MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Director of the Provincial Schools Branch

FROM: Marg Connor
Director
Leadership Development Branch

DATE: December 14, 2010

SUBJECT: Board Leadership Development Strategy (BLDS)
Regional Sharing Sessions & Implementation Support Projects

I am writing to offer additional support for the implementation of a Board Leadership Development Strategy (BLDS), your deliverable under the Ontario Leadership Strategy (OLS) this year.

Through the BLDS implementation support survey last summer and recent OLS regional teleconferences, boards indicated that one of the most effective ways for the ministry to support implementation is to provide opportunities for boards to share practices and learn from each other’s successes and challenges.

In response to this feedback, I am pleased to invite you to submit a brief expression of interest to receive one-time funding to support BLDS implementation in 2010-11. Submitting an expression of interest is optional and intended to provide support only as needed. Boards may apply for funding in two categories:

1. Regional BLDS Sharing Sessions

One board in each region may apply for up to $10,000 to support regional BLDS sharing sessions. This board will be identified as a lead board to receive the funding, support the organization of regional sessions, and report on expenditures. At minimum, participants would include board leads for BLDS, Mentoring and Principal/Vice-Principal Performance Appraisal (PPA) and others in related OLS or staff development roles.

2. BLDS Implementation Support Projects and Resources

Boards may apply for funding to support a BLDS implementation support project and/or to develop resources and supports for dissemination to all boards. Boards are encouraged to collaborate together on projects of mutual benefit. Examples of funded projects and/or resources include the development and/or delivery of:

- leadership curriculum for aspiring leaders
- competency profiles for leadership roles (e.g. managers, business, human resources supervisory officers)
- effective practices and resources for more strategic recruitment to administration roles
• capacity building opportunities including PPA and/or mentoring (e.g. goal setting models, building trust, courageous conversations)
• webinars to support implementation planning/sharing of effective practices
• effective BLDS implementation in the context of specific board circumstances (e.g. small boards)

Boards may also apply for funding to take an existing tool or resource and adapt it as a provincial tool or resource that could be posted on the Institute for Education Leadership’s website within Appliki at http://www.education-leadership-ontario.ca.

Funding applications are due by January 31, 2011 and all funds must be spent by July 8, 2011. Boards that receive funding will be asked to submit a compliance statement to confirm expenditures on any approved projects.

Please see attached 2010-11 Guideline for Application and Funding, and Expression of Interest Form, for more details.

Thank you for your support and advice to strengthen the implementation of the OLS and its contribution to student achievement and well-being.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me or your regional education officer.

Sincerely,

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Marg Connor
C:
Kevin Costante, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education
Denys Giguère, Executive Assistant, Deputy Minister’s Office
Marla Hume, Policy and Briefings Co-ordinator, Deputy Minister’s Office
Assistant Deputy Ministers, Ministry of Education
Executive Assistants to Assistant Deputy Ministers
Ginette Plourde, Director, French-language Education Policy and Programs Branch
Kit Rankin, Director, Field Services Branch
Regional Managers, Field Services Branch

Institute for Education Leadership
Association des directions et directions adjointes des écoles franco-ontariennes
Association des gestionnaires de l’éducation franco-ontarienne
Centre franco-ontarien de ressources pédagogiques
Council of Ontario Directors of Education
Council of Senior Business Officials
Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers’ Association
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