

Excellence in Leadership Learning

Ξ

2025-26





The Ontario Principals' Council (OPC) is the voluntary, professional association representing practising principals and vice-principals in Ontario's public schools and boards. Our goal is to provide Members with the professional services and supports they need to provide exemplary leadership in public education.

Why Engage in Professional Learning with the OPC?

We design and deliver a variety of learning opportunities that

- are grounded in the OPC's professional learning guiding principles
- have been developed through ongoing consultation and feedback with principals and vice-principals
- cover relevant topics through accessible formats
- range in formats from <u>15-minute podcasts</u> to 125-hour <u>additional qualification courses</u> and programs accredited through the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) and
- are in alignment with the OCT <u>Standards of Practice for the Teaching Profession</u> and <u>Ethical Standards</u>.



This document outlines the core learning offerings for the 2025–26 school year to support and enhance leadership development.

How Can We Work with District School Boards?

We welcome opportunities to collaborate with district school boards to adapt and create learning that meets the needs within local contexts. Ongoing professional learning is a standard of practice for educators and we strive to support principals and vice-principals at all stages of their leadership journey.

Please email **learning@principals.ca** for more information, questions or to book a meeting with us!

Learning Opportunities and Services

A. <u>Summer Workshops</u>	.3
1. Leadership Horizons: Vice-principal perspectives	3
2. <u>The Equity Leadership Journey</u>	3
3. <u>Navigating Leadership Transitions – Discreet Sessions</u>	4
B. <u>New and Aspiring Leaders</u>	
1. Emerging Leader Development Program	
2. <u>New Leader Support Program</u>	6
C. Additional Qualification (AQ) Programs	7
1. Education Law Qualification Program	
2. Equitable and Inclusive Schools Qualification Program	
3. <u>Mentoring Qualification Program</u>	
4. <u>Principal's Development Course</u>	
5. <u>Principal's Qualification Program</u>	
6. <u>Special Education for Administrators Qualification Program</u>	
7. <u>Supervisory Officer's Qualification Program</u>	
D. <u>Online Courses</u>	. 14
Facilitated Learning	
1. Creating Inclusive Spaces for Black Students	
2. <u>Creating Inclusive Spaces for Jewish Students</u>	
3. <u>Creating Inclusive Spaces for Muslim Students</u>	14
Self-directed Learning	
1. <u>French Immersion</u>	
2. Interview Preparation	
School Administrators Supporting Secondary French Programs	
4. <u>Teacher Performance Appraisals</u>	15
E. Leadership Coaching	
F. International Exchanges	
G. Leading Learning Toolkit H. Workshops	
I. <u>OPCLeadLearn Annual Conference</u>	
I. <u>OPCLeadLeann Annual Comerence</u>	. 22
FREE for Members and Associates!	
J. Article Discussions	1 2
K. Book Clubs	
L. <u>Collaborative Connections</u>	
M. Leadership Talks Podcast	
N. Professional Learning Network – Vice-principal perspectives	

Summer Workshops



Join colleagues from across the province!

J<mark>uly 7–8</mark> Leadership Horizons

August 11–12 The Equity Leadership Journey

Leadership Horizons: Vice-principal perspectives

Vice-principals will

- collaborate to support successful preparation/transition into the principal role
- engage in learning to better understand leadership and management functions and
- discuss how to practically centre human rights, equity and relationship building within leadership actions and decisions.

The Equity Leadership Journey

Participants will

- engage in self-reflection and better understand unconscious bias
- explore the significance of our own learning stance and
- gain deeper insights on facilitating courageous conversations.



Navigating Leadership Transitions – Discreet Sessions





Transition supports are essential to enhance professional capacity and growth, and contribute to the overall well-being and success of the school community. Shifting into leadership roles requires a deep understanding of education-based legislation and policies, along with interpersonal skills and high emotional intelligence, to effectively navigate the complexities of school operations.

These single opportunities have been designed to support new principals and vice-principals with some key themes as a new school year begins.

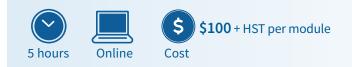
Sign up for what you need!

