



December 4, 2019

Michael Salvatori, Registrar  
Nicole van Woundenberg, Chair of Council  
Ontario College of Teachers  
101 Bloor St. West | 101, rue Bloor Ouest  
Toronto ON M5S 0A1

Dear Michael Salvatori and Nicole van Woundenberg:

On behalf of the Ontario Teachers' Federation, I am compelled to express the anger of Ontario's teachers as they learn that the Ontario College of Teachers is planning to increase its annual membership fee by 13.3 per cent for 2020.

This increase is difficult to understand as College expenses are budgeted to increase by only 4.8 per cent, and despite a \$7.7 million reserve fund that is intended to address potential operating deficits. In recent years, the College has consistently budgeted for a deficit, but finished the year with a surplus, simply adding further to its cash reserves. I also note that despite budgeting for a deficit in 2020, the College expects to finish the year with a cash surplus of almost \$1 million which will simply add further to existing reserves.

I do not need to highlight the strain that teachers are experiencing in Ontario as they are witnessing massive government funding cuts to public education. Today, over 40,000 teachers are giving up a day's salary to show their commitment to protecting public education in Ontario. The proposed College fee increase, for which there is no apparent justification, is a serious affront to all teachers in Ontario's publicly funded education system.

In light of the proposed cuts to education, and the unjustified College fee increase, I am calling on the College's Governing Council to reject the proposed 13.3 per cent increase to membership fees. I would kindly ask that you share this letter with the Governing Council at its December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting since the individual Council members' email addresses are not made available on the College's website.

Sincerely,

Anne Vinet-Roy  
President