The Ministry of Education is pleased to announce that two new summer learning and leadership programs will be offered in the summer of 2013 for First Nation, Métis and Inuit students.

Purpose:
The purpose of the First Nation, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) Summer Leadership and Learning Programs is to offer enhancement opportunities for First Nation, Métis and Inuit students in key areas:

- Developing leadership,
- Nurturing critical thinking and literacy skills and
- Meeting youth developmental needs required for successful transitions/well-being.

The ministry is working in partnership with two organizations to pilot two initiatives involving a total of 150 youth (grades 7-10) from provincially-funded or First Nation schools.

Each of the two courses will focus on Cognitive, Emotional, Social and Physical youth development themes through:

- Leadership
- Critical thinking and literacy/numeracy skills
- Well-being/Support for transitions
- Recreation

The Ministry of Education will work in partnership with the Ontario Educational Leadership Centre, and the Tim Hortons Children’s Foundation (THCF) to provide these opportunities for our students. All associated costs, including teacher coverage, travel, accommodation, food will be borne by the ministry or by the corporate sponsor.

1 Stepping Stones A resource on youth development, Ministry of Children and Youth Services (2012).
The two leadership programs will be offered as follows:

a) **Ontario Educational Leadership Centre**- August 23-28, 2013
   7098 Rama Road, Longford Mills, Ontario

   **Eligibility:**
   - Maximum of 50 First Nation, Métis or Inuit students (grades 8-10)

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   **REGISTRATION PROCESS:**
   - Students interested in participating can register their interest using the following link.
   - Please contact Jeff Benner, Executive Director of OELC by emailing: oelc@oelccaso.com or calling 705-689-5572 should you have any questions.
   - Please complete all registrations by August 5, 2013.

b) **Tim Horton Children’s Foundation**- September 9-13, 2013

   **Memorial Camp**- RR #1, Lorimer Lake, Parry Sound, Ontario

   **Eligibility:**
   - Maximum of 100 First Nation, Métis or Inuit students (grades 7-10)
   - Students will be able to access transportation from various Tim Horton locations on the following routes.

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   **REGISTRATION PROCESS:**
   - Students interested in participating can register their interest using the following link.
   - Please complete all registrations by August 15, 2013
   - Please contact Jean.Courtney@ontario.ca if you have any questions.

A better understanding of how summer leadership programs work as a tool of developing leadership, student engagement and improving student transitions can further strengthen our use of this strategy and provide better opportunities for First Nation, Métis and Inuit students. The Ministry will evaluate the pilots using a case study approach.
Thank you for your continued work with us to improve student learning and achievement.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Rob Andrews

Alayne Bigwin

cc: Assistant Deputy Minister, French Language, Aboriginal Learning and Research Division
    Assistant Deputy Minister, Student Achievement Division
    Director, French-Language Education Policy and Programs Branch
    Director, Leadership and Implementation Branch
    Director, Student Success Learning to 18 Strategic Policy Branch
    Director, Field Services Branch
    COO
    MNO
    SAOs, ESSEOs, LNS Team Leads
    Student Success Leaders
    Education Officers, Aboriginal Education Office
    Manager, EDU Policy and Programs, Aboriginal Education Office