

Result-based Plan Briefing Book 2009-10

Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs

ISSN #1718-7257

Ce document est disponible en français

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Part I: Results-based Plan 2009-10

Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs

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PART I: PUBLISHED RESULTS-BASED PLAN 2009-10

MINISTRY OVERVIEW

In June 2007, the stand-alone Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs was created to replace the Ontario Secretariat of Aboriginal Affairs. This was a significant and symbolic step that reflected the importance of developing a stronger, broader partnership with Aboriginal people in Ontario.

The ministry leads corporate government initiatives on Aboriginal affairs, and coordinates cross-ministry Aboriginal policy initiatives and multi-lateral relationship processes.

Vision, Mission/Mandate

The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs envisions a higher quality of life for Aboriginal people in Ontario through the development of sustainable economies and improved social conditions.

The ministry's mandate requires it to:

- Promote collaboration and coordination across ministries on Aboriginal policy and programs
- Set priorities for and track the progress of Ontario's Aboriginal agenda
- Enhance government and public awareness of Aboriginal people, issues and practices for consulting and engaging with Aboriginal people
- Work with the federal government to find ways to make the most of federal funding
- Help Aboriginal people to access Ontario government programs, services and information
- Advance the settlement of land claims and address historic grievances more quickly
- Encourage diversity, especially representation of Aboriginal people, in the Ontario Public Service.

Building on this broad mandate, in May 2008 the government approved a new four-year Strategic Course of Action. This new strategic direction sets out for the ministry the following four areas of focus:

- Building stronger relationships between Ontario and Aboriginal partners
- Improving social conditions and quality of life for Aboriginal people
- Assisting in creating economic opportunity and sustainability
- Resolving land claims issues and restoring reconciliation.

While other provincial ministries have responsibility for delivery of most programs and services designed specifically to improve such things as health, education and socio-economic conditions, the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs has a mandate to work with them to coordinate policy and program initiatives designed to deliver on these key priorities.

Priorities and Results

The ministry's corporate priorities for 2009-10 are to:

- Lead the province in developing, coordinating and managing constructive relationships with Aboriginal people and organizations both on- and off-reserves
- Help Ontario set priorities and consult with Aboriginal partners to make sure these priorities are in line with those of Aboriginal communities
- Work collaboratively with other ministries on key policy initiatives, such as the Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009, the Poverty Reduction Strategy, and addressing addictions and mental health issues
- Lead and coordinate corporate consultation/engagement policy and process development
- Deliver, and help other ministries deliver, specific programs to assist Aboriginal people
- Strive to increase government's and public's awareness and knowledge of Aboriginal people and issues
- Provide advice to government on Aboriginal issues and initiatives
- Participate in land claim negotiations to achieve resolutions and reconciliation
- Work with First Nations and Métis leaders to carry out Justice Linden's recommendations on the Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry
- Provide emergency response coordination as well as Aboriginal issues identification, coordination and management
- Work with the federal government, which has the key role in Aboriginal communities, to promote health and welfare
- Measure progress on the Aboriginal agenda
- Lead Strategic priorities, such as developing a Resource Benefits Sharing framework and the New Relationship Fund.

In pursuing these goals, the ministry contributes to the achievement of the government's key commitments, priorities and results:

- The government is working towards a more prosperous Ontario and seeks to build a competitive business environment by promoting jobs and investment across the province. The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs is supporting this goal by working closely with other ministries to promote business partnerships between Aboriginal communities and industry.
- Protecting the environment is a goal shared by Ontario and Aboriginal communities. The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs is helping to develop and implement a long-term plan that protects the boreal forest in Ontario's Far North by working closely with the ministry of Natural Resources along with Aboriginal partners.
- The ministry is also consulting and working with Aboriginal people on ways to share the benefits of natural resource development in a manner that ensures the protection

of the environment. A strategy that allows Aboriginal communities to share in the benefits of natural resources will also lead to an improvement in their quality of life.

