



## Office of the Regional Executive Director of Education

June 19, 2019

Dear Families,

I am very pleased to share some exciting news! A location has been identified for the new Bedford Pre-Primary to Grade 9 school. The location is on Broad Street, off Larry Uteck Boulevard.

The community of Bedford is expanding very quickly. The province was fortunate to find and purchase a piece of land large enough to accommodate a new school in Bedford, along with any future building needs because of rapid population growth. We expect the new Pre-Primary to Grade 9 school will help ease enrolment pressures in the area.

Now that a site has been chosen, the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal will move to the next steps – design and build. The Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) will create a School Steering Team (SST). The SST will include members of the School Advisory Councils (SACs). The SST will receive input from the community on school design. Once we know more about the design timeline, we will share that information with you.

In anticipation of some questions, here is a brief Q&A:

- **When will the new school be open?**

*It's estimated to be complete two years from when construction begins. The land will be cleared this summer.*

- **Will there be a boundary review? What is the new school catchment area?**

*Yes, a boundary review will take place to establish a catchment area for the new school. Details on the boundary review will be shared in the fall.*

- **Will the community be consulted on any aspect of the new school?**

*Yes, HRCE will create a School Steering Team (SST) involving members of School Advisory Councils. The SST will receive input from the community on school design. Once we know more about the design timeline, we will share this with you.*

- **What features will the school have?**

*The new school will feature an inclusive and accessible design. The preliminary school design will be driven by program needs for a Pre-Primary to Grade 9 school. Discussions of community needs and the final design of the school will be held during meetings with the SST.*

- **Why was this particular site chosen?**

*The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal engineers chose the location based on criteria needed to support a new school, such as access to power, water and sewage, transportation, proximity to the community it will serve, traffic patterns, land size and so on. In this case, as large parcels of suitable land are very difficult to come by in Bedford, a lot that met all necessary criteria became available and the province bought the land.*

Planning for a new school is tremendously exciting and you can look forward to receiving regular updates as the project progresses. These will be shared with schools for distribution and published on a dedicated page on our website, currently being created for this project.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elwin LeRoux". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elwin LeRoux,  
Regional Executive Director of Education