March 5, 2014

Dear Chairs and members of the Minister’s Advisory Council on First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education,


This plan will guide the ministry, school boards and schools, in partnership with provincial and local First Nation, Métis and Inuit communities, organizations and families, and other key education stakeholders, through the next phase of framework implementation. These partnerships are critical to our collective success in improving Aboriginal student achievement and ensuring that all Aboriginal students in our provincially funded schools have every opportunity for success. They are also fundamental to raising the awareness and improving the knowledge of all students in Ontario of the rich histories, cultures, traditions and perspectives of First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples.

In April 2013, I reconvened the Minister’s Advisory Council on First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education to discuss how we can achieve our common goal of increased collaboration and opportunities for input. With this in mind, a working group of the council was established to help develop the provincial framework implementation plan and the work moving forward.

I would like to acknowledge our partners from the council including Aboriginal partners and key education stakeholders, and the working group for the valuable input received during these meetings. This plan has been strengthened by their individual and collective perspectives, insights and advice all through the lens of building partnerships and developing new relationships in support of Aboriginal learners.

I am looking to school boards, schools, First Nation, Métis and Inuit partners and other education stakeholders for their continued leadership in the implementation of the framework to achieve our primary objectives of improving student achievement and well-being among First Nation, Métis and Inuit students, and closing the achievement gap.
The plan is also available on the Ministry of Education website at www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/aboriginal and www.edu.gov.on.ca/fre/aboriginal/index.html.

I ask that you discuss and share the *Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework Implementation Plan* to support implementation planning, activities, and opportunities for collaboration with First Nation, Métis and Inuit partners.

I look forward to hearing about the outcomes, challenges and successes we collectively experience as we continue to move forward towards realizing our vision for success for Aboriginal students, and for all students.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Liz Sandals
Minister

Enclosure:
Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework Implementation Plan

c: Directors of Education