Session Focus	Session Date (2025) Time	Registration Deadline
Your First Month with the Ontario Principals' CouncilFor new vice-principals or principals to the Ontario public system	August 19 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. EDT	August 18
Setting up a Documentation System	August 20 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. EDT	August 19
Navigating the Transition from Vice-principal to Principal	August 21 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. EDT	August 20
Making Time for Relationships and Leading Learning	August 22 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. EDT	August 21

New and Aspiring Leaders



Emerging Leader Development Program





Our Emerging Leader Development Program (ELDP) is designed to prepare teachers for a successful transition to a formal school leadership role. The ELDP focuses on important topics identified by practising principals and vice-principals to build capacity in dealing with the complexity of the role. This is also a great opportunity for reflection and conversation with others considering this transition.

These are independent modules that can be completed in any order or quantity.

Мс	dule	Session Date (2025–26)	Registration Deadline
1.	Developing an Understanding of the School Principal Role	Oct. 4 – 14	September 28
2.	Having a Professional/Challenging Conversation	Oct. 18 – 27	October 12
3.	Exploring your Equity Stance	Nov. 1 – 10	October 26
4.	What is Instructional Leadership?	Nov. 15 – 24	November 9
5.	Leading Safe Schools	Nov. 29 – Dec. 8	November 23
6.	Data Informed Decision Making	Jan. 10 – 19	January 4
7.	What are the Legal Duties of a Principal?	Jan. 31 – Feb. 9	January 25
8.	Growing Your Personal Leadership Resources	Feb. 14 – 23	February 8
9.	Life-Balance for Aspiring Leaders	Feb. 28 – Mar. 9	February 22
10.	Fostering a Culture of Reconciliation in our Schools	Mar. 28 – Apr. 6	March 22
11.	Leaders Supporting French as a Second Language Programs in Ontario	Apr. 18 – 27	April 12
12.	Supporting Student Mental Health	May 2 – 11	April 26

New Leader Support Program





Calling all principals and vice-principals who have been in the role for up to three years! These online sessions are founded on an inquiry-based approach through a reflective lens of human rights and equity. Each component of the program will enable participants to become more confident in their decision-making skills in various aspects of school leadership.

Through facilitated conversations, collaborative learning sessions and networking opportunities, participants will explore challenges and opportunities as they transition and move through their first couple of years in formal school leadership. Sessions will include guest speakers, engagement through case studies and unpacking of resources to support a positive and smooth transition into the role.

Session Focus		Session Date (2025–26) Time	Registration Deadline
1.	Leader Mental Health and Well-being Managing Priorities Centering Human Rights and Equity	Saturday, September 27 9:00 – 12:00 p.m. EDT	
2.	Inclusive Education and Universal Design for Learning	Wednesday, October 15 3:45 – 5:15 p.m. EDT	
3.	Transparent and Effective Communication Conducting Bias-aware Investigations and Progressive Discipline	Saturday, November 22 9:00 – 12:00 p.m. EST	September 19
4.	Finance and Managing Resources	Wednesday, January 21 3:45 – 5:15 p.m. EST	
5.	Managing Staff Relationships and Working with Unions	Saturday, February 21 9:00 – 12:00 p.m. EST	
6.	Building Teams through Mentor-Coaching	Wednesday, March 25 3:45 – 5:15 p.m. EDT	Second half February 13
7.	Instructional Leadership and School Improvement Planning	Saturday, April 25 9:00 – 12:00 p.m. EDT	(pro-rated cost)
8.	Ongoing Professional Development and Commitment to Learning	Wednesday, May 27 3:45 – 5:15 p.m. EDT	

"I really enjoyed the time we were in small groups to share. I have found this role to be isolating, so time I can spend listening and talking with others in similar situations is invaluable."

(Participant, September 2024)

"These learning sessions are not onerous in preparation or in following up and always give me something to consider implementing or shifting in my practice, along with the resources to help make these changes happen."

