

Ministry of Education

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2018: B15

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Superintendents of Facilities
Superintendents of Business

FROM: Joshua Paul
Assistant Deputy Minister
Capital and Business Support Division

DATE: October 15, 2018

SUBJECT: **Temporary Cap on Education Development Charge Rates**

I am writing to inform you of the government's intention to undertake a review of the Education Development Charge (EDC) policy framework, as well as recent amendments made to Ontario Regulation 20/98: Education Development Charges – General (O. Reg 20/98) made under the *Education Act* to implement a temporary cap or “pause” on EDC rate increases until the review is complete. Further details of the review will follow in the coming weeks.

Amendments to O. Reg. 20/98

The amendments to O. Reg. 20/98 include the following four key elements:

- Maintain EDC rates at the levels in existing by-laws as of August 31, 2018;
- Limits the ability of boards to change the areas in their by-law that are subject to EDCs;
- Restricts additional boards from becoming eligible to pass a new EDC by-law; and
- Streamlines some of the requirements to be included in the required background study.

Please note that the changes do not restrict the ability of boards to pass by-laws for the full five-year term as set out in the *Education Act*. The amendments are effective October 12, 2018 and the amended regulation can be viewed on the e-laws website at: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r18438>

Land Acquisition

All school boards should continue to identify priority sites for acquisition. EDC-eligible

boards are requested to simply notify their capital analyst prior to acquiring land. All requests for Land Priorities funding should continue to be made to the ministry through your capital analyst. The ministry is also requesting school boards engage with municipal governments before purchasing land and before finalizing any plans about future school investments.

Your capital analyst will be reaching out in the coming days to gather information on your board's immediate and priority land needs.

For further information, please contact:

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Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Joshua Paul
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Capital and Business Support Division