



61 King Street, Unit 12  
Barrie, Ontario, L4N 6B5  
Elementary - (705) 733-9625  
Secondary - (705) 722-0084  
Occasional - (705) 795-8771  
Fax - (705) 733-9910  
[www.oectasimcoemuskoka.on.ca](http://www.oectasimcoemuskoka.on.ca)

**To: All Secondary Teachers**  
**From: Allyn Janicki**

**Monday March 18th 2019**  
**Memo #15**

I hope that you enjoyed a restful and relaxing March Break. By now you've all heard about the announcements issued by the Ministry of Education last week. The Provincial Office sent a bargaining update to all members to personal email addresses on Friday afternoon. **If you did not receive the email on Friday from the Provincial Office —please click [here](#) and either create your account, or complete the form if you are not able to log into your provincial account.** Below you will find some information regarding the announcements last week, an update about the Annual General Meeting and information about how to ensure you are staying informed locally and provincially. Wishing you all a great week back!

### **Ministry of Education March Break Announcements**

March Break was a busy week for the Ministry of Education. Here are links to all the announcements made over the course of the week:

- [Modernizing Classrooms](#)
- [Modernizing Learning](#)
- [Modernizing Health and Physical Education](#)

Post announcement the Ministry is again engaging in an additional “consultation process” specifically on the fair hiring and class size pieces that have already been announced. The consultation documents can be found [here](#).

There are many questions and a high degree of uncertainty as to how these announcements will roll out and what their immediate impact will be. Several of the announcements deal with matters negotiated in collective bargaining. Provincial has consulted legal counsel and are prepared to use all means necessary to defend our right to collectively bargain these important workplace issues on behalf of members.

In the Bargaining Update sent on Friday members have been encouraged to **TAKE ACTION!**

The strength of our Association rests with you, the members. An engaged, unified membership is essential to make sure the government knows that we, as a collective, will do whatever it takes to stand up for our students, ourselves, and our profession.

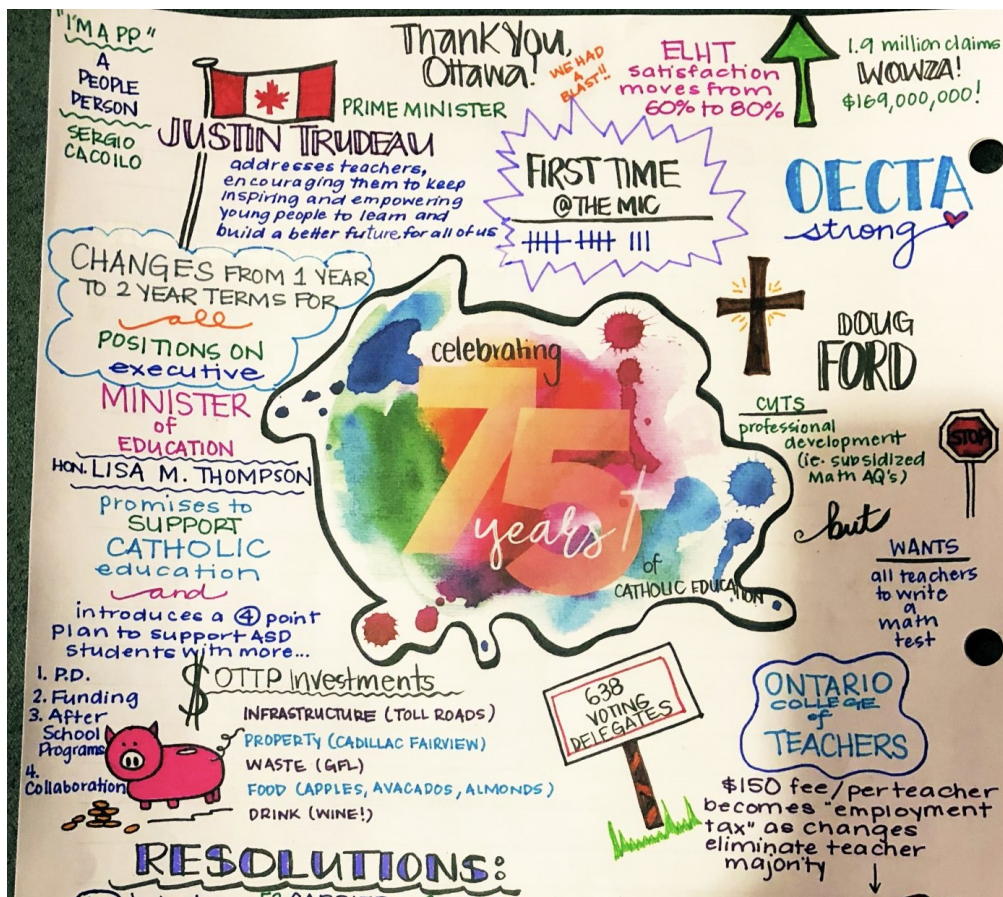
Below you will find an email link for Minister of Education Lisa Thompson. Email her to let her know what you think about the recent announcements. Remember to keep your comments professional, and refrain from personal attacks. Consider mentioning points such as:

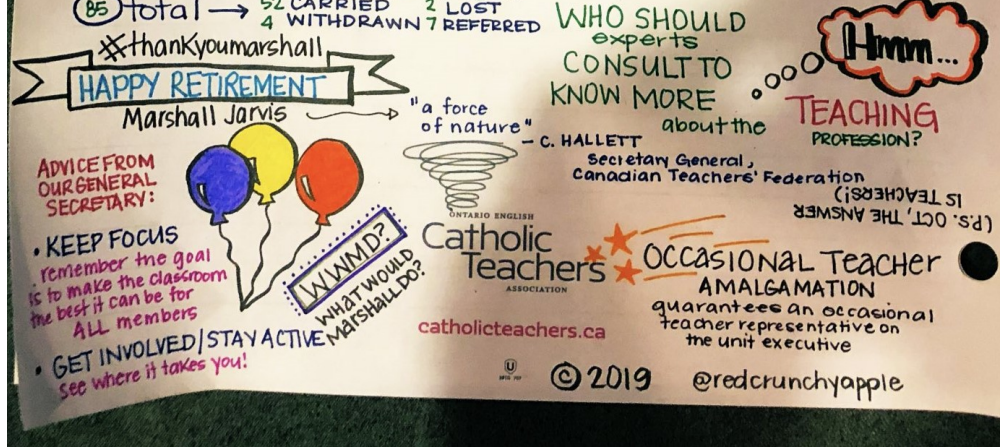
- Increasing class sizes will mean a reduction in the number and variety of programs and supports for at-risk students in some schools. This will undermine Ontario’s reputation as a world-renowned public education system.
- By increasing class sizes, and reducing the number of teachers in schools, some classes in core subject areas, like math, will grow to more than 40 students. This will hurt the learning environment and teachers’ working conditions.

**EMAIL THE EDUCATION MINISTER**

**Annual General Meeting: Ottawa March 9th-11th**

A delegation of nine secondary teachers traveled to Ottawa to be your representatives at the 75th Annual General Meeting. The info-graphic below was created by delegate @redcruchyapple and summarizes some of the accomplishments of the meeting and some take away messaging.





## Staying Informed

In order to ensure you are an informed member consider subscribing to, downloading or bookmarking the following (hyperlinks embedded in graphics):



@OECTAProv



Apple



@catholic\_teachers



Android