(Participant, January 2025)

Additional Qualification (AQ) Programs



Education Law Qualification Program





Our Education Law Qualification Program (ELQP) supports candidates in the development of knowledge, skills and leadership practices associated with the legal responsibilities within the principal and vice-principal role.

Candidates will explore areas of accountability with an embedded focus on the

- complexity of education law and the application of policies and regulations
- impact of labour relations and collective agreements and
- fundamental importance of human rights and equity in creating inclusive spaces for all members of the school community.

Session Dates	Registration Deadline
Fall 2025 September 30 – December 14	September 16
Spring 2026 March 23 – June 6	March 9



Equitable and Inclusive Schools Qualification Program





Our Equitable and Inclusive Schools Qualification Program supports candidates in moving forward in their journey of learning and applying an anti-oppression lens, skills and leadership practices necessary to create equitable and inclusive communities.

Candidates will engage in critical reflection and conversations centered on

- identifying systems of oppression and understanding how they operate in education
- understanding our own unique identities and experiences and how they relate to the responsibility we carry as equitable leaders and
- engaging in necessary conversations that disrupt and challenge dominant narratives.

Session Dates	Registration Deadline
Summer 2025 July 2 – 31	June 18
Winter 2026 January 12 – March 27	December 29



Mentoring Qualification Program





Our Mentoring Qualification Program (MQP) provides candidates with opportunities to explore strategies, tools and processes that form the foundations of effective mentoring and coaching through a critical and reflective lens.

Using a practical, applied approach to learning, candidates will strengthen their

- knowledge and understanding of theoretical foundations of mentoring and coaching
- ability to employ a human rights and equity lens to policies, practices and resources to inform leadership actions and
- use of transformational skills to support cohesive teams within an inclusive and collaborative learning environment.

Session Dates	Registration Deadline
Summer 2025 July 8 – August 31	June 24
Spring 2026 Dates to be determined	ТВD

Principal's Development Course



Choose 5 modules to complete an AQ!



Our Principal's Development Course (PDC) enables candidates to personalize their learning in a variety of leadership-focused areas. Any module can be taken as a single course on its own. Prerequisites are required for this program.

Through the co-construction of knowledge and learning, candidates will further explore

- complex issues related to creating and sustaining equitable and inclusive school and system cultures
- culturally responsive and relevant strategies to enhance student well-being and learning and
- the ethical dimensions of leadership through critical reflection and refining professional judgement.

To receive the Additional Qualification (AQ) certification, candidates must successfully complete five modules (Module 1 and four additional self-selected modules). Modules can be completed in any order.

Module	Session Dates (2025–26)	Registration Deadline
Module 1: Principal Legal Duties and Responsibilities (Compulsory)	Jul. 21 – Aug. 22	July 7
Module 7: Courageous Conversations	Sep. 22 – Oct. 24	September 8
Module 18: Anti-Oppressive School Improvement	Sep. 22 – Oct. 24	September 8
Module 11: Leading the Special Education Program	Oct. 27 – Nov. 21	October 13
Module 12: Supporting Leadership in Mathematics	Oct. 27 – Nov. 21	October 13
Module 2: Instructional Leadership for School Improvement	Nov. 24 – Jan. 9	November 10
Module 13: The Principal's Role in Mental Health Awareness and Trauma-Informed Schools	Nov. 24 – Jan. 9	November 10
Module 1: Principal Legal Duties and Responsibilities (Compulsory)	Jan. 12 – Feb. 13	December 29
Module 4: Mentoring and School Leadership	Jan. 12 – Feb. 13	December 29
Module 3: Leading an Equitable and Inclusive School	Feb. 17 – Mar. 27	February 3
Module 9: Leading the Innovative School	Mar. 30 – May 1	March 16
Module 10: Supporting 2SLGBTQQIA+ Students	Mar. 30 – May 1	March 16
Module 14: Leading the French Immersion School	May 4 – Jun. 5	April 20
Module 15: I Stand in Treaty	May 4 – Jun. 5	April 20



Principal's Qualification Program





Our Principal's Qualification Program (PQP) is designed to proactively explore leadership dimensions associated with fostering equity, diversity and inclusion and effective management of public schools. Prerequisites are required for this program.

