

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) IS EXECUTED THIS 25TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2010.

BETWEEN:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO (ONTARIO), AS REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTRY OF TRAINING COLLEGES, AND UNIVERSITIES (MTCU),

AND:

THE MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO (MNO), AS REPRESENTED BY THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING BRANCH (MNOET)



WHEREAS on November 17th, 2008, the MNO and Ontario executed the MNO-Ontario Framework Agreement (Framework Agreement) as a means to build upon their existing bilateral process, strengthen the relationship between Ontario and the MNO, enhance the capacity of the MNO and Ontario, recognize the distinct identity and culture of the Métis, and improve the quality of life of Métis children, families and communities in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Framework Agreement encourages willing Ontario Ministries to engage in bilateral processes and discussions with branches within the MNO as a means of achieving the overall objectives of the Framework Agreement as well as the specific mandates of each respective Ontario Ministry;

AND WHEREAS MTCU directs and shapes Ontario's postsecondary education, employment and training systems; develops policy direction for postsecondary education, employment and training, and provides financial assistance to students at universities and colleges of applied arts and technology;

AND WHEREAS over the last few years, MNOET and MTCU have engaged in ongoing discussions to improve postsecondary education and training outcomes for Métis learner;

AND WHEREAS Ontario and the MNO wish to formalize their working relationship with a view to developing an ongoing and results-oriented sectoral process;

NOW THEREFORE the parties agree as follows:

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this MOU is to:

1.1.1 Formalize the working relationship between Ontario, MTCU, and MNOET with a view to improving the postsecondary education, training and employment outcomes of the Métis in Ontario.

1.1.2 Develop a mutually agreeable sectoral work plan to support the implementation of this MOU.

1.1.3 Identify and implement mutually agreed upon opportunities and partnerships to improve postsecondary education, training and employment outcomes for Métis in Ontario.

2.0 IMPLEMENTATION AND SUBJECT MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

2.1 In order to achieve this MOU's purpose, Ontario, MTCU and MNOET agree to:

2.1.1 Establish a Working Group consisting of officials from Ontario, MTCU and MNOET that will meet as required in order to make progress on the purpose of this MOU.

2.1.2 Bi-annual meetings between MTCU's Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) responsible for Aboriginal Education and, as applicable, other relevant ADMs, and the MNO's Education Portfolio Holder, in order to discuss issues of mutual interest, the progress being made on the implementation of this MOU, and to prepare for the annual meeting between the MTCU Minister and the MNO President.

2.1.3 Annual meetings between the MTCU Minister and the MNO President in order to discuss issues of mutual interest and to assess the progress and implementation of this MOU.

2.1.4 Work together to achieve the stated purpose of this MOU and the specific commitments set out in Section 2.

2.2 The initial focus of the Working Group created pursuant to section 2.1.1 will be to:

2.2.1 Identify and explore project and program funding opportunities for Métis.

2.2.2 Identify potential partnership opportunities between MNOET and MTCU related to existing and future MTCU programs to support Métis learners' needs in postsecondary

education, training, and skills development, as well as transitions to/from postsecondary education, training and the workforce.

2.2.3 Identify opportunities for effective partnership among MNO and Ontario, and where relevant, the federal government.

2.2.4 Develop a mutually agreeable sectoral work plan to achieve the purposes of this MOU.

3.0 NOTICE

3.1 Any notices or communications required pursuant to this MOU will be in writing and delivered to, or sent by prepaid courier or confirmed facsimile, addressed as follows:

In the case of the MNO:

Attention: Doug Wilson
Chief Operating Officer
500 Old St. Patrick Road, Unit D
Ottawa, ON, K1N 9G4
Phone: 613-798-1488
Fax: 613-722-4225

In the case of Ontario:

Attention: Raymond Theberge
Assistant Deputy Minister
900 Bay Street, Mowat Block
Toronto, ON, M7A 1L2
Phone: 416-325-2600
Fax: 416-325-2608

4.0 GENERAL

4.1 Nothing in this MOU creates any legal obligations or additional financial commitments on the part of the parties.

4.2 This MOU shall be in effect upon signing for a five year period or until it is superseded by a subsequent agreement between the parties.

4.3 Either party may terminate this MOU by providing 90 days written notice to the other party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have agreed to this MOU on the date first noted above.

GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

Per:

Honourable John Milloy
Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities

MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO

Per:

Gary Lipinski
President, Métis Nation of Ontario

MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO

Per:

France Picotte
Education Portfolio Holder, MNO