



**Members:** Association for Bright Children • Association Francophone de Parents d'Enfants Dyslexiques ou ayant tout autre trouble d'apprentissage • Community Living Ontario • Down Syndrome Association of Ontario • Easter Seals Ontario • Epilepsy Ontario • Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Ontario Network of Expertise • Integration Action for Inclusion in Education and Community • Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario • Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders • Ontario Brain Injury Association • Parents for Children's Mental Health • Tourette Syndrome Foundation of Canada • VIEWS Supports and Advocates for Children who are Blind or or Have Low Vision • VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children  
**Affiliate Members:** Ontario Federation for Cerebral Palsy • Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Ontario

## PAAC on SEAC

### Annual Report 2017-18

The **Provincial Parent Association Advisory Committee on Special Education Advisory Committees** (PAAC on SEAC) was established in 1983 and is the only group in Ontario that brings together provincial parent associations to communicate and co-operate on issues pertaining to SEACs. PAAC, and its member organizations, encourage valuable partnerships among trustees, educators, voluntary associations and parents. PAAC on SEAC members have been working closely to improve SEAC effectiveness and communication, and to assist Ontario's students with special education needs through our shared advocacy.

### Highlights of 2017-18

#### Meetings with Ministry of Education

PAAC on SEAC members met two times this year with Paul Grogan, Education Officer, Special Education/Success for All Branch, who is the liaison for PAAC on SEAC at the Ministry. At the meetings that Paul attended he provided updates on the meetings of the [Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education](#) as well as the [Special Education Updates](#) from the Ministry.

PAAC on SEAC received a presentation in October 2017 on collection and use of special education data by Tony Diaz of the Special Education/Success for All Branch and representatives from the Education Statistics and Analysis Branch.

PAAC on SEAC members were asked to provide feedback on the *IEP section of the draft Special Education in Ontario* at a meeting in November 2017, attended by Linda Yan and Joanne Viger of the Special Education/Success for All Branch.

#### Fall 2017 written responses to consultations, and letters outlining issues of concern:

- Letter to Minister of Education, Mitzi Hunter, in response to the consultation on Experiential Learning.
- Letter to Louise Sirisko, Director of Special Education/Success for All Branch, with follow-up questions about policy issues related to collection and use of special education data,
- Letter to Deputy Minister Bruce Rodrigues to give feedback to the Ministry of Education consultation on the Education Equity Action Plan.

- Letter to Minister of Education, Mitzi Hunter about citizenship eligibility requirements for SEAC membership.

**Winter/Spring 2018 written responses to consultations, and letters outlining issues of concern:**

- Letter to Minister of Education, Indira Naidoo-Harris, welcoming her to her new position and outlining areas of concern to PAAC on SEAC members.
- Letter to Shirley Kendrick, Director of the Special Education / Success for All Branch, to welcome her to her new position and briefly introduce areas of concern.
- Letter to Minister of Education, Indira Naidoo-Harris, giving input on the Vision for Student Transportation.
- PAAC on SEAC Response to Discussion Questions on Education Assessment in Ontario
- PAAC on SEAC feedback on Part E, The Individual Education Plans (IEP) of the Ministry document, *Special Education in Ontario K to Grade 12, Policy and Resource Guide*.
- PAAC on SEAC comments on the Executive Summary of the *Suspension/Expulsion Program Evaluation* conducted by Western University Centre for Educational Leadership.

**PAAC on SEAC Monthly Meetings**

Other topics discussed at the regular meetings included:

- Progress of the Special Needs Strategy initiatives
- School Board Governance consultation
- Special Education funding initiatives for 2018-19
- Education Accessibility Standard Development Committee
- Review of PAAC on SEAC Terms of Reference and criteria for membership

This report provides a few of the highlights of the activities of PAAC on SEAC in the past year. For more information about PAAC on SEAC please check the website, [www.paac-seac.ca](http://www.paac-seac.ca), or contact the Co-Chairs at [info@paac-seac.ca](mailto:info@paac-seac.ca). A list of PAAC on SEAC members can be found at [www.paac-seac.ca/home/paac-on-seac-effective-practices-handbook-for-seac-members/section-1-background/1-1-paac-on-seac-membership/](http://www.paac-seac.ca/home/paac-on-seac-effective-practices-handbook-for-seac-members/section-1-background/1-1-paac-on-seac-membership/) and new member associations that have SEAC members are welcomed.