Ministry Activities

The ministry will work to meet the government's goals to improve the quality of life of Aboriginal people through the following activities:

Stronger Aboriginal Relationships

Strengthening relationships requires that the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs take the lead in the areas of:

- Aboriginal relations coordination
- Advice on corporate Aboriginal program delivery and management of priority Aboriginal initiatives with government-wide implications
- Aboriginal consultation/engagement policy and process development.

Specific activities include:

- Maintaining and building on existing relationship tables such as the Northern Table/Oski-Machiitawin (New Beginning)
- Developing a Consultation Tool Kit for use by ministries
- Establishing the New Relationship Fund to assist Aboriginal communities and organizations to develop the capacity to more effectively represent their interests and work more seamlessly with government.

Improving social conditions

Improving the social conditions of Aboriginal people will involve:

- Addressing the social conditions of Aboriginal children and youth
- Developing new programs and strategies for urban Aboriginal people
- Facilitating the delivery of on-reserve services and infrastructure priorities
- Administering the First Nations Gaming Revenue Sharing Agreement signed in February 2008.

Economic sustainability

Creating economic opportunities and sustainable Aboriginal economies will involve:

- Exploring proposals related to a Resource Benefits Sharing (RBS) framework in Ontario

- Linking the Premier's Five-Point Economic Plan by focusing on opportunities to support innovation and business partnerships
- Creating opportunities for collaborative dialogue between Aboriginal leaders, government and industry.

Enhanced land claims settlements and reconciliation

Goals for settling land claims and fostering reconciliation include:

- Resolving the use of Ipperwash Park
- Consulting with First Nations and Métis on recommendations of the Linden Report ("Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry") through the Ipperwash Inquiry Priorities and Action Committee (IIPAC) for First Nations and through the Métis Framework Agreement for Métis
- Coordinating other interministerial responses to Justice Linden Report recommendations
- Continuing with implementation of the ministry plan for reform of the land claim process.

The ministry undertakes the following land claims and land-related activities province-wide:

- Conducting land claim negotiations, and implementing land claim settlement agreements on behalf of the province
- Considering Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal interests through a public involvement process
- Creating greater certainty with respect to property rights
- Participating on behalf of Ontario in federally-led self-government negotiations where appropriate.

Where supported by a historical and legal basis, the ministry participates in land claim negotiations to achieve resolutions that:

- Address outstanding historical grievances that are the subject of claims
- Take into consideration First Nation and non-Aboriginal interests through an enhanced public involvement process
- Create greater clarity with respect to property rights
- Satisfy Ontario's legal obligations
- Promote social harmony and economic development in communities affected by land claims.

Highlights of Achievements

Highlights of achievements of the ministry over the past fiscal year include:

