Memorandum To: Directors of Education

From: Nancy Matthews
Deputy Minister

Date: June 29, 2016

Subject: Invitation to a Policy Dialogue on Pluralism

The Ministry of Education will co-host a policy dialogue with the Aga Khan Council for Canada on Shaping Pluralistic Dispositions in Ontario's Publicly Funded Education System.

The policy dialogue will enhance the work that happens every day in our schools by looking at how pluralism can support global competencies for our students, strengthen Ontario’s Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy and support the four goals of our renewed vision.

I am writing to request your assistance in identifying up to three educators from your district school board who would be invited to attend a voluntary and unique policy dialogue on Shaping Pluralistic Dispositions in Ontario’s Publicly Funded Education System. The policy dialogue will be held at the Ismaili Centre at 49 Wynford Drive, Toronto, on September 27, 2016.

A wide range of education and equity experts, academics and community members will be invited to the policy dialogue. We want to ensure that we hear perspectives from all levels – especially from those who work in our schools. The cost of this event for the educators will be paid for by the ministry.
To that end, we are suggesting that the three representatives from each school board could be:

- you as the Director or a Supervisory Officer as your designate;
- one secondary school principal; and
- one secondary school teacher.

We envision this day as a learning opportunity that will include speakers, panel discussions and interactive workshops. It will be inspirational, aspirational and practical. A follow up memo will be sent to you, at a later date, with the agenda and registration details. In the meantime, I would ask that those planning on attending the policy dialogue hold the date in their calendars.

I wanted to give you time to identify educators in your board who you feel would benefit from this opportunity, contribute to the dialogue, and bring ideas back to your board.

Please contact Ruth Flynn, Director, Inclusive Education Branch, with any questions you may have. She can be reached at 416-326-7597 or ruth.flynn@ontario.ca.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in making this event a success.

Sincerely,

Nancy Matthews
Deputy Minister

c: Denise Dwyer, Assistant Deputy Minister
   Leadership and Learning Environment Division
   Ruth Flynn, Director
   Inclusive Education Branch