MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Executive Directors of Children’s Aid Societies

FROM: George Zegarac
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Education

Alexander Bezzina
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Children and Youth Services

DATE: February 13, 2015

SUBJECT: Joint Protocol for Student Achievement (JPSA) between School Boards and Children’s Aid Societies

This memo is to provide you with the template for a Joint Protocol for Student achievement (JPSA) between school boards and children’s aid societies.

The Ministry of Children and Youth Services and the Ministry of Education are committed to improving the educational outcomes of students who are in the care of, or receiving the services of, Children’s Aid Societies (CASs). To that end, having common content of local protocols would support our sectors’ efforts to improve the educational outcomes of these students.

The JPSA is intended to facilitate collaboration between partnering CASs and school boards in their efforts to enable Kindergarten to Grade 12 students who are in the care of, or receiving services from a CAS to benefit from the learning opportunities and supports available in schools and to achieve academic success. Elements of the protocol are:

- Information Sharing
- Administrative Processes
- Planning for Student Achievement
- Dispute Resolution
- Monitoring and Evaluation of the Protocol.

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CASs and school boards will work together to develop joint local protocols or amend existing protocols to maximize the coordination of students’ educational supports in their region. All completed protocols are to have signatures from CAS Executive Directors and Directors of Education whose organizations are involved in the partnership.

Partnering CASs and school boards will use the existing Crown Ward Education Championship Team (CWECT) as the forum to identify their protocol partners. JPSA will be an item of focus at the following provincial CWECT meeting:

DATE: February 19, 2015  
LOCATION: Holiday Inn, 970 Dixon Road, Toronto  
TIME: 10:00am – 2:30pm

The chair of each CWECT received information on this meeting in late January and was asked to forward the details and registration information to the Team’s representative in each board and CAS. The attached JPSA template will be shared with each attendee.

The Ministry of Education’s Student Success Policy Branch will be providing funding for expenses related to attending the meeting and to each CWECT to engage a facilitator to support the completion of the JPSA - which has a targeted implementation date of the 2015-16 school year. This funding for facilitators will continue in the fall of 2015 to support training for board, school and CAS staff.

We look forward to working together with your staff on this important initiative.

Original Signed by  
Alexander Bezzina, Deputy Minister  

Original Signed by  
George Zegarac, Deputy Minister

c: Mary Ballantyne, Executive Director, Ontario Association of Children’s Aid Societies  
Steven Vanloffeld, Executive Director, Association of Native Child and Family Services Agencies of Ontario  
Kathy Verduyn, Director, Field Services Branch, Ministry of Education