

Ministry of Education

Ministère de l'Éducation

Learning and Curriculum Division

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MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers and
Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities
Director of Provincial Schools
Superintendent of Centre Jules-Léger

FROM: Grant Clarke, Assistant Deputy Minister
Learning and Curriculum Division

DATE: February 16, 2011

SUBJECT: **Expanded Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA)-based services and supports: A new initiative of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS)**

The Ministry of Education (EDU) and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) continue to work collaboratively to provide supportive environments for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and their families. To build on and improve the continuum of supports, MCYS is expanding community-based Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) services and supports. This is designed to help a broader range of children and youth with ASD develop skills in key areas and to address behaviours that interfere with their functioning. Time-limited skill building services and supports will be available to improve communication, social/interpersonal, daily living, and behavioural/emotional skills. MCYS is expecting that children and youth will begin to access ABA services starting in Spring 2011.

MCYS will be selecting providers to deliver these new services and supports by inviting identified transfer payment agencies and private organizations with expertise in ASD and behavioural methodologies to submit their application in response to an Expression of Interest (EOI).

School boards are encouraged to follow effective practices of community use of schools in collaborating with ABA-based services and supports providers. More information can be found at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/community/effective.html>

We appreciate your continued support as we move forward in partnership with MCYS to improve supports for students with ASD and their families.

Should you have any questions about these new services and supports please contact your local MCYS Regional Office representative, as attached.

Sincerely,

Grant Clarke

c: Susan Capling, Director, Specialized Services and Supports Branch, MCYS
Ministry of Education Regional Managers