

Result-based Plan Briefing Book 2010-11

Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs

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PUBLISHED RESULTS-BASED PLAN 2010-11

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 First Nations, Inuit and Métis 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 for Aboriginal people in Ontario
- 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
- Develop policy in partnership with First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples, Ontario ministries and the federal government, where appropriate.

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

- Building stronger relationships between Ontario and Aboriginal partners
- Improving social conditions and quality of life for Aboriginal people
- Increasing economic opportunity and sustainability for Aboriginal people
- Resolving land claims issues and working to achieve reconciliation between Aboriginal people and the Ontario government.

While other provincial ministries have responsibility for delivery of most programs and services designed specifically to improve 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 for First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.

Priorities and Results

The ministry's corporate priorities for 2010-11 are to:

- Continue to develop strong, collaborative relationships with First Nations, Métis and Inuit leadership and communities
- Provide advice to the provincial government on Aboriginal policies
- Work collaboratively with other ministries on key policy initiatives, such as the Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009, the Poverty Reduction Strategy Act, modernizing Ontario's Forest Tenure and Pricing System, modernizing the Mining Act and Far North Land Use Planning
- Promote enhancements to Aboriginal well-being including improvements to education and skills training
- Lead strategic priorities, such as developing a Resource Benefits Sharing framework and administering the New Relationship Fund
- Lead and coordinate corporate consultation/engagement policy development
- Lead Ontario's participation in land claim and treaty negotiations
- Work with other ministries and First Nations and Métis leaders to continue to carry out the recommendations of 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
- Work with Aboriginal, provincial and federal partners to support Aboriginal economic development, including developing an Aboriginal procurement program
- Strive to increase government and public awareness and knowledge of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people and issues.

In pursuing these goals, the ministry contributes to the achievements 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 among Aboriginal communities and industry, including support for the government's Open Ontario initiative.

- 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 Region 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 build trust, prosperity and hope with Aboriginal people through the following activities:

Stronger Aboriginal Relationships

- Providing a one-window access for Aboriginal communities and organizations to the Ontario Government.

Better relations foster reconciliation with Aboriginal peoples. To this end, MAA is:

- Maintaining and building on existing relationship tables currently in place with the Nishnawbe Aski Nation, Grand Council Treaty #3, Anishnawbek Nation and the Métis Nation of Ontario
- Developing an Aboriginal Consultation Framework
- Developing interim advice for ministries consulting with Métis communities
- Implementing the New Relationship Fund to assist Aboriginal communities and organizations participate in meaningful consultation and engagement with government and the private sector
- Working jointly with First Nations and Métis on recommendations of the 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.

Improving Social Conditions

The social well-being of Aboriginal people is a pre-condition to full participation in the economy. MAA is:

- Co-leading (with the Ontario Women's Directorate) Ontario's response to the Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women and working with Aboriginal organizations on the specific initiatives that respond to the Framework
- Collaborating with the federal government, provincial ministries and relevant First Nations communities on social services for targeted communities

- Working closely with the federal government to facilitate the delivery of on-reserve services such as education and child welfare as well as infrastructure priorities
- Participating, along with other ministries and our Aboriginal partners, in the planning for the renewal of the Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy
- Administering the First Nations Gaming Revenue Sharing Agreement signed in February 2008
- Leading the national Provincial-Territorial-Aboriginal process with a focus on education and economic development.

Economic Sustainability

Strong and vibrant Aboriginal businesses benefit First Nations, Métis and Inuit, as well as Ontario as a whole. Creating economic opportunities and sustainable Aboriginal economies will involve:

- Working with the Ministry of Government Services to develop an Aboriginal procurement program
- Working with partner ministries to ensure Aboriginal economic development is supported through the Green Energy Act, Far North Planning, proposed Growth Plan for Northern Ontario, and other provincial initiatives
- Delivering on the ministry's portion of the government's announced three-year, \$45 million project-based skills training program to help Aboriginal people and other northern Ontarians participate in and benefit from emerging economic development opportunities, such as those linked to the "Ring of Fire" area in the Far North
- Working with First Nations and Métis to develop a Resource Benefits Sharing (RBS) framework for Ontario
- Creating opportunities for collaborative dialogue between Aboriginal leaders, government and industry
- Supporting the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry in negotiations with the federal government towards the renewal and expansion of the Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement (CORDA).

