



Ontario Education
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March 9, 2020

TO: Presidents and Executive Directors, Trustee Associations
Student Trustee Associations

FROM: Ted Doherty, Executive Director, OESC

CC: Directors of Education
Kendra Tedford Devine, Project Lead, OESC

RE: **Professional Development Program for Trustees**

OESC is committed to supporting Ontario's school boards by developing effective and engaging professional learning opportunities. We are pleased to announce the launch of our updated Trustee Professional Development Program available at: modules.ontarioschooltrustees.org.

The program's aim is to offer trustees a substantive overview of the areas that are essential to their governance role. The program features 21 online modules – each one has been recently updated with the latest legislation, education policy and research. Please note that the program is primarily intended to support trustees, but it is also useful for directors of education, board staff and other stakeholders.

Module Topics Include:

- Ethical Leadership
- Governance for Student Achievement & Well-Being
- Trustee Roles & Responsibilities
- Key Relationships in School Boards
- Performance Review: Director of Education
- Multi-Year Strategic Planning
- Policymaking
- Conflict Management
- Family & Community Engagement
- Advocacy: Engaging the Public
- Legal Aspects of Board Governance
- Running Effective Meetings
- Finance
- Human Resources
- What Makes a Great Board Chair?
- First Nation Trustees
- Code of Conduct
- Social Media
- Internal Audit & Audit Committees
- Truth & Reconciliation
- Board Self-Assessment

New this year is a Certificate of Completion feature. OESC invites trustees who have completed the entire program to [apply for a Certificate of Completion](#). This will be sent to trustees in recognition of their commitment to leadership and the good governance of Ontario's education system.

We ask that you communicate program information with your trustees. Attached you'll find a template 1-pager you can customize and send to your members. We would also be most appreciative if you could share program information at association meetings/events and include information in your regular communication efforts (e.g. association newsletters, website, social media, etc.).

For more information or assistance with your outreach, please contact Kendra Tedford Devine, Program Lead at KDevine@oesc-cseo.org.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Doherty', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ted Doherty
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