Curriculum Expectations

Canadian and World Studies: Law

As part of the curriculum review process, expectations are being incorporated into many areas of the elementary and secondary curriculum to help teachers bring First Nation, Métis and Inuit histories, cultures and perspectives into the classroom. This document provides teachers with a handy reference to those expectations contained in revised curricula released as of November, 2007. For Aboriginal students, the revised curriculum will help foster a strong sense of identity and a positive self-image. For all Ontario students, and educators, the new expectations add a rich new dimension to Ontario’s curriculum, and strengthen opportunities to explore, appreciate, understand, and value the contributions of Ontario’s Aboriginal communities to the social and cultural fabric of our province.

UNDERSTANDING CANADIAN LAW
GRADE 11, UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE PREPARATION (CLU3M)

Rights and Freedoms

Barriers to Human Rights
- Describe the historical and contemporary situations in which rights in Canada have been denied (e.g., rights of Japanese during World War II, First Nation rights to land and veterans’ benefits, women’s rights, rights of physically or mentally challenged persons).

- Evaluate the contribution of individual citizens and organizations in developing and increasing awareness of human rights issues (e.g., Emily Murphy and the Famous Five, John Diefenbaker, Pierre Elliott Trudeau, the Assembly of First Nations, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the Civil Liberties Association, the Women’s Legal Education and Action Fund, the Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted).

Human Rights Legislation in Canada and Ontario
- Explain how human rights legislation and the courts attempt to balance minority and majority rights (e.g., in the sentencing of Aboriginal people).
Rights and Freedoms

Rights and Freedoms in Canada
- Identify individuals and groups who have contributed to the development of rights legislation in Canada (e.g., Emily Murphy and the Famous Five, John Diefenbaker, Pierre Elliot Trudeau, First Nation groups, women’s groups).

Minority and Majority Rights
- Identify historical and contemporary examples of conflicts between minority and majority rights (e.g., Riel Rebellion, the Quebec sovereignty debate, First Nation land claims).

Criminal Law and Procedures

Concepts of Justice
- Analyse cases in which the principles of justice have been violated (e.g., the cases of Donald Marshall, David Milgaard, Guy Paul Morin, Roméo Phillion).

ABOUT THE TEACHER’S TOOLKIT
This document is one component of Aboriginal Perspectives: The Teacher’s Toolkit, a collection of resources designed to help Ontario educators bring Aboriginal perspectives into the classroom. Based on the revised Ontario curriculum, the series includes resources for educators at both the elementary and secondary levels. Other resources in this series can be found on the ministry website at www.edu.gov.on.ca.