MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Secretary-Treasurers and Supervisory Officers of School Authorities
Principals of Elementary Schools
Principals of First Nation Elementary Schools

FROM: Kevin Costante
Deputy Minister

DATE: April 28, 2010


As you are aware the Ministry is in the process of reviewing the sexual health education portion of the recently released curriculum policy document for Health and Physical Education, Grades 1 to 8 (2010). I am writing to you today to assure you of our government’s commitment to the health and well-being of our children and young people and to advise you of the next steps going forward with respect to the Health and Physical Education curriculum in preparation for the 2010/11 school year.

Following discussion and review of the revised curriculum document, it has been determined that we will move forward on the implementation of the majority of the Health and Physical Education (2010) curriculum document. Analysis of the document demonstrates that 90% of the revised curriculum focuses on important learning related to the acquisition of physical and health literacy skills in active living, movement competence and healthy living.

However, it has also been determined that the portion of the Healthy Living strand which focuses on Human Development and Sexual Health will, pending further consultation with parents and our other education partners, be replaced with the Growth and Development portion from the Health and Physical Education, Grades 1 to 8 (1998) curriculum document. We are committed to a more full consultation process on this portion of the curriculum document with parents and will provide more details about the process and opportunities for input in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, the Ministry will move forward and produce an Interim Health and Physical Education, Grades 1 to 8 (2010) curriculum policy document to support teachers in implementing the curriculum beginning in September 2010. This interim document will be composed of the majority of the revised Health and Physical Education 2010 document, but replacing the Human Development and Sexual Health portion with the Growth and Development portion from the 1998 document. It is anticipated that this interim document will be posted on the Ministry website in June and that hard copies of the document will be distributed to school boards and schools shortly thereafter. Board implementation training sessions will be able to proceed as planned in the coming weeks.

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If you have any questions about the interim curriculum policy document, please contact the appropriate Regional Office for information. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Ministry’s curriculum revision initiatives in support of maintaining a high-quality education system that ensures success for all students.

Kevin Costante

cc: K. Rankin, Director, FSB
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    R. Franz, Director (A), SS/L18SPB
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