December 10, 2014

James Ryan,
President
Ontario English Catholic Teachers’ Association (OECTA)
65 St. Clair Ave. East, Suite 400,
Toronto, ON, M4T 2Y8

Dear Mr. Ryan,

The Ministry of Education is seeking the participation and support of your organization as we move forward with the communication and implementation of a provincial Adult Education Strategy. The strategy is an exciting initiative that will foster the commitment made by the ministry in its renewed vision for education to better support adult learners in their efforts to finish high school and successfully transition to postsecondary education, training or the workplace.

The key goal of the strategy is to improve the educational outcomes of adult learners. It seeks to foster a shared responsibility for adult education within a jurisdiction by furthering school board collaboration and regional school board partnerships to more efficiently and effectively provide learners with a range of programs and services.

To better address the multiple needs and aspirations of adult learners, the strategy promotes sustainable system innovation and flexible modes of delivery. A continuum of learner pathways and transitions planning will support learners in achieving their goals for further education and training or employment.

In order to support our ministry’s commitment, I would like to invite your participation on a Provincial Advisory Committee, together with representatives from the Ontario Association of Adult & Continuing Education School Board Administrators (CESBA), the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE), Conseil ontarien des directrices et des directeurs de l’éducation de langue française (CODELF), the Ontario Association of School Business Officials (OASBO), Coalition ontarienne de formation des adultes (COFA), the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation (OSSTF/FEESO) and Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO). I invite you to appoint one representative from OECTA to participate on this committee.
The purpose of the committee will be to provide advice on the development of regional school board partnerships that will implement the Adult Education Strategy including providing feedback on:

- Ministry analysis and interpretation of the findings of the regional consultations with school boards;
- Strategies and recommendations from the third party facilitator who will be working with the school boards. This third party facilitator will support school boards in each region to develop partnerships; assist in the selection of lead boards; develop standardized templates that school board partnerships will use to conduct regional environmental scan / gap analysis, and develop regional strategic plans;
- Indicators used to monitor/evaluate implementation of the Adult Education Strategy;
- Coordination of information and referral pathways between programs of the three ministries funding adult education: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade and Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities; and
- Development of common messaging and communication materials about the strategy to relevant provincial stakeholders.

The Provincial Advisory Committee will be chaired by Mary Jean Gallagher, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Student Achievement Division. For questions regarding the committee, please contact Suzanne Gordon at (416) 327-9625 or by email at suzanne.gordon@ontario.ca

Please forward the name of the individual who will represent your organization on the Provincial Advisory Committee by December 19, 2014 to Angelika Kerr, Senior Policy Advisor in the Adult Education Policy Unit, at angelika.kerr@ontario.ca.

I thank you in advance for the participation of OECTA on this committee.

Sincerely,

George Zegarac  
Deputy Minister

CC:  
Mary Jean Gallagher, Assistant Deputy Minister, Student Achievement Division  
Janine Griffore, Assistant Deputy Minister, French Language, Aboriginal Learning and Research Division  
Pauline McNaughton, Director (A), Student Success/Learning to 18 Strategic Policy Branch  
Denys Giguère, Director, French Language Education Policy and Programs Branch  
Suzanne Gordon, Manager (A), Adult Education Policy Unit  
Hélène Gregoire, Manager, French-Language Continued Learning Unit