



Ontario Educational Leadership Centre  
*Student Leadership d'Élèves | Since • Depuis 1948*  
Centre d'Animation Scolaire de l'Ontario



May 1, 2020

Dear OELC/CASO Supporter,

As you know, we are facing a significant public health emergency with the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past 6-weeks, strict physical distancing, stay-at-home policies and uncertainties with the novel virus have placed the 2020 operating season at Ontario Educational Leadership Centre/Centre d'Animation Scolaire de l'Ontario (OELC/CASO) in a precarious position. We have been listening to the evolving advice from the Ontario Camp Association (OCA) and all levels of public health officials to help guide us as our season quickly approaches.

***It is with heavy hearts that we announce the cancellation of the 2020 operating season for OELC/CASO in its entirety.*** The OELC/CASO community has been hopeful for the season ahead; unfortunately, we have had to make the difficult decision to cancel all operations for the remainder of the year. Know that this decision was not made lightly. The health and safety of our community has, and will continue to be, our number one priority. We are grounded by the decision knowing that we are leading with our organizational values in hand. We recognize how important OELC/CASO is to all involved; especially to our leaders. We are unified not only in the sadness that this decision elicits; but also in the hope and optimism of what our leaders can accomplish locally in this next year.

As we look ahead to a very different 2020, we have commenced a movement called the OELC/CASO CARES (Community Action Ripple Effect) Initiative. This initiative, will inspire leaders to connect with one another, be well and to help foster community and connection in their homes, neighbourhoods and local communities, once deemed safe to do so. We will be sharing more details around this initiative in the coming weeks and look forward to inspiring this Community Action Ripple Effect.

We will be reaching out individually to all registered families shortly to discuss refund options. Even though we feel an overwhelming sadness, we are confident that this is the best decision for the health and safety of our OELC/CASO community. As you can appreciate, the financial implications of this decision are significant. We will survive this time. We will need the connection and community of our past, present and future OELC/CASO family to help get us through. If you know of Alumni that may not be registered as alumni with us, please inspire them to email us at [oelc@oelccaso.com](mailto:oelc@oelccaso.com).

While we cannot physically be together, let us be unified in our efforts, to foster connection and well being in our homes and local communities. Join us on social media and tell us about the positive ripple effect you are creating within your communities! Know that OELC/CASO has always been here for you. We will continue to be here for you through this and will be there for you in the future!

OELC/CASO CARES. We truly do.

Be well everyone,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David McMurray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "M".

David McMurray

President, Board of Directors

Ontario Educational Leadership Centre (OELC)/Centre d'Animation Scolaire de l'Ontario (CASO)

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