

**LDAO SEAC CIRCULAR**

**February 2020**

The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) SEAC Circular is published 5 times a year, in September, November, February, April and June.

The following are some topics that your SEAC should be looking at. Action items and/or recommendations for effective practices will be underlined.

Feel free to share any of this information or the attachments with other SEAC members. As always, when you are planning to introduce a motion for the consideration of SEAC, it is particularly important that you share all related background items with your fellow SEAC reps.

**Topics covered by this SEAC Circular:**

1. PAAC on SEAC survey

2. OHRC Right to Read public inquiry

3. MACSE

4. AODA Standard Development Committees

**List of Supplementary Materials:**

1. MACSE Call for Applications

2. MACSE Collaboration template

**Note: You can access the SEAC Circular and supplementary materials at**[**www.ldao.ca/about/public-policy-advocacy/seac-circulars/**](http://www.ldao.ca/about/public-policy-advocacy/seac-circulars/)**.**

**You can access Ministry funding (B & SB) memos by date at:** [**http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/memos/**](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/memos/)

 **1. PAAC on SEAC survey**

**The deadline for responding to the PAAC on SEAC survey has been extended to February 14th.** Please remind your fellow SEAC members that we would like as many as possible to respond, and take a few moments to respond yourself if you have not already done so. The survey takes an average of 13 minutes to complete and can be found here: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/HYZ3PWY](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HYZ3PWY).

After analyzing the results, PAAC will post the results on the PAAC on SEAC Website at: [www.paac-seac.ca](http://www.paac-seac.ca), and share the report with the Ministry of Education (and with SEAC members in the LDAO SEAC Circular).

**2. OHRC Right to Read public inquiry**

The Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) has announced locations and participation details for its **Right to Read public hearings** where students, parents and other stakeholders can share their stories and lived experiences related to reading disabilities. The Right to Read public hearings will run from 6 to 9 p.m., with registration beginning at 5:30 p.m. at all locations. The Brampton and London hearings have already taken place, but there are still opportunities:

**February 25, 2020:          Thunder Bay**

                                          Public Library – Waverley Community Hub Auditorium
                                           285 Red River Road, Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 1A9

**March 10, 2020:              Ottawa**

                                           Nepean Sportsplex
                                           1701 Woodroffe Avenue, Nepean, ON, K2G 1W2

Members of the public can participate in three ways:

* Filling out a [survey](https://ontariotbs.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4TwifRctQYohRoV?SG=01) at least two weeks before the hearing they want to participate in and being selected to make a presentation up to seven minutes long
* Attending a public hearing and registering to speak for three minutes during the “open mic” session
* Attending a public hearing to observe.

Parents are encouraged to participate in the [survey](https://ontariotbs.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4TwifRctQYohRoV?SG=01) even if they do not get a chance to attend a public hearing. OHRC plans to release a report by the end of 2020.

**3. MACSE**

The Minister’s Advisory Committee on Special Education (MACSE) is scheduled to meet on February 19 & 20. Currently there are 7 positions marked as vacant and 5 with terms that ended on January 19, 2020 ([www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/abcs/acse/memb\_eng.html](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/abcs/acse/memb_eng.html)). The nomination process for 10 positions was announced on January 16, 2020. Applications to the Public appointments Secretariat will be received until March 6, 2020. For more details see the attached document, **MACSE Call for Applications**. Associations whose sectors have a vacancy could ask their associations if they have submitted an application (LDAO has already done so).

Attached is a copy of the **MACSE Community Collaboration form** with input from PAAC on SEAC, as gathered at the last PAAC meeting. LDAO also submitted input for the upcoming MACSE meeting.

**4. AODA Standard Development Committees**

The **Information & Communications Standard Development Committee** met in January and reviewed feedback from the public consultation on their Initial Recommendations Report (see September SEAC Circular). Overall the feedback was very positive, but the committee made a few minor revisions and final recommendations will be sent to the Minister for Seniors & Accessibility. Recommendations that affect publically funded education sectors will also be sent for consideration to the Education Standard Development Committees.

The **Education Standard Development Committees** (K-12 and Postsecondary) have been working in small groups to discuss different types of barriers to accessible education, and the small groups bring draft recommendations to their full groups for consideration. Full group meetings will continue until May 2020, when committee members will decide on a set of initial recommendations to be posted for public consultation. Public consultation will start sometime between June and September, and last 90 days. I will let SEAC members know when the public consultation opens.

 **Questions?** Email Diane Wagner at dianew@LDAO.ca