

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Sue Durst
Director
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch

DATE: October 2, 2008

SUBJECT: **Curriculum Review Feedback Consultations on the drafts of proposed revisions to the Ontario Curriculum for Social Sciences and Humanities, Grades 9-12**

The review of the Social Sciences and Humanities, Grades 9-12 curriculum policy documents began in November 2007. In fall 2007, representatives from school boards and school authorities participated in Focus Group Sessions for Social Sciences and Humanities 9-12 hosted by the Ministry of Education across the province. Focus Group input, feedback from other stakeholders, research, and analysis of current curriculum policy documents provided recommendations for revisions. During the summer of 2008, writing teams of educators drafted proposed revisions to Social Sciences and Humanities 9-12 curriculum documents to address the recommendations.

The Ministry is initiating the next stage of the review process, Feedback Consultation, on the drafts of proposed revisions to the Ontario curriculum for Social Sciences and Humanities, Grades 9-10 and 11-12. The Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch of the Ministry of Education will be hosting one day regional Feedback Consultation sessions for these policy documents. Participants attending the Feedback Consultation will receive information about the curriculum review process and the rationale for the types of revisions proposed in the draft. They will examine the draft document and discuss the process through which school boards, school authorities and stakeholders can provide feedback.

Each board is invited to send up to **six** educational representatives to attend the Feedback Consultation session to be held in their region. One representative should be a **secondary family studies teacher/department head** with strong knowledge of the current family studies curriculum. The second representative should be a **secondary general social science teacher** with a strong knowledge of the current general social science curriculum. The third representative should be a **secondary philosophy teacher** with a strong knowledge of the current philosophy curriculum. The fourth representative should be a **secondary world religions teacher** with a strong knowledge of the current world religions curriculum. The fifth representative should be a **teacher with expertise in equity, human rights or social justice**. The final representative should be a person with central board responsibilities. This representative will play a **coordinating role**, and should have the ability to coordinate a process within the board to gather and collate feedback on the draft of the proposed revisions. Ideally, this individual will also have an understanding of Social Sciences and Humanities curriculum.

It is important that the representatives understand that at the feedback session, participants will discuss the process through which school boards, school authorities and stakeholders can provide input and comments on the proposed revisions. They will also be discussing in detail changes to their particular subject area, so that **subject expertise is essential for these discussions**. This feedback consultation is an essential component of the curriculum review process. See chart on page 3 listing all the Feedback Sessions that have been scheduled.

All travel expenses including accommodation, (where required) will be covered by the Ministry, following Ministry guidelines. An expense claim form will be made available to participants at the sessions. If a representative is a classroom teacher, the cost of supply coverage for the Feedback Consultation sessions will be reimbursed at the board rate.

Note: Registration will begin at 8:30 am. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Please complete the attached Registration Form listing the names of the representatives from your school board attending the session and return it to the attention of Lilibeth Alagar by e-mail at lilibeth.alagar@Ontario.ca or FAX at (416) 325-2879 by **Wednesday, October 22, 2008**.

If you have any questions concerning these Feedback Consultation Sessions, please contact:

Mitchell Shore, Coordinator, Curriculum Review, Ministry of Education, (416) 325-2387.

Thank you for your participation and ongoing support of the curriculum review process.

Original signed by:

Sue Durst

Attachment:

cc: K. Rankin, Director, Field Services Branch
A. Bigwin, Director, AEO
B. Davies, Director, Provincial Schools Branch
Regional Office Managers

Regional Feedback Sessions: Social Sciences and Humanities 2008

Regional Office	Location	Venue	Date(s)	Time
Barrie	Barrie	Holiday Inn 20 Fairview Road, Barrie, ON L4N 4P3 Telephone (705) 722-0555 Fax (705) 728-1718 www.hibarrie.ca	Monday, November 3	8:30 am -3:30 pm
London Waterloo Catholic, Waterloo Region, Hamilton Wentworth Catholic, Hamilton Wentworth, Grand Erie, Brand Haldimand Norfolk Catholic, Niagara, Niagara Catholic	Stoney Creek	Grand Olympian (formerly Chandelier Place) 660 Barton Street Stoney Creek ON	Wednesday, November 12	8:30 am -3:30 pm
London Avon Maitland, Huron Perth Catholic, Greater Essex County, Windsor Essex Catholic, Lambton Kent, St.Clair Catholic, London District Catholic, Thames Valley	London	Best Western Stoneridge Inn 6675 Burtwhistle Lane Highways 401 and 4) London ON	Thursday, November 13	8:30 am -3:30 pm
Toronto	Burlington	Holiday Inn Burlington Hotel and Conference Centre 3063 South Service Road, Burlington, ON L7N 3E9 Phone: (905) 639-4443 Fax – (905) 333-0477	Tuesday, December 9	8:30 am -3:30 pm
Thunder Bay	Thunder Bay	Valhalla Inn 1 Valhalla Inn Road Thunder Bay, On P7E 6J1 Ph. 807-577-1121 Fax 807-475-4723 www.valhallainn.com	Thursday, December 11	8:30 am -3:30 pm
Sudbury/North Bay		Howard Johnson Plaza 50 Brady St Sudbury ON P3E 1C8 (705) 675-5602	Friday, December 12	8:30 am -3:30 pm
Ottawa	Ottawa	Hampton Inn 200 Coventry Road Ottawa, ON K1K 4S3 613-741-4220	Wednesday, December 17	8:30 am -3:30 pm

REGISTRATION FORM
CURRICULUM REVIEW FEEDBACK CONSULTATION SESSIONS
Proposed Revisions to: Social Sciences and Humanities, Grades 9-12

Please complete this form and return it to the attention of Lilibeth Alagar by e-mail at
 <lilibeth.alagar@Ontario.ca> or FAX at (416) 325-2879 by
 Wednesday, October 22, 2008

Region: _____
District School Board/Authority: _____

Feedback Session	Representative
Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9-12 Social Sciences & Humanities Family Studies Teacher/Department Head with strong knowledge of the Family Studies curriculum.	Name: _____ Tel #: _____ Email: _____
Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9-12 Social Sciences & Humanities General Social Science Teacher with strong knowledge of the General Social Science curriculum	Name: _____ Tel #: _____ Email: _____
Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9-12 Social Sciences & Humanities Philosophy Teacher with strong knowledge of the philosophy curriculum	Name: _____ Tel #: _____ Email: _____
Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9-12 Social Sciences & Humanities World Religions Teacher with strong knowledge of the World Religions curriculum	Name: _____ Tel #: _____ Email: _____
Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9-12 Social Sciences & Humanities Teacher with expertise in equity, human rights, and social justice.	Name: _____ Tel #: _____ Email: _____
Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9-12 Board/District Representative that has central board responsibilities for Social Sciences and Humanities Curriculum Feedback Coordination Role	Name: _____ Tel #: _____ Email: _____