

A message from the OTF President



Anne Vinet-Roy

Dear colleagues,

As I write these words, we are in the final stretch of the 2019-2020 school year. And what a year it has been! I sincerely hope that you are all doing as well as can be, and that you feel a certain sense of satisfaction for everything that you personally and professionally accomplished this year. We all had to adapt to a pandemic not experienced for many years. I'm sure I'm not the only one who thinks everyone in the education communities in our publicly funded education system did an amazing job at supporting students and their families.

We know that reopening schools will be much more complicated than it was to close them. Much will have to be done to protect everyone involved. Important, meaningful discussions and consultations need to occur with key partners in Ontario's publicly funded education to ensure a smooth, safe reopening of our schools, whenever that may be.

At OTF, we had to rethink some of our events and how we deal with the issues related to our mandate, but our priority was and remains the safety of everyone involved. Personally, it wasn't always easy to see some of the great things that OTF does have to change, be postponed or modified. Regardless of these adjustments, the work we managed to accomplish is absolutely remarkable. In everyone's respective roles, concern for members' and

students' wellbeing remained at the forefront, not because someone told us to do so, but rather because it is what educators and education workers do best, in whatever circumstances they find themselves.

As I near the end of my term, although saddened by the changes and the goals I was not able to reach because of the COVID-19 crisis, I am ever so grateful for the incredible team work of OTF with its Affiliates and various key partnerships in support of educators and education workers, as well as student learning conditions and wellbeing.

And most of all, I wish that everyone remains healthy and strong, no matter what the future holds for the upcoming school year. It is time to pause and take care of loved ones and ourselves.

In solidarity,



Anne Vinet-Roy
 President