

Ministry of Education  
Ministry of Training,  
Colleges and Universities

Aboriginal Education Office  
Mowat Block  
900 Bay Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2  
Tel: 416 314-5053  
Fax: 416 212-3140

Ministère de l'Éducation  
Ministère de la Formation  
et des Collèges et Universités

Bureau de l'éducation des  
Autochtones  
Édifice Mowat  
900, rue Bay, 12e étage  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2  
Tél: 416 314-5053  
Télééc: 416 212-3140



**MEMORANDUM TO:** Directors of Education

**FROM:** Alayne Bigwin  
Director  
Aboriginal Education Office

**DATE:** February 1, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Métis Nation of Ontario Survey

---

On August 23, 2009 the Ministry of Education and the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in the interest of improving the educational outcomes of Métis students in Ontario, and supporting the implementation of the Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework.

Pursuant to this, the ministry is supporting the MNO in various activities including research to identify best practices to support Métis student achievement and promote voluntary Aboriginal student self-identification by Métis students. To support this deliverable, the MNO has contracted Dr. Jonathan Anuik from Lakehead University and Laura-Lee Bellehumeur-Kearns from St. Francis Xavier University to conduct this independent research on their behalf.

Dr. Anuik and Ms. Bellehumeur-Kearns are interested in learning more about what school boards are doing in this area and will be distributing a survey to school boards - *Métis Education Barriers, Challenges, Opportunities, and Best Practices: Foundations and Practices to Support Métis Education in Ontario* - over the next few weeks. You may wish to utilize this vehicle to showcase the great work your board is doing in support of Métis students as one component of First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework implementation.

Should you have any questions about this initiative, please contact Shirley Carder, Team Lead, K-12 Policy, at (416) 325-4404 or at [shirley.carder@ontario.ca](mailto:shirley.carder@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

---

Alayne Bigwin  
Director  
Aboriginal Education Office