

## A message from the OTF President



**Parker Robinson**

**Dear colleagues,**

The school year is approaching the end, but teachers and education workers are still facing challenges and uncertainty. The incredible work that has been done to keep the education system functioning cannot be overstated. Teachers have continued to provide high quality learning opportunities for students even as they face the barriers presented by technology, an uncertain future, and the ever-shifting education landscape. OTF recognizes the efforts made by educators and we continue to advocate for appropriate supports for this work.

During the months of March and April, the nomination process for the 2021 OTIP Teaching Awards moved forward. During this time, many people pointed out that all teachers in Ontario deserve an award for the work they have done in 2021. We agree, and so OTF will be hosting a virtual celebration for our members, the teachers in Ontario, on June 24. In collaboration with The Debaters, a special year-end virtual celebration will be presented. The great comedians of The Debaters will consider the topic, "all I need to know I learned in kindergarten." The event will provide educators an opportunity to sit back and enjoy some comedy in recognition of their efforts this year. We hope you will join us for this fun and entertaining event.

OTF continues to support the efforts of the Ontario Teacher Candidates' Council to push back against the ill-conceived Math Proficiency Test (MPT). As Ontario's education sector struggles under the weight of the pandemic, the Ford government has decided to move forward with this additional requirement for teacher

candidates. The added stress of the MPT for beginning teachers and teacher candidates is unnecessary and unwarranted. As we continue to push back on the test, OTF is actively supporting teacher candidates and beginning teachers by providing [Math Office Hours](#), a virtual math support opportunity to help prepare for the test.

OTF wishes all educators a good end of year and we encourage you to take time to recover and rejuvenate during the upcoming summer break.

Yours in education,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Parker Robinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

*June is...  
National  
Indigenous  
History Month*

