



# STUDENT SUPPORT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE (SSLI)



A joint initiative developed by the Ministry of  
Children and Youth Services and the Ministry of  
Education

# Purpose

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- ❑ To develop leadership within and across school boards and community agencies to establish or enhance local partnerships that will better meet the needs of students through collaborative planning, coordination and referrals.
- ❑ It is meant to support school boards and community agencies in meeting the non-academic needs of students in a timely and effective manner.

# Other key points

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- Initiative is aligned with a 'Shared Responsibility: Ontario's Policy Framework for Child and Youth Mental Health' and 'Ontario's Safe School's Strategy'.
- Supports collaboration among all child and youth agencies and the broader community to share a responsibility for the healthy development of Ontario's youth and children.
- CSN's role is to represent the voice of the community and work collaboratively with school boards to identify and engage other community partners
- Integration with Education Committee will serve as the key CSN committee in this initiative.

# Benefits of Partnerships

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- Share expertise
- Improve decision making through effective planning mechanisms
- Establish/enhance referral mechanisms
- Increase access to appropriate services/supports
- Maximize local resources

# Clusters

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- ❑ 29 Clusters identified geographically across Ontario
- ❑ Hastings/Prince Edward is part of Cluster 20
- ❑ Cluster 20 includes:
  - ❑ Hastings/Prince Edward District School Board
    - ❑ Hastings/Prince Edward Children Services Steering Committee
      - ❑ Integration with Education Committee
  - ❑ Limestone District School Board
  - ❑ Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board

# Funding/Process:

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- ❑ \$3 million per year for three years starting in 2007-2008 has been committed to the SSLI, provincially as part of the governments Safe School's Strategy
- ❑ \$94, 535.00 per year for cluster 20
- ❑ Each Cluster was required to submit a proposal addressing four specific provincial goals, strategies and actions, performance measures and timelines.

# Provincial Goals

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- Improved understanding of each cluster member's services.
- Improve joint decision making processes
- Improved access to existing services and supports for students and families
- Explore ways to enhance current protocols



# Cluster 20 Proposal



# Hire a SSLI Coordinator

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## **Responsibilities:**

- ❑ Assist in focusing the planning tables on a specific project(s) and/or target groups, in which the SSLI will address. I.e. Threat Assessment/Safe Schools Act
- ❑ Determine existing services and protocols between boards and agencies related to such project(s);
- ❑ facilitate sharing of knowledge, expertise, process, and protocols between cluster members
- ❑ Developing an effective communication strategy to reach all levels within agencies and boards including the frontline
- ❑ Develop concrete forums, including training opportunities, to enhance relationship building between community agencies and school board staff.
- ❑ Initiate a literature review on best practices related to collaborative processes and integrated models of service delivery between community agencies and school boards.

# Maximize the use of the current planning tables

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- Build on the existing Integration with Education Committee including identifying other partners that should be included.
- Expand work plans to include SSLI projects.
- Boards of Education will ensure appropriate representation on the children's services network/committee to facilitate joint planning
- Coordinator to link between the CSN coordinator, Integration committee, CSN core committee

# Address Safe Schools Strategies

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- ❑ Community education/training opportunities
  - ❑ Threat Assessment training
  - ❑ Non-academic support/training for agency and Board staff on long term suspension and expulsion program
- ❑ Continued development of services related to the new Safe Schools legislation and transitioning students successfully back into the school environment

# Next Steps

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- ❑ Cluster 20 has received approval of the two ministries for this proposal
- ❑ Job description for the Coordinator was established by the working group and is to be posted shortly.
- ❑ Funding will flow through the Limestone District School Board
- ❑ Integration with Education Committee will include SSLI in work plan and further discuss next steps once coordinator is in place