

Ministry of Education

Indigenous Education Office

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Ministère de l'Éducation

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Memorandum To: Directors of Education

From: Taunya Paquette
Director
Indigenous Education Office

Date: August 15, 2017

Subject: **Indigenous Education: 2017-2018 Board Action Plans Templates**

Further to the August 15, 2017 memorandum from ADM Denise Dwyer, please find enclosed the final templates for the development of 2017-2018 Board Action Plan (BAP) on Indigenous Education (**Appendices A-C**) and the exception application form for board Indigenous Education leads (**Appendix D**).

Board Action Plans on Indigenous Education – Instructions & Timelines

As in previous years, boards will be required to submit a 2017-2018 Board Action Plan (BAP) on Indigenous Education that includes programs and initiatives aligned with the strategies and actions identified in the *Ontario First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Policy Framework Implementation Plan* (2014).

These templates reflect the feedback received from Indigenous Education Board Leads at the spring regional leads meetings. These revisions were helpful in making these templates easier to use and will be a valuable tool in supporting the co-development of the plans with your Indigenous Education Advisory Councils to ensure that each 2017-18 BAP is based on local demographics and student/community needs. Also, based on Leads' feedback, these templates will also be used for 2018-19 BAPs to enable continuity in planning.

Please note that boards are required to carry over unspent BAP funding from 2016-2017.

Indigenous Education Board Leads are expected to complete the 2017-18 BAPs, and interim and final reports, and obtain signed off by the Superintendent, the Director of Education, and representative(s) from the your Indigenous Education Advisory Council.

The completed 2017-2018 BAPs and reports are to be submitted to the Indigenous Education Office's (IEO) Education Officers (EOs) as per dates provided below (**Appendix E: Indigenous Education EOs Contact Information**). The EOs are also available at any time to answer questions and support the development of your BAP.

Templates and Due Dates:

Planning and Reporting	Due Dates
<p>Step 1: Pre/Post Board Assessment and Planning Tool on Indigenous Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Assessment and Planning Tool is to be used to help support your board in developing and evaluating your board action plans. Template attached: <i>Appendix B</i> 	<p>October 12, 2017</p>
<p>Step 2: Board Action Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once the assessment and planning tool is complete, boards and Indigenous Education Advisory Councils will work together to develop the 2017-2018 Board Action Plans. Indigenous representative(s) from board Indigenous Education Advisory Councils must sign-off on the Board Action Plan Template attached: <i>Appendix C</i> 	<p>October 12, 2017</p>
<p>Step 3: Interim and Final Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boards, along with Indigenous Education Advisory Councils are expected to complete the interim and final reports together. Indigenous representative(s) from board Indigenous Education Advisory Councils must sign-off on the interim and final reports. Template attached: <i>Appendix D</i> 	<p>Interim Report: February 1, 2018 Final Report: September 13, 2018</p>

Indigenous Education Lead - Exception Application

The Ministry of Education is introducing a new process for requesting an exception to the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) requirement for boards to have a full-time

dedicated Indigenous Education Lead. This process will:

- Enhance transparency, accountability and consistency, and,
- Provide boards with the necessary flexibility for supporting Indigenous Education initiatives, with solutions reflective of current needs and local realities.

If your board would like to request an exception to the requirement, even if an exception was previously granted, you will need to fill out the *Exception Application Form* (**Appendix D: Exception Application Form**) to start this process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jennifer Feasby, Manager, Indigenous Education Office, at 416-314-8946 or at Jennifer.Feasby@Ontario.ca or your Regional Education Office for Indigenous Education.

We look forward to working with you this year to continue to enhance Indigenous student achievement and well-being, deepen relationships with First Nation, Metis and Inuit partners and increase the knowledge of all within our system about the rich histories, cultures and perspectives of Indigenous peoples.

Original signed by:



Taunya Paquette

cc. Indigenous Education Board Leads
Denise Dwyer, Assistant Deputy Minister, Indigenous Education and Well-Being
Division
Jennifer Feasby, Manager, Education Policy and Programs
Indigenous Education Office Education Officers

Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** Board Assessment and Planning Tool on Indigenous Education Template
- **Appendix B:** Board Action Plan on Indigenous Education Template
- **Appendix C:** Board Action Plan on Indigenous Education Reporting (Interim and Final) Template
- **Appendix D:** Exception Application Form
- **Appendix E:** Indigenous Education EOs Contact Information