

The day after the election

On Election Day, each of the 103 ridings will elect an MPP. The day after that vote, faculty associations should start to prepare a local lobbying strategy to meet with MPPs in their area on a regular basis. These contacts will provide an opportunity to educate MPPs on the importance of government support for universities in order to ensure they continue to provide a highly educated workforce and the innovative researchers essential Ontario's economic health and well-being.

Contact with the newly elected or re-elected MPPs should take place as soon as possible. Please turn over for an example of a letter you can use to contact your new representative.

If the current member is re-elected, the letter should be delivered to the constituency office. If a new member is elected, contact that local campaign office and get the personal address of the new member and forward the letter immediately. Follow up the letter with a phone call to the member the following week.

Adapted from the OSSTF/FEESO Election Kit.

Sample Letter to New MPP

[Date]

[Name]

[Address]

Dear [Name];

On behalf of the [Name of Association], I want to congratulate you on your election to the Ontario Legislature as a Member of Provincial Parliament. This success reflects your commitment to both the people of our community and the Province of Ontario.

The [Name of Association] is eager to work with you to ensure that our universities offer the best possible educational experience to our students and continue to be the sources of insight and innovation that power our economy. As you know, the social vitality and economic success of our province depends on higher education, and I hope you will be a powerful advocate for our universities at Queen's Park.

As the President of [Name of Faculty Association], I welcome any opportunity to meet with you to discuss the future of higher education in Ontario. In the meantime, if I can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me at:

[Name]

[Address of Faculty Association]

[Phone Number]

[Email]

Once again, congratulations. I wish you all the best as you assume your very important public service responsibilities.

Sincerely,

[Name]

President, [Name of Faculty Association]