

Ministry of Education

Deputy Minister

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Memorandum To: Directors of Education

CC: Superintendents of Business and Finance
Secretaries of School Authorities

From: George Zegarac
Deputy Minister

Date: May 16, 2016

Subject: Schooling for Fort McMurray Evacuees

As you are no doubt aware, a forest fire has caused unprecedented damage and devastation in Fort McMurray, Alberta. As a result, some victims of this disaster have begun to arrive in Ontario to stay with friends and relatives. During this time of profound loss, there has been a strong sense of compassion and a commitment across Ontario and Canada to help those requiring assistance. I want to thank boards that have already welcomed students into their schools from Fort McMurray areas.

Boards are encouraged to continue lending their support to the children and youth of these families arriving in Ontario by allowing them to attend school for the remainder of the school year. It is important to note that some of these students may not have all the required documentation due to the extreme circumstances. School boards are encouraged to admit these students as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact your Regional Manager, Field Services Branch.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Zegarac".

George Zegarac
Deputy Minister