



OFFICE OF THE PREMIER  
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA  
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May 14, 2012

Ms. Jocelyne Thompson  
[jlt@unb.ca](mailto:jlt@unb.ca)

Dear Ms. Thompson:

I am writing in response to your e-mail concerning the announcement from the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board regarding school libraries.

I appreciate you sharing your concerns with me. All regional school boards are grappling with the challenges of enrolment decline and budget restraint; however, this government's priority is to focus resources in the classroom. The province expects the Board to look at every other possible option outside of the classroom to find savings. The funding to this board is in line with enrolment which is dropping by 1.7 percent this year.

As you know, the province conducted a review of the Chignecto board's budget process and has provided suggested options for the board's consideration. I believe Mr. Doug Stewart's recommendations does restore some balance to the discussion and to the Board's decision making, rather than the all-or-nothing approach which caused so much anxiety in the community.

I appreciate you taking the time to provide me with the information contained in your email.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Darrell Dexter".

Darrell E. Dexter, Q.C., M.L.A.  
Premier of Nova Scotia