

2009: SB 14

MEMORANDUM TO: School Business Officials

FROM: Karen Maxwell
Director, Capital Policy Branch

DATE: April 17, 2009

SUBJECT: Green Schools Pilot Initiative

Last year we outlined a plan to move forward on green building standards (Memorandum 2008: B12). I am pleased to provide you with information on the **Green Schools Pilot Initiative**, a joint initiative of the Ministries of Education and Research and Innovation.

The Green Schools Pilot Initiative will allow Ontario schools to purchase, demonstrate and test cutting edge green products/ technologies to reduce their environmental footprint and provide participating companies with an early adopter and credible reference customer for their products/technologies. These pilot projects will offer an ideal platform for real world demonstration, to enable companies to expand in to the local, North American and global markets.

There are two distinct parts to this initiative:

- 1) Expression of Interest (EoI) and Application/Project Business Cases
The Ministry of Research and Innovation (MRI) will manage the EoI and Application/Project Business Cases for companies that develop, manufacture, market and/or use innovative green technologies/products that improve the green performance of schools. Applications will be assessed based on potential need, environmental/economic impact, long-term sustainability and viability. Eligible companies will be asked to provide detailed Project Business Cases which will be reviewed by MRI, external technical experts and other relevant ministries.
- 2) School Board Applications
The Ministry of Education (EDU) will develop a list of companies for school boards' consideration and interested school boards will complete applications outlining which products/technologies they wish to pilot in which schools. EDU will evaluate the applications, approve and fund these pilot projects (maximum of \$2M per pilot and \$20M in total). As part of each pilot, the company will be required to provide a plan to monitor and measure performance over the next two years.

MRI issued the Expression of Interest this week. The EoI can be reviewed at:

<http://www.mri.gov.on.ca/english/programs/gspi/program.asp>

The Ministry will provide further information on the application process for pilot projects to school board officials by early June 2009 and we anticipate that all projects will be approved by September 2009.

If you have any questions please contact Fiona Menzies at (416) 212-4444 or Fiona.Menzies@ontario.ca



Karen Maxwell

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