MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Richard Franz
Director (A)

DATE: April 7, 2009

SUBJECT: PLAR Grade 9 and 10 Individual Assessments — Environmental Scan

As part of the Ministry of Education’s ongoing investment in PLAR for Mature Students capacity building, the Ministry has asked Curriculum Services Canada (CSC) to conduct an environmental scan with a selection of representative Boards across the province. The French-language school board environmental scan will be conducted at the same time by the Centre canadien de leadership en évaluation inc. (CLÉ).

The purpose of this environmental scan is to examine the viability of using e-learning tools to support the development and delivery of consistent, high-quality individual assessments for determining, in the absence of transcripts, the number of Grade 9 or 10 credits to be granted to a mature student as outlined in Policy and Program Memorandum No. 132.

Please share this memo with your board personnel responsible for adult and continuing education. CSC will be contacting that person within the selected Boards to gather information on the potential use of the provincial Learning Management System (LMS) to support the development and delivery of PLAR Individual Equivalent Assessments in English, Math, Science and Canadian History/Geography.

Data gathered will be used as the basis for a written report to help the Ministry determine whether to proceed with the development and production of online equivalency assessment packages for PLAR for Mature Students – Grades 9 and 10.

We anticipate completion of the environmental scan by the end of May 2009.

Original signed by: Richard Franz

cc: Ginette Plourde, Director, French-Language Policy and Programs Branch
Kit Rankin, Director, Field and Services Branch
Regional Office Managers
Brenda King, Executive Director, CESBA