MEMORANDUM TO: Medical Officers of Health

FROM: Marg Connor
Director
Learning Environment Branch

DATE: February 20, 2013

RE: School Food and Beverage Policy Secondary Teacher Resource Guide

I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the School Food and Beverage Policy Secondary Teacher Resource Guide.

This resource is designed to assist secondary school teachers in teaching healthy eating by:

• providing an overview of the requirements of the School Food and Beverage Policy;
• making connections between the requirements of the School Food and Beverage Policy and the curriculum expectations taught in various subject areas;
• identifying the roles and responsibilities of teachers;
• providing examples of effective practices in the classroom and school; and
• promoting health literacy for students.

Additional copies of this resource are available for download on the Ministry of Education website www.healthyschools.ca.

The School Food and Beverage Policy was introduced in January 2010 and contains comprehensive nutrition standards based on principles of healthy eating, as outlined in Canada’s Food Guide. The policy came into force on September 1, 2011 and requires all food and beverages sold in Ontario’s publicly funded schools for school purposes to comply with the requirements set out in the policy.

Following the release of the policy, the Ministry of Education provided training to school board administration teams in January and February of 2010. In November and December 2010 the ministry also provided training to teams of elementary teachers from school boards. In addition, funding and resources were also provided to school boards/authorities to train elementary teachers from each school.
Ministry training sessions for secondary school teachers were provided to school board teams in January and February 2012. This staff development opportunity focussed on making connections and reinforcing the knowledge, skills, and attitudes regarding healthy eating that are developed through the Ontario curriculum.

Public health units were invited and have participated in these training sessions in their respective region.

Your continued support is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Marg Connor
Director

Attachment

c:  Dr. Arlene King, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Roselle Martino, Executive Director, Public Health Division, MOHLTC
Elizabeth Walker, Director, Public Health Planning and Liaison Branch, Public Health Division, MOHLTC
Kate Manson-Smith, ADM, Health Promotion Division, MOHLTC
Laura Pisko-Bezruchko, Director, Standards, Programs and Community Development Branch, Health Promotion Division, MOHLTC