



Dear Tamara:

I hope things are going well with the Big Ideas curriculum project. Ensuring that all teachers - regardless of school board, discipline, level or district; are approaching all curriculum with an equity lens and in a culturally responsive and reflective manner, is of the utmost importance. All the curriculum has this potential and this can be encapsulated in Big Ideas.

I am touching base to offer anything CODE can do to help in this end. Our work in equity and building space and partnership is on-going. In 2018 we worked with Indigenous artists, educators and FNMIEAO to create our [In A Good Way](#) document, which aims to decolonize pedagogy, increase authentic representation and Indigenize the classroom. Just this month, we hosted a panel on YouTube entitled "[Recognize, Reflect and Refocus - Addressing Anti-Black Racism in the Dance and Drama Classroom.](#)"

With a project such as yours, with a mandate to highlight the Big Ideas in the curriculum that are of the most significance, you are undoubtedly tackling addressing ant-black racism, white supremacy and decolonization.

Again, I offer any support to these ends. If you need to be connected with any Black, Indigenous or educators of colour, we would be glad to help. As educational leaders it is essential that there is a vetting and consultation process. I would also like to offer the services of our equity team as one set of eyes to assist in the vetting process. We have a diverse team, made up of educators of many different backgrounds and regions.

Take care and let me know if there is anything we can do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Sheahan".

Matthew Sheahan
President
Council of Ontario Drama and Dance Educators