

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities

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To: Ministry of Education Assistant Deputy Ministers
Ministry of Education Directors

From: Raymond Thériège
Assistant Deputy Minister, French-Language, Aboriginal Learning & Research

Subject: Education Statistics & Analysis Branch Portfolio-Based Services

Date: September 12, 2011

To better serve the Ministry's growing need for value-added data reporting and analytic products, I am pleased to announce that Education Statistics and Analysis Branch (ESAB) is re-aligning its resources to create dedicated, portfolio-based teams of analysts to improve and facilitate direct access to Ontario's authoritative source of educational data.

The newly aligned teams in the Ministry-focused Dissemination and Reporting Unit will provide end-to-end services to Divisions and Branches beginning with information requirements to the delivery of expert analyses and recommendations to support the Ministry's programs and policies and increase the Ministry's capacity for evidence informed decision-making. The services will include determining data needs and current data availability, collaborating with ESAB's OnSIS group to establish any new collections/enhancements, integration of ministry data with external data (e.g. EQAO, Stats Can) and the dissemination of data through ad-hoc and regular report delivery.

Under the leadership of Tadesse Haile, Director ESAB and Olia Kchik, Senior Manager, Dissemination & Reporting, the portfolios will be serviced as follows with main contact leads identified:

- Team A: Student Achievement, Early Learning Divisions**
Ministry Contact: Anil Thomas, Decision Support Lead
- Team B: Instruction & Leadership, Learning & Curriculum, Business & Finance Divisions**
Ministry Contact: Emmanuel Kwai-Pun, Decision Support Lead
- Team C: French-Language, Aboriginal Learning & Research, Corporate Management Division and External Requests**
Ministry Contact: Lisa Yeung, Manager, Reporting
- Team D: Community Services Cluster**
Ministry Contact: Prasana Rukman, Manager (A), ESDW Operations

The newly aligned Dissemination & Reporting Unit adds to the extensive list of services currently provided by the other ESAB Units.

Data Collection and Processing

Over 125M data records are collected through three (3) collection schedules annually. Data is collected through the Ontario School Information System (OnSIS) from 72 publicly-funded District School Boards (DSBs) and Inspected and Non-Inspected private schools in Ontario and Alternate Collections for Private Schools without OnSIS access. The OnSIS Help Desk provides assistance to the sector in their data collection activities.

The Quality Analysis Team completes data profiling, integrity analysis, trend analysis and depersonalization to expedite the extraction of data from OnSIS to the warehousing environments for timely and accurate reporting. The team administers the distribution of Ontario Secondary School Diplomas and Certificates to all secondary schools across the province (over 300,000 documents are distributed each year.) and Ontario Educator Number (OEN) and OnSIS User Administration (approximately 1000 requests each month).

Statistical Modelling and Trending

In-depth analysis of education data is completed to identify characteristics that have implications for the Ministry's statistical analysis activities. This includes the development of statistical methodologies for student and school performance analysis and providing advice and guidance regarding contextual, perceptual, school process and achievement data.

Highly sophisticated Multi-Variate Analysis and Predictive Modelling is undertaken to support key ministry empirical investigation themes. This involves modeling the impact of a range of variables on student learning and achievement outcomes. Examples include developing a model to predict EQAO achievement using report card marks data from the previous year and estimating and projecting private school enrolments.

Analyses and responses are coordinated on behalf of the ministry to surveys from the Canadian Education Statistics Council (CESC) related to the collection, analysis and reporting of information on the provincial education system in Ontario. These surveys provide the raw data for Statistics Canada reports, including the *Elementary-Secondary Education Survey (ESES)* and the *Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program (PCEIP)*, and OECD reports, including *Education Indicators at a Glance* and the *Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)*.

MISA Local Capacity at Ontario's Schools and School Boards

The MISA Liaison Group creates and maintains partnerships with our sector concerning the use of data to support student achievement at a local level. Working through the well-established network of MISA Leaders and Provincial Network Centres, activities are coordinated to ensure that school board data, which is submitted to the ministry, is accurate, timely and relevant and that strong data practices are implemented at the board, school and classroom level.

Thank you for your continued support of ESAB through its re-alignment activities. I am confident that these changes in how we service our ministry clients will help ESAB grow into a leading Education Information Centre of Excellence.



Raymond Th  berge

- c. Denys Giguere, Executive Assistant to Deputy Minister
Education Statistics & Analysis Branch