

OVERVIEW

Currently, parents/guardians of First Nations and Métis students have the choice to self-identify their child/children attending Good Spirit School Division during the school registration process. The choice to self-identify and declare this information is voluntary and is not mandatory.

WHY HAVE INDIVIDUALS IN THE PAST CHOSEN NOT TO SELF-DECLARE?

Some individuals may be hesitant to self-declare as an ethnic group member for fear of being marginalized or because of past experiences. We want to assure you the use and intent of our collection of this data is for statistical purposes and school delivery of effective programs and services that will benefit students. The information will not be used in any other way.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE SELF-DECLARATION FORM?

Information on a self-declaration is used solely to help define programming and services to assist in the success and achievement of Indigenous students in and throughout their schooling experience.

Good Spirit School Division

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Indigenous Self-Declaration



@gssd_204



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HOW WILL THE INFORMATION BE COLLECTED AND HOW IS IT STORED?

The information shared is voluntary and confidential. The information will be securely stored in a computer-generated program. Access will be limited and protected. The information is stored electronically and the information is also stored in paper form in your child's student record file. These files are also kept in secure locations. All employees with Good Spirit School Division are to adhere to the Administrative Procedure outlining confidentiality, the right to privacy, and use of privileged information.

WHO WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION?

Access to this information is granted to the Ministry of Education and Good Spirit School Division administration and teaching staff. This information is held in strict confidence and a limited number of school personnel have access to this information.

Further, the information is subject to The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Privacy Act.

HOW ARE THE TERMS USED?

To assist with this process, it is important to understand the use of the terms as outlined and defined by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

"Indigenous peoples" is a collective name for the original peoples of North America and their descendants. The Canadian Constitution recognizes three groups of Indigenous peoples: Indians (commonly referred to as First Nations), Métis and Inuit. These are three distinct peoples with unique histories, languages, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.

"First Nations people" refers to Status and Non-Status "Indian" peoples in Canada. Many communities also use the term "First Nation" in the name of their community.

"Registered Status Indian" refers to an individual recognized by the federal government as being registered under the Indian Act and are referred to as a Registered Indian (Status Indian).

"Non-Status Indian" refers to an Indian person who is not registered as an Indian under the Indian Act.

"Métis" refers to people of mixed First Nation and European ancestry who identify themselves as Métis, as distinct from First Nations people, Inuit or non-Indigenous people. The Métis have a unique culture that draws on their diverse ancestral origins, such as Scottish, French, Ojibway and Cree.

CONFIDENTIAL INDIGENOUS SELF-DECLARATION FORM

Information on a self-declaration form is used solely to help define programming and services to assist in the success and achievement of Indigenous students in and throughout their schooling experience. Please check the box that best identifies your child/children.

- First Nations/ Registered/Treaty/Status
- First Nations/Non-Registered/Non-Status
- Métis
- Inuit
- Non-applicable

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

Home Address: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature: _____

I have read this information.

*Please return the filled out form to a GSSD school or the Division Office.

