MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Alayne Bigwin
   Director, Aboriginal Education Office

DATE: December 10, 2010

SUBJECT: Invitation to Send First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Secondary Students to a Speak Up Forum on Friday, January 7, 2011

We are pleased to inform you that the Aboriginal Education Office is hosting a one-day *Speak Up* Forum for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students from Grades 9-12 in the London Region on Friday, January 7, 2011 at Six Nations Polytechnic in Ohsweken, Ontario. This forum will bring together over 100 students from the London region to a day-long forum. Students will explore questions around student engagement in learning and how best to give all students a voice in schools. The ideas generated at this forum will be shared with the Minister. This will be an opportunity for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students to help shape thousands of students’ experiences at school for years to come.

We will be working in a format called Open Space, which gives everyone equal opportunity to give their perspective on these questions. Participants should come prepared to investigate the following questions:

- What ideas do you have to make school more engaging for you and all students?
- What are your ideas to ensure all student voices are heard in your school?

We invite school boards to send 7 First Nation, Métis, and/or Inuit student representatives and one teacher to accompany the students to and from the *Speak Up* Forum. Detailed information regarding the specific date, times and location of the Speak Up Forum is included below.

---

*Speak Up Forum*

**Friday, January 7, 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>(Registration and continental breakfast)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Six Nations Polytechnic  
2160 Fourth Line, Ohsweken, Ontario  
519-445-0023

*Lunch and refreshments provided*
To register students for the forum, please submit the registration form attached **by December 17, 2010.** Supply coverage, travel and meals will be covered by the Ministry of Education. Please see travel expense guideline attached for additional information. Additionally, please let us know any special accommodations required to support student’s participation, such as accessibility to the venue. Also attached is a copy of the release and consent form for the *Speak Up* Forum as we may take photographs. We will be collecting the signed forms from teachers at the forum.

If there are any questions regarding this event, please contact Leslee White-Eye, Education Officer, Aboriginal Education Office at 519-667-2014 or by email at leslee.white-eye@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in this important work.

Sincerely,

*Original Signed By*

Alayne Bigwin

c. Raymond Théberge, Assistant Deputy Minister, French-Language, Aboriginal Learning and Research Division
Kit Rankin, Director, Field Services Branch
Bill Bryce, London Regional Manager