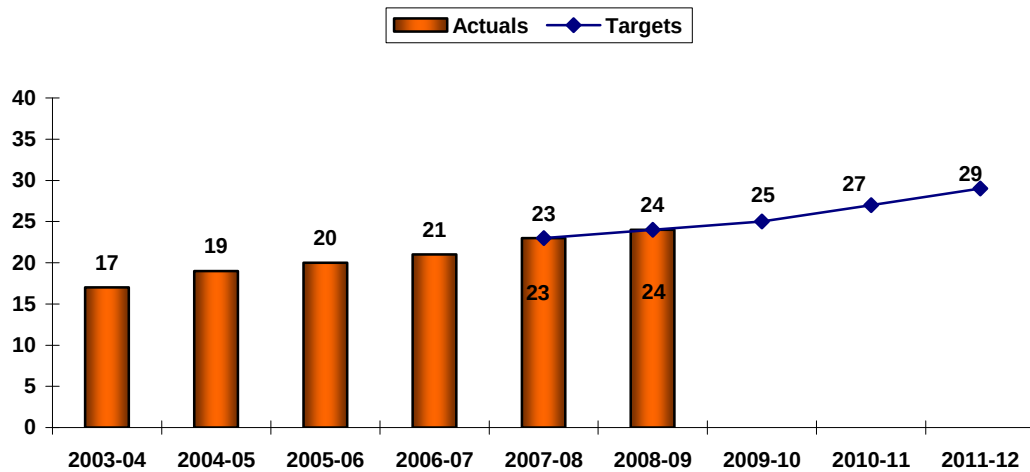
- Stronger Aboriginal Relationships:
 - o Established the Ipperwash Inquiry Priorities and Action Committee
 - o Signed a Framework Agreement with the Metis Nation of Ontario
 - o Announced a Bilateral Roundtable Agreement between the Ontario government and 42 First Nation communities in Ontario represented by the Anishinabek Nation
 - o Continued participation with other partner ministries in discussions at the Northern Table / Oski-Machiitawin (New Beginning) with Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities
 - o Signed a letter of intent between the Ontario government and First Nation communities in Treaty 3 territory
 - o Held an Aboriginal awareness forum for Ontario Public Service (OPS) staff, and an innovative, collaborative consultation workshop with First Nations, industry and government
 - o Held an annual meeting of the Premier and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs with Aboriginal leadership and organizations to discuss priorities
 - o Participated in the Urban Aboriginal Strategy Conference which highlighted priority areas of improving life skills, promoting job training and entrepreneurship and supporting the wellbeing of Aboriginal children and women.
 - o Coordinated the Aboriginal consultation on Far North Planning and *Mining Act* reform
- Economic Opportunity and Sustainability:
 - o Led discussions with First Nation chiefs that resulted in the signing of a Gaming Revenue Sharing Agreement between Ontario and First Nations
 - o With other provincial ministries, carried out discussions with Aboriginal communities province-wide about ways to share in the economic benefits of natural resource development
 - o Developed and implemented the New Relationship Fund to provide Aboriginal communities with the resources, consultation capacity and skills to effectively represent their interests and to work more seamlessly with governments
 - o Continued to deliver the Aboriginal Community Capital Grants Program, investing in the construction or renovation of community centres, friendship centres and small business centres serving First Nations and urban Aboriginal people.
 - o Held an innovative, collaborative workshop addressing consultation and partnership development involving 150 First Nation, government and industry representatives
- Land Claims and Reconciliation:
 - o Continued with the negotiation of 15 land claims, including two of Ontario's largest and most complex land claims involving the Algonquins of Ontario and the seven Williams Treaties First Nations
 - o Cleared 10 claim submissions from the inventory of claims under research and assessment

- o Facilitated the transfer of 1270 hectares of provincial Crown lands to the Government of Canada to create the Lake Nipigon reserve.
- o Successfully negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding between the Algonquins of Ontario, Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation, Snimikobi First Nation and the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines
- o Accomplished approval of a Transfer Process Agreement with the Chief and Council of the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation related to ownership of Ipperwash Park

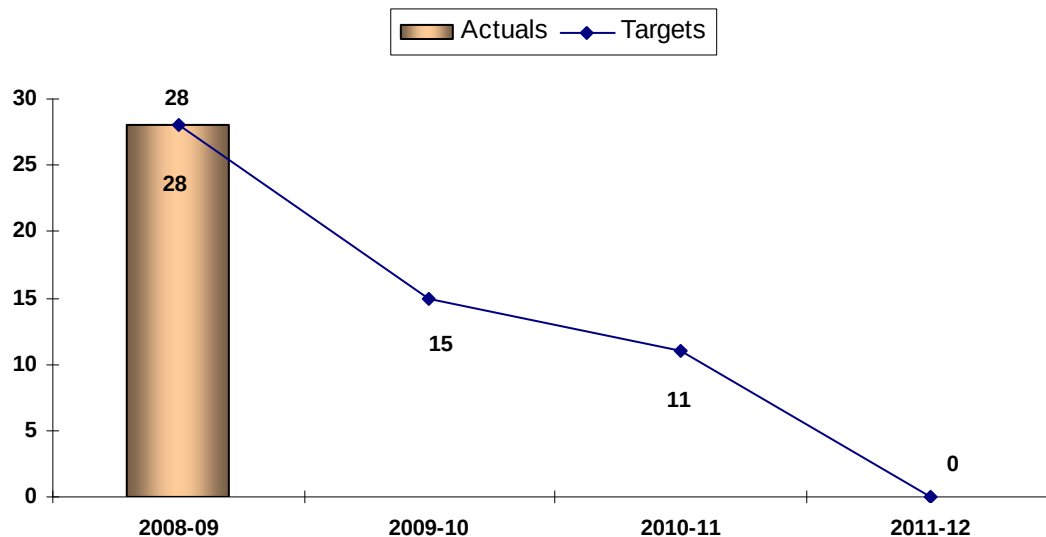
For full details refer to the Annual Report, pages 17 - 20.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

