



YMCA of Greater Saint John
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January 26, 2018

Mr. Rob Fowler, Chair
And the Members of the District Education Council (DEC),
Anglophone School District – South,
490 Woodward Avenue
Saint John, NB, E2K 5N3

Dear Mr. Fowler and Members of DEC,

The YMCA of Greater Saint John is in full support of DEC's recommendation of a new community school in the Saint John's South Central Peninsula, one that provides space for current community partnerships. Thank you for the opportunity to be part of the discussions with the DEC and community partners.

As a firm believer in Early Childhood Education, the Y's Early Learning Centre offers Child Care and After School programs as well as community programs for families. Located in the South-end of Saint John we are a hub for children, youth and families to gather and grow together. With a dedicated space for an Early Learning Centre in the new school, we can continue to provide children a safe and fun place to learn while engaging them socially, emotionally and academically.

Using our nationally accredited play-based program and the NB Curriculum, our highly trained educators provide children an opportunity to play and learn all while meeting the developmental targets needed to succeed in school and life.

Our programming is designed to allow everyone the opportunity to reach their full potential. The YMCA of Greater Saint John is committed to ensuring people of all ages are healthier and thrive regardless of their background or financial situation. Having a dedicated space in the new school will allow us to move forward in closing the education gap in our city which will break the cycle poverty in Saint John.

Thank you for your continued support. Together we are working towards building healthy communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shilo Boucher".

Shilo Boucher
President & CEO
YMCA of Greater Saint John

Building healthy
communities