



July 13 2018

Dear Chief and Council:

RE: EDUCATION FUNDING TRANSFORMATION – SCHEDULING YOUR COMMUNITY
INFORMATION/ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

There are some exciting and time sensitive activities occurring around the transformation of education funding provided by the federal government. The Policy Proposal on Education Transformation, which was jointly developed by a team of First Nation and federal representatives in 2017, formed the basis of a recent federal Memorandum to Cabinet (February 2018). The Policy Proposal was approved by First Nations nationally at the December 2017 Special Chiefs Assembly via Resolution 65-2017. The Policy Proposal includes two main elements:

1. The immediate negotiation of **Regional First Nation Education Agreements** and,
2. Implementation of an **Interim Funding Approach** in 2019-20 for those First Nations that have not concluded a Regional First Nation Education Agreement.

This communication is focused on the second element of the co-developed Policy Proposal, namely the **Interim Funding Approach**, as this will be implemented in April 2019 for the majority of First Nations in Ontario (except for those who are ratified under the Anishinabek Education System). Information on **Regional First Nation Education Agreements** can be found on the COO Education Portal at <http://education.chiefs-of-ontario.org/article/national-joint-collaboration-7505.asp>. Alternatively, you can contact COO Education Director Julia Candlish at julia@coo.org or 416 597-1266.

At the recent All Ontario Chiefs Conference in Nipissing First Nation June 26-28, the Chiefs in Assembly approved the Terms of Reference for the Ontario Technical Table on the Interim Funding Approach (OTTIFA). The short-term

work plan for the Technical Table calls for two visits per First Nation community in Ontario to share information and engage on the **Interim Funding Approach**. Community sessions will be conducted as follows:

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1. **Information/Engagement Session 1** will take place between July 16 and August 17, 2018. This session will focus on the provision of information, and gathering input on the Interim Funding Approach in order to make recommendations to the Chiefs in Assembly on finalizing the approach for First Nations in Ontario.
2. **Information/Engagement Session 2** will take place between September 4 and October 19, 2018. This session will provide detailed information on funding allocations and changes in the terms and conditions associated with the funding. This session also may include capacity-building workshops as requested by communities in order to prepare for implementation of the Interim Funding Approach in April 2019.

Please contact COO Education Policy Analyst Angel Maracle at angel.maracle@coo.or or 416 597-1266 at your earliest convenience to provide contact information to schedule both information/engagement sessions for your community. Angel will also be able to provide any additional details you may require. A facilitator assigned to your community for these sessions will contact you soon thereafter to assist in planning and scheduling.

CHIEFS OF ONTARIO

Ninanaskamon!

Wishing you Peace beyond all understanding.



RoseAnne Archibald
Ontario Regional Chief

cc: Deputy Grand Chief Derek Fox, COO Education Portfolio Holder
COO Chiefs Committee on Lifelong Learning
First Nations Education Coordination Unit
First Nation Community Education Directors