

MEMORANDUM TO: Regional School Board Partnerships for Adult Education

FROM: Marg Connor
Director
Program Implementation Branch
Ministry of Education

Luc Davet
Director
French Language Education Policy and Programs Branch
Ministry of Education/Advanced Education and Skills Development

Monica Neitzert
Director
Lifelong Learning and Essential Skills Branch
Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development

DATE: January 12, 2018

SUBJECT: **Collaborative Projects to Support the Adult Learner Journey**

As part of the government's mandate to strengthen adult education, the Province is exploring ways to encourage collaboration that supports learner-centred program and service delivery. We believe that greater partnership across sectors that focus on the learner journey will help streamline referral processes, facilitate mobility, and ease transitions for learners.

To support this goal, enhancement funding is being made available to the Ministry of Education (EDU) Regional Partnerships for Adult Education (RPAEs) to be used for projects that build on their existing strategic plans to improve collaboration in the adult education system and foster more seamless and learner-centred program and service delivery for adults.

The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD) has allocated 2017-18 funding of **up to \$100,000** per RPAE to support these projects. This opportunity is in addition to the EDU funding commitment of **\$357,000** for each of 2017-18 and 2018-19. Participation in this opportunity is entirely voluntary, and does not negatively impact previously committed funding for the RPAEs.

This funding opportunity was discussed briefly during informal conversations held between ministry staff and representatives from RPAEs following submission of each RPAE strategic plan. The purpose of this message, and the accompanying attachments, is to build on those initial conversations and to:

- Share detailed project criteria and address questions raised during initial informal conversations (Appendix A);
- Identify next steps and deadlines to access this enhancement funding opportunity.

Over the past 18 months, as part of the Adult Education Strategy launched by EDU in 2015, adult education champions at school boards have worked to establish seven RPAEs. Each partnership has worked to develop relationships and trust, has undertaken a regional environmental scan and crafted a regional strategic plan that outlines opportunities for

collaboration and innovation to improve outcomes for adult learners. This foundation of research and evidence regarding their current adult education client population and landscape puts RPAEs in a strong position to leverage this project funding to in order to develop enhancements that will be locally appropriate and tailored to the needs of adult learners in their communities.

Next Steps and Deadlines

RPAE leads are encouraged to apply for this funding by **February 8, 2018**. The online application form can be accessed in English here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2Sh_NvR5Rt7Vq07cl6mr_V-ij7-0n03Y7VVZYmEtiFHZtXw/viewform?usp=sf_link, or in French here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFnI3bMx74sq2vSwXeZHyguaSx4SYldIHk1ZpPx3SUYmqZgw/viewform?usp=sf_link. Please note that a PDF version of the application form is available as Appendix B for reference to assist with your planning.

If you and your partners are considering this opportunity, please do not hesitate to connect with members of our team for advice and support. Alternatively, if you are not going to be pursuing this opportunity we would appreciate hearing from you in a short email — this information would certainly help our planning.

Contacts

For further information or clarification, please contact:

- Lisa Bifano at Lisa.Bifano@ontario.ca;
- Pauline McNaughton at Pauline.McNaughton@ontario.ca;
- Geneviève Brouyaux at Genevieve.Brouyaux@ontario.ca (for French language inquiries).

We thank you in advance for your support as we work together to strengthen Ontario’s adult education system.

Sincerely,

Original signed by	Original signed by	Original signed by
Marg Connor	Luc Davet	Monica Neitzert

Attachments:

1. Appendix A - Adult Education Collaborative Project Criteria
2. Appendix B – Project Application Form (PDF)

- c: Erin McGinn, Assistant Deputy Minister, Advanced Education and Skills Development
- Cathy Montreuil, Assistant Deputy Minister, Education
- Denys Giguère, Assistant Deputy Minister, French Language, Teaching, Learning and Achievement Division, Ministry of Education/Advanced Education and Skills Development
- Cindy Lam, Assistant Deputy Minister, Citizenship and Immigration Division
- Doug Dixon, Director, Program Management and Evaluation Branch
- Yvonne Ferrer, Director, Refugee Settlement Programs
- Bruce Shaw, Director, Student Achievement Supports Branch
- Michael McDonald, Director, Regional Field Services