April 19, 2012

Dear PIC chair/Co-chair:

I am pleased to share some information with you about the new credit cap.

As you know, our 34-credit cap was recently announced in the proposed 2012 Budget. There are a lot of misconceptions about what this means, so we have created the attached “frequently asked questions” document.

We encourage you to please share this FAQ as widely as you can with school councils and parents. We hope you find this memo informative.

There are a few items we wanted to highlight:

- Boards should not charge students a fee for any of their credits,
- Students can still take more than 34 credits, but school boards will be funded at a lower rate for the 35th credit and beyond.

We recognize that students learn at different rates. That’s why we’ll make sure there are reasonable exemptions and discuss with school boards what these might include.

If there are additional questions you are receiving from students, parents or teachers, please send them to SSL18.strategicpolicy@ontario.ca so that we can add to the FAQ.

Sincerely,

(original signed by)

George Zegarac
Deputy Minister