April 27, 2020

Dear colleagues,

Many of you have no doubt heard Mr. Legault’s announcement earlier today that elementary schools will reopen May 11, 2020 and secondary schools will remain closed until the start of the new school year at the end of August. The announcement has raised many, many questions and very few answers. Rest assured that in the next few days I will be working with the school board, QPAT and the other Union President’s to get the answers that you are looking for. Please be patient, as I get information it will get out to you as soon as I possibly can. Watch the ESTA Facebook page, website and your email for updates.

I understand that this is an emotional announcement which is many cases is bittersweet, you want to get back to the classroom and be with your students but, there is a long list of health concerns that must be addressed before you feel comfortable with returning to the classroom. I sympathize with how you are feeling and share your concerns. I am an elementary school teacher who has many questions and concerns, as well as a great deal of anxiety. Remember that ESTA is here for you and I will work together, with our partners, to do everything in my power to ensure the safest possible workplace for teachers, staff and students.

Stay strong!

Gillian