



## **Renfrew County District School Board**

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

**September 15, 2008**

The Renfrew County District School Board is pleased to announce that it has qualified, under the Ministry of Education's Prohibitive to Repair funding criteria, for approval to develop plans to address the condition of three of our Petawawa sites, General Panet High School, General Lake Public School and Pinecrest Public School.

This planning approval includes a commitment for funding in support of new construction to replace the pupil spaces of the three public schools located in CFB Petawawa, provided that all of the Ministry's criteria are met through the planning process.

The first step in this planning process is to engage in the Pupil Accommodation Review which the Board initiated last spring. The Accommodation Review Committee, named at the August Board meeting, will seek input from school councils and community members and will provide advice to the Board on the educational needs of students and the needs of the community.

"A key part of our mission at CFB Petawawa is ensuring that our soldiers and their families have the best support available to them. Education is a significant part of this, and we are pleased with the commitment shown to the education system in Petawawa by the Provincial government and by the Renfrew County District School Board. I am very interested to hear comments and ideas from the community regarding this new learning environment as we move forward with the Accommodation Review Committee process," said Lt.-Col. Moore, Commander of Base Petawawa.

"The Renfrew County District School Board is very pleased that the Government of Ontario has recognized our needs and has authorized us to commence the planning process. If the planning process is successfully completed, we have a commitment from the government to fund construction of a new school," said Chairperson Dave Shields.

Mayor Bob Sweet indicated that the Town of Petawawa is delighted to work with the Renfrew County District School Board and CFB Petawawa. "It is exciting to be a partner in the planning of this important project and indeed, the Town of Petawawa is prepared to provide the site" he said.

We are prepared to develop an excellent plan with the cooperation of our Petawawa community and the support of the Town of Petawawa and CFB Petawawa to ensure that this funding is confirmed," summed up Chairperson Shields.