

Memo #7

Date: October 10, 2017

To: Executive/Members

Re: **Kindergarten Communication of Learning; OTIP Information**

Kindergarten Communication of Learning

A teacher's task for the Initial Observations is to reveal the thinking and learning (and not the activities) of the child as they relate to the overall expectations, based on their documentation (observations, conversations and demonstrations/products [photos, videos, work samples, etc.]). Teachers present examples from their documentation of key learning demonstrated by this particular child, at this particular time, growth in learning of this child, and frame a next step in learning.

Attached to this memo, is the current list of the Ministry Resources available to support Early Learning and some sample comments, generated by the Ministry.

While all the attached resources are relevant and of interest, the following are the key links to inform the task of completing the Kindergarten Communication of Learning: Initial Observations:

1. [Communicating with Parents about Children's Learning: A Guide for Kindergarten Educators \(2017\)](#). This is updated from the initial draft (Dec. 2016) and contains one sample of Initial Observations and additional comment samples in the Appendix that could assist teachers with the Initial Observations. The link for this resource can be found on pg.3 of the attached Ministry list.
2. [Full-Day Kindergarten Understanding Your Child's Reports: A Parent's Guide to Kindergarten Communication of Learning: Initial Observations and the Communication of Learning](#). This explains to parents the format for Kindergarten reporting. It would be ideal if school boards/schools distributed it, if not it has some key phrases teachers can use, if parental questions arise. The link for this resource can be found on pg.4 of the attached Ministry list.
3. [EduGAINS: Kindergarten](#) is access to all things Kindergarten but for this purpose teachers want to access the Assessment E-Learning Modules which now has **one specifically addressing the Initial Observations** Template. The link for this resource can be found on pg.5 of the Ministry list.

Another attachment is [Communication of Learning: Initial Fact Sheet](#). This is intended to support teachers as they navigate the process for the first time and to assist them in understanding what they are required to do.

OTIP Information: The Benefits of an OTIP Insurance Broker



When shopping for insurance, it's a good idea to compare your options to ensure you're getting the best coverage at the best rate. That's where an OTIP insurance broker can help. We shop the market and work on your behalf to help you find the right coverage to suit your needs. We also act as your advocate in the unfortunate event that you need help filing a claim.

Other benefits of a broker include:

- We have relationships with several insurance partners helping us to secure competitive rates that you may not find on your own.
- There is no cost to use a broker and it can save you significantly on your insurance rates.
- Brokers find insurance on your behalf. Our job is to support you and ensure you have good coverage. We have your best interests at heart.
- We make sure that in the event of a claim, you get a fair payout, fast.

Visit www.OTIPinsurance.com/article15 to learn about more benefits of choosing OTIP as your insurance broker.

If you have any concerns, please contact the Unit office at 705-733-9625 or 1 800 558 4815