

Ministry of Education

Ministère de l'Éducation

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November 26, 2009

Ms. Annie Kidder
Executive Director, People for Education
641 Bloor Street West, Second Floor
Toronto, ON
M6G 1L1
Email: annie@peopleforeducation.com

Dear Ms. Kidder: *Annie*

I am writing further to the letter of November 18, 2009, from the Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education, regarding proposed province-wide guidelines for board policies related to fundraising, corporate partnerships and student fees. In her letter, the Minister invited your organization to provide us with input and advice in developing these guidelines.

As a starting point for our initial consultation, the Ministry has identified a number of questions, which are attached. We would appreciate both your organization's response to these questions and your comments and views on other relevant concerns or issues that should be addressed. As the Minister noted in her letter, the identification of best practices that can be shared across the education community is also an important goal. We would welcome any information that you can provide.

Please provide your comments by January 15, 2010. Please forward them to:

Jeanette Robinson, Senior Financial Analyst
Transfer Payments and Financial Reporting Branch
21st Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2
e-mail: jeanettemarie.robinson@ontario.ca

Once the draft guidelines are developed, they will be circulated for additional feedback and revision. For more information, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jeanette Robinson at jeanettemarie.robinson@ontario.ca or by phone at 416-325-2049.

Thank you for your participation as we continue to work in partnership to support our students and their schools and communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Naylor".

Nancy Naylor
Assistant Deputy Minister
Business and Finance Division

Province-wide guidelines for school board policies related to fundraising, corporate partnerships and fees for learning materials and activities

Consultation Questions

The following set of questions has been developed to assist in the initial consultation. Please try to address these questions in your response, and feel free to add further comments or information.

Guiding Principles

- What are some of the key principles that should guide school board policies related to fundraising, corporate partnerships and student fees?

Fundraising

- How should the school community be informed of fundraising activities?
- How do capital fundraising projects complement or enhance existing funding? Should restrictions be placed on major capital donations?
- How can school fundraising activities benefit schools and/or communities?

Corporate Partnerships

- What criteria or ethical guidelines should govern the selection of corporate partners?
- What requirements should guide the administration of corporate partnerships (for example, screening, consultation, evaluation, recognition)?
- What limits should be placed on the use of corporate advertising? What are appropriate ways to recognize corporate donations, in particular donations that support capital projects?

Fees for learning materials and activities

- What criteria should boards or schools use when determining what activities, programs or courses are eligible for fees?
- What practices are in place to support fairness and access to student activities in a way that is sensitive to the needs of all students?

Accountability

- Is the school community consistently made aware of what they are paying for, how much they are paying, why they are being asked to pay, and how the funds are spent?