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September 14, 2011

Fern Dominelli Chief Administrative Officer Sudbury-Manitoulin District Services Board 210 Mead Blvd Espanola, ON P5E 1R9

Dear Fern Dominelli:

Our doors are open.

Rainbow District School Board welcomes not-for-profit groups into its schools to provide programs, services and activities during the evenings and on weekends.

Schools are important gathering places for the community, long after the school day ends, so we support and encourage groups to make use of our facilities, including gymnasiums, auditoriums, lecture halls and cafeterias.

Why consider schools?

- · Schools are close and convenient for the community to access.
- Schools offer wonderful facilities for infants, children, youth, adults and older adults to come together to participate in a variety of activities.
- Developing schools as the hub of the community enhances the overall quality of life in our neighbourhoods.

To learn more about how your group can access school space, I invite you to read the enclosed Community Use of Schools brochure.

For more information, please contact: Kathy Longarini, Community Outreach Co-ordinator Phone 705-674-3171, ext. 7227 / Toll free: 1-888-421-2661 or email longark@rainbowschools.ca

I have also enclosed information about the Priority Schools Initiative for the 2011-2012 School Year.

We look forward to working with you to build healthy and strong communities for our children and families.

Sincerely.

Norm Blaseg

Director of Education

Priority Schools – 2011-2012 School Year Rainbow District School Board

Rainbow District School Board has received special funding for five schools designated as Priority Schools for community use in the 2011-2012 School Year.

They include Lansdowne Public School, Queen Elizabeth II Public School and Adamsdale Public School in Sudbury, A.B. Ellis Public School in Espanola, and Little Current Public School on Manitoulin Island.

Not-for-profit groups can use the facilities at these schools for free. Priority Schools Initiative funding covers the cost of keeping the schools open after hours and on weekends, seven days a week, all year long.

The Ministry of Education launched the Priority Schools Initiative in 2010-2011 as part of Ontario's Poverty Reduction Strategy.

The Priority Schools Initiative enables schools and community partners to work together to provide services and activities that respond to the needs and interests of the community.

Having free access to schools enables not-for-profit groups to offer sustainable programs, services and activities at little or no cost, in a familiar, supportive environment, long after the school day ends.

This promotes community involvement as well as fair and equitable access, which enhances the quality of life and the overall well-being of the children, youth, families and older adults in our neighbourhoods.

If you would like to offer a service, program or activity in one or more Priority Schools, or would like more information, please contact:

Kathy Longarini, Community Outreach Co-ordinator Phone 705-674-3171, ext. 7227 / Toll free: 1-888-421-2661 or email longark@rainbowschools.ca

Thank you for working with Rainbow Schools to build healthy and vibrant communities.

Priority Schools 2011-2012



