

**Ministry of Education**

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**Ministère de l'Éducation**

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**Memorandum To:**

Directors of Education  
Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities  
Director, Provincial Schools Branch  
Superintendent of Centre Jules-Léger

**From:**

Grant Clarke  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Learning and Curriculum Division

Mary Jean Gallagher  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Student Achievement Division

Janine Griffore  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
French Language, Aboriginal Learning and  
Research Division

**Date:**

September 24, 2013

**Subject:**

**Supporting Continuous Improvement of Individual Education  
Plans (IEPs) and Transition Planning for Students with Special  
Education Needs through Learning for All K-12 Provincial  
Network Team**

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The Ministry of Education would like to acknowledge the work of school boards in supporting the achievement and well-being of all students including students with special education needs. From 2009 to 2013 a wide range of resources and tools have been developed by school boards to promote research informed and evidence based practices through Learning for All K-12 Regional Projects. 18 lead school boards have taken the leadership in building capacity in using ***Learning for All, A Guide to Effective Assessment and Instruction for All Students, Kindergarten to Grade 12 (Draft 2011)*** within their regions and sharing learning through the Learning for All K-12 Provincial Network Team (L4All K-12 PNT).

School boards recognize, through their internal IEP reviews, that on-going professional learning fosters continuous improvement of IEPs as a critical tool in driving the achievement and well-being for students with special education needs.

In February 2013, the ministry issued ***Policy/Program Memorandum No. 156: Supporting Transitions for Students with Special Education Needs (PPM 156)*** that set out for school boards and schools new requirements for transition plans for students with special education needs from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

To build on the gains made by the school boards and to further support the alignment of priorities and improvement planning processes at the ministry and school boards, in 2013-14 the ministry will provide school boards with funds to continue mobilizing knowledge through the established L4All K-12 PNT. This funding will support school boards to:

- widen the use of an integrated process of assessment and instruction as described in ***Learning for All, K-12 (Draft 2011)*** through collaborative inquiry, focusing on educators “*knowing your student*” and “*students knowing themselves as learners*” as student self-efficacy is key to their achievement and well-being ;
- foster continuous improvement of IEPs as a critical tool in driving student achievement and well-being for students with special education needs; and
- develop a plan and identify effective practices to implement the requirements set out in ***PPM 156***.

In 2013-14 approximately \$1,000,000 will be distributed among all school boards, school authorities and provincial and/or demonstration schools. All school boards will receive \$10,000 to continue participation in the professional learning and sharing activities pertaining to the above areas of focus coordinated by the 18 lead school boards in their respective regions. Representatives from all school boards, school authorities and provincial and/or demonstration schools are invited to participate in a sharing session in spring 2014. 18 lead school boards will receive \$15,500 to continue their leadership and coordinate regional professional learning and collaboration. A transfer payment agreement will be sent to all school boards, school authorities and provincial schools and/or demonstration schools detailing funding and deliverables.

We thank you for integrating these initiatives into your board improvement planning process to support the achievement and well-being of all students.

**Original Signed by:**

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