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President's Message of Welcome **OFSAA Football Bowl Festival** November 27, 28 & 29, 2023

On behalf of the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations, I welcome you to Windsor, Ontario and the 2023 OFSAA Football Bowl Festival. These events are truly special and for many, rare opportunities to represent yourself, your school and your association at the highest level of school sport and frequently you only have one opportunity. At OFSAA, we take pride in these events and hope that you have the best experience possible. It is our hope that you compete at your highest level with great sportsmanship and that when finished, you can look back on this with fond memories of a truly exceptional, educational athletic experience.

I would like to express our thanks to convenor James Clarke, as well as the members of his SWOSSAA organizing committee for the countless hours of work in preparation for this event. Without our volunteers, and our convenors, we would not be able to host these events. Thank you for your commitment to school sport, and for opening your community to welcome participants this week. OFSAA events can take on a whole community vibe and we sincerely appreciate the hospitality of our hosts, the sponsors and the community.

A quick message to our teacher coaches...THANK YOU! I know the time commitment, hundreds of hours a year, often multiple sports and mostly, away from your own families. But you do make a difference for your athletes. Because of you, they have a richer high school experience and we hope that this week only adds to their memories. Congratulations on your success so far this season! Making it here is a great achievement in itself.

Finally, to our athletes. Congratulations to you as well. Your hard work, perseverance, and commitment to your sport and your teammates, allowed you to earn the right to be here today. Please take time over the next few days to thank those who have supported you and provided this opportunity to you. I wish you the very best of luck during the competition and hope you have a memorable experience at this event.

This is OFSAA's 75th anniversary year and we will be celebrating many years of memories throughout this year. Enjoy the competition, and go and make your own OFSAA memories this week!

Good luck and enjoy the event!

Scott Barr **OFSAA President**