Enhanced Land Claims Settlements and Reconciliation

Where supported by a historical and legal basis, the ministry participates in land claim negotiations to achieve resolutions. 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
- Participating on behalf of Ontario in federally led self-government negotiations where appropriate.
- Resolving the interim use of Ipperwash Park until it is added to reserve lands

- Working jointly with First Nations and the federal government to explore a Treaty Commission of Ontario
- Continuing with implementation of the ministry plan to make claims negotiation process improvements that achieve more ratified Final Agreements, sooner
- Processing the backlog of claims in research and assessment by April 2011.

Highlights of Achievements

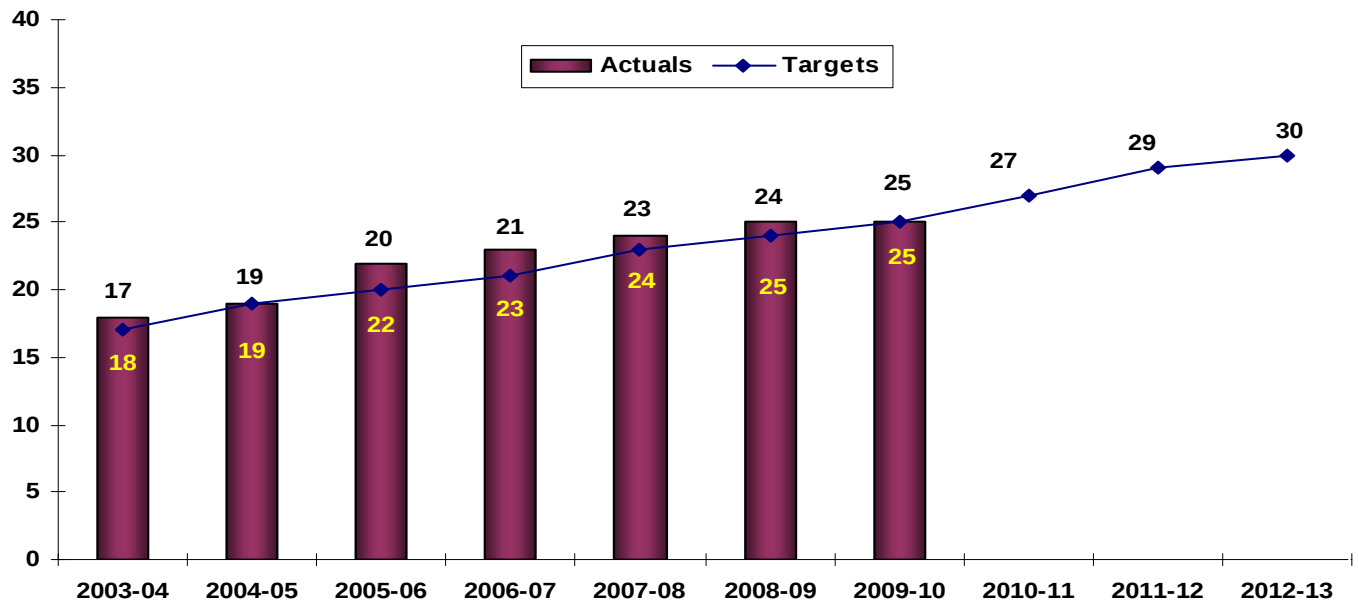
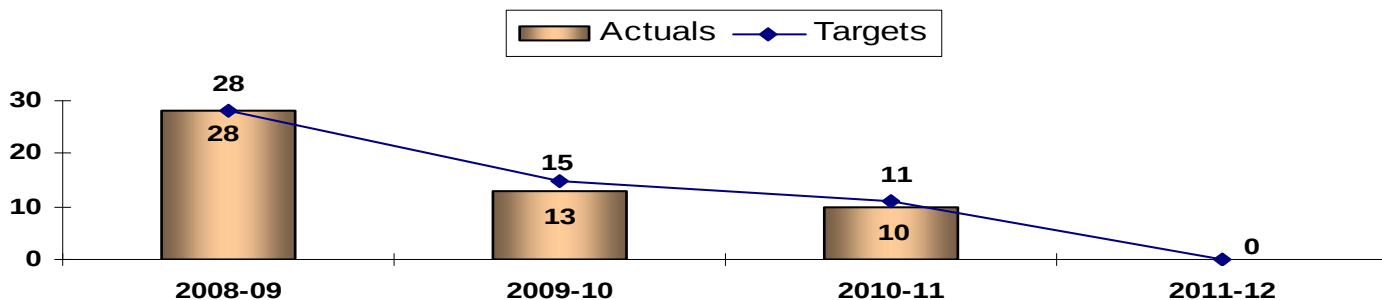
In the area of stronger Aboriginal relationships, MAA reinvigorated the Provincial-Territorial-Aboriginal process by holding a meeting of all Provincial/Territorial ministers of Aboriginal Affairs and five National Aboriginal leaders, with the federal minister in attendance. The ministry also proceeded with its ongoing work in a range of bilateral processes involving all First Nations organizations in Ontario, as well as the Métis Nation of Ontario. Continued delivery of the ministry's New Relationship Fund disbursed approximately \$19 million to First Nations and Métis communities and other Aboriginal organizations across Ontario in support of core consultation capacity, skills development and economic development projects. In addition, Ontario encouraged Canada to revisit its opposition to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The ministry worked toward the improvement of social conditions for Aboriginal peoples in Ontario through a number of initiatives, involving both Aboriginal partners, other provincial ministries and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Initiatives included addressing violence against Aboriginal women, providing nutritional supports for Aboriginal children and youth, Aboriginal healing and wellness initiatives, public-private partnerships to provide sports and recreation opportunities in isolated First Nations communities, and urban-focused initiatives to improve life skills, job training and entrepreneurship.

