

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS BRANCH  
OPERATIONAL POLICY**

**RACE RELATIONS, CROSS CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN LEARNING**

<i>Policy Section</i> <b>Programs and Services</b>	<i>Policy Number</i> <b>403</b>
<i>Pages</i> <b>2</b>	<i>Approved Date</i> <b>September 19, 2016</b>
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<i>Replaces: ELSB Operational Policy 403 Race Relations, Cross Cultural Understanding and Human Rights in Learning, June 10, 2014</i>	

**1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to recognize the Public Schools Branch’s responsibility to provide equity of access and opportunity for all students and staff to learn, work, and develop in an environment that is affirming, respectful, and inclusive.

**2.0 POLICY STATEMENT**

- 2.1 The Public Schools Branch acknowledges the importance of ensuring students of all origins and social contexts have the opportunity to experience education based on the belief in the inherent dignity of the members of the school community, which encourages social responsibility, and promotes diversity.
- 2.2 The Public Schools Branch believes in the importance of challenging prejudice and discrimination, whether based on fact or perception of: race, appearance, age, belief system, values, ability/disability, illness, family status/structure, sex, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national or aboriginal origin, culture, language(s) spoken, and socio-economic status or any other prohibited grounds as included in the Canadian *Human Rights Act* and/or the Prince Edward Island *Human Rights Act*.

**3.0 PARAMETERS**

- 3.1 The Public Schools Branch has obligations under the Prince Edward Island *Human Rights Act*, the *Canadian Human Rights Act*, the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, and the *United Nations Declaration of Human Rights* (links to these documents are available on the PEI Human Rights Commission website: [www.gov.pe.ca/humanrights](http://www.gov.pe.ca/humanrights)).
- 3.2 These obligations are the foundations for race relations, cross cultural understanding and human rights policies and administrative procedures.
- 3.3 Staff, students, parents, school organizations and agencies should familiarize themselves with the specifics of these Acts and Legislation.

**4.0 CROSS REFERENCES**

- 4.1 Operational Procedure 403.1 - *Race Relations, Cross Cultural Understanding and Human Rights in Learning*
- 4.2 Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- 4.3 *Canadian Human Rights Act*
- 4.4 *Prince Edward Island Human Rights Act*
- 4.5 United Nations Declaration of Human Rights