

9 January 2014

OFFICE OF THE CHAIR

The Honourable Liz Sandals
Minister of Education
Mowat Block, 22nd Floor
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A1L2

Dear Minister,

In response to the October 28th, notification from the Ministry of Education about the consultations being conducted by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing about land use planning and the Development Charges Act, 1997, we have prepared a submission relating to Education Development Charges and the unfair impact the current regulations have on the Toronto District Schools Board's capital planning process.

We feel strongly that EDC regulation 20/98 is seriously outdated and needs to be amended to end the current system that disadvantages Toronto public schools. The limitations of the current EDC regulation never accounted for a community intensification program like the one developed by the City of Toronto. We know clearly from the impact of the densification of the Yonge-Sheppard corridor that new developments are having a substantial impact on existing schools and students.

We also know that the pressures currently being experienced in this area are just the beginning as City of Toronto planning information indicates that there are applications for an additional 277,000 new residential units. Based on the current Toronto Catholic District School Board's EDC rate, if the TDSB was treated equally, it is estimated that this projected growth would generate nearly \$300 million of much needed revenue to meet the capital needs of the Board.

Schools in these areas need adequate funding to accommodate new growth and developers should be contributing to these costs. It is unreasonable to expect the TDSB to use proceeds from site sales in other communities to finance infrastructure requirements resulting from growth in other areas of the city.

We know this is a complicated issue and look forward to continuing our partnership and working together toward our shared goals of quality education and learning spaces for all students. It would be appreciated if we could meet in the coming weeks to discuss this issue and potential for changes to the regulation.

Respectfully Yours,



Chris Bolton
Chair