MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Margot Trevelyan
Director
Labour Relations and Governance Branch
French-Language Education and Educational Operations Division

DATE: November 15, 2006

SUBJECT: TRUSTEE QUALIFICATIONS

During the lead up to the school board trustee elections, the Ministry was advised of the possibility of some candidates being unaware of the necessary qualifications for becoming and serving as a trustee.

To avoid any problems arising when the new boards convene after the election, please inform the successful candidates in your board that over the next four years they need to hold and retain the qualifications to serve as a school board trustee. These qualifications are:

- must be a Canadian citizen
- must be 18 years or older
- must reside within the jurisdiction of the board
- must be a supporter of the board—if an owner or tenant of land, or their spouse—and qualified to be a board elector
- cannot be an employee of any school board
- cannot be a clerk, deputy clerk, treasurer or deputy treasurer of a municipality within the jurisdiction of the board
- cannot be a Senator, M.P. or M.P.P.
- cannot otherwise be disqualified from office

Successful candidates who remain employees of any board or who remain clerks, deputy clerks, treasurers or deputy treasurers of any upper-, lower- or single-tier municipality wholly or partly within the area of jurisdiction of the board should be informed that they cannot continue to be so employed and serve as a trustee at the same time. Trustees-elect who find themselves in this situation may choose to resign from these jobs before making their declaration of office, or they may have the option of disclaiming their seat under the provisions of section 84 of the Municipal Elections Act.

Please contact your legal advisor should you need clarification as to trustees’ qualifications for office.

Margot Trevelyan