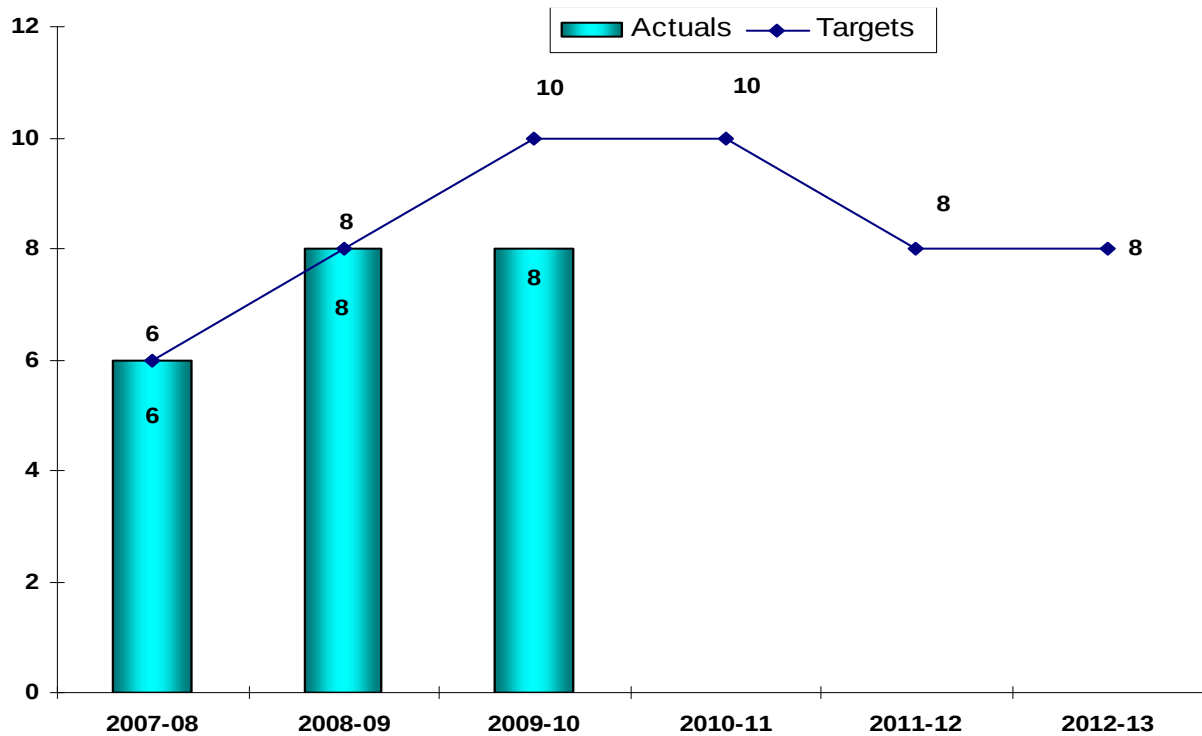
Ministry initiatives to create economic opportunities and sustainable Aboriginal economies included continued delivery of the Aboriginal Community Capital Grants Program, which invested \$4.6 million in 2009-10 in the construction or renovation of facilities serving First Nations and urban Aboriginal communities. The ministry also provided support for the delivery of federal-provincial infrastructure funding to on-reserve sports centres, committed to develop an Aboriginal procurement program for the provincial government, and worked on tripartite processes to implement economic development plans. The Ontario government also demonstrated its good faith toward reaching a resource benefits sharing plan with Aboriginal communities by reaffirming its \$30 million commitment in the 2010 Budget.

In the area of land claim settlements and reconciliation, results achieved in 2009-10 included an Agreement-in-Principle for the Pays Plat Land and Larger Land Base claim, and a renewed Negotiations Framework Agreement and Consultation Process Agreement with the Algonquins in Ontario. An initial Information Sharing Forum was hosted to hear from experts and Aboriginal community members on a Treaty Commission for Ontario. Additionally, a number of measures have been taken to streamline the research and assessment of land claims and claim assertions to expedite the process of addressing land claims in Ontario.

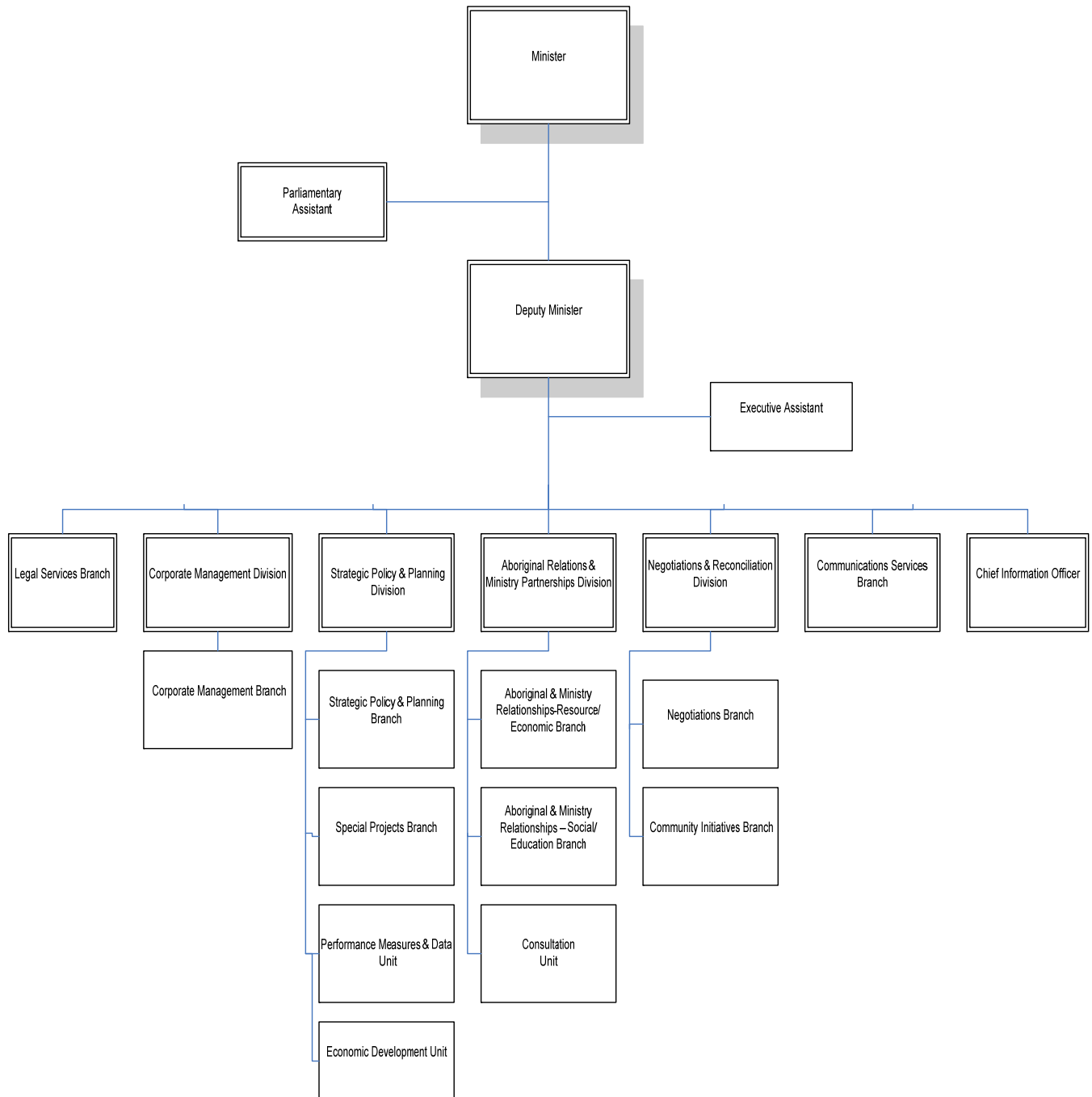
Additional information on these and other specific achievements of the ministry can be found in the Appendix: Annual Report 2009-10 on page 16 of Part I of this 2010-11 Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs Results-based Plan Briefing Book.

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

Complete the review of all claims in research and assessment (as of April 2008) in three years (by April 2011)


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 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.

Agencies, Boards and Commissions (ABCs)

The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs has no Schedule 1 agencies that report to it.

MINISTRY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following chart depicts the ministry's allocations in 2010-11 by major operating expenditure. The operations of the ministry can be shown in key areas:

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

**Total MAA Financial Information by Standard Account – 2010/11
(\$ Millions and Percentages)**

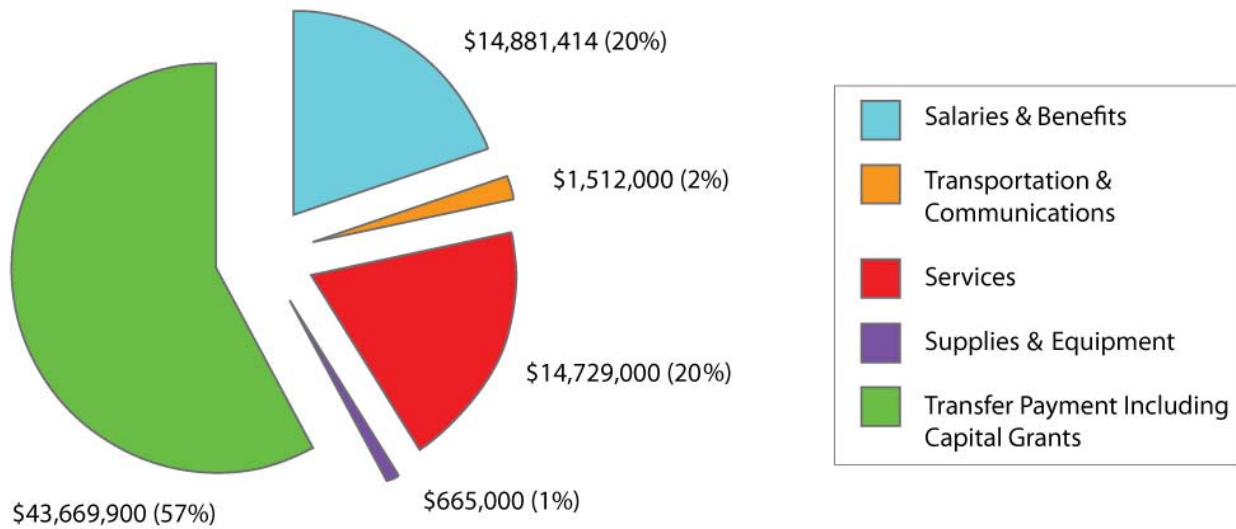


Table 1: Ministry Planned Expenditures 2010-11 (\$M)

Operating	72.8
Capital	2.6
TOTAL	75.4

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

Table 2: Operating and Capital Summary by Vote

The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs works to advance 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 2010-11	Change from Estimates 2009-10		Estimates 2009-10 *	Interim Actuals 2009-10 *	Actuals 2008-09 *
	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$
OPERATING AND CAPITAL EXPENSE						
Vote 2001	75,393,300	4,317,400	6.1	71,075,900	68,441,886	55,292,799
Less: Special Warrants	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total Operating and Capital Expense to be Voted	75,393,300	4,317,400	6.1	71,075,900	68,441,886	55,292,799
Special Warrants	--	--	--	--	--	--
Statutory Appropriations	64,014	0	0.0	64,014	64,014	65,968
Ministry Total Operating & Capital Expense	75,457,314	4,317,400	6.1	71,139,914	68,505,900	55,358,497
Consolidation & Other Adjustments – Organization ABC	--	--	--	--	--	--
Consolidation & Other Adjustments – Organization DEF	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total Including Consolidation & Other Adjustments	75,457,314	4,317,400	6.1	71,139,914	68,505,900	55,358,497
OPERATING AND CAPITAL ASSETS						
Vote 2001	--	--	--	--	--	--
Less: Special Warrants	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total Operating and Capital Assets to be Voted	--	--	--	--	--	--
Special Warrants	--	--	--	--	--	--
Statutory Appropriations	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total Assets	--	--	--	--	--	--

* 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 2010 Ontario Budget.

Note: Commencing in 2009-10, the Province's minor Tangible Capital Assets (mTCA) are capitalized on a prospective basis. Direct comparison between 2010-11, 2009-10, and 2008-09 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/2010/index.html>

<http://www.ontario.ca/aboriginalaffairs>

APPENDIX: ANNUAL REPORT 2009-10

In 2009-10 the ministry continued working with Aboriginal partners and other ministries to improve social conditions and life quality for Aboriginal people in Ontario. Over the last year, much progress has been made in negotiations, policy development and relationship building.

Stronger Aboriginal Relationships

In an effort to reinvigorate the Aboriginal Affairs Federal-Provincial-Territorial-Aboriginal (FPTA) process and act on the direction from Premiers, the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs hosted a meeting between Provincial and Territorial Ministers of Aboriginal Affairs and National Aboriginal Organization (NAO) leaders on October 29, 2009. Direction was given to a working group of Provincial/Territorial and NAO officials to develop plans for further action in the areas of Aboriginal economic development, skills and training and violence against Aboriginal women. The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada was also in attendance at that meeting.

In December 2009, Ontario pressed Canada to reconsider its position opposing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples including through a statement by the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs in the Ontario legislature.

Relationship Processes

The ministry has enhanced provincial relationships with Aboriginal people through relationship tables that provide an opportunity for the province to work together with Aboriginal organizations and communities on joint priorities.

MAA and other partner ministries participated in discussions at the Northern Table/Oski-Machiitawin (New Beginning) with Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities on a number of important issues including 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.

The ministry held two Aboriginal Awareness sessions for members of the Ontario Public Service (September 2009 and February 2010), building upon the success of similar sessions held last year. While the sessions were geared to consultation and engagement issues, each event focussed on slightly different aspects of relevance to a wide range of ministries.

The ministry continued to support Ontario's relationship with urban Aboriginal people as part of the federally led Urban Aboriginal Strategy (UAS), by providing funding for capacity-building initiatives in three Ontario UAS sites (Toronto, Ottawa, and Thunder Bay). Funding supported an Annual Urban Aboriginal Strategy Conference, held in Thunder Bay in November 2009, and a Toronto Aboriginal Research Project designed to provide qualitative

and quantitative data to respond to the growing and complex needs of the urban Aboriginal population in Toronto.

The ministry continues to work with its urban partners, including the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres (OFIFC), on a variety of projects including nutritional supports for Aboriginal children and youth programming.

As part of the ministry's response to the Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women, the ministry provided funding through the OFIFC for a range of related programs/projects.

MAA also helped to address issues related to Aboriginal child welfare and social assistance together with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, the Ministry of Community and Social Services, the federal government (Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Health Canada), and the Chiefs of Ontario.

MAA and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services continued to work closely with the federal government to develop a provincial Communities in Crisis plan to advance and integrate social programs in two pilot communities - Pikangikum First Nation and Wabaseemoong First Nation.

On January 21, 2010, the Ministry announced a partnership with Right to Play to launch the Promoting Life-skills in Aboriginal Youth (PLAY) initiative in 2010, a public-private partnership to develop leadership skills through sports/ and recreation in isolated First Nations communities.

The ministry held a series of collaborative workshops with various First Nations and Métis organizations in 2009-10. The sessions further discussed treaty implications, consultation protocols and best practices and principles for working together.

Responding to the Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry

The ministry has responsibility for leading the government's response to the Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry. In 2009-10, the ministry continued to work with 10 ministries to track progress on the Ipperwash recommendations.

The Ipperwash Inquiry Priorities and Action Committee (IIPAC), co-chaired by the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and the Ontario Regional Chief, demonstrates the Province's commitment to develop stronger relationships with Aboriginal peoples in Ontario and to work collaboratively to improve socio-economic conditions and build new opportunities for Aboriginal people. Priorities for IIPAC are Resource Benefits Sharing, Consultation and Accommodation protocols, consideration of a Treaty Commission for Ontario, First Nations Policing and improving joint communications.

Ontario also works with the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) on the implementation of the Ipperwash Inquiry Report under the Ontario-Métis Nation of Ontario Framework Agreement. Priorities identified by MNO for 2009-10 included consideration of a Treaty Commission for Ontario, Resource Benefits Sharing and the New Relationship Fund.

New Relationship Fund

In May 2008, the government committed \$25 million over two years (2008-09 and 2009-10) to the New Relationship Fund (NRF) to assist Aboriginal communities and organizations participate in meaningful consultation and engagement with government and the private sector.

Since December 2008, 111 First Nations communities, 27 Métis communities and several urban Aboriginal organizations have received funding for 250 projects.

In addition to its annual reviews, the ministry will undertake a formal evaluation of the NRF in 2011-12 and 2013-14, working with First Nations, Métis communities, and its partner ministries.

Economic Opportunity and Sustainability

On April 27, 2009, the Ontario government demonstrated its good faith toward reaching a Resource Benefits Sharing (RBS) plan with Aboriginal communities by committing \$30 million towards this initiative. This commitment was reaffirmed in the 2010 Ontario Budget. These funds will flow once there is a plan in place. The purpose of RBS is to encourage business partnerships between Aboriginal communities and natural resource companies, encourage skills training and create jobs in Aboriginal communities and economic spin-offs that will improve Aboriginal economies.

In January 2010, the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Chiefs of Ontario and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada co-hosted the first ever Ontario First Nations Economic Forum on the Fort William First Nation. Parties committed to continuing to work together through a tripartite working group to ensure that progress is made in implementing plans that support First Nations economic development and the release of a First Nations Economic Development Progress Report in 2010.

The Casino Rama Revenue Agreement (CRRA), signed in 2000 and expiring in 2011, provides for the distribution of Casino Rama net revenues to Ontario First Nations. In 2009-10, MAA led negotiations to finalize a new Gaming Revenue Sharing and Financial Agreement (GRSFA) which will provide an estimated \$3 billion over 25 years to First Nations. It will also replace the CRRA upon its expiry in 2011. Since September 22, 2008, MAA has been responsible for administering the CRRA and the GRSFA on behalf of the Province.

The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs worked with representatives of the Political Confederacy and the Ministries of Revenue and Finance to identify First Nations concerns regarding the implementation of the Harmonized Sales Tax, to advocate to the federal government for the preservation of Ontario's current point-of-sale exemption and to develop options to enable the current exemption to continue.

Land Claims and Reconciliation

In 2007, a commitment was made to clear the backlog of claim submissions that are in the ministry's review system by 2011 and to assess all new claims within three years. By February 2010, the inventory of claims under research and assessment was reduced to 10, and a plan is in place to have this backlog eliminated by April 2011.

Transfer of Ipperwash Park

The process to transfer Ipperwash Park ownership to the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation – a solution recommended in the Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry – continues to move ahead with the approval of a Transfer Process Agreement (TPA) by the Chief and Council of the First Nation. On March 1, 2010 Ontario moved legislation to deregulate the Park lands which will allow the Province to convert the land to Crown Land that can then be transferred to the Government of Canada under its Additions to Reserve Policy.

Treaty Commission of Ontario

In 2009-10, the ministry launched joint exploratory discussions with Canada and First Nations on a Treaty Commission for Ontario under the Ipperwash Inquiry Priorities and Action Committee (IIPAC) processes.

In July 2009, the ministry, working with First Nations and federal government representatives under IIPAC, as well as Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, jointly hosted an Experts Forum on ideas relating to a Treaty Commission.

Table 1: Ministry Interim Actual Expenditures 2009-10

	Ministry Interim Actual Expenditures (\$M) 2009-10
Operating	64.5059
Capital	4.0000
Staff Strength (as of March 31, 2009)	159.8

- Interim actuals reflect the numbers presented in the 2010 Ontario Budget