



First Nation, Métis and Inuit Voluntary, Confidential, Self-Identification

Questions and Answers

What is the First Nation, Métis and Inuit Self-Identification Process?

This process provides an opportunity for those of First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry - First Nation, Métis or Inuit, to identify their ancestry to the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board.

Why is the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board engaging in the First Nation, Métis and Inuit Self-Identification Process?

This process supports the Ministry of Education's document - *Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Policy Framework Document 2007*. Through the self-identification of First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board will be able to provide expanded supports to First Nation, Métis and Inuit children.

How will self-identification help students of First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry?

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is committed to providing supports to ensure that all students of First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry are successful. The self-identification process will help the Board collect data to determine if students of First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry, especially those who experience gaps in their education, are receiving the appropriate level of support to achieve their full potential. EQAO scores, credit accumulation patterns, retention rates, and graduation rates will be key sources of data used to monitor the success of students of First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry in the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. This information will also help to extend the supports available to students with specific needs.

How do those of First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry register?

Students who are already attending a Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board elementary or secondary school can register by completing a First Nation, Métis and Inuit Self-Identification Form which can be obtained from the home school. New students who are registering to attend a Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board elementary or secondary school can have their First Nation, Métis and Inuit status recorded when the Student Registration Form is being completed or by submitting a Self-Identification form to the Program Department of the Board. For students under eighteen years of age, the First Nation, Métis and Inuit Self-Identification Form will require parent/guardian approval.

Who will have access to this information?

Personal information is collected pursuant to Ministry of Education's document - *Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Policy Framework Document 2007*. Completed First Nation, Métis and Inuit Self-Identification Forms will be submitted to the Supervisory Officer of Program. This data will then be recorded in Dufferin-Peel Catholic's Student Management System to support the analysis of trends in student success. Individual student data will be kept confidential.

How is First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry defined?

The following definitions are used to determine First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry.

First Nation

The term "First Nation" replaces Indian in reference to communities of people identified as "Bands" and is used across Canada to describe the Indigenous Peoples of Canada who are not Métis or Inuit. There are three categories that apply to Indians in Canada: Status Indians, Non-Status Indians, and Treaty Indians. Indian Status is an individual's legal status as an Indian as defined by the *Indian Act*. Non-Status Indians are people who consider themselves Indians or members of a First Nation, but are not entitled to be registered under the *Indian Act*. Treaty Indians belong to a First Nation whose ancestors signed a treaty with the Crown and as a result are entitled to treaty benefits (Assembly of First Nations).

Inuit

Inuit are the original northern peoples formerly classified as Eskimo. They generally inhabit the northern circumpolar regions of Canada, USA, Greenland and Russia. Although they inhabit a large landscape, their population is small. There are only 128,000 Inuit world wide. Their language is Inuktitut. The four (4) Inuit land claim regions of Canada are Nunavut, Nunavik (Northern Quebec), Nunatsiavut (Labrador) and Inuvialuit (Northwest Territories).

Métis

Métis refers to distinctive peoples of mixed ancestry who developed their own customs, practices, traditions and recognizable group identities separate from their Indian, Inuit and European ancestors. The term "Métis" does not refer to all individuals of mixed First Nation, Métis and Inuit and European ancestry.

For further information contact the Program Department of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board at (905) 890-1221 at extension x24250 or visit the Board's web site at: www.dpcdsb.org