



The City of Saint John

Mayor Don Darling
Mayor's Office
Bureau du maire

February 15, 2018

Robert Fowler, Chair
ASD-S District Education Council
490 Woodward Avenue
Saint John, New Brunswick
E2K 5N3

Dear Mr. Fowler,

The City of Saint John is writing this letter to show support for the recommendation of the District Education Council (DEC) to build a new school in the South End and to share its views on how to ensure this opportunity is fully leveraged and truly benefits the Central Peninsula neighbourhoods and the City of Saint John.

The City of Saint John wishes to continue to work collaboratively with the District Education Council (DEC) and the Province of New Brunswick as it embarks on its capital planning process for the development of a new school for the Central Peninsula. This is a monumental opportunity for the Province, the City of Saint John and both the South End and Waterloo Village neighbourhoods. The development of a new school in the Central Peninsula has the potential to catalyze positive neighbourhood change with the potential to enhance community pride and regional perceptions of the neighbourhood, to encourage new growth and investment in Saint John's core neighbourhoods, and to support community efforts to reduce poverty.

As a leading community partner, the City of Saint John is actively involved in the efforts to support the needs of residents across the City, including the two residential neighbourhoods served by both Prince Charles and St. John the Baptist/King Edward Schools. This includes active involvement in the schools through the support of the South End Community Centre, which supports a wide range of community programming including the Lunch Connection Program, the Rising Stars Basketball Initiative and many other programs. The City also supports a range of initiatives to improve the socio-economic conditions of the South End and Waterloo Village through its support of the Waterloo Village Neighbourhood Association and PULSE, its community grants program, development and beautification incentive programs and through its comprehensive neighbourhood planning program. In addition to this, the City of Saint John provides a wide variety of both essential and supportive services to the Central Peninsula such as water and sewer, garbage collection, public safety, and the development and maintenance of public infrastructure.



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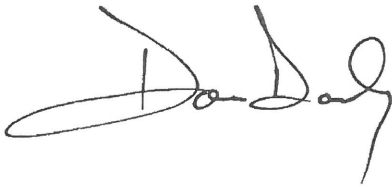
The City of Saint John envisions itself as continuing to play a leadership role in the revitalization of its core urban neighbourhoods and sees collaboration with the Province and DEC on the successful development of a new school as integral to these efforts. For this reason, the City of Saint John wishes that the following principles be considered as part of the development of a new school for the Central Peninsula.

1. A new school should act as a catalyst for the revitalization of the urban neighbourhoods of the Central Peninsula. The City of Saint John is currently in the final stages of developing a new plan to guide reinvestment in the Central Peninsula and wishes to collaborate with the Province to maximize the impact of both a new school and future municipal investments and initiatives planned for the Peninsula.

2. The City is seeking to work with the Province and the DEC on the planning, site selection and design of the proposed school to optimize its urban location and ensure a high quality design that will support growth and reinvestment in Saint John's priority neighbourhoods on the peninsula. The siting of the new school should capitalize on the urban nature of the Central Peninsula, New Brunswick's most compact and dense neighbourhood and pursue the opportunity to build an urban format school facility in proximity to other community facilities and assets. For this reason, the siting of the school should consider the high prevalence of active transportation as the primary, and in many cases, the only available mode of transportation for residents in this neighbourhood.

3. A new school should serve as a community hub that supports the educational, recreational, social and cultural needs of the community, as the current St. John the Baptist/King Edward School does today. Opportunities to secure public, private and community partnerships should be fully explored to leverage both additional funding and programming opportunities to ensure the new school is transformational for the Central Peninsula.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Darling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke.

Don Darling
Mayor, City of Saint John