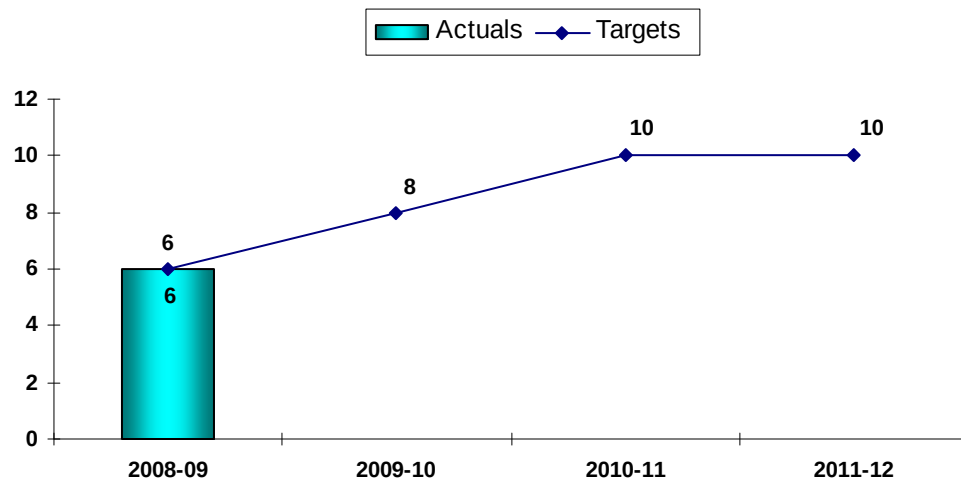
Increase the number of completed final settlement agreements on land and land-related claims in Ontario



