

MNO Education & Training

# KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 12

& MÉTIS LANGUAGES  
INITIATIVES

IMPACT  
REPORT  
**2025**

April 2024 - March 2025

Métis Nation  
of Ontario 

## WHAT WE DO

As the Kindergarten - Grade 12 (K-12) team, we are committed to supporting and empowering Métis students and their families through their kindergarten, elementary, middle school, and high school journeys by promoting and supporting academic and skills development, student success, and Métis history, culture, values, and languages in the classroom. In doing so, we aim to foster a strong sense of Métis identity for students, thereby strengthening cultural wellbeing and self-esteem. We are also involved in driving institutional change in education spaces—often seeking to integrate Métis perspectives and knowledge systems into teaching practices and curriculum—through building and maintaining strong relationships with schools and communities. We take great pride in helping to improve Métis student experiences.

## K-12 EDUCATION & PARTNERSHIP ADVISORS (EPAs)

Our team includes K-12 Education & Partnership Advisors (EPAs), who support Métis learners and work with District School Boards and communities to ensure Métis content is taught in schools—both in the classroom and beyond. EPAs foster connections through professional development sessions, relationship-building meetings, resource sharing, and by supporting Indigenous Education Councils (IECs). IECs are provincially mandated advisory committees established at every publicly funded District School Board (K-12) and College/University (Post-Secondary) in Ontario. They provide a platform for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit community members and Indigenous education organizations to offer input and guidance on the development and implementation of Indigenous education initiatives. By strengthening relationships between our team, schools, and IECs, EPAs help create learning environments for Métis K-12 students that are rooted in understanding, inclusion, and equity.

K-12 EPAs

### BY THE NUMBERS

**25**

new partnerships were formed with District School Boards, community councils, teachers' unions, and other key partners

**166**

support events were hosted for IEC Representatives, including individual consultations, group meetings, and information sessions

**553**

education kits were distributed to District School Boards and educators across Ontario

"Thank you so much for sharing these valuable resources. Your passion for integrating Métis culture and history into our classrooms is truly inspiring... I am thrilled to share these wonderful materials with our team and look forward to incorporating Métis culture and history into our schools more deeply."

"I am writing to let you and the MNO know that the Powley Day Board Book that was distributed to families... As I got towards the end of the book I had a student shoot his hand in the air and exclaim "Is that why I get to Harvest!" The joy on his face was incredible; he was thrilled to discover that this book and its content directly connected to his own experiences and Métis culture. Thank you for providing such a meaningful resource."

"I wish you could have seen (and heard) the excitement at [our school] today when the gorgeous Elementary and Secondary school kits, as well as the amazing posters, arrived! There was a ton of oohs and aahs, as we all marvelled at the resources. Thank you so much for sending these to use."

## CURRICULUM RESOURCE ADVISORS (CRAs)

Our Curriculum Resource Advisors develop, revise, implement, and continually update Métis-focused curriculum and educational resources for students from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Their work directly improves outcomes, success, and support for all Métis students in Ontario. As part of this, this work also increases awareness and visibility of Métis knowledge, culture, and content for all students, educators, and schools.

"Fantastic initiative. Cherie is such an amazing storyteller. I am so happy to see this happening. Love it." - Tony Belcourt

"Thank you so much for the resources! It's been wonderful to have this information when collaborating and planning with colleagues."

## MÉTIS LANGUAGES INITIATIVES (MLI)

As the Métis Languages Initiatives (MLI) team, we are committed to supporting the efforts of Métis citizens, students, families, and communities to reclaim, revitalize, maintain, and strengthen Métis languages in Ontario. To do so, we provide and promote access to resources for community-led language activities and opportunities for citizens to engage in language revitalization, and encourage the sharing of Métis languages and culture with broader Canadian society. The MLI team provides the rest of the K-12 team with resources on Métis languages so they can advocate for inclusion of these culturally important topics, subjects, and resources in learning settings and curriculum.

Michif is the language of the Métis people. Like many Indigenous languages, it experienced a sharp decline due to colonial policies that sought to suppress languages other than English and French in Canada. Thankfully, efforts are now underway to preserve Michif and introduce it to Métis youth and a new generation of speakers.

As the MLI team, we are responsible for supporting the Métis Languages Initiatives Advisory (MLIA)—a group of Michif Elders, fluent speakers, and community advocates who guide language-focused programming. The MLIA operates under terms of reference, has an elected chair, and reviews priorities related to language preservation, plans language learning opportunities, and helps guide provincial priorities.

"On behalf of the Region 8 Gathering of the Wise Oldsters, we extend our heartfelt MARSEE for your outstanding presentation on the Michif languages. We sincerely appreciate the time, care, and knowledge you shared with us—it was both enlightening and informative. The group truly enjoyed the session and found it incredibly meaningful."

"J'aimerais vous remercier pour les belles ressources trilingues qui se trouvent sur le site web du NMO. Elles sont engageantes et superbes ! Je vais continuer à en faire la promotion. J'ai des enseignants qui m'ont déjà demandé s'ils peuvent les utiliser en classe."

## CRAs BY THE NUMBERS

### English:

**61**

Primary-Junior resources reviewed

**29**

Secondary resources reviewed

**25**

PSE & Educator resources reviewed

### French:

**63**

Primary-Junior resources reviewed

**5**

Secondary resources reviewed

**6**

PSE & Educator resources reviewed

## MÉTIS LANGUAGES INITIATIVES ADVISORY BY THE NUMBERS

**20**

members are active in the Métis Languages Initiatives Advisory (MLIA)

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## OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- ∞ Developed classroom resources focused on the works of of MNO Citizen and author Cherie Dimaline, including a teacher's guide and lesson plans available in both English and French.
- ∞ Developed a resource kit focused on Métis "Days of Significance," teaching students about events like Powley Day and Louis Riel Day.

## ABOUT EDUCATION & TRAINING

The MNO began to offer training initiatives in 1996 with funding from the Métis Human Resources Development Agreement. Since then, the Education and Training Branch has grown and developed to include a comprehensive infrastructure that delivers a full range of programs. It supports the educational success of all Métis across Ontario, beginning in early learning, continuing through kindergarten to grade twelve, into adulthood through post-secondary education, and then into employment. We also work to retain and revitalize our languages, honour our culture and way of life, and provide ongoing learning outside formal education structures.

We take pride in our culture and history, recognize and honour the Métis knowledge holders and senators who contribute to our way of life, teaching and learning opportunities, and take pride in our Métis languages. We look forward to sharing our traditions with future generations as we aspire to achieve our highest potential.

*Bryanna Scott-Kay*

**Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay**  
Director, Education & Training Branch  
Métis Nation of Ontario



ABOUT THE

## ET BRANCH SASH

One of the most prominent symbols of the Métis Nation is the brightly coloured, woven sash. Originally used for both practical purposes and cultural expression, the sash holds deep significance within Métis culture. The Education & Training Branch has introduced its own special sash, featuring colours representing the different teams and important ideologies.

**Light Green:** Early Learning & Child Care  
**Purple:** Kindergarten - Grade 12  
**Light Blue:** Post-Secondary Education  
**Yellow:** Métis Languages Initiatives  
**Red:** Employment & Training  
**Dark Green:** All E&T programs coming together to support a Métis person's lifelong learning journey  
**Dark Blue:** Métis inclusion in all learning environments

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## CONTACT US!

**K-12 Initiatives Support:**  
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