Catholic and francophone.

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