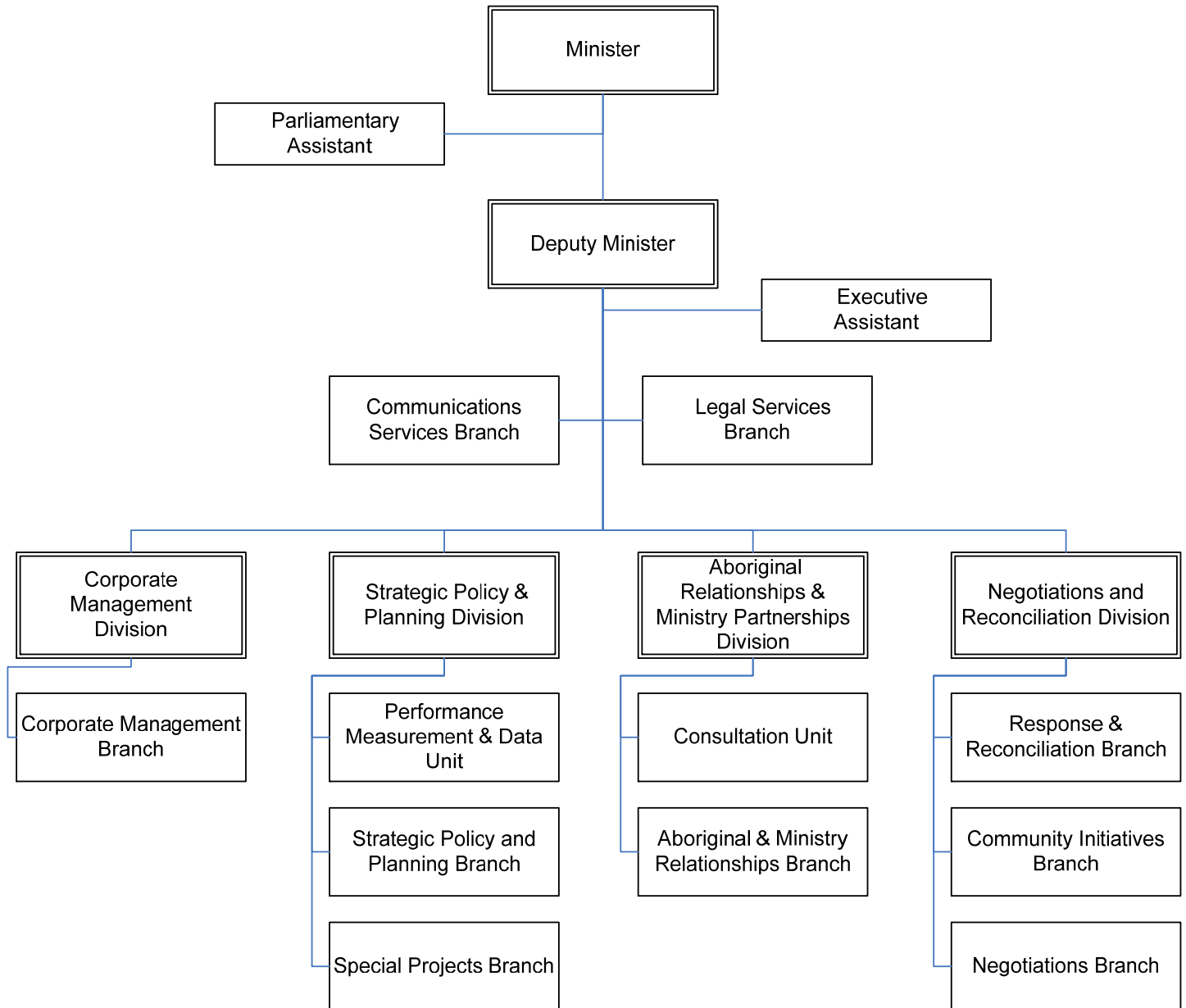
Complete the research and assessment of all land claims received, as of April 1, 2008, within three years



Increased number of relationship processes/tables with Aboriginal leaders and organizations, partner ministries, and external stakeholders to support government priorities and best practices in engagement and consultation



MINISTRY ORGANIZATION CHART



LEGISLATION

The Minister of Aboriginal Affairs has responsibility for the following legislation:

- An Act to implement the Terms of a Settlement of all Claims arising out of the Contamination by Mercury and other Pollutants of the English and Wabigoon and Related River Systems (English and Wabigoon River Systems Mercury Contamination Settlement Agreement Act, 1986)

Confirms a statutory agreement relating to the discharge of mercury into the English and Wabigoon Rivers and creates the Mercury Disability Board, which awards compensation to members of the Grassy Narrows and Islington First Nations demonstrating symptoms consistent with mercury poisoning.

- An Act respecting Land on Manitoulin Island, Barrie Island and Cockburn Island (Manitoulin, Barrie and Cockburn Islands Land Act, 1990)

Not proclaimed in force. Once proclaimed, it will implement in part the 1990 Manitoulin Island Settlement Agreement by Ontario and five First Nations by transferring land.

AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (ABCs)

Grassy Narrows and Islington Bands Mercury Disability Board: The Grassy Narrows and Islington Bands Mercury Disability Board (MDB) was established under the terms of the English and Wabigoon River Systems Mercury Contamination Settlement Agreement Act, 1986.

The MDB administers the Grassy Narrows and Islington Bands Mercury Disability Fund (MDF). It reviews applications from those members of the Grassy Narrows and Islington First Nations claiming to suffer the effects of mercury poisoning from pollution of the English and Wabigoon River system and recommends disbursements from the Fund to compensate approved applicants.

The ministry provides an annual contribution to the operating expenditures of the Board, matched by the federal government. The ministry is also responsible for monitoring and maintaining the Fund on an annual basis, and for providing sufficient funding to meet the forecast disbursement demand on the Fund as determined by the Fund Administrator.

