

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

PROPOSED NEW REGULATION TO ENABLE THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION TO DIRECT SCHOOL BOARDS TO DISPOSE OF PROPERTY IN SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES

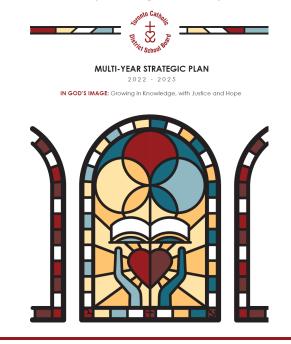
We ought therefore to show hospitality to such people so that we may work together for the truth. 3 John 1:8

Drafted	Meeting Date
May 28, 2025	May 29, 2025
Erica Pallotta, Head, Development Services	
Michael Loberto, Superintendent, Planning and Development Services	

INFORMATION REPORT

Vision: IN GOD'S IMAGE: Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope.

Mission: Nurturing the faith development and academic excellence of our Catholic learning community through the love of God, neighbour, and self.



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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides information on a proposed new regulation regarding the disposition of school property, as posted for comment by the Ministry of Education on May 27, 2025 (*Appendix 'A'*). The deadline for school boards to submit feedback on this regulation is June 1, 2025.

The proposed regulation builds on the legislative changes made under *Ontario* Regulation 374/23 and grants the Minister additional authority to direct the disposition of school board properties. It enables the Minister of Education to direct school boards to dispose of property if the Minister is satisfied that:

- Specific circumstances exist; and
- Determines that the property is not needed for current pupil accommodation or pupil accommodation within the next 10 years.

The report highlights the specific circumstances applicable under the proposed regulation where school boards may be required to sell property.

B. BACKGROUND

- 1. On May 27, 2025, a proposed regulation impacting the disposition of school board property was posted for comment (Appendix 'A'). This regulation builds on the legislative changes enacted through Ontario Regulation 374/23, which provided authority to the Minister to mandate the disposition of school sites.
- 2. The regulation, under subsection 194(6) of the Education Act, provides the Minister of Education with additional authority to direct the disposition of school board properties under specific circumstances. It enables the Minister to direct the school board to dispose of property if the Minister is satisfied that specific circumstances exist and determines that the site is not needed for current pupil accommodation or pupil accommodation within the next 10 years
- 3. *The specific circumstances which are subject to the proposed regulation are summarized below.* In instances where the Minister is satisfied that one of these circumstances exist, boards may be directed to sell the property.
 - A school board changes its plan for pupil accommodation needs and no longer intends to dispose of property, which was part of its plan for which the board received Minister's approval or Minister's approval for funding, and the board's pupil enrolment data shows that there are other schools within the board's jurisdiction with the capacity to meet the board's pupil accommodation needs or,

- A school board identified that a property is not needed to meet the board's current pupil accommodation needs or its pupil accommodation needs for the next 10 years, and the board was notified that it is required to sell the property under subclause 2 (1) (b) (i) of *Ontario Regulation 374/23: Acquisition and Disposition of Real Property* or,
- A school board has an accumulated deficit, and a property is not currently being used for pupil accommodation, and the board's pupil enrolment data shows that there are other schools within the board's jurisdiction with capacity to meet the board's pupil accommodation needs or,
- A school board is leasing a property to another school board and the owner board's pupil enrolment data shows that there are other schools within the board's jurisdiction with capacity to meet the board's pupil accommodation needs or,
- A school board has two or more buildings used for pupil accommodation on one property and one of the buildings has the capacity to meet the board's pupil accommodation needs.
- 4. Properties identified under the proposed regulation would continue to be subject to the disposition process under Ontario Regulation 374/23, which requires fair market value. Sites will first be assessed by the provincial government for the needs of coterminous school boards and then considered for other provincial priorities such as affordable housing and long-term care homes. If the land is not required for these purposes, school boards can proceed with disposing of the property on the open market.
- 5. The Ministry deadline for school boards to submit feedback on the proposed regulation is June 1, 2025. Staff will review the potential impacts of the new regulation on the Board.

C. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the information of the Board of Trustees.