

MNO Education & Training

KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 12

& MÉTIS LANGUAGES
INITIATIVES

**IMPACT
REPORT
2026**

April 2025 - March 2026

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.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING & CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Our team includes K-12 Education & Partnership Advisors (EPAs) and Métis Pedagogy Consultants (MPCs), who deliver professional development sessions, create and distribute culturally relevant Métis education kits to teachers, and build relationships with District School Boards (DSBs), community councils, teachers' unions, and other stakeholders to increase awareness of Métis culture and supports, empower Métis learners, and create learning environments that are rooted in understanding, inclusion, and equity. Also key to these efforts are supporting Indigenous Education Councils (IECs), provincially mandated advisory committees at DSBs and Colleges/Universities that give community members a platform to offer input and guidance on the development and implementation of Indigenous education initiatives. Grounded in measurable outcomes and continuous improvement, we promote student success, educator capacity, informed policy development, and stronger connections between schools, communities, and Métis families in Ontario.

K-12 RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

BY THE NUMBERS

34

new partnerships were formed with key partners (e.g. DSBs, unions, councils)

266

education kits were distributed to DSBs and educators across Ontario

10

professional development sessions were hosted for educators

7

support events were hosted for IEC Representatives in collaboration with the Post-Secondary Education team's IEC Specialists, including individual consultations, group meetings, and info sessions

"This is super exciting! We featured an 'Indigenizing Math' initiative last year, and this new kit might be the boost we need to revisit it."

"Bilingual kits! Really! If you could just have seen the happy dance I did reading that news – FANTASTIQUE!!! Having the material all ready for me to present en français means I can integrate kits into my lesson planning without delay. Translating is often laborious and requires time to prepare before introducing resources into my classroom. This is fabulous. Can't wait!"

"I appreciate the continued effort your team puts into developing resources that support the integration of Métis perspectives into classroom learning. I'll be sure to share these materials with my networks and encourage educators to explore and embed them meaningfully in their practice."

MNO SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM

The MNO School Food Program assists Métis parents and guardians with children enrolled in K-12 education with purchasing groceries, addressing rising food prices. Independent youth over 16 years of age that meet eligibility requirements are also considered. The program also features online learning resources that teach and promote healthy nutrition-related behaviours, attitudes, and knowledge.

"Wow! What a great program for our youth. As an elementary classroom teacher, I can vouch that food security is a priority. Many children come to school hungry and/or with inadequate amount of food for their snacks and lunches. Way to go MNO!"

"What a fantastic opportunity. Food insecurity is such a big deal. The course was fantastic and really family friendly. My kids did the course with me and it was great to teach them why we need to make these choices. Thank you. Great program."

MNO SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

1131

children supported

2073

families supported

304

completions of the Learning Healthy Habits online course

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 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. The team also supports the Métis Languages Initiatives Advisory (MLIA) – a group of fluent speakers and community advocates who guide language-focused programming.

Michif is a common term used to describe the traditional languages of the Métis people. What is often categorized as "Michif" is, in actuality, three distinct languages spoken by Métis people throughout their traditional homelands: Southern Michif, Northern Michif and Michif French. Michif-Fransè is the variety of Michif French found in Ontario and has been given this specific label to distinguish it from a similar variety spoken in Manitoba. Although, like other Indigenous languages, the number of Michif speakers has declined due to Canadian colonial policies that suppressed languages other than English and French, the team has focused on preserving Michif-Fransè and introducing it to a new generation of speakers. Notably, the team has been preserving language recordings and historical documents through the Michif-Fransè Archive Project and, in March 2026, launched MNO Learn Michif-Fransè, an educational and translation mobile app.

MÉTIS LANGUAGES INITIATIVES BY THE NUMBERS

1000+

hours of language recordings have been preserved within the Michif-Fransè Archive Project

40

translation requests completed

9

language presentations hosted for staff and communities

"A heartfelt MARSEE for your outstanding presentation on the Michif languages. We sincerely appreciate the time, care, and knowledge you shared with us – it was enlightening, informative and incredibly meaningful."

ABOUT EDUCATION & TRAINING

The Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Statement of Prime Purpose has a key objective: to encourage academic and skills development and help citizens achieve their educational aspirations. Thirty years ago, the MNO established the Education & Training Branch to accomplish this, offering training initiatives funded by the Métis Human Resources Development Agreement. Since its inception in 1996, our branch has grown to include a comprehensive range of programs that support citizens throughout their educational journeys: from early learning through kindergarten to grade twelve, into adulthood through post-secondary education, and into employment and the job market. We also work to retain and revitalize our languages, honour our culture and way of life, and provide ongoing learning outside formal education structures.

As a branch, we also advocate for an inclusive education system by ensuring a Métis voice in education decisions, including the development of education policies and programs in Ontario. Our expertise and investments are critical to educational outreach, resource development, and the development and implementation of education action plans, achieved through productive engagement with Provincial and Federal ministries. We foster partnerships among communities, school boards, colleges, universities, the employment sector, and other key stakeholders to create a culture of lifelong learning within our communities. We are here to support Métis learners, educators, job seekers, and citizens who engage with education systems.

While our mission remains the same, our distribution and implementation of education & training initiatives have changed dramatically since 1996: training and support programs have been made more accessible to citizens by harnessing new technologies and digital platforms such as the MNO Education Hub and Learn Michif-Françè mobile apps, social media, online learning and training modules, and streamlined online program applications. While we continue to seek ways to modernize the branch for our citizens by implementing new platforms and tools, we take great pride in being Métis, and it is essential for us to stay true to our cultural values and history. Thirty years later, our branch continues to 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, MNO



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 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

KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 12 CONTACT US!

E: K-12education@metisnation.org
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Download the **MNO Education Hub** app to stay up to date with K-12 and MLI programs & events!





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