

Office of the Treasurer of Ontario

Cabinet du Trésorier de l'Ontario

Ministry of Treasury and Economics

Ministère du Trésor et de l'Économie

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December 29, 1993

Ms. Louise Bailey Chairperson of Integration Committee Ms. Lynda Langdon Past President Down Syndrome Association of Ontario 5248 Yonge Street North York, Ontario M2N 5P6

Dear Ms. Bailey and Ms. Langdon,

Thank you for your letter about integration of students with developmental disabilities into schools, and the government's current policy work on this issue. apologize for the delay in responding.

As you are aware, the Ministry of Education and Training is still reviewing and considering options in this area. I understand that the Minister, Dave Cooke, has met recently with your association and with other stakeholders on these issues, and the ministry is continuing its policy development in consultation with groups such as yours.

I appreciate your writing to inform me of your concerns.

Yours truly,

Floyd Laughren

Minister of Finance

copy: The Honourable Marion Boyd

Attorney General and Minister Responsible

for Women's Issues





Ministry Ministère
of Education de l'Éducation
and Training et de la Formation

Mowat Block Queen's Park Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2 Telephone (416) 325-2600 Facsimile (416) 325-2608 Édifice Mowat Queen's Park Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1L2 Téléphone (416) 325-2600 Télécopieur (416) 325-2608

Minister

Ministre

March 15, 1994

Ms Louise Bailey and Ms Lynda Langdon Down Syndrome Association of Ontario 5248 Yonge Street North York, Ontario M2N 5P6

Dear Ms Bailey and Ms Langdon:

Thank you for your letter of January 26, 1994 about the government's policy on integration.

The Ministry of Education and Training remains committed to the integration of exceptional pupils into regular classrooms. The proposed policy on integration incorporates the views of our partners in education and we are presently in the process of refining this policy. During the process we will have to take into consideration the level of resources that are available to the government and school boards during this time of fiscal restraint.

In order to build commitment for the integration initiative all aspects of the process must be understood and managed well. This requires time and patience. I appreciate the support that you and other members of the Down Syndrome Association of Ontario have extended to the ministry during our consultations.

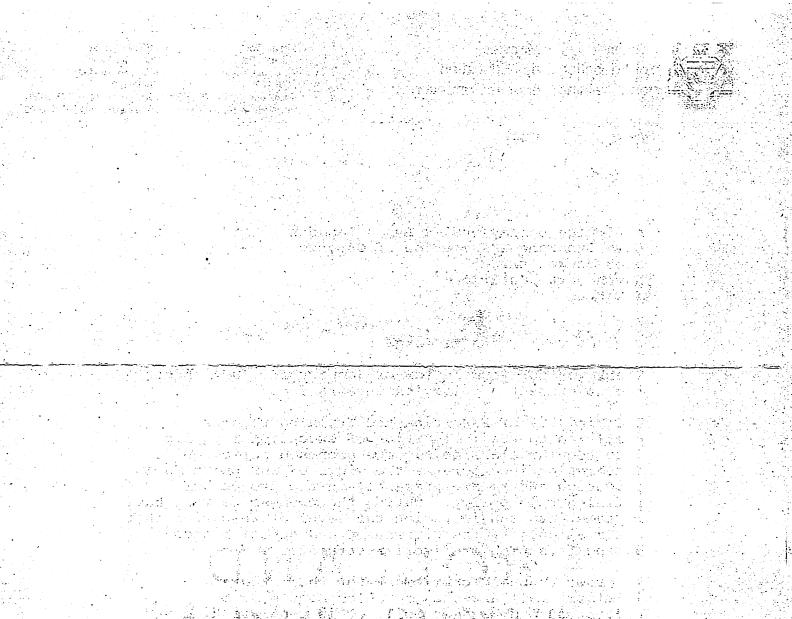
Thank you for sharing your concerns on this important matter with me.

Sincerely,

The ale

Dave Cooke Minister

M.P.P., Windsor-Riverside



JAN 1 9 1995



Down Syndrome Association of Ontario

TO: GOD FENTON

416 -868 - 0673

Law Firm of McCarthy - Tetrault

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Ministry

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Minister

Ministre

November 14, 1995

Anita Bates President Down Syndrome Association of Ontario Box 215 Freelton, Ontario LOR 1KO

Dear Anita Bates:

Thank you for your letter about the integration of children into neighbourhood schools.

Ministry of Education and Training staff have advised me of the valuable contribution of the Down Syndrome Association of Ontario in promoting the development of policy to ensure that it is the right of every child to be educated in the regular classroom. The ministry appreciates the role that your association played in the discussions leading to the announcement in June 1994 that outlined the direction for the integration of exceptional students.

The response of the Down Syndrome Association to the draft regulation for the identification and placement of exceptional pupils has been referred to the ministry's Special Education Policy Unit. Your suggestions will be reviewed and considered along with the other responses received.

Although I regret that I am unable to meet with every association involved in working for improvements to programs and services for exceptional students, I intend to keep informed of the issues and concerns of these associations through the Advisory Council on Special Education. In this regard, I will be meeting with the council on November 30, 1995 to exchange ideas with the members on matters related to special education.

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Thank you for extending congratulations on my appointment as Minister of Education and Training.

Sincerely,

John G. Snobelen