

Ministry of Education

Office of the ADM
Financial Policy and Business Division
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Ministère de l'Éducation

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**2014 : B08**

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Gabriel F. Sékaly
Assistant Deputy Minister

DATE: August 27, 2014

SUBJECT: Request for School Consolidation Capital Projects

I am writing to announce details of the new School Consolidation Capital (SCC) program and to solicit requests for capital project proposals from School Boards. The program is supported through the \$750M in funding that was announced in the 2014-15 GSN release as part of the School Board Efficiencies and Modernization (SBEM) initiative. This funding is intended to help school boards adjust their cost structure in response to reductions in Ministry funding that currently supports empty space.

The Ministry recognizes that for school boards to effectively and efficiently manage their excess capacity, they will need to (in some cases) right-size their capital footprint. Capital funding will be available to school boards to support projects that address a board's excess capacity through the SCC program.

Funding for the SCC will be allocated on a business case basis for new schools, retrofits and additions that support consolidations.

Highlights/Summary Points:

- Boards to submit School Consolidation Capital projects expected to open no later than the 2017-18 school year.
- The deadline for School Consolidation Capital submission is October 15, 2014.
- Business Cases will be required only for a board's top 8 School Consolidation Capital projects. This includes submission for projects to be undertaken using board funding.
- School consolidation business cases that were previously submitted under the last round of Capital Priorities will be available for boards to update in the next few weeks to resubmit under the SCC program.

School boards are requested to provide the Ministry with an update of their consolidation projects that need to be completed by the 2017-18 school year. The Ministry will be reviewing the SCC submissions for funding consideration, as well as to understand the need for ongoing capital investments in the education sector.

Business Case Considerations

The Ministry will consider funding business cases under the SCC program that allow a board to reduce their excess capacity. Only projects that are identified as consolidating excess space will be eligible for funding. Eligible projects for funding consideration include the following:

- Consolidating two (or more) schools into one new facility.
- Building an addition and/or undertaking a major renovation to an existing school to accommodate enrolment from other schools that are deemed surplus to the board's needs.
- Right-sizing existing schools by renovating or demolishing existing excess capacity.

The SCC capital project business cases should address the following:

- How the facilities in the area will be right-sized to address boards underutilized space.
- Impact on reducing a school board's operating and renewal costs.
- Enrolment projections for schools in the area of the project.
- Existing renewal needs of schools that are part of the business case.
- Other benefits, such as improved programming, accessibility and/or energy efficiency.
- Results of the accommodation review process (where applicable).
- Alternate solutions considered.

We expect that boards will be submitting projects for SCC funding that are linked to accommodation reviews decisions. Please note, projects related to accommodation reviews must have a final trustee decision by October 15, 2014 to be considered for SCC funding approval.

Submission of School Consolidation Capital Projects

Similar to Capital Priorities, boards will need to submit their requests for SCC funding through the School Facilities Inventory System (SFIS). Please note that boards will have the opportunity to update any unapproved consolidation business cases that were submitted under the last round of Capital Priorities in SFIS to consolidate under the SCC program.

Only a board's 8 highest priority projects expected to open no later than 2017-18 will be considered for SCC funding and will need to be supported with a completed business case. Projects required after 2017-18 will be considered for future rounds of SCC funding.

Boards will be required to submit their Trustee approved updated SCC projects by October 15, 2014.

Upon submission of Trustee approved SCC projects, the submission will be locked and school boards will only be able to modify their projects by requesting that their Capital Analyst unlock a project (Please refer to Appendix A for a complete list of Capital Analysts).

Joint Use Capital Projects

As with previous Capital Priorities Grant programs, the Ministry encourages boards to consider collaborative capital project arrangements between school boards. The Ministry will review all joint use projects for funding consideration before evaluating any other SCC submissions. Joint use projects are more likely to receive capital funding and also have the opportunity to generate an increased amount of capital funding than stand-alone projects. Please see **B2013:18 Initiative to Encourage Joint Use/Collaboration between School Boards on Capital Projects** for further details.

Ministry Contact

If you have any program questions, or require additional information, please contact the Capital Analyst assigned to your board or:

Alexandre Beaudin, Acting Manager, Capital Policy and Programs Branch at 416-212-4818 or at Alexandre.Beaudin@ontario.ca.

We look forward to working with you to identify your future Capital Priorities Consolidation projects.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Gabriel F. Sékaly,
Assistant Deputy Minister
Financial Policy and Business Division

Copy: Superintendents of Business and Finance

DSB#	District School Board	Capital Analyst	Email	Phone Number
1	DSB Ontario North East	Kristin Grunenکو	Kristin.Grunenko@ontario.ca	416-326-9445
2	Algoma DSB	Jaimie Burke	Jaimie.Burke@ontario.ca	416-325-4297
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17	Simcoe County DSB	Diamond Tsui	Diamond.Tsui@ontario.ca	416-325-2017
18	Upper Grand DSB	Sarosh Yousuf	Sarosh.Yousuf@ontario.ca	416-325-9796
19	Peel DSB	Diamond Tsui	Diamond.Tsui@ontario.ca	416-325-2017
20	Halton DSB	Diamond Tsui	Diamond.Tsui@ontario.ca	416-325-2017
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24	Waterloo Region DSB	Sarosh Yousuf	Sarosh.Yousuf@ontario.ca	416-325-9796
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35	Bruce-Grey CDSB	Sarosh Yousuf	Sarosh.Yousuf@ontario.ca	416-325-9796
36	Huron Perth CDSB	Sarosh Yousuf	Sarosh.Yousuf@ontario.ca	416-325-9796

DSB#	District School Board	Capital Analyst	Email	Phone Number
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44	Simcoe Muskoka CDSB	Diamond Tsui	Diamond.Tsui@ontario.ca	416-325-2017
45	Durham CDSB	Yvonne Rollins	Yvonne.Rollins@ontario.ca	416.326.9932
46	Halton CDSB	Diamond Tsui	Diamond.Tsui@ontario.ca	416-325-2017
47	Hamilton-Wentworth CDSB	Hemwanti Dobbs	Hemwanti.Dobbs@ontario.ca	416-325-2018
48	Wellington CDSB	Sarosh Yousuf	Sarosh.Yousuf@ontario.ca	416-325-9796
49	Waterloo CDSB	Sarosh Yousuf	Sarosh.Yousuf@ontario.ca	416-325-9796
50	Niagara CDSB	Hemwanti Dobbs	Hemwanti.Dobbs@ontario.ca	416-325-2018
51	Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB	Michael Wasylyk	Michael.Wasylyk@ontario.ca	416-326-9924
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