



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

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March 8, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
- All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: **Indigenous Education Advisory Council Working Group**

In early March, the Ministry of Education's Indigenous Education Branch established a working group to review the structure, mandate, roles and responsibilities of school boards' Indigenous Education Advisory Councils ("IEDCs"). As you know, the Ministry set the expectation in their 2007 *Ontario First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework* (and several subsequent policy and funding memos) that boards would establish formal processes to develop relationships with their Indigenous communities and work together on implementing this framework.

The overall purpose of the working group is to develop recommendations to the Minister regarding policy options, direction, resources and possibly legislative amendments in respect of IEDCs. It is expected that the group will meet monthly for the next 12 months.

OCSTA will participate in the working group as well as two senior board staff from northern Catholic district school boards. The working group will also have representation from First Nation trustees and other groups representing Indigenous peoples. The lead from the Ministry is Tanya Paquette, Director of the Indigenous Education Branch. We have also attached the draft terms of reference and a background presentation given to the group at their first meeting.

As the work progresses, we will provide you with input and feedback on the issues and policy considerations being discussed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me, or Steve Andrews at sandrews@ocsta.on.ca.

Attachments