



TRENT UNIVERSITY FACULTY ASSOCIATION  
(TUFA)

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Hon. Reza Moridi  
Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities  
Mowat Block, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
900 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Tuesday March 10, 2015

Dear Minister Moridi;

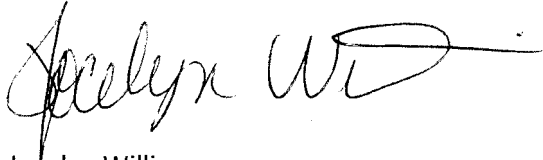
On behalf of the Trent University Faculty Association, I am writing to express concern and disappointment over the proposed governance structure of the new Ontario Online Learning Consortium (OOLC). The OOLC's Board of Directors does not include any representation from front-line university faculty. These educators design, develop, and deliver online courses. Without their input, the ability of the OOLC to provide high-quality online learning options for Ontario's students will be severely limited.

We note that the Board is currently dominated by specific, named positions for senior university administrators, as well as a university student and an expert in technology-enabled learning. While such experts will no doubt provide valuable input, they do not speak for front-line faculty. A front-line faculty representative would be able to speak to the day-to-day realities of providing quality online learning, and would have invaluable insight into actual, real-world factors that will determine the success of OOLC.

I know you and your government are committed to a strong higher education system, and to providing high-quality learning options for every student. In the Premier's mandate letter, she requested that you make sure "that the new Ontario Online initiative is able to offer online courses for credit, beginning in 2015." The current configuration of the Board threatens your ability to meet this objective. To enable the success of the OOLC initiative, we are asking that you ensure that front-line faculty have a seat on OOLC's Board of Directors. OCUFA, on behalf of faculty across Ontario, is ready to provide a list of suitable nominees.

We welcome any opportunity to discuss this with you further. If you would like to pursue this matter, we would be happy to provide you with additional information.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jocelyn Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jocelyn Williams  
President

cc Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier

Garfield Dunlop, PC Critic for Training, Colleges and Universities

Peggy Sattler, NDP Critic for Training, Colleges and Universities

Jeff Leal, MPP Peterborough

Mark Rosenfeld, Executive Director, Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations