Memorandum To: Directors of Education

From: Bruce Rodrigues
Deputy Minister

Date: July 31, 2017

Subject: Education Accessibility Standard Engagement

On December 5, 2016, Premier Wynne made a public commitment to develop an accessibility standard for education. This accessibility standard will help us address barriers in education that prevent children and students from reaching their full potential.

In May 2017, the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development launched an online survey to gather public input on accessibility in education.

Since then, over 2,500 respondents have already shared their feedback through the survey. We’re delighted by the high level of interest and are working to review responses provided so far. In order to provide individuals and organizations with additional time to provide feedback, the timeline to complete the survey is now being extended to October 16, 2017.

The closing date for applications to participate on a Standards Development Committee for Education remains July 31, 2017. To apply for membership on the Education Standard Development Committee or for more information, please email SDC.Applications@ontario.ca. Attach your resume or a short description of yourself, including relevant experience or expertise in education and/or accessibility and inclusion, and lived experience of disability.

Please click on the following links to complete the survey:

- English: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EducationSurveyEN
- French: https://fr.surveymonkey.com/r/SondageAccessibilite
An accessible Word version of the survey is also available on request by emailing aoda.input@ontario.ca.

Our government is committed to building an accessible education system. The development of an education accessibility standard will further support the ability of students with disabilities to reach their potential, and participate in our society and in the job market.

This is an important opportunity to hear from you about an accessibility standard for education. I look forward to working with you on meeting our goal of an accessible Ontario by 2025.

Sincerely,

Bruce Rodrigues
Deputy Minister

Cc: Council of Directors of Education (CODE)