Candidates will increase their capacity to

- foster and lead school improvement processes to enhance the experiences for learners and effectively manage all areas of school operations
- engage in ethical decision-making through critical analysis of issues and development of strategies for identifying and removing barriers at school and system levels and
- nurture a culture of learning to support critical and creative thinking and the continual improvement of professional practice.

PQP Part 1 and 2	
Session Dates	Registration Deadline
Summer 2025 July 2 – August 8	June 1
Fall 2025 October 4 – January 16	September 7
Spring 2026 February 21 – June 5	January 25



Special Education for Administrators Qualification Program





Our Special Education for Administrators Qualification Program (SEAQP) offers candidates an opportunity to deeply explore and enhance school-level leadership skills in special education. The learning focuses on inclusive and equitable approaches that support diverse learners and their well-being, efficacy and agency.

Areas of critical exploration include

- legal and ethical responsibilities connected to legislation relevant to special education
- strategies and frameworks to support an inclusive and equitable school culture that honours individual learning strengths, styles and needs and
- the centrality of relationships and responding to conflict and challenges.

Session Dates	Registration Deadline
Summer 2025 July 3 – September 17	June 19
Winter 2026 January 19 – June 12	January 5

Supervisory Officer's Qualification Program





Our Supervisory Officer's Qualification Program (SOQP) is designed to proactively explore dimensions of system leadership that increase the capacity and efficacy of supervisory officers to effect positive change in education. Prerequisites are required for this program.

Framed within an anti-oppression foundation, candidates will

- enhance their knowledge and skills in areas including strategic planning, accountability and risk management in response to ever-evolving complexities inherent within system-level educational leadership
- examine the use of culturally responsive and relevant approaches to the analysis of systemlevel practices, processes and policies and
- build their capacity to identify and remove barriers through system leadership actions that are informed by foundational principles of human rights and equity.

To receive the Additional Qualification (AQ) certification, candidates must successfully complete all four modules (in any order) and the practicum within five years. The leadership practicum proposal may be approved only after a candidate has successfully completed two modules.

Session	Module	Session Dates	Registration Deadline
Summer 2025	 Module 1 – The Personal Perspective Module 3 – The Provincial Perspective 	Jul. 6 – 8	June 8
Summer 2025	 Module 2 – The Leadership and Organizational Change Perspective Module 4 – The System Perspective 	Jul. 9 – 11	June 8
Fall 2025	 Module 1 – The Personal Perspective Module 3 – The Provincial Perspective 	Nov. 21 – 23	October 24
Winter 2026	 Module 2 – The Leadership and Organizational Change Perspective Module 4 – The System Perspective 	Feb. 20 – 22	January 23

"There was some heaviness in the topics and in the realistic view of the role of SO, but the levity, humility, sense of fun and laughter that came from the presenters and facilitators gave a well-rounded and realistic view of the role that left me feeling hopeful for potential future possibilities."

(Module 1 Participant – October 2024)

"The candor and diversity of the leaders/ principals who participate in them allow you to learn from one another in a safe and brave space. Kudos to the team and the leadership behind each of the SOQP modules." (Module 4 Participant, July 2024)

Online Courses – Facilitated Learning

Creating Inclusive Spaces for Black Students



In this five-module course, participants will

- deepen their understanding of anti-Black racism and the current ways it exists in educational institutions and
- critically examine school practices and approaches to actively address and disrupt anti-Black racism within learning environments.

Session Dates	Registration Deadline
Winter 2026 January 19 – February 27	January 11

Creating Inclusive Spaces for Jewish Students





In this five-module course, participants will

- deepen their understanding of Antisemitism and
- apply their learning to support belonging and inclusion for Jewish students.

Session Dates	Registration Deadline
Spring 2026 February 23 – May 15	February 15

Creating Inclusive Spaces for Muslim Students





In this eight-module course, participants will

- deepen their understanding of Islamophobia and the perspectives of Muslim youth and
- discuss relevant topics related to leading more equitable and inclusive spaces for Muslim students.

