The First Nations and Treaties Map of Ontario
Information for Educators

Background

The First Nations and Treaties map of Ontario was created by the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation and distributed to school boards in June 2014 to increase awareness among educators and students about treaties in Ontario. Providing schools with a copy of the map supports the vision of Ontario’s *First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework*, which is, “to increase the knowledge and awareness about First Nation, Métis, and Inuit cultures, histories, traditions, and perspectives for all students in Ontario.” (pg. 7)

All Ontarians should have opportunities to explore the histories, cultures, perspectives and contributions of the Indigenous peoples of Canada. To support this learning in schools, the Ontario government has worked in collaboration with First Nations, Métis and Inuit partners to create a suite of curriculum-linked resources and information tools for educators. The First Nations and Treaties map complements these resources.

The development of the map also celebrated the 250th anniversary of the Treaty of Fort Niagara by drawing attention to the importance and impact of treaty relationships in Ontario. The Royal Proclamation of 1763 formalized the ground rules for treaty-making across what is now Canada. On August 1, 1764, the Treaty of Fort Niagara renewed and extended the series of Crown commercial and military alliances with the First Nations of northeastern North America. Many of these First Nations upheld this alliance by supporting Britain in the War of 1812, ensuring the survival of British North America.

Ideas for using this map in your school and classroom

There are a number of ways you can use this map to raise the profile of Ontario treaties in your community. These include but are not limited to:

- Featuring the map in common areas of the school (halls, staff rooms, libraries) to help create a more inclusive and culturally-engaging learning environment
- Displaying the map, along with any supporting resources and student work, in a prominent location as part of Treaty Recognition Week
- Connecting with local First Nations to explore how best to bring the map to life. These partners may want to work with your school to hold an event or a ceremony and involve the broader community
- Referencing the map to identify and acknowledge the treaty territory of First Nations communities in your area
- Using the map to help people see their connections with surrounding First Nations communities
- Supporting all members of the school community in building their shared understanding and appreciation of diverse histories, cultures and perspectives, locally and provincially

The First Nations and Treaties map is meant to convey the vital message that *we are all treaty people*. 
Curriculum Linkages

The First Nations and Treaties map can also be used as a supplemental resource across a variety of subjects and disciplines to support student inquiry and learning about treaties and related concepts.

Here are some of the places in the Ontario curriculum where the map can be used as a resource.

Social Studies, Grades 1 to 6; History and Geography, Grades 7 and 8, 2013 (revised)

Grade 3 Social Studies People and Environments: Living and Working in Ontario
- To identify patterns in the distribution of communities
- Make connections around the interrelationship between the features of the natural environment and the surrounding communities

Grade 6 Social Studies Heritage and Identity: Communities in Canada, Past and Present
- As an information/spatial tool when students are investigating the historical and/or contemporary experience of a community in Canada

Grade 8 History
- To understand the chronology of treaties in Ontario
- To understand the territories and the peoples that were part of the treaties. This could be used as a basis for student inquiry using the concepts of historical perspective or historical significance

Canadian and World Studies, Grades 9 and 10, 2013 (revised)

Grade 9 Issues in Canadian Geography, Academic and Applied
- To explore treaty territories where resource extraction is taking place
- To explore locational patterns of First Nations communities

Grade 10 Canadian History since World War I, Academic and Applied
- To explore current regional issues impacted by treaty rights (e.g., resource development, infrastructure, land claims)

Canadian and World Studies, Grades 11 and 12, 2015 (revised)

Grade 12 Canada: History, Identity, and Culture
- To explore the treaties and First Nations communities that emerged between 1774 and 1945 to explore current regional issues impacted by treaty rights (e.g., resource development, infrastructure, land claims)

Native Studies, Grades 9 and 10 (1999)

Grade 10 Aboriginal Peoples in Canada
- To identify significant events and issues that have had an impact on Aboriginal peoples and their communities
- To highlight different points of view concerning a Canadian treaty negotiated between First Nations and the federal government
- To use the historical inquiry process to facilitate discussion about geographical land claims
Learn More

This map is intended for educators to help them support increased knowledge and awareness about treaties in Ontario in a variety of curriculum areas. It provides a general illustration of treaty areas for information purposes. It has been developed using a number of publicly available resources. For more information, please see the disclaimer/information note on the map.

With these examples as a starting point, educators can support students in engaging and culturally-sensitive learning opportunities in the class, school and broader community.

- Download PDF versions of the map at: ontario.ca/treaties
- Get Ministry of Education resources and tools at: edu.gov.on.ca/eng/aboriginal/index.

This web page will be updated to support Treaty Recognition Week.

- The First Nations, Métis and Inuit Connections, Scope and Sequence of Expectations, Grades 1 to 8 and The Kindergarten Program and the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Connections, Scope and Sequence of Expectations, Grades 9 to 12 resource documents are available online at:
  - edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/elementaryFNMI.pdf
  - edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/SecondaryFNMI.pdf

The Scope and Sequence documents provide a single source of reference for all learning expectations, examples, and prompts related to Indigenous content and assist educators in planning teaching and learning that supports understanding about First Nations, Métis and Inuit histories, cultures and perspectives. These resource documents will be up-dated as new curricula are released.

- Additional First Nations, Métis and Inuit teaching and learning resources connected to the Social Studies, Grade 1 to 6; History and Geography, Grade 7 to 8 (2013) curriculum can be found on EduGAINS at: edugains.ca/newsite/curriculum/elementaryresources/socialstudies.html
- Ministry of Education sponsored resources are also available through OESSTA (Ontario Elementary Social Studies Teachers’ Association) at: oessta-teachers.ca/
- OHASSTA (Ontario History and Social Sciences Teachers’ Association) has a resource for teachers on Indigenous Perspectives in History and Civics, which contains links to Treaty education at: en.ohassta-aesho.org/?page_id=216 . Treaty resources can be found under “Resources for Student Inquiry”
- Also check out the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation website at: osstf.on.ca/full-circle-first-nations-metis-inuit-ways-of-knowing