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Capital Policy and Programs
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Direction des politiques et des
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2015: SB28

MEMORANDUM TO: Senior Business Officials
Managers of Planning
Secretaries/Treasurers of School Authorities

FROM: Grant Osborn
Director
Capital Policy and Programs Branch

DATE: **October 1, 2015**

SUBJECT: **Infrastructure Ontario's Realty Circulation Publication
Website**

I am writing to inform you of a recent development that will assist schools boards with their capital planning and asset management needs. The Ministry of Education has recently secured greater access for school boards to use Infrastructure Ontario's (IO's) Realty Circulation Publication website. School boards will now be able to view, express interest in, and make offers to purchase surplus properties controlled by the Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure (MEDEI) before they are listed for sale on the open market. Previously, school boards could only access this website to list their own surplus properties for disposition.

This change will provide school boards with greater opportunities to acquire surplus, provincially owned properties to address accommodation needs. It also promotes improved collaboration among public entities. Furthermore, this change aligns with the recently released report of the Premier's Community Hub Framework Advisory Group, *Community Hubs in Ontario: A Strategic Framework and Action Plan*. As part of this strategy, the report recommends the assembly of a comprehensive inventory of provincial and provincially supported public property, including those owned by the broader public sector.

IO's Realty Circulation Publication Website

IO's Realty Circulation Publication website is a tool for circulating information about surplus property among public entities. It provides provincial ministries, agencies and crown corporations, the federal government, upper and lower tier municipalities and eligible Ontario Non-profit Network members with an inventory of surplus properties owned by these entities and the opportunity to express interest in these properties.

Expanding School Board Access to IO's Realty Circulation Publication Website

School boards have recently been approved as public entities that are able to view, express interest in, and make offers to purchase surplus property controlled by MEDEI on IO's Realty Circulation Publication website. MEDEI controls most of the Government of Ontario's realty. Approximately 200 surplus properties are circulated on IO's Realty Circulation Publication website each year, of which approximately 100 are Government of Ontario surplus properties.

At this time, school boards have been granted access to only MEDEI-controlled properties. The Ministry of Education intends to seek support from other provincial ministries that control realty and other entities that use IO's Realty Circulation Publication website, such as municipalities, to allow school boards to ultimately have access to information on all surplus properties posted on IO's Realty Circulation Publication website.

How to access IO's Realty Circulation Publication Website

I strongly encourage all school boards to use IO's Realty Circulation Publication website when seeking to dispose of or acquire surplus property. According to IO data, it appears that over half of Ontario's 72 school boards already use IO's Realty Circulation Publication website to notify the Government of Ontario (the Crown in right of Ontario) of surplus school board property under Ontario Regulation 444/98. The Ministry of Education's ultimate aim is for school boards to post notifications about surplus properties only once to allow properties to be viewed by eligible public entities.

If your board is not already registered to use IO's Realty Circulation Publication website, follow the link below to request access:

<https://apps.infrastructureontario.ca/RealtyPublishing/RequestAccess.aspx>

A user guide for the website is also attached for your reference.

If you have questions about accessing IO's Realty Circulation Publication website, please contact Perminder Bhogal, Manager, Portfolio Research and Analytics, Infrastructure Ontario at (416) 326-0584 or Perminder.Bhogal@infrastructureontario.ca.

If you have questions about this memorandum or require additional information about surplus property acquisition or disposition processes, please contact Yvonne Rollins, Senior Policy Analyst, Ministry of Education at (416) 326-9932 or yvonne.rollins@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Grant Osborn
Director
Capital Policy and Programs Branch

cc: Senior Plant Officials