

**Ministry of Education**

Minister

Mowat Block  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Ministre

Édifce Mowat  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



January 26, 2018

Brian Smith  
Mayor, Town of Wasaga Beach  
30 Lewis Street  
Wasaga Beach, ON, L9Z 1A1

Dear Mayor Smith,

I would like to thank you for your correspondence of October 24<sup>th</sup>, requesting that the Ministry of Education ask that the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) submit a proposal for a grade 7-12 school in the Town of Wasaga Beach. I am pleased to be able to reply.

It was a pleasure to meet at ROMA with representatives of the Town of Wasaga Beach and the High School Task Force on the question of a future secondary school. I would like to thank you for the time and dedication you have taken on this important issue.

As has been discussed previously, provincial legislation sets out that decisions regarding pupil accommodation are the responsibility of locally-elected school boards. As such, the Ministry does not direct specific accommodation proposals from boards.

However, I strongly believe that Wasaga Beach would be an ideal home for a future secondary school. Given the community's growing elementary population, as well as growth in the adjacent communities, I understand that the SCDSB will need to plan for additional secondary capacity in the foreseeable future.

It is my understanding that the school board currently has a property designated for a secondary school in the development lands of the Town of Wasaga Beach and that this plan has not yet been registered with the Town. The Ministry is prepared to provide the SCDSB with provincial funding to assist with the acquisition of this designated secondary school site as soon as it is ready. It is my request that the town and the board take all necessary planning steps to secure the site forthwith.

It is my hope that planning for a future secondary school can be an open and collaborative discussion between the SCDSB and the Town of Wasaga Beach.

Further, I understand that Wasaga Beach's growing elementary population will not be able to be accommodated by the current school sites. In order to accommodate this growth, the Ministry will be supporting the board's proposal for a new elementary school. It is my hope that the board and municipality will work together to make this new school a reality for the students of Wasaga Beach as soon as possible.

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The passion and dedication to quality education in the growing Town of Wasaga Beach is self-evident. As Minister, I am pleased to be able to support this growth through the acquisition of a secondary site and the construction of a new elementary school. Continued progress will require all partners to work together in a spirit of openness and collaboration.

I look forward to continuing our ongoing dialogue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Indira Naidoo-Harris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Indira Naidoo-Harris  
Minister of Education  
Minister Responsible for Early Years and Child Care

- c. Peter Beacock, Chair, Simcoe County District School Board  
Steven Blake, Director, Simcoe County District School Board