Funding Provided to the Mercury Disability Board and Islington – Grassy Narrows Mercury Disability Fund					
2009-10 Expenditure Estimates (\$M)	2009-10 Revenue Estimates (\$M)	2008-09 Expenditure Interim Actuals (\$M)	2008-09 Revenue Interim Actuals (\$M)	2007-08 Expenditure Actuals (\$M)	2007-08 Revenue Actuals (\$M)
Board: 0.0750 Fund: 1.0290	N/A	Board: 0.0725 Fund: 1.2010	N/A	Board: 0.0651 Fund: 0.6960	N/A

MINISTRY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following chart depicts the ministry's allocations in 2009-10 by major operating expenditure. The operations of the ministry can be shown in key areas:

- Salary and Benefit Expenditures
- Travel and Communications Expenditures
- Services Expenditures
- Supplies and Equipment Expenditures
- Transfer Payment Expenditures (including Capital Grant Program Expenditures)

Total MAA Financial Information by Standard Account – 2009/10 (\$ Millions and Percentages)

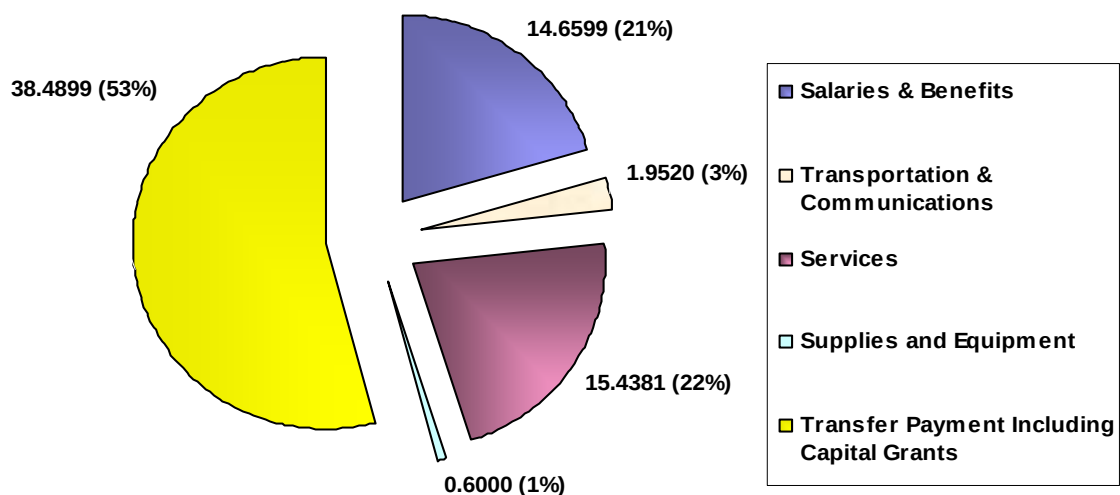


Table 1: Ministry Planned Expenditures 2009-10 (\$M)

Operating	67.1399
Capital	4.0000
TOTAL	71.1399

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS
Table 2: Operating and Capital Summary by Vote

The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs works to enhance the government's approach in Aboriginal matters, address legal obligations, and work cooperatively with Aboriginal people, the federal government and other partners to benefit Aboriginal people in Ontario.

Votes/Programs	Estimates 2009-10	Change from Estimates* 2008-09	Change	Estimates 2008-09	Interim Actuals* 2008-09	Actuals 2007-08
	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$
OPERATING AND CAPITAL EXPENSE						
Vote 2001	71,075,900	15,578,100	28.1	55,497,800	54,967,400	32,663,414
Total Including Special Warrants						
Less: Special Warrants						
Total Operating and Capital Expense to be Voted	71,075,900	15,578,100	28.1	55,497,800	54,967,400	32,663,414
Special Warrants						
Statutory Appropriations	64,014	0	0.0	64,014	64,000	201,027,017
Ministry Total Operating & Capital Expense	71,139,914	15,578,100	28.0	55,561,814	55,031,400	233,690,431
Consolidation & Other Adjustments						
Total Including Consolidation & Other Adjustments	71,139,914	15,578,100	28.0	55,561,814	55,031,400	233,690,431
OPERATING AND CAPITAL ASSETS						
Vote 2001	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total to be Voted	---	---	---	---	---	---
Statutory Appropriations	---	---	---	---	---	---

