

**Preamble** The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) is committed to the development and delivery of exhibitions, public programs, and other educational activities, in realizing its mandate to promote education and teaching of the world's natural and cultural history. At the heart of this commitment is a belief in the role of museums as centres for life-long learning.

**Policy** The ROM's educational activities are intended to

- Encourage understanding of the natural and cultural heritage of Ontario, Canada, and the world.
- Increase public commitment and support by making the ROM an invaluable educational resource for the community.
- Make the ROM accessible to a wide and diverse audience.
- Enrich visitor experience and foster collections-based learning.
- Enhance the reputation of the ROM and further its stated objectives.
- Promote an understanding of museums and their role in society.

*Types of Educational Activities*

The ROM is committed to meeting the needs of its diverse audiences. Accordingly, it will provide a broad range of educational activities designed to reflect multiple learning styles and levels of interest. These activities include, but are not limited to, school-visits program; children's programs; university-teaching cross-appointments; external teaching activities; lectures, classes, and seminars for adults; community tours or travel; cultural, artistic, and/or community events; galleries; interactive exhibits; and interpreters in the galleries; and use of new media and other technology-based delivery vehicles.

*Guiding Principles*

The ROM's educational activities will

- Use the ROM's collections and resources in a stimulating and imaginative manner.
- Be accurate and current, at the point of delivery.
- Incorporate relevant pedagogical practices, knowledge, attitudes, and skills.
- Reflect external curricular mandates, when appropriate.
- Be planned in a collaborative manner involving appropriate representatives from the external community, in addition to relevant ROM departments.
- Be developed and delivered by curatorial, teaching, or appropriately qualified employees and volunteers.
- Employ a combination of instructive/didactic and open-ended inquiry learning.
- **develop and employ new and emerging digital communication technologies to further the Museum's educational mandate.**

*Excellence in  
Content &  
Delivery*

The quality of educational activities will reflect the ROM's national and international status. Accordingly, the ROM is committed to

- Assessing its educational programs qualitatively and/or quantitatively.
- Supporting and improving teacher performance.

**Date**

**Approved** October 18, 2001

**Amended**

August 29, 2002.  
September 6, 2007 (housekeeping changes only)  
June 18, 2009 (housekeeping changes only)  
September 30, 2010 (new language is in **bold and underlined text**)

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***MONITORING*****Adherence to Policy**

*Board:* The Collections, Exhibitions & Research Committee will periodically review management's adherence to the policy.

*Management:* The Director & CEO, the Deputy Director, Operations, and the Vice-President Programs & Content Communication will ensure that the Collections, Exhibitions & Research Committee has all the relevant information for determining adherence.

**Policy Review**

*Method* Internal Report  
*Responsibility* Collections, Exhibitions & Research Committee  
*Minimum Frequency* Every three years (next review 2013)

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