I am pleased to provide you with a copy of Open Minds, Healthy Minds - Ontario’s Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy. The strategy was built on the work of advisory groups, the Select Committee of the Legislature on Mental Health and Addictions, and incorporates the analysis and advice from key partners.

In the development of Open Minds, Healthy Minds, consideration was given to all of these contributions as well as complementary policy initiatives which the strategy builds upon, including the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Early Learning for Every Child Today Strategy, and the Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy.

The primary focus of the strategy in the first three years will be on strengthening services for children and youth to create a more integrated and responsive system that addresses transitions across all ages and sectors (health, children and youth, schools, and justice). Another focus will be prevention, early identification and intervention, and increased service capacity in order to serve more children and youth in a more timely way.

The Ministries of Education, Health and Long-Term Care, Children & Youth, Training, Colleges and Universities and the Attorney General have worked collaboratively to develop initiatives that will all be integral to the implementation of the first 3-year action plan for the strategy. These initiatives will contribute to an improved service system for children, youth and families.
Thank you for your on-going work and commitment to helping all Ontario students reach their full potential.

Sincerely

Grant Clarke  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Learning and Curriculum Division  

c: Field Services Branch, Regional Offices