



Ontario's Teaching Regulator
L'organisme de réglementation
de l'enseignement en Ontario

January 31, 2023

Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Education
438 University Avenue, Fifth Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2A5

Dear Deputy Minister Naylor,

I was delighted to receive your letter regarding the development of alternative pathways to certification for Indigenous language speakers and can say without hesitation that the College will be a dedicated and committed partner in this important initiative.

I am equally delighted to confirm that over the past 18 months the College – led by our Policy, Membership Services and Standards of Practice and Accreditation teams– has been working toward this goal in collaboration with several Indigenous stakeholders, including the Uqausilirsijit Circle. We have advanced beyond discussion and are taking tangible action.

Throughout these engagements and “eye-to-eye” meetings, we have reinforced the value of building trust through active listening. As we build a foundation for alternative pathways to certify qualified speakers of Indigenous languages as teachers, we have also been able to offer assistance to speakers who may be eligible for certification under existing regulations. There is great potential to expand options for aspiring teacher candidates through regulatory changes and we welcome opportunities to work with the Ministry of Education on developing them.

On behalf of the College, I am pleased to offer my support for this essential component of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation efforts, and I am looking forward to taking next steps with the Ministry and our stakeholders.

Regards,

Linda Lacroix, OCT
Registrar & CEO

Cc: Denise Dwyer, Assistant Deputy Minister, Indigenous Education and Well-Being Division
Phil Graham, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Planning Division
Anna-Marie Nielsen, OCT, Director of Standards of Practice and Accreditation
Demetra Saldaris, OCT, Director of Membership Services