

**Anglophone West School District
Sustainability Study – Coles Island School
March, 2015**

Introduction

The Anglophone West School District Education Council (ASD-W DEC) has conducted a sustainability study on Coles Island School. The study began with an approved motion at the October 23, 2014, Public DEC meeting and concluded at the March 19, 2015 Public DEC meeting.

Throughout the study, efforts were made to abide by the expectations of Provincial Policy 409: Multi-Year School Infrastructure Planning. The Council understood its mandate to vote in one of three directions:

1. Maintain the status quo at the school
2. Make a recommendation to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to make a significant investment into infrastructure and programming at the school
3. Make a recommendation to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to close the school

On March 19, the District Education Council voted to make a recommendation to the Minister to close Coles Island School and move the elementary students to Cambridge-Narrows Community School or Chipman Elementary School, depending on where they may live. The intersection of Route 105 and Highway 10 was the boundary chosen.

The Council took into account the categories outlined in Policy 409 as they deliberated on the important decision.

This report demonstrates the efforts of district staff and Council to conduct a fair, engaging and transparent study. Specific websites were designed to keep the public informed. Many reports were posted and an online discussion board was monitored, with the superintendent answering inquiries and an opportunity for the public to share ideas. There were other methods of correspondence that were available to all stakeholders. The superintendent wrote, formally, to parents regularly. The public meetings were conducted in a fair, respectful and responsible manner.

The “Table of Contents” outlines the documentation in this final report. The report is available electronically and when a document is included in quotation marks, it signifies the electronic name assigned to the document. In most cases, this name is self-explanatory to the description of the document.

The superintendent and District Education Council believe that, with this report and process that was followed, procedural fairness has been accounted for.