

Local Teachers Have New Resource to Teach Native Studies

For Immediate Release – October 3, 2008

A new locally-developed teachers resource is a welcomed initiative that will help address a gap in Native Studies curriculum, says the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO).

According to ETFO President David Clegg, the '*Six Nations Iroquois Clans Program*' offers educators another teaching resource to help their students gain a greater understanding of Aboriginal people and the development of their culture and traditions.

"Much of the curriculum materials currently available to teachers are lacking in 'real life' information in the area of Aboriginal culture and traditions. This new resource, which addresses that gap, will be particularly useful in local elementary classrooms.

"By presenting the history of local First Nations Clans, this new resource can help non-Native students understand and appreciate the history, culture and traditions of their aboriginal classmates while instilling a sense of pride in Aboriginal students."

The '*Six Nations Iroquois Clans Program*' resource focuses on the Haudenosaunee/Six Nations/Iroquois history and culture. Lesson plans and activities aligned with the Ontario Curriculum Guidelines for Native Studies are supported by Native stories, visual support material, and a 'word wall' glossary and pronunciations of Native names.

The resource was developed by curriculum experts, as well as Native and non-Native educators throughout the Boards of Education in Brantford, Six Nations Territory along the Grand River, and Brant County.

The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario represents 73,000 elementary public school teachers and education workers across the province and is the largest teacher federation in Canada.

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