Memorandum To: Directors of Education  

From: George Zegarac  
Deputy Minister  

Date: June 22, 2015  

Subject: The Ministry of Education Adult Education Strategy  

The Ministry of Education is seeking the participation and support of your school board as we move forward with the next phase in the implementation of the Ministry of Education Adult Education Strategy. The strategy is an exciting initiative that will foster the commitment made by our 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.

As you may recall from my December 2014 memo to you announcing the strategy, our first step in this initiative was to engage school board representatives in regional consultations to announce the adult education strategy, discuss key elements of the strategy and how to fulfill its objectives. MPP Grant Crack, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education, led these consultations this past winter. The consultations were very well attended and the input from school boards was greatly appreciated.

Next Steps

The ministry will invest up to $9 million over the next three years to support the implementation of the adult education strategy, providing direct support to the establishment of regional school board partnerships identified in the strategy, as well as developing provincial resources and tools to support capacity building. School boards are asked to keep this funding information internal to boards until a formal ministry announcement has been made in late fall 2015.

As outlined in the consultations, the ministry has engaged a third-party facilitator to support the collaboration and formation of regional school board partnerships identified in the Adult Education Strategy. The ministry has completed a competitive process and has identified Deloitte Inc. to provide this support. In the coming weeks, a Deloitte Inc. consulting team will work with boards to encourage and support regional school board partnership formation and development. They will provide support to these regional partnerships as they begin the process of identifying gaps and opportunities within each region for improved collaboration and coordination, and prepare a regional strategic plan to address these gaps and opportunities for phased implementation over the next two years.
I invite you to share this information with senior administration with responsibility for Adult and Continuing Education within your school board. If your board does not offer Adult Education programs, your participation in the formation of regional partnerships of school boards is nevertheless important to ensure that the needs of all Ontario learners are well served.

I am asking you to please forward the name and contact information of a key individual who will best represent your board in the formation and establishment of these regional school board partnerships to Angelika Kerr, Senior Policy Advisor, at: angelika.kerr@ontario.ca, by June 30, 2015. This information will be conveyed to the lead facilitator at Deloitte Inc. who will contact these individuals directly to begin this work.

I look forward to working with you on this important initiative and thank you in advance for your commitment to participate.

George Zegarac
Deputy Minister

c. 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 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

   Council of Ontario Directors of Education