

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

Policy ROM's educational activities are intended to

- Encourage understanding of ourselves and the world around us through engagement with our art, culture, and nature.
- Make ROM accessible to a wide and diverse audience.
- Enrich visitor experience and foster activities that support the skills necessary for lifelong learning and engagement with the contemporary world.
- Enhance the reputation of ROM and further its stated objectives.
- Increase public commitment and support by making ROM an invaluable educational resource for the community.

Types of Educational Activities ROM is committed to meeting the lifelong learning needs of its diverse audiences. Accordingly, it will provide a broad range of educational activities designed to reflect multiple learning styles, developmental stages, and interests. These activities include, but are not limited to, school programs; adult learning opportunities; day camps; programs for children and youth; programs for children and caregivers; university teaching and partnerships; artistic performances, and drop-in activities for families and adults in galleries. Programs take place at the Museum, online, and in communities.

Guiding Principles ROM's educational activities will

- Use ROM's collections and resources in a stimulating and imaginative manner.
- Be accurate and relevant to its diverse audiences.
- 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, with the support of 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.
- Incorporate Indigenous ways of knowing across a diverse range of programs.

Excellence in Content & Delivery The quality of educational activities will reflect ROM's national and international status. Accordingly, ROM is committed to

- Assessing its educational programs qualitatively and quantitatively.
- Supporting and improving staff and volunteer performance.

Date Approved October 18, 2001

Amended August 29, 2002.
September 6, 2007 (*administrative changes*)
June 18, 2009 (*administrative changes*)
September 30, 2010 (*new language*)
October 2, 2014 (*administrative changes*)
June 22, 2017

June 16, 2020 (*new language/administrative changes*)
June 13, 2023 (*administrative changes*)
June 17, 2026 (*administrative changes*)

MONITORING

Adherence to Policy

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

Management: The Director & CEO, and the Deputy Director Engagement, and the Deputy Director Collections & Research & Innovation Officer, will ensure that the Collections, Engagement & Research Committee has all the relevant information for determining adherence.

Policy Review

Method Internal Report

Responsibility Collections, Engagement & Research Committee

Minimum Frequency Every three years (next review 2029)