Session Dates	Registration Deadline
Fall 2025 November 3 – January 30	October 26



Self-directed Learning



These online courses have open enrolment, without an active facilitator, and use a learning management system (LMS) to support individual learning. Through the LMS, participants engage in a variety of learning activities such as readings, blog entries, reflections and quizzes. Each course is designed differently to allow for adaptive learning activities that match content with appropriate adult learning pedagogies.

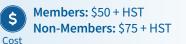




Learn More

Flexible and open registration is available for these courses.

French Immersion



School Administrators Supporting Secondary French Programs



Members: \$50 + HST Non-Members: \$75 + HST

Interview Preparation

S Cost Cost Cost includes option for a mock interview

Teacher Performance Appraisal



Members: \$50 + HST Non-Members: \$75 + HST

Leadership Coaching





Individuals: \$150 + HST per session Group (2–6 people): \$450 + HST per session



Leadership Coaching is an opportunity to receive high quality online or onsite coaching to further develop and enhance leadership skills, capacity to respond to professional challenges or work-life integration. Each coaching session builds on individual strengths through a reflective process. Leadership Coaching is available to individuals as well as groups/teams. Experienced educational leaders with coaching expertise will facilitate.

Registration is continuously open.

International Exchanges



Initial Match Coordination: \$25 + HST Registration after match confirmation: \$350 + HST

Our international exchanges provide an incredible one-week experience for Ontario principals and vice-principals with three essential components

- shared knowledge
- immersed learning and
- inquiry-based research.

Participating countries include Australia, Ireland, New Zealand and Switzerland.

Note: All travel costs and expenses are the responsibility of the participant.



Leading Learning Toolkit

We partner with the Ministry of Education, the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario (CPCO) and l'Association des directions et des directions adjointes des écoles franco-ontariennes (ADFO), on a variety of topics to provide professional learning and capacity building for principals and vice-principals.

These free resources are available to the public and are designed to support leadership in key areas of learning.

Recent projects include resources for

- leading the implementation of Ontario's revised language curriculum and
- supporting student mental health.

Workshops

We welcome partnerships with district school boards and local OPC districts to customize workshops to meet your learning needs on a variety of topics of interest. Our team will work with you to create learning that is relevant to your local context. **OPC's professional learning guiding principles** drive all planning, development and delivery.

Four department teams within the OPC offer workshops.



FRFF for

Ion-Member

earn Mor

Learn More

FREE for Members and Associates!



Article Discussions

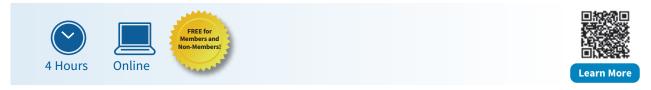




This series is designed engage school leaders and maximize connection and conversations related to the emerging issues in educational leadership.

Join the discussion on Tuesdays 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. EDT/EST (2025–26)			Registration Deadline
October 21	January 13	April 7	Open Registration

Book Clubs



Through these peer-facilitated, co-learning sessions, OPC Members and Associates will explore and discuss key concepts in the chosen book and how those concepts might inform practice as a school leader.

These FREE Book Clubs meet for **four 1-hour sessions** and are open to all OPC Members and non-Members. We encourage broad and diverse input and participation in attending, recommending books and facilitating sessions.

Collaborative Connections



These FREE offerings provide a range of opportunities for Members to collaborate and connect on topics related to

- Equity Connections and
- Indigenous Connections.

Join us on Wednesdays 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. EDT/EST (2025–26)				Registration Deadline	4	
September 24	October 15	November 19	December 10	January 14	Open Degistration	-
February 11	March 11	April 15	May 13	June 10	Open Registration	
			AND DESCRIPTION OF THE OWNER OF T			

Leadership Talks

CONVERSATIONS WITH SCHOOL LEADERS



Collaborative Connections

Learn More

Leadership Talks Podcast

Our podcast engages school leaders across Ontario in authentic conversations about their passion and expertise in K – 12 education. We hope listeners will gain practical insights and strategies from each other to enhance learning and strengthen their school communities. Most importantly, this podcast highlights stories, perspectives and the joy of school leadership!

