

**MEMORANDUM TO:** School Business Officials  
Superintendents of Plant

**FROM:** Nancy Whynot  
Director, Capital Programs Branch

**DATE:** May 3, 2011

**SUBJECT:** **Wrap-up of Good Places to Learn Renewal Program by August 2012**

---

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise boards of the wrap-up of the Good Places to Learn (GPL) Renewal program.

The GPL Renewal program focused on addressing high and urgent renewal needs that were identified through an inspection of all schools carried out in 2002 and 2003 under the Ministry's direction. Funding for GPL Renewal began with Stage 1 in 2005 and ended with the announcement of Stage 4 allocations in January 2009. In total, the Ministry allocated \$2.25 billion to support eligible expenditures.

#### Status of Good Places to Learn Renewal Spending

The Ministry wants to ensure that this funding is used in an appropriate time-frame to maintain the integrity of government and school board fiscal and capital planning. In memorandum **2009:SB19**, the Ministry asked boards to ensure that all GPL Renewal funding was identified as committed, active, or complete, and to update ReCAPP accordingly, by August 31, 2010.

Based on the 2009-10 Financial Statements from 70 boards, boards have reported spending \$2.02 billion of GPL Renewal funding. As of April 2011, boards have identified only \$1.96 billion of GPL Renewal work as complete or underway in ReCAPP. While this shows the vast majority of GPL Renewal funding has been spent, the ReCAPP total reflects costs that have not yet been incurred, indicating a discrepancy between Financial Statements and ReCAPP.

## Wrap-Up of GPL Renewal

The Ministry believes it is reasonable to wrap-up the GPL Renewal program, which will require that:

- 1) All GPL Renewal projects be recorded in TCPS® (the upgraded version of ReCAPP®) as one of “Approved”, “Active”, “Completed” (considered underway by the Ministry) or “Archived” (considered complete) by August 31, 2011. No further extensions will be granted.
- 2) Priority escalation requests for low and medium priority renewal events be submitted to the Ministry no later than August 31, 2011.
- 3) All GPL Renewal allocations be fully spent by boards by August 31, 2012.

The Ministry will initiate a confirmation process with boards of GPL Renewal reporting and of any uncommitted GPL Renewal amounts in the fall of 2011. The Ministry will work with boards to identify specific exceptions to allow for circumstances where larger projects may not be completed by August 31, 2012. The Ministry intends to undertake a re-allocation of funding not spent or allocated to projects identified as exceptions.

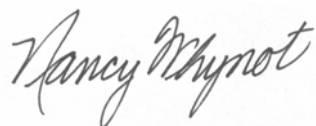
School boards are also reminded that the Energy Efficient Schools funding must also be spent by August 2012.

### Transition from ReCAPP to TCPS®

As noted in memorandum **2011:SB7**, data held in ReCAPP® will be transitioned to TCPS® as part of the Ministry’s Condition Assessment Program. Altus has asked boards to ensure that all completed projects are accurately updated in ReCAPP® prior to each board’s transition to TCPS®. Training is available from Altus in completing this work - please contact Sazan Bimo at (416) 234-4201 for further assistance. Training on TCPS® is also available now.

If you have questions about the wrap-up of the GPL Renewal program or would like to request a priority escalation of low or medium renewal events, please contact Mathew Thomas, Capital Programs Branch, at (416) 326-9920 or [Mathew.P.Thomas@Ontario.ca](mailto:Mathew.P.Thomas@Ontario.ca).

Sincerely,



Nancy Whynot  
Director  
Capital Programs Branch

cc: Directors of Education