* Estimates for the previous fiscal year are re-stated to reflect any changes in ministry organization and/or program structure. Interim actuals reflect the numbers presented in the Ontario Budget. Note: Commencing in 2009-10, the Province's minor and moveable Tangible Capital Assets (mTCA) are capitalized on the prospective basis. Direct comparison for mTCA between 2009-10 and earlier years may not be meaningful.

For additional financial information, see:

<http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/english/budget/estimates/>
<http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/english/budget/paccts/>
<http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/english/budget/ontariobudgets/2008/>
<http://www.ontario.ca/aboriginalaffairs>
or

Contact:

David Lynch, Chief Administrative Officer
Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs

APPENDIX: ANNUAL REPORT 2008-09

2008-09 Annual Report

In 2008-09 the ministry continued working with Aboriginal partners and other ministries with the aim of improving social conditions and quality of life for Aboriginal people in Ontario. Over the last year, much progress has been made in negotiations, policy and relationship building.

Stronger Aboriginal Relationships

In the spring of 2008, the Ipperwash Inquiry Priorities and Action Committee was established. The committee has worked to prioritize the recommendations from the Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry in a way that will best meet the needs of First Nations people and communities in Ontario. The committee is chaired by the Ontario Regional Chief and the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs. The committee, made up of First Nation leadership from across the province and representatives from the provincial and federal governments, established eight working groups on key priorities.

In November 2008, following a series of discussions led by the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Ontario signed a Framework Agreement with Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO). The agreement recognizes the unique history and ways of life of Métis communities in Ontario. The agreement has set the course for a new, collaborative relationship between the Ontario government and the MNO. Working together, this agreement is intended to improve the well being of Métis children, families and communities while protecting and promoting the distinct culture, identity and heritage of Métis people. The agreement also encourages economic partnership opportunities that recognize and respect Métis traditions.

Also in November 2008, Aboriginal Affairs Minister Brad Duguid and Anishinabek Grand Council Chief John Beaucage announced a Bilateral Roundtable Agreement between the Ontario government and 42 First Nation communities in Ontario. Through roundtable discussions based on mutual recognition, respect, cooperation and responsibility, the Anishinabek Table will strengthen relationships and result in practical changes to improve living conditions in First Nation communities.

The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, along with other partner ministries, continues to participate in discussions at the Northern Table / Oski-Machiitawin (New Beginning) with Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities on a number of important issues. This includes land use planning, parks and protected areas and the development of a notification protocol for licenses and permits issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

In the fall of 2008, a letter of intent to build a new relationship between the Ontario government and First Nations communities in Treaty 3 territory was signed by Minister Duguid and Grand Council Treaty 3 Ogichidaakwe Diane M. Kelly. The letter outlines a commitment to work together to address the socio-economic issues affecting Treaty 3

communities in northwestern Ontario. A one-time investment of \$100,000 was provided to support face-to-face meetings and relationship building opportunities with the Ontario government.

In March 2009, the ministry held an Aboriginal Awareness Forum. The response from staff across the Ontario Public Service (OPS) was overwhelming. This is, in part, because of two innovations: a broadcast OPS-wide email invitation and webcast offering of the keynote and two workshop sessions. About 285 people were able to attend in person with an additional 500 people viewing via webcast. The National Chief was the keynote speaker. As well, there were four breakout sessions with distinguished panellists from the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, the Ministry of the Attorney General and Ontario Power Generation; topics included Consultation and Engagement, Metis Relationships, Collaborative Aboriginal Information Initiatives and Communities of Practice, and Progress and Partnerships.

Economic Opportunity and Sustainability

Strong and vibrant Aboriginal businesses benefit First Nations, Métis and Inuit, as well as Ontario as a whole.