Topics include

- Support to Thrive: Bolstering resilience and mental health in schools
- Supporting Technological Education
- Project Based Learning and Student Engagement

Professional Learning Network – Vice-principal perspectives

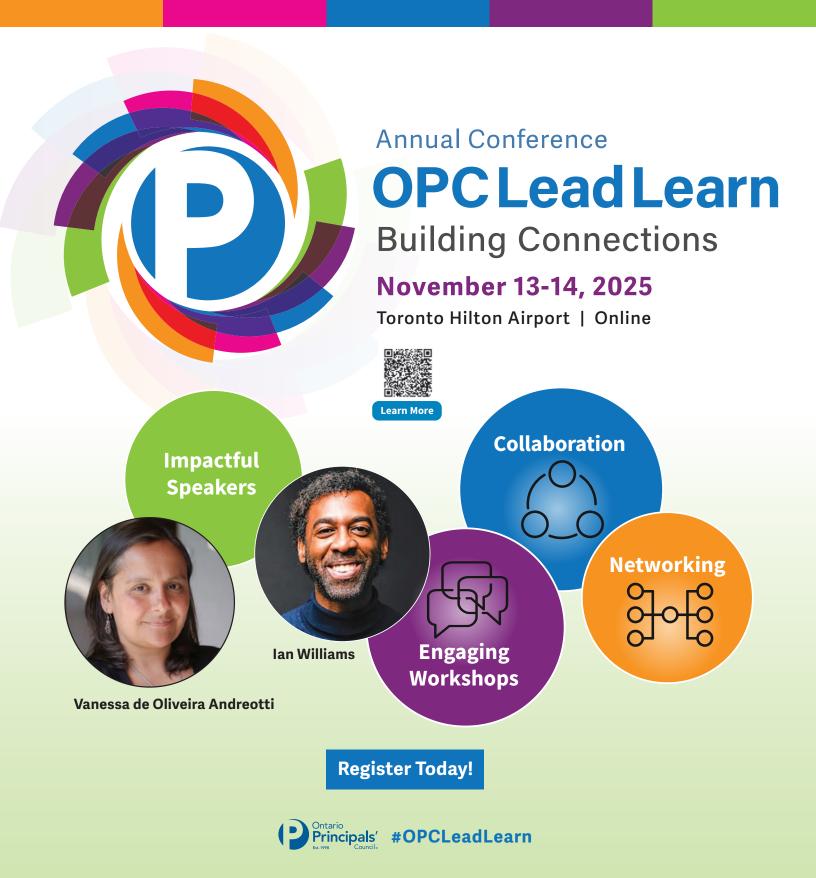


"I loved these sessions and wouldn't miss one. I like that people are willing to share and are looking for what else is happening in our profession." (Participant, January 2025)

Join our network for supportive, engaging learning opportunities with colleagues. Whether you stop in for one or attend all sessions, you are welcome to come share ideas, strategies, experiences and learning needs. These sessions offer open conversations for vice-principals driven by participant voices on relevant and important topics of the day.

Join us on Tuesdays 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. EDT/EST (2025–26)			Registration Deadline		
September 23	October 28	November 25	January 27	Open Registration	
February 24	March 24	April 28	May 26		







20 Queen Street West, Suite 2700 Toronto, Ontario M5H 3R3

Phone 1-416-322-6600 Toll-Free 1-800-701-2362

Benefits Equity, Diversity & Inclusion equity@principals.ca **General Inquiry Membership Services** Professional Learning **Protective Services**

opcbenefits@principals.ca admin@principals.ca membership@principals.ca learning@principals.ca pst@principals.ca

Follow us on Social Media

- @OPCouncil.bsky.social
- @OntarioPrincipalsCouncil
- @ontario-principals-council in
- @ontarioprincipalscouncil
- 0 @OPCouncil
- @OPCouncil