Aboriginal Academic Achievement (AAA) Grant

<u>Jurisdiction:</u> Manitoba <u>Contact:</u> Joanna Blais

<u>Level:</u> K - 12 <u>Theme:</u> Government or Board Policies

Description of Practice:

Financial and human resources are provided to school divisions to assist with programming or the implementation of new programs targeting academic success for Aboriginal students.

Background:

- 1. Aboriginal Education is a priority of MECY.
- 2. School divisions receive the AAA (referred to as 'Triple-A") Grant based on a percentage of Aboriginal students enrolled in their division. This data is based on census reporting.
- 3. School divisions are required to report annually on activities and outcomes supported through the grant.
- 4. Reports are reviewed by MECY staff and follow-up consultation provided to divisions.

Development:

- 1. School Support Unit staff provide ongoing collaboration and consultation with educational partners to improve the effectiveness of the AAA grant.
- 2. AAA reports submitted by all school divisions are reviewed and follow-up meetings occur with divisions to discuss effectiveness of the programming supported by the grant.
- 3. Ultimately the goal is to build capacity in school divisions and communities to program in ways that will result in improved academic outcomes for Aboriginal students.
- 4. The grant supports the work of the Aboriginal Education Framework and the goal of infusing Aboriginal perspectives into all teaching and learning activities and to Increase graduation rates of Aboriginal students
- 5. The AAA grant complements the goals of the grant *Building Student Success* with Aboriginal Parents which funds projects that promote parent and community involvement.

Evidence:

- 1. Collaborative and consultative ongoing with educational partners for the improvement of the grant.
- 2. All school divisions submitted their AAA grant reports.

- 3. Reporting indicated stronger linkages to the division planning process.
- 4. Building Student Success with Aboriginal Parents funds 38 parent/community projects.
- 5. Training provided to educators to support them in the infusion of Aboriginal perspectives into the teaching and learning activities.
- 6. Baseline data collected through the Aboriginal Identity Field (AIF) to track students.

Adaptability:

Aboriginal Academic Achievement Grant provides funding to school divisions to implement programming for Aboriginal students. School divisions can, and do, identify the issues that have the most impact on their Aboriginal student population and by doing so they develop strategies that meet the local needs Funding is used primarily to create positive cultural awareness and to provide professional development that supports the infusion of Aboriginal perspectives into all teaching and learning activities.

Further information:

Joanna Blais, Director, Program and Student Services Branch, 945-7911 Joanna.Blais@gov.mb.ca

Glen Rosse, Manager, School Support Unit, Program and Student Services Branch 204-945-8816 Glen.Rosse@gov.mb.ca

Audrey North, Consultant, School Support Unit, Program and Student Services Branch 204-945-6830 Audrey.North@gov.mb.ca

Date: February, 2007