

**Ministry of Education**

Minister

Mowat Block  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Ministre

Édifce Mowat  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



May 31, 2016

Dear colleagues,

I am writing to share Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) No. 159 – *Collaborative Professionalism*. This PPM reflects the recommendations and input of the Transformation Team, which is comprised of education partners from associations, federations and unions.

In Ontario, collaborative professionalism is defined as professionals at all levels of the education system working together, and in doing so, sharing their knowledge, skills and experience to improve student achievement, and the well-being of both students and staff. Both in concept and in practice, collaborative professionalism values and respects *all* voices, and supports equitable access to learning for all throughout the sector.

The attached PPM honours commitments made in recent collective bargaining agreements and memoranda of understanding. It also provides opportunities for collaboration at the provincial and district levels, and better alignment with our efforts in reaching the goals of *Achieving Excellence*.

Importantly, the PPM reflects a consensus from all of our partners in education and I thank you for your commitment and contributions in developing this document. I would also like to thank the three co-leads who provided strong leadership through this process: David Euale, Marilies Rettig and Bernard Roy.

We will follow up with you soon with information on next steps and additional supports. Also, in the coming months, we will seek further input from you on a coordinated implementation strategy for the start of the 2016-17 school year.

Thank you once again for your tireless efforts on behalf of Ontario's publicly funded education system. Your commitment to fostering a culture of collaborative professionalism will have a direct impact on not only the professionals who comprise the education sector — but also the students and families whom we serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liz Sandals".

Liz Sandals  
Minister

Enclosure