



Education

Board of Reference

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To All Parents:

The Board of Reference operates under authority of *The Public Schools Act*. Its main function is to decide matters related to boundaries of school divisions and districts, at the request of individual land owners, Indian Band councils, school boards, or the Minister of Education. The Board may make an award in respect to a request to transfer a parcel of land from one school division to another. The board may only make an award if it is satisfied that the transfer is for an educational purpose.

Over the past several years, the Board has received a significant number of requests to transfer land from one school division to another from families who have unknowingly purchased property just outside of, or adjacent to but not within, the school division where they wish their children to attend school. Often these families indicate that they thought their property was in one division, only to find out when registering their children for school that the property is in fact in an entirely different division.

If you are thinking of changing your place or residence, you should consider the following before making a decision:

- Determine what school division the new residence is located in.
- Check with that school division Board Office to determine where your child/children would attend school within that division.
- If need be, check with the school division about School of Choice options and bussing options within the division.

Your best source of information is your local School Board Office and its staff. You can also check with the local municipal office, which can confirm to which school division the education portion of property taxes is paid for the land in question.

By making inquiries before you relocate your family, it will be easier to ensure that your children have access to your desired school division and school catchment area.

Sincerely,

Alex Boyes
Chairperson