



MINISTER OF EDUCATION, CITIZENSHIP AND YOUTH

Room 168
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8
CANADA

OCT 22 2008

New High School Lobby Group
c/o 97 Shorecrest Drive
Winnipeg MB R3P 1P4

Dear New High School Lobby Group:

I am writing in response to your correspondence of October 2, 2008.

On behalf of The Honourable Gary Doer and my Colleagues, I would like to take this opportunity to ensure your group that the public schools capital needs of your community and The Pembina Trails School Division remain an important priority for our government. More specifically, the planning and building of new schools in the growing communities in South West Winnipeg remains high on the list of priorities within the Public Schools Finance Board's capital plan.

On April 17, 2008 our government committed to increase annual funding for schools capital from \$45 million in 2007/08 to \$60 million for 2008/09. In addition to announcing our increased commitment to schools capital, our government also reaffirmed our commitment to build new schools in growing communities across the province. The press release made specific mention of the new and growing communities in The Pembina Trails School Division. I have attached a copy of the April 17, 2008 press release for your review.

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The Public Schools Finance Board (PSFB) has been working with The Pembina Trails School Division to plan for new schools in South West Winnipeg. To this end, I have been informed that The Pembina Trails School Division has identified a number of potential school sites in the new development of Waverley West in consultation with the developers and The Public Schools Finance Board. The PSFB will continue to work with the school division to move these projects forward as enrolments from these new residential communities continue to grow.

Sincerely,



Honourable Peter Bjornson
Minister
Education, Citizenship and Youth

Attachment

- c. The Honourable Gary Doer
Honourable Steve Ashton
Honourable Eric Robinson
Honourable Diane McGifford
Honourable Jim Rondeau