

Rationale for CAPES

In an effort to assist teachers in the delivery of an effective Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) prevention program in our division, a group of counsellors and other resource people have studied the new provincial health curriculum and identified the strands and substrands in the curriculum which are relevant to this goal.

Division teachers have contributed through their participation in a survey conducted at the beginning of the project. Community partners participated in consultation with this group and with each other.

We have attempted to identify community and other resources that "fit" with the individual developmental needs of students at particular grade levels. At this time we have been unable to identify community resources at every grade level. The suggestions made are intended as guidelines. It has been presented in this manner to facilitate coordinated program delivery, which is age appropriate and relevant to the curriculum. These suggested guidelines might help to prevent some of the duplication or omission presently occurring in delivery of this unit of study.

Many of the issues related to AOD education and prevention are not substance specific. Consequently, many of the social-emotional components of health curriculum are, in fact, prevention activities, and every health teacher, K - S4, is engaged in Alcohol and Other Drug education and prevention. We would encourage you to use alcohol and other drug or gambling specific examples in the delivery of related strands in order to help students identify and integrate the connection between social skills and alcohol and drug abuse prevention.