

2008: B11

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Secretary/Treasurers of School Authorities

FROM: Nancy Naylor
Assistant Deputy Minister

DATE: August 18, 2008

SUBJECT: **In-year amendments to the 2007–08 and 2008–09
education funding regulations**

I am writing to provide you with information about in-year amendments to the education funding regulations that have been made by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. These amendments, which make changes to the funding regulations for the 2007–08 and 2008–09 school years, are effective immediately.

A separate memorandum of today's date, **2008: B10 – Funding enhancements for peace and progress in education – 2008–09 and future years**, provides information about new funding enhancements through the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) in 2008–09 and future years which reflect the government's commitment to support Provincial Discussion Table (PDT) agreements.

The in-year amendments detailed in this memorandum, which address technical and other matters, implement decisions made after the 2008-09 GSN announcement of March 26, 2008. The amendments affect the following areas of the GSN.

First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Supplement 2008–09 (O. Reg. 85/08)

On June 2, 2008, Memorandum **2008: B7 – Revised Allocation for the Per-Pupil Amount Component of the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Supplement** informed boards that their Per-Pupil Amount allocations were being revised based on 2006 Census data.

An amendment to the funding regulation flows the total 2008–09 Per-Pupil Amount component of \$10.5M, which includes a \$5M increase for 2008-09.

Adult and Continuing Education 2008–09 (O. Reg. 85/08)

On May 7, 2008, Memorandum **2008: B6 – Enhanced Funding for Adult Education Programs** informed boards that the \$7M increase for adult education programs was being allocated by raising the per-adult-student amount in the Continuing Education and Other Programs Grant to \$2,880 and that the new benchmark would be reflected in the Revised Estimates forms for 2008–09.

An amendment to the funding regulation flows this increase through the Continuing Education and Other Programs Grant.

New Teacher Induction Program 2008–09 (O. Reg. 85/08)

The New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP) provides a full year of professional support to new teachers. Formerly allocated outside the GSN, Memorandum **2008: B2 – Education Funding for 2008–09** informed boards that as of the 2008–09 school year, annual funding of \$15M for NTIP would be allocated through the GSN as a component of the Cost Adjustment and Teacher Qualifications and Experience Grant and that funding would be allocated on the same basis as in previous years.

The funding regulation has been amended to align NTIP funding with board spending for NTIP purposes.

Under the regulation, a board is entitled to the lesser of what the board would have received through the funding formula (\$20,000 per district school board and \$2,000 per new teacher), or the expenditure of the board for NTIP during the fiscal year.

Reverse Tuition Agreements 2007–08 (O. Reg. 152/07) and 2008–09 (O. Reg. 85/08)

Formerly, reverse tuition agreements for children residing off reserve, but attending federally funded schools on reserve, were only funded for elementary students. In accordance with an amendment to s. 185 of the *Education Act* by Bill 78, funding to boards for fees under reverse tuition agreements has been extended to cover secondary school students.

Amounts payable to boards now cover fees for both elementary and secondary students who reside in a school board district and who attend a federally funded school for First Nation children on reserve.

Tax Arrears 2008–09 (O. Reg. 85/08)

Effective December 31, 2008, the Provincial Land Tax reform in territories without municipal organization will have a new municipal service provider assume levying and taxing responsibility. School boards currently hold this responsibility.

The regulation for boards collecting taxes in a territory without municipal organization has been amended to address amounts owed to boards for uncollected taxes. Boards will be reimbursed for uncollected taxes as of December 31, 2008.

School Office Supplies Benchmark in the School Foundation Grant 2008–09 (O. Reg. 85/08)

Consistent with the 1 percent benchmark increase to assist boards with the costs of textbooks, learning materials, classroom supplies, and classroom computers, and school office supplies outlined in Memorandum **2008: B2 – Education Funding for 2008–09**, the funding regulation has been amended to provide for a 1 percent increase to the benchmark for school office supplies in the School Foundation Grant, which was not included as part of the March 2008–09 GSN.

New Pupil Places 2007–08 (O. Reg. 152/07) and 2008–09 (O. Reg. 85/08)

The costs incurred by school boards to move portables to accommodate pupils for the Primary Class Size (PCS) initiative were recognized as eligible costs for PCS capital support. However, the cost of moving portables to accommodate pupils for other reasons was not recognized under the New Pupil Places Allocation.

The regulation has been amended to make the costs associated with the relocation of temporary space (portables) for elementary and secondary pupils eligible for funding under the New Pupil Places Allocation.

Growth Schools and Prohibitive-to-Repair Tables 2007–08 (O. Reg. 152/07) and 2008–09 (O. Reg. 85/08)

The Growth Schools and Prohibitive-to-Repair (PTR) tables have been amended to reflect the most recent Growth Schools and PTR funding approvals.

Amalgamation of Rainy River DSB and Mine Centre District School Area Board (DSAB) 2008–09 (O. Reg. 85/08)

As of September 1, 2008, the Mine Centre DSAB will become part of the Rainy River District School Board (DSB). The funding regulation has been amended to include an increase in the trustee honoraria amount of the Rainy River DSB resulting from this amalgamation.

Also, Table 5 of the regulation has been updated to reflect the addition of a Supported School and an increased Supported Schools Allocation for Rainy River DSB.

Transportation 2007–08 (O. Reg. 152/07)

The regulation has been amended to update the table amounts for boards with completed Effectiveness and Efficiency Reviews. An adjustment for the cost benchmark study has also been made based on clarification of a board submission and verification from the Ministry.

Operation of Schools (Reg. 298 of R.R.O. 1990)

The regulation has been amended to limit the size of primary classes for gifted pupils to the same limit that applies to regular primary classes.

Proceeds of Disposition (update to O. Reg. 444/98)

This regulation has been updated to clarify that boards are required to re-circulate a property they wish to dispose of through the identified agencies (e.g., school board, municipality, other government agency) if it has been more than 3 years since the property was last circulated.

The regulation has also been amended to remove a spent provision governing which French-language community college is to receive proposals for disposition of surplus school board real property.

Revocation of Outdated Regulations

The following regulations have been revoked.

O. Reg. 277/97 – Assessment and tax adjustments – 1997

O. Reg. 365/98 – School tax arrears pre-1998

O. Reg. 366/98 – Tax arrears in annexed areas

O. Reg. 714/98 – Levying of certain rates for 1998 in later year

O. Reg. 385/00 – School tax instalments in 2000

O. Reg. 140/03 – Levying of certain rates for prior years before 2003

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