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MEMORANDUM TO: District School Board Trustees

FROM: The Honourable Laurel Broten
Minister of Education

DATE: April 1, 2012

SUBJECT: **Amendments to O. Reg. 357/06 “Honoraria for Board Members”**

The government is committed to building a strong economy: one that supports good jobs and quality public services. That's why, as Ontario confronts the challenges brought about by the current economic environment, we have to work together and apply determination to the choices we make. All of us have a role to play. Doctors, nurses, teachers and every person in Ontario who delivers — or receives — a public service of any kind must turn our attention to the way government delivers services to Ontario families.

To that end, the government is proposing to extend the pay freeze for elected provincial politicians for another two years. We believe that MPPs should lead by example and that other partners in the broader public sector should do the same. The government is negotiating with the province's doctors, who have also been asked to accept a wage freeze. In addition, Ontario's school board staff have been asked to do their part to help slow down spending.

In light of the expiration of restraint provisions in the *Public Sector Compensation Restraint to Protect Public Services Act, 2010*, on March 31 I am amending Ontario Regulation 357/06 *Honoraria for Board Members* to maintain the limits on trustee remuneration until March 31, 2014 to the levels that would have been obtained had the restraint period not ended.

In cases where trustees are eligible for an increase in remuneration, school boards are requested in anticipation of the forthcoming amendments not to pass resolutions increasing the honoraria.

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We appreciate the hard work of Ontario's school board trustees and thank you for your ongoing dedication to Ontario's students.

Yours Truly,

Laurel Broten
Minister