In February 2008, the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs led the discussions with First Nation Chiefs that resulted in the signing of a Gaming Revenue Sharing Agreement between Ontario and First Nations. The agreement, worth more than \$3 billion over 25 years, draws on provincial gaming revenues and provides long-term, stable revenue that First Nations can use to invest in improvements in quality of life and to help strengthen communities. First Nations communities received \$201 million immediately to address socio-economic challenges in their communities.

The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and other ministries are talking with Aboriginal communities province-wide about ways to share in the economic benefits of natural resource development. The purpose of resource benefits sharing is to encourage business partnerships between Aboriginal communities and natural resource companies, encourage skills training, job creation and economic spin-offs that will improve regional economies and business partnerships between Aboriginal communities and natural resource companies.

Ontario is helping develop the resources, consultation capacity and skills of Aboriginal communities to effectively represent their interests and to work more seamlessly with governments. The province consulted with communities during the summer of 2008 and implementation of the New Relationship Fund to enhance consultation capacity is currently underway. Applications for 2008-09 were made available in December. The ministry received 89 proposals – some representing multiple communities or organizations – a very positive response given the tight deadlines. Following the review process, nearly 120 First Nation communities and Métis organizations were approved for funding.

The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs also administers the Aboriginal Community Capital Grants Program, which invests in construction or renovation of small business centres, community centres and friendship centres serving First Nation communities and urban Aboriginal people. The program also funds feasibility studies that lead to construction of these facilities. In 2008-09, the program provided \$4 million for various projects.

In March, the ministry held an innovative, collaborative workshop addressing consultation and partnership development. This interactive, dialogue-based event included the participation of 150 First Nations, government and industry representatives who identified key principles and issues in consultation and engagement as they relate to partnership building. The workshop included case studies on the Musselwhite Mine and the Lac Seul Hydroelectric Development, as well as breakout sessions to discuss: Steps in Effective Consultation, Incorporating First Nations' Interests, Approaches to Capacity, and Productive Partnerships and Relationships. The workshop was incredibly successful and participants have asked for additional sessions.

Land Claims and Reconciliation

While continuing to streamline and improve the land claim process, the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs is also negotiating 15 land claims. The Negotiations and Reconciliation Division has been moving ahead on two of Ontario's largest and most complex land claims involving the Algonquins of Ontario and the seven Williams Treaties First Nations.

In 2007, a commitment was made to clear by 2011 the backlog of claim submissions that are in our review system and to assess all new claims within three years. In 2008, the ministry cleared 10 claims from its inventory of claims under research and assessment.

In 2008, under the provisions of the Land and Larger Land Base Framework Agreement, Ontario transferred 1270 hectares of provincial Crown lands to the Government of Canada to create the Lake Nipigon reserve. This new land base is located on the south shore of Partridge Lake, approximately 2 ½ hours northeast of Thunder Bay. This agreement was put in place to address the circumstances of First Nations with small reserves or no reserve land.

In 2008, the Negotiations and Reconciliation Division successfully negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding between the Algonquins of Ontario, Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation, Snimikobi First Nation and the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines. The agreement outlines a positive, workable solution that balances the interests of all parties and provides an open forum to address concerns.

The process to transfer Ipperwash Park ownership to the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation – a solution recommended in the Ipperwash Inquiry Report – continues to move ahead with the approval of a Transfer Process Agreement (TPA) by the Chief and Council of the First Nation. The TPA provides for day access by the public as early as 2010, as well as committing Ontario to develop a plan for a heritage/cultural facility at

Ipperwash Park and to facilitate the design of a memorial for Dudley George. Set out in the TPA is all the work that the various parties (i.e., the provincial Ministries of Aboriginal Affairs and Natural Resources and the First Nation) will continue to do to ensure the timely transfer of the park to Canada as an addition to reserve.

Table 1: Ministry Interim Actual Expenditures 2008-09

	Ministry Interim Actual Expenditures (\$M) 2008-09
Operating	51.0314
Capital	4.0000
Staff Strength (as of March 31, 2009)	147.8