

2008: SB #16

MEMORANDUM TO: Superintendents of Business and Finance

FROM: Cheri Hayward
Director
School Business Support Branch

DATE: June 19, 2008

SUBJECT: Proposed Green Clean Program

I would like to share with you the progress that is being made on the sector-wide Green Clean Initiative. I ask that you forward a copy of this letter to your Senior Plant Official.

Last year, COSBO's Effectiveness and Efficiency (E&E) Committee endorsed a Green Clean Working Group made up of representatives from facilities, procurement and administration. A consultant was hired to conduct research on green cleaning. A review of the report, *Green Clean Schools in Ontario*, indicated that more detailed research was required and that the sector needed a framework for a comprehensive green clean program.

As a result, with direction from the Green Clean Working Group, the Ministry has taken the lead on the second phase of this initiative. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on Friday, May 23rd which will expand the scope of the research and include the creation of a comprehensive green clean program that boards can consider implementing in their schools.

The program will include:

- a holistic approach to green cleaning in schools and board administrative buildings including the business case for adopting a green clean program;
- research on existing legislation, health and safety, student learning, certification systems, product effectiveness, cost/benefit analysis, identification of new and existing best practices related to green clean programs; and,
- an implementation strategy for boards including development of an easy-to-use toolkit, with targeted communications materials for each identified audience.

Research will commence this summer, with a six-month pilot program being launched in selected volunteer schools this winter. It is anticipated that the final green clean program and ancillary products will be available for distribution to the sector for the 2009-10 school year.

If you have any questions about the Green Clean Program, please contact Karen Carter, Senior Policy Advisor at 416 212-3179 or karen.carter2@ontario.ca.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cheri Hayward".

Cheri Hayward
Director
School Business Support Branch

copy: Directors of Education
Senior Plant Officials
Bob Backstrom
Bob Mahony,
John Donofrio
John Neville
Steve Mills
Jim Scott
Donna Lee Reid