

## Media Release

## For immediate release

## Teachers, the heart of public education in Ontario

**TORONTO, October 5, 2018** — "Every day, teachers in Ontario's public schools plant the seeds of curiosity, creativity and hope in our students," stated Diane Dewing, President of the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF). "Because of them, the future of Ontario's students is bright. World Teachers' Day is our opportunity to thank them for their contributions to our students, education and society."

"Teachers ensure that Ontario's schools are among the best in the world," added Dewing. "They are truly the voice of public education in Ontario."

Annually, the Ontario Teachers Insurance Plan (OTIP) and OTF recognize the excellence of Ontario's teachers in publicly funded schools with the presentation of the OTIP Teaching Awards for excellence. This year, the outstanding teachers were Jeff White, St Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School, Oakville in the Beginning Teacher Category; My-Linh Hang-Coleman, Eastview Public School, Toronto in the Elementary Teacher Category; and Lauren Hortie, Oasis Alternative Secondary School, Toronto in the Secondary Teacher Category. To learn more about these great teachers, go to teachingawards.ca.

World Teachers' Day, marked every year on October 5, was proclaimed in 1994 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to recognize the contributions of teachers around the world to society.

The Ontario Teachers' Federation (www.otffeo.on.ca) 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.

- 30 -

## For more information, contact

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