

**LDAO SEAC CIRCULAR**

**November 2022**

The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) SEAC Circular is published 5 times a year, usually 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. New SEAC term and training for new SEAC members

2. Ministry Updates

**List of Supplementary Materials:**

1. October 20, 2022 Ministry Memo

**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: <https://efis.fma.csc.gov.on.ca/faab/Memos.htm>

**1. New SEAC term and training for new SEAC members**

As new SEAC members and alternates begin their terms, SEACs are required to do SEAC orientation:

Within a reasonable time after a special education advisory committee is appointed, the board shall provide the members of the committee and their alternates with information and orientation respecting,

(a) the role of the committee and of the board in relation to special education; and

(b) Ministry and board policies relating to special education. O. Reg. 464/97, s. 10.

The PAAC on SEAC website, [www.paac-seac.ca](http://www.paac-seac.ca), is an excellent resource for orientation and training and also for refreshing knowledge of continuing members. The **PAAC on SEAC Effective Practices Handbook** ([www.paac-seac.ca/home/paac-on-seac-effective-practices-handbook-for-seac-members/](http://www.paac-seac.ca/home/paac-on-seac-effective-practices-handbook-for-seac-members/)) has been used by many SEACs for training, sometimes tackling one unit at a time. There are also three training videos that are very useful.

**2. Ministry Updates**

The October 20, 2022 Memo from Minister Lecce addresses a number of issues of interest to SEACs. For example, “school boards are now able to deliver the $175M Tutoring Supports Program until March 31, 2023 and are able to use any unspent funds from the first half of the program to this extended timeline”.
SEACs should ask how these funds will be used for students with special education needs.

“In February 2022, the ministry committed to taking immediate action to improve student literacy as part of its response to the Ontario Human Rights Commission’s (OHRC) *Right to Read Report”* “These commitments also include a focus on helping educators reach young students sooner to support the development of reading skills, including the release of [Effective Early Reading Instruction: A Teacher’s Guide](https://www.dcp.edu.gov.on.ca/en/guide-effective-early-reading/development-reading-skills) ([www.dcp.edu.gov.on.ca/en/guide-effective-early-reading/development-reading-skills](http://www.dcp.edu.gov.on.ca/en/guide-effective-early-reading/development-reading-skills)) in English and French last Spring, to support evidence-based effective instruction in early reading.”
SEACs should ask how their school board is implementing evidence-based effective reading instruction.

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