

Ministry of Education

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Ministère de l'Éducation

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MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Secretary Treasurers and Supervisory Officers of
School Authorities

FROM: Alayne Bigwin
Director
Aboriginal Education Office

DATE: May 10, 2007

SUBJECT: **Invitation to Participate in a Teleconference Regarding Native Languages/Native Studies Initiatives**

The Aboriginal Education Office (AEO) is moving forward with another of the key strategies outlined in the *First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework* and invites boards and school authorities to identify teachers to join us for discussions around Native Studies and Native Languages.

The AEO will be facilitating teleconferences in all regions during the first week of June to talk about Native Languages and Native Studies. The goal of these teleconferences is to provide an opportunity for teachers of Native Languages and Native Studies to share information on the resource material that is currently available to support the teaching of these subjects, to identify gaps in information and materials, and to exchange ideas on how AEO can best support the development and sharing of new resources in the future.

We are looking forward to this exciting exchange of ideas and invite boards to identify two individuals per board and school authorities to identify one individual per school authority to participate in these sessions that will be conducted in each region. We hope to conclude the initial round of discussions by June 4, 2007.

Please email the attached completed form to the Aboriginal Education Officer in your region by **Tuesday, May 22, 2007**.

Our AEO contact information is as follows:

Title	Region	Telephone	Email
Elizabeth Bigwin	Barrie, Toronto and Ottawa	(705) 725-7591	Elizabeth.bigwin@ontario.ca
Bryon Brisard	North Bay/Sudbury	(705) 564-7222	Bryon.brisard@ontario.ca
Leslee White-Eye	London	(519) 667-1440 Ext. 220	Leslee.whiteeye@ontario.ca
Yvonne Morrison	Thunder Bay	(807) 474-2984	Yvonne.morrison@ontario.ca

The Aboriginal Education Officers will confirm the teleconference arrangements with all participants by email or telephone including the agenda and any attachments by **Friday, May 25, 2007.**

If you require further information about these teleconferences, please contact the Aboriginal Education Officer in your region.

We look forward to working with you on this initiative.

Sincerely,



Alayne Bigwin
Director

cc: Dominic Giroux, Assistant Deputy Minister
Kit Rankin, Director, Field Services Branch
Carlana Lindeman, Regional Manager, Thunder Bay
Gerry Townsend, Manager (Acting), Parent Engagement Office
Monique Châteauevert, Regional Manager, Ottawa
Joan Fullerton, Regional Manager, Barrie
Stephen Simard, Regional Manager (Acting), Sudbury/North Bay
Jan McGraw, Regional Manager (Acting), London
AEO Education Officers