



For Immediate release

June 28, 2017

The Community Schools Alliance welcomes today's announcement by Ontario Minister of Education Mitzie Hunter of an immediate moratorium on new Pupil Accommodation Reviews that lead to school closures, a review of the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and additional funding for schools in rural and northern Ontario.

"We are very pleased that no new accommodation reviews will be undertaken until the province's Accommodation Review Guideline is revised after consultations with school boards and municipalities", said Community Schools Alliance chair Doug Reycraft. "The Alliance has for several years called for changes to the guideline that better reflect the impact of school closures on rural and northern communities and enhancements to the education funding formula that will allow school boards to keep small schools open."

"Today's announcement represents an acknowledgement by the provincial government that the guideline used by school boards to develop their accommodation review policies and the education funding formula are flawed", continued Reycraft. "We welcome that acknowledgement but continue to be concerned that decisions by school boards this year to close hundreds of schools based on a flawed review process and inadequate provincial funding will be allowed to stand. We call on school boards to respect the spirit of today's announcement and defer those closures until the province's reviews and decisions on full-year funding are completed."

For more information, please contact

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