MEMORANDUM TO:  Directors of Education
                Secretary-Treasurers and Supervisory Officers of School Authorities

FROM:  Joan Fullerton

DATE:  March 21, 2007

SUBJECT:  Summer Experience Program 2007

I am pleased to advise you of the launch of the Summer Experience Program 2007. This is one of the government-wide programs supporting youth work opportunities run through the Ministry of Government Services’ Youth and New Professionals Secretariat. Employment Programs and Services, Ontario Shared Services, continues to administer the Program and provide funding to ministries. With your help, we hope to have another successful summer.

Consistent with previous summers, the program continues to be a project-based initiative that employs youth aged 15 to 24 years (up to 29 years of age for persons with disabilities). The positions offered should support critical activities relating to ministry core business and provide the opportunity for youth to develop skills that are career related and transferable to the general labour market; to give youth a meaningful work experience to improve job skills and/or assist their career planning; to assist school boards in providing useful services in a variety of career areas and educational programs; and to provide training and supervision necessary to develop job skills and to carry out occupational duties safely and accurately.

District School Boards are invited to participate in this program by submitting a Project Application Form for each opportunity to employ a youth over the summer. The ministry will grant a maximum of $2,260 for each youth hired. In February 2007, the minimum wage for students increased to $8.00 per hour which impacted the number of placements for the Summer Experience Program. The allotment for the Barrie Regional Office this year is 11 positions to be distributed throughout the region.

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If you intend to hire several youths, please use a separate Application Form for each position, and indicate your priority ranking. Please forward your completed Project Application Form(s) by **April 20, 2007** to Mary Lynne Atkinson, Policy Analyst at the Barrie Regional Office. If you have any questions, you may contact Mary Lynne at (705) 725-7161 or 1-888-336-3392.

Once your projects have been reviewed, you will be advised which have been approved. At the same time, employment application forms and other material will be forwarded to you.

It is important that we have the name of the board contact person for the Summer Experience 2007 Program. You will note that on the Project Application Form, there is a box for that information. We appreciate your assistance in ensuring that someone is identified.

This year, SEP positions will be posted on the GoJobs web site. The launch will occur by the end of March; however, the advertisements are very generic. In addition to the GoJob web site postings, your board may advertise as you did in the previous years for the approved positions you require.

Regional Manager

Attachments:
- Project Application Form 2007
- Job Proposal Form 2007
- SEP Program Guide 2007
- High School Co-op background material