

January 17, 2017

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**Head Office**

P.O. Box 3110  
963 Airport Road.  
North Bay, ON  
P1B 8H1  
Fax: 705.472.6522

Main switchboard  
for all offices:  
705.472.8170

Toll free:  
1.800.278.4922

Web site:  
[www.nearnorthschools.ca](http://www.nearnorthschools.ca)

Mayor Al McDonald and CAO Keith Robicheau  
Corporation of the City of North Bay  
P.O. Box 360, 200 McIntyre St. East  
North Bay, ON P1B 8H8

Dear Mayor McDonald and Mr. Robicheau,

As you are aware, the Near North District School Board has commenced an accommodation review of schools in the North Bay Planning Area including E.T. Carmichael, E.W. Norman and W.J Fricker public schools and Chippewa, West Ferris and Widdifield secondary schools. The accommodation review is an opportunity to address the Board's under-utilized space in its schools to ensure that students are accommodated in facilities that are safe and healthy, with optimal learning environments and programming options.

Under the new accommodation review process, the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) will act as an advisory group that represents the schools under review and will be the conduit for information shared between the Board and the affected school communities.

The Board is in the process of forming the North Bay Planning Area ARC which will consist of parent and student representatives, a community representative, an Indigenous representative and various Board staff.

**The City of North Bay is a valued community partner and as such, we are reaching out to you with an invitation to appoint a City representative to serve in a resource capacity on the Accommodation Review Committee.**

**Should you wish to appoint a representative, please provide their name, position, email address and telephone number to Carrie Girard, Executive Assistant to the Director of Education at [Carrie.Girard@nearnorthschools.ca](mailto:Carrie.Girard@nearnorthschools.ca) by Tuesday, January 24, 2017.**

**We would welcome this representative to attend our ARC meeting with co-terminus school boards, municipalities and community partners on February 1, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the North Bay Board Office. An invite for that meeting is enclosed with this letter.**

The ARC will meet according to the following schedule:

February 1, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m. North Bay Board Office	ARC Orientation	
February 15, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m. Widdifield Secondary School	1st Public Meeting	
February 16, 2017 – May 2, 2017 Location to be determined.	Working Meetings	As determined by the ARC Committee.
May 8, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m. Chippewa Secondary School	2nd Public Meeting	

More information can be found on the Board's website at [www.nearnorthschools.ca](http://www.nearnorthschools.ca) under Community/Capital Planning.

The Near North District School Board is committed to engaging its communities and partners in an open, authentic and transparent accommodation review process in order to make the best decisions for all students. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



David Thompson,

Chair



Jackie Young,

Director of Education

**Accommodation Review:  
North Bay Planning Area  
Meeting to Discuss and Comment on  
Recommended Option in ISR**



Political and administrative representatives from affected municipalities, co-terminus school boards and community partners are invited to attend a meeting to discuss and comment on the recommended option in the Initial Staff Report (ISR) on **Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Boardroom at the Near North District Board Office, 963 Airport Road in North Bay.

The ISR, which is available on the Board's website under Community/Capital Planning, contains a staff recommendation option to consolidate 6 schools in the North Bay Planning Area: E.T. Carmichael, E.W. Norman, W.J. Fricker, Chippewa, West Ferris, Widdifield and the construction of 2 new schools; a JK-6 on the W.J. Fricker site and a school facility designed for grade 7-12 on the Chippewa site.

Affected municipalities, co-terminus school boards and community partners must provide their response on the recommended option in the ISR before the final public meeting which is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on May 8, 2017 at Chippewa Secondary School, 539 Chippewa Street West in North Bay.

For more information, please contact Carrie Girard, Executive Assistant at [Carrie.Girard@nearnorthschools.ca](mailto:Carrie.Girard@nearnorthschools.ca) or (705) 472-8170, extension 5010.