

Ministry of Education

Capital Policy and Programs
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**2008: SB31**

MEMORANDUM TO: School Business Officials

FROM: Karen Maxwell
Director

DATE: **October 21, 2008**

SUBJECT: **Expert Panel on Capital Standards**

I am writing to advise you that the Ministry has established an Expert Panel on Capital Standards.

Good school facilities are an essential support to school boards, staff and students in providing good places to teach and learn. They are also community assets and an opportunity to demonstrate our increasing commitment to green design and energy efficiency in high profile public buildings. The Panel reflects the Ministry's commitment to improve the building of schools across the province. The Ontario government continues to make significant capital investments in schools and we want to help boards build the most effective school facilities in a timely and financially responsible manner.

The Panel is composed of school board officials who have had recent and considerable expertise in the design and construction of schools. The focus is on identifying leading practices in elementary and secondary school design and construction and providing advice on space standards and a variety of green initiatives. We anticipate that the Panel will meet once a month over a period of the next six to eight months. The list of Panel members is attached.

The Panel will also be informed by the perspective and input of both key education stakeholders and other partners, including other provincial ministries, municipalities, architects, construction/contractor associations and green consultants.

Our preliminary plan for stakeholder engagement is to schedule a series of focus groups over the coming months so members of the education, architectural and construction communities have an opportunity to hear and react to the Panel's early

work. At a later stage when the Panel is developing draft recommendations, we also expect to work formally with our education associations and other partners to seek comments and feedback.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Expert Panel and their Boards for donating their time and expertise. I am confident that working together on this exciting project will be a rewarding experience, from which we will all benefit.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

Karen Maxwell
Director

Expert Panel

Name	Board
Ralph Benson, Chair	York DSB
Sandi Ackroyd	Rainbow DSB
Kevin Bushell	Thames Valley DSB
Glenn Clarke	Simcoe Muskoka Catholic DSB
Giacomo Corbacio	Halton Catholic DSB
Fred Chrystal	Ottawa Catholic DSB
Gerry Cullen	Halton DSB
Bryce Eldridge	York Catholic DSB
Suzanne Labrecque	CSD du Centre-Sud-Ouest
Lewis Morgulis	York DSB
Luc Poulin	CSD catholique du Centre-Est
Paul Scinocca	Upper Grand DSB
Wolfgang Stumpf	Dufferin-Peel Catholic DSB
Arnie Wohlgemut	Waterloo Catholic DSB
Randy Wright	Peel DSB