Voluntary First Nations, Métis and Inuit Self-Identification Information

For more information contact:
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Secured Information
All data collected is kept secure and confidential, and is protected by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA). This act ensures personal information about individual students cannot be shared, including identification of students.

Frequently Asked Questions
Q: Why does the WCDSB want to know if my child is of First Nations, Métis or Inuit ancestry?
A: Schools, Boards and the Ministry require reliable and valid data in order to assess our progress in the principle goal of improving student achievement. We work closely with our First Nations, Métis and Inuit education leaders to ensure we are doing everything we can to support our students.

Q: Will anyone else besides the Ministry of Education and necessary school personnel know my child’s name, grade or marks?
A: Information will only be shared with necessary and appropriate school personnel, the Ministry of Education and the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO).

Q: Will my child be treated differently if she identifies him/herself?
A: No. It is the policy of the WCDSB to provide an educational environment which supports and enables diversity within its Catholic community and ensures that each child is treated with dignity and respect.
The Ontario Ministry of Education has identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education as a key priority in Ontario schools, as outlined in *Building Bridges to Success for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students* (2007).

In an effort to develop reliable data to measure progress in First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education, the Ministry has encouraged school boards to develop policies for voluntary, confidential, self-identification for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.

It is policy of the Waterloo Catholic District School Board to provide an educational environment that supports and enables diversity within its Catholic community and ensures that each child is treated with dignity and respect. Information will only be shared with appropriate school personnel, the Ministry of Education, and the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO).

**The Benefits:**

*Self-Identification information will be used to:*

- respond to the cultural and learning needs of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students
- provide quality programs, services, and resources to create learning opportunities for all students
- build a curriculum that honours First Nation, Métis, and Inuit cultures, histories and perspectives
- facilitate active participation of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit parents and students within our school communities

**Information can be provided voluntarily by:**

- parents of students in elementary or secondary school who wish to self-identify as having First Nations, Métis or Inuit ancestry
- students who have reached the age of majority (18 years or older) who wish to self-identify as having First Nations, Métis or Inuit ancestry
Proud! to be First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Waterloo Catholic District School Board

Waterloo Catholic District School Board’s Self-Identification Process
Self-Identification Process

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board’s Self-Identification Process supports First Nations, Métis and Inuit students and their families within the school community. The Board is committed to providing quality programs, services and resources for First Nations, Métis and Inuit student learning.

Please help by completing this form and return it to the main office of your child’s school.

Information is collected pursuant to the WCDSB’s responsibilities set out in the Education Act section 8.1(1) and protected in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. This information will be used to administer the Self-Identification Process.

I am of:  
- [ ] First Nations Ancestry  
- [ ] Métis Ancestry  
- [ ] Inuit Ancestry

Student’s Name: ____________________________

Parent/Guardian Name: ____________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________

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