

**Ministry of Education**

Deputy Minister

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**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Sous-ministre

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**Memorandum To:** Directors of Education  
Secretary-Treasurers and Supervisory Officers of School  
Authorities

**From:** George Zegarac  
Deputy Minister

**Date:** March 31, 2016

**Subject:** Release of *Growing Success: The Kindergarten  
Addendum; Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting in  
Ontario Schools* including the *Kindergarten  
Communication of Learning* templates and components of  
the Revised Document for *The Kindergarten Program,  
2016*

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*Growing Success: The Kindergarten Addendum; Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting in Ontario Schools* including the *Kindergarten Communication of Learning* templates has been posted on the Ministry of Education website at [www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca). These align with assessment, evaluation and reporting policy in Grades 1-12 and will ensure consistency across all grades, schools, and boards in Ontario. It will support kindergarten children in making a successful transition from kindergarten to Grade 1. The *Kindergarten Communication of Learning* templates will ensure that parents receive formal communication using the provincial templates from kindergarten educators three times a year. **Mandatory implementation of this policy and these templates will begin in September 2016.**

Components of the program policy document for *The Kindergarten Program, 2016*, have been posted on the Ministry of Education website [www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca) for school boards, schools and other education stakeholders. The purpose of this posting is to align with the release of *Growing Success: The Kindergarten Addendum* and *Communication of Learning Template* as part of the full Kindergarten Program. Print documents will be distributed to schools and school boards after the full document is posted in June, 2016. **Mandatory implementation of the document begins in September 2016.**

The revisions to *The Kindergarten Program, 2016*, are the result of work done through the curriculum review process by teams of educators which began in 2009. This work was guided by research on new approaches and pedagogies specific to the early years; benchmarking/comparing the program with that of other national and international jurisdictions; and a content analysis of information/data from the records of province-wide focus group sessions with educators. These consultations provided valuable insights into the areas of the curriculum needing strengthening.

The revised Kindergarten Program also aligns with existing and newly released government policies and documents including *The Ontario Early Years Policy Framework; How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years; Environmental Education; Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy; Growing Success: The Kindergarten Addendum; Learning for All; Mental Health Strategy; First Nation, Métis and Inuit Policy Framework; the Comprehensive Action Plan on Accepting Schools;* and others.

Mandatory implementation of the document begins in September 2016. Training for implementation will be provided using virtual and face-to-face sessions beginning soon after release. Further professional learning opportunities will be offered over the course of the school year.

If you have any questions about this curriculum policy document, please contact the appropriate Regional Office for information. Thank you for your ongoing support of the ministry's curriculum review process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Zegarac". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G'.

George Zegarac