

Ministry of Education
Ministry of Training,
Colleges and Universities

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

Aboriginal Education Office

Bureau de l'éducation
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MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers and Secretary/Treasurers of School
Authorities

FROM: Alayne Bigwin
Director
Aboriginal Education Office

DATE: July 29, 2011

SUBJECT: Training on *Aboriginal Perspectives: The Teacher's Toolkit*

I am writing to provide an update on an exciting new teacher training initiative to support First Nation, Métis and Inuit student achievement.

The Ministry of Education has organized a series of training sessions focused on *Aboriginal Perspectives: The Teacher's Toolkit*. The purpose of the training is to increase teachers' awareness of Aboriginal cultures, histories and perspectives. It will also help teachers develop effective strategies to engage First Nation, Métis and Inuit students in school activities.

Launched in 2008, *Aboriginal Perspectives: The Teachers' Toolkit* is a collection of electronic resources from the Ministry of Education to help elementary and secondary teachers bring Aboriginal perspectives into their classrooms.

Suggested participants from your board are: Superintendent with Aboriginal Lead or Aboriginal Lead responsible for implementation of First Nation, Métis and Inuit initiatives within the board; and, 5 elementary teachers representing Primary, Junior and Intermediate divisions.

The Ministry of Education will reimburse boards for the cost of travel expenses at government rates for up to five participants from each school board. Lunch will be provided at the sessions.

A list of the scheduled sessions and contact information for your region is attached.

Please confirm the attendance of your board participants by completing the attached registration form. We ask that boards submit this form to the Aboriginal Education Office, Education Officer in their respective ministry Regional Office by email and no later than August 31, 2011.

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If you require further information about these sessions, please contact the Aboriginal Education

Office, Education Officer in your Regional Office (See attached list).

We look forward to working with you on this exciting initiative.

Sincerely,

Alayne Bigwin
Director

- c. Kathy Verduyn, Director, Field Services Branch
Regional Managers, Field Services Branch
Sue Durst, Director, Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch