

INDIGENOUS IDENTITY DECLARATION

A VOLUNTARY CHOICE THAT SUPPORTS INDIGENOUS LEARNERS.

Families of First Nations, Red River Métis, and Inuit students are invited to declare their child's Indigenous identity within Manitoba's education system.

Declaring is optional and helps schools and school divisions better support Indigenous students.

WHY DECLARE?

CHOOSING TO DECLARE HELPS:

- Strengthen Indigenous-focused programs and supports
- Guide education planning and resources
- Reflect the real identities and experiences of Indigenous students

YOUR CHOICE:

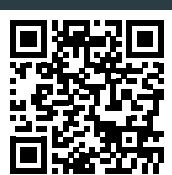
- Declaration is voluntary
- Families may declare or update information at any time
- Families may choose not to declare

PRIVACY:

All information is protected under The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For more information about the Indigenous Identity Declaration Form please talk with your child's school office or contact: **Indigenous Excellence** Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning at **204-945-7886**



Check us out anytime
www.edu.gov.mb.ca/iee/identity.html



INDIGENOUS IDENTITY DECLARATION

IMPORTANT: This form should not be completed in your web browser. To use all features of the form:

1. Right-click the link and select **"Save link as"** to download it to your computer.
2. Open the file using **Adobe Acrobat Reader**. You can download Adobe Acrobat Reader for free at get.adobe.com/reader/

INDIGENOUS IDENTITY DECLARATION HELPS TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF MANITOBA EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AND SCHOOL DIVISIONS TO PLAN AND ENSURE QUALITY PROGRAMS THAT ARE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF INDIGENOUS LEARNERS.

Providing this personal information is voluntary and optional.
Please complete and return this form to your child's school office.

It is being collected in compliance with section 36(1)(b) of The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act as it is necessary for and relates directly to the activity of Manitoba and school divisions to plan, deliver and improve programs. School boards are responsible for all matters respecting the collection, storage, retrieval and use of information respecting pupils. Access to pupil files and the protection of pupil file information is governed by The Public Schools Act, The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and The Personal Health Information Act.

1. I _____, (name of parent/caregiver, please print):

am submitting my child's Indigenous Identity Declaration for the first time

am re-submitting my child's updated Indigenous Identity Declaration

2. Is your child an Indigenous person, that is, First Nations, Red River Métis, or Inuk (Inuit)?

Yes No I prefer not to answer

If "No" or you prefer not to answer, please do not complete the form.

If "Yes," mark the square(s) that best describe(s) your child now.

Multiple squares can be marked based on your child's cultural-linguistic ancestry:

First Nations

(For school office use: Code 090)

Note: First Nations includes Status and Non-Status

Which best describes your child's cultural-linguistic identity?

Nation: ininiwak/nehethowak (Cree)

(For school office use: Code 110)

Nation: Anishinaabe (Ojibwe/Saulteaux)

(For school office use: Code 100)

Nation: Denesuliné (Dene)

(For school office use: Code 120)

Nation: Dakota

(For school office use: Code 130)

Nation: Anisininewak (Ojibway-Cree)

(For school office use: Code 140)

Red River Métis

(For school office use: Code 201)

Inuk (Inuit)

(For school office use: Code 300)

Other—please specify: _____

I don't know

Student Name (Please Print)

Date Form Completed

Student's Grade/ Class

School Name

Parent/Guardian Signature or Student Signature if 18+

School Division Name

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date received
by school



Check us out anytime
www.edu.gov.mb.ca/iee/identity.html



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Families of First Nations, Red River Métis and Inuit students are invited to declare their child's Indigenous identity within Manitoba's education system.

Declaring is optional and helps schools and school divisions better support Indigenous students.

Q: WHY DECLARE?

A: Your declaration helps school divisions to strengthen programs, services and supports designed for Indigenous students. This may include:

- Enhanced student services
- Culturally relevant learning opportunities
- Indigenous language and cultural programming
- Targeted academic supports

Declaring ensures your child receives the programming and resources that help them succeed.

Q: HOW DOES THE DECLARATION PROCESS WORK?

A: Indigenous identity declaration (IID) information is collected at the school level and reported annually to Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning to support decisions on programming, funding and resources for Indigenous students.

Q: HOW IS THE INFORMATION STORED? WILL MY INFORMATION AND MY CHILD'S INFORMATION BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL?

A: All IID information is protected under The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).

Q: DO I HAVE TO COMPLETE THE FORM? IS IT MANDATORY?

A: Providing this information is voluntary.

Q: MY PARTNER AND I HAVE DIFFERENT INDIGENOUS BACKGROUNDS. WHICH BOX SHOULD WE CHECK?

A: Choose the identifier that is most meaningful or relevant for your family. Multiple boxes can be marked.



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Q: WE DON'T SPEAK AN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE. SHOULD WE STILL SELECT A CULTURAL IDENTIFIER?

A: Yes. Cultural identifiers refer to ancestry and identity, not language fluency.

Q: WE MOVED TO MANITOBA AND OUR INDIGENOUS IDENTITY IS NOT LISTED. WHAT DO WE CHOOSE?

A: Select "Other" and write in the identity.

Q: THE SPELLING OF OUR LANGUAGE OR NATION IS DIFFERENT FROM THE FORM. ARE THEY THE SAME?

A: Most likely, yes. Many Nations and groups have multiple accepted spellings (e.g., Ojibwe/Ojibway/Ojibwa).

Q: DO I NEED TO DECLARE MY CHILD EVERY YEAR?

A: No. Once you have completed the new form (effective September 2026), the declaration remains on file.

You only need to update it if your child is new to the Manitoba school system or if information changes.

Q: IF WE CHANGE SCHOOL DIVISIONS, DO WE NEED TO FILL OUT THE IID FORM AGAIN?

A: Yes, the new school divisions will likely request that you fill out a new form when you change divisions.

Below are descriptions to support families and schools when completing the IID.

Indigenous peoples in Canada include:

First Nations: Individuals who identify as First Nations, including:

- Status/registered/Treaty First Nations
- Non-status/non-Treaty First Nations
- Nations such as Dakota Peoples in Manitoba who do not have Treaties with the Crown

First Nations cultural-linguistic groups in Manitoba:

- ininiwak/nehethowak (*Cree*)
- Anishinaabe (*Ojibway/Saulteaux*)
- Dakota
- Denesuliné (*Dene*)
- Anisininewak (*Ojibway-Cree*)

Red River Métis: People with ancestral connection to the historic Red River settlements, the Red River Métis Nation. ([The Red River Métis - La Nouvelle Nation](#) | [Manitoba Métis Federation](#))

Inuit: People of Inuit Nunangat, including but not limited to:

- Nunavut
- Inuvialuit Settlement Region (*Northwest Territories*)
- Nunavik (*Quebec*)
- Nunatsiavut (*Labrador*)

Other: Indigenous peoples who do not identify with the above Manitoba-based groups or are from other Indigenous Nations or groups from outside the province.