



JUN 26 2012



John Vanthof
MPP/député Timiskaming-Cochrane

June 24, 2012

Fern Dominelli
CAO Of Social Services
Manitoulin Sudbury DSB
210 Mead Blvd.
Espanola Ontario
P5E 1R9

Dear Fern;

It is my pleasure to write this letter of support on behalf of ALPHA en Partage de Sudbury Est. Incorporated in 1998, this non profit group has been operating in the St Charles area and has assisted many adult learners in obtaining basic literacy skills. I am pleased and grateful that Manitoulin Sudbury DSB has been a strong and stable partner in this program since its inception.

In 2004, ALPHA entered into a partnership with Cambrian College that allowed their clients to achieve their grade 12 equivalency or upgrade their academic skills to the level that is required as a pre-requisite for the post secondary program of their choice. In May of 2012 Cambrian College advised ALPHA that it will no longer fund the education levels that allow adult learners to complete the program and become Grade 12 graduates.

This type of program is a vital lifeline to many young adults that need customized learning opportunities outside of the education system. The success rate for this program is very high and its program has proven beneficial to the municipalities that it serves.

The cost to continue this program is not substantial but is imperative to the long term sustainability of literacy training in the St. Charles area. We understand that there is a need to trim budgets at all levels, but it would be a detriment to literacy training to lose this program funding at this time.

Please continue to support this group with funding that will allow the continuation of literacy training in this region.

Thank you for considering this request. If I can be of further assistance, please contact my office at 1-877-701-1105.

Sincerely

John Vanthof, MPP
Timiskaming-Cochrane