

Ministry of Education
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Ministère de l'Éducation
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Ontario

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers and Secretary Treasurers of
School Authorities

FROM: Alayne Bigwin
Director

DATE: November 5, 2007

SUBJECT: **First Nations Education Funding: Special Education and Tuition
Agreements Information Session**

Earlier this year the Ministry of Education, in partnership with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the Chiefs of Ontario, facilitated information sessions throughout the province entitled "FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION FUNDING: Special Education and Tuition Agreements Information Session."

The sessions were well attended and feedback has been very positive. Many important issues were raised during the sessions. Considerable time and effort has been spent in preparing a comprehensive response to those issues. A number of key documents have been provided to be shared with all participants.

Enclosed please find the following documents:

1. Summary Report which includes,
 2. a set of Q's & A's
 3. table of workshops
 4. sample agenda
- *presentation deck available upon request

We would like to acknowledge the participation of First Nations and District School Boards in this exercise. The open and frank discussions led to a clear articulation of the issues requiring further clarification. We would also like to thank the EDU regional office staff for their participation and support in the delivery of these workshops.

Through this process it is clear that there is a shared commitment to the success of First Nation students. With that in mind, we look forward to our continued collaboration in our work around tuition agreements.

Please contact Elizabeth Bigwin at (705) 725-7591 if you require additional information.

Alayne Bigwin
Director