



Delegate's Guide to Participating in Meaningful Discussions

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Date: Thursday, July 7, 2022



Time: 3:00 – 4:00 PM (1 hour)

What's the purpose of the discussion groups?

- To foster collaboration and meaningful conversation amongst the CTF/FCE membership;
- To encourage candid discussions about issues posing challenges (and sometimes opportunities) for public education across the country, and
- To learn about the advocacy work and direction of the CTF/FCE.



What to expect for the discussion groups?

Be prepared to discuss the big topics facing publicly funded public education across Canada. While we don't expect everyone to be fully immersed in all these issues, be ready to share ideas and learn from your colleagues.

To guide our conversations, below we've included the main topics that we'll touch upon:



1. **Mental Health Supports:** An issue prior to COVID-19 for educators and students alike, mental health has only worsened since 2019. *How can we better support educators' mental health?*



2. **French Language Education in Minority Settings:** Public education supports for French language speakers in minority settings (outside of Quebec) continue to be a challenge. *How can we address this across the country?*



3. **Healthy Schools (Nutrition, Physical Activity, Wellbeing):** Holistic health is the pathway to learning for students and their families, but *how do we ensure this across Canada?*



4. **Climate Change Education:** Climate change continues to be one of the most pressing issues right now. It will be even worse for generations to come if we don't act. *How do we approach this in the classroom?*



5. **Anti-Racism Initiatives:** Diversity and our commitment to inclusion are what makes public education in Canada great, but we still have so much further to go. *How do we get there?*



6. **Indigenous Education Initiatives:** Whether it's learning how to be supportive as allies, how to talk about sensitive issues related to colonialism and racism, or advocating for more Indigenous education supports, *how do we approach this long-standing issue facing Canadians?*



7. **Privatization of Public Education:** Taking money from publicly funded public education and diverting it to private actors and institutions hurts teachers, families, students, and society as a whole. *What strategies do we need to use to oppose privatization?*



8. **Labour Rights and Teacher Economic Welfare:** As many of you are entering bargaining in the next year, *what are your top priorities and what does the landscape for bargaining look like across the country?*

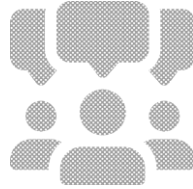
We hope that you'll reflect on these issues and think of links to your work in your community. Your contributions could be some **positive things** that are happening in your communities or flagging the **lack of supports** for these topics and what you'd like to see **to improve** the landscape.



Delegate's Guide to Participating in Meaningful Discussions

What will we be doing?

We will be breaking out into six (6) smaller groups so that we can have more manageable discussions. Two CTF/FCE staff members will lead and facilitate each group.



To advance the discussion, you get to take part in various engaging activities. Please present your ideas in various ways, including words, drawings, debates, and more.

To prepare you for one of our activities, check out this YouTube series called [Middle Ground](#), where opposing views are challenged, and participants enter in a friendly debate about their differences and similarities.



[Have Aliens Made Contact with Earth? Believers vs Skeptics | Middle Ground](#)

Here are some prompts to get you thinking – try to think of arguments for both sides:

- *Mental health considerations for teachers and students should be the number one aspect considered when it comes to pedagogical decision-making.*
- *Climate change education must be included in curriculum in every province and territory.*

