

Ministry of Education

Deputy Minister

900 Bay Street
Mowat Block, 22nd Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Telephone (416) 325-2600
Facsimile (416) 327-9063

Ministère de l'Éducation

Sous-ministre

900, rue Bay
Édifice Mowat, 22^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Téléphone (416) 325-2600
Télécopieur (416) 327-9063



MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers of School Authorities

FROM: Ben Levin
Deputy Minister

DATE: May 16, 2006

SUBJECT: **Aboriginal Education Policy Framework**

In June 2005, the Ontario Government released Ontario's *New Approach to Aboriginal Affairs*. The *New Approach* envisions prosperous and healthy Aboriginal communities that will create a better future for Aboriginal children and youth. Included in the *New Approach* is a commitment that the Ministry of Education will work with Aboriginal communities and organizations and school boards to develop an Aboriginal Education Policy Framework.

The Ministry has prepared the attached draft Aboriginal Education Policy Framework for the purpose of consultation with Aboriginal communities and organizations and school boards. The draft Framework includes a vision, policy statement and four guiding principles, and outlines potential Ministry, school board and school level strategies that are directly aligned with the Ministry's strategic direction and its three key goals, as well as ten key results which would be measured for progress every three years.

I would like to invite you to provide feedback to the Ministry on the attached draft Framework. The attached consultation questions have been developed to help guide the consultation process. The questions are designed to enable feedback on each section of the draft Aboriginal Education Policy Framework.

The Aboriginal Education Office and Regional Offices will be coordinating regional meetings with District School Boards and School Authorities throughout the month of June 2006 to engage in discussions with board representatives on the draft Framework. Meetings will take place in Thunder Bay, Sudbury, North Bay, Ottawa, Barrie, Toronto and London. Regional Managers will follow up with you shortly with specific dates, times and locations. Written feedback on the draft Framework may also be provided to the Aboriginal Education Office, to be submitted by July 31, 2006, at the following address:

Michelle Braakman
Coordinator, Policy and Research
Aboriginal Education Office
Ministry of Education
900 Bay Street, 12th Floor
Mowat Block
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2
Ph: 416-212-5200
Fax: 416-325-2517
Email: michelle.braakman@edu.gov.on.ca

Thank you for your contribution to this very important initiative aimed at reducing gaps in student outcomes for First Nation, Métis and Inuit students.

Ben Levin

Attachment

c: Frank Kelly, Executive Director , Council of Ontario Directors of Education
Dominic Giroux, Assistant Deputy Minister
Regional Managers
Keith Lickers, A/Manager