

**Ministry of Education**

Minister

Mowat Block  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Ministre

Édifice Mowat  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



October 18, 2016

Dear Chairs:

In Ontario, we believe all students, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, are enriched by learning about the histories, cultures, contributions and perspectives of First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples in Canada.

As you may know, the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) announced earlier this year that [Ontario has designated the first week of November \(November 6 to 12, 2016\) as Treaties Recognition Week](#). The goal of this week is to promote public education and awareness about treaties and treaty relationships.

The Ministry of Education has been working closely with MIRR to raise awareness about Treaties Recognition Week in schools across Ontario. This week will provide a recurring opportunity for teachers to plan curriculum-linked learning activities about treaties during the school year and will help promote awareness of treaties in the broader public.

This year, we are asking boards to encourage their schools to support Treaties Recognition Week by developing programs and activities that can help bring awareness to students and teachers about this important aspect of our province's history.

To help support educators, a number of curriculum-linked resources have been created to encourage dialogue and discussion in Ontario's classrooms. For example, *The First Nations and Treaties Map of Ontario: Information for Educators* is available on [EduGains](#) and [Edusourceontario](#). PDF versions of the map are available at: [ontario.ca/treaties](http://ontario.ca/treaties). Additional resources are also available on MIRR's website at [www.ontario.ca/indigenous](http://www.ontario.ca/indigenous).

The Deputy Minister of Education will be communicating in the near future with Directors of Education to highlight the various curriculum-related resources available.

Treaties Recognition Week is one of many steps on Ontario's journey of healing and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. I thank you for your support and continued commitment to working with our Indigenous partners to create a better future for everyone in our province.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MH', written in a cursive style.

Mitzie Hunter, MBA  
Minister

Cc: Trustees organizations, CODE