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MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Sue Durst
Director
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch

DATE: April 11, 2011

SUBJECT: Invitation to send representatives to the English Language Learners: Sharing Leadership and Learning Day – May 31, 2011

Thirty-one school boards across the province are participating in the English language learners' Policy and Program Implementation Projects. The projects are part of the Ministry of Education's strategy for reaching its goals of higher levels of student achievement, reduced gaps in student achievement and increased public confidence in publicly funded education.

The purpose of these projects is to:

- determine to what extent the policy is being implemented in school boards;
- determine which aspects of the policy are more challenging and require support for full implementation;
- identify effective practices that address the challenges; and
- build provincial leadership capacity to support English language learners through networking and coaching.

One of the key components of this project is the opportunity to build provincial capacity through a Sharing Leadership and Learning Day on May 31, 2011. The purpose of the Sharing Leadership and Learning Day is to:

- build knowledge about current research on effective support for ELLs;
- gather information about implementation of the ELL policy and related programs and learning resources;
- provide an opportunity for school boards to learn from each other; and
- facilitate network building between school boards to support the achievement of ELLs.

The day will consist of a plenary session focusing on current research followed by break-out sessions where boards will share the learning from their projects. There will also be a facilitated implementation planning session for board teams to plan their next steps to support the needs of English language learners.

Your board is invited to send two representatives to this Sharing Leadership and Learning Day. You may wish to consider individuals in your school board with responsibility for English language learners as appropriate participants to attend this session.

This professional learning session will be held on Tuesday, May 31st, 2011 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Toronto Hilton Airport Hotel.

- Travel and accommodation costs will be covered for two participants as per Ministry guidelines. Participants will be provided with expense forms at the learning session.
- For teacher participants supply teacher costs will be reimbursed upon receipt of an invoice from the school board.
- Lunch will be provided for participants. Please identify relevant food sensitivities on the registration form.

Please complete the attached form identifying your Board's participants and return to Jo-Anne Bryant, Project Manager by April 20, 2011.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by Sue Durst](#)

Sue Durst
Director
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch