

September 2, 2009

Dear SRC elected representative:

It is my distinct pleasure to invite you to put your name forward as a potential candidate to represent the students of your school district on the District Education Council (DEC).

Recently, the Department of Education made changes to the *Education Act* to appoint one student member to each DEC for a one-year term. The appointed student will have full voting rights and will represent the voice of students on the DEC. In order to be eligible, you must be an elected member of your Student Representative Council (SRC). Please see the attached brochure for more information (also available on the Department of Education website <http://www.gnb.ca/0000/index-e.asp>).

The Department of Education will also be hosting a Question and Answer session via teleconference on September 16th at 12 pm where you can ask DEC members questions about their roles and responsibilities. To confirm your participation in the teleconference, please forward your name via email to Jennifer Demers at jennifer.demers@gnb.ca or at (506) 453-3090.

Following the teleconference, interested elected SRC representatives in high schools across your district will nominate one person from amongst this group to be the student DEC member. The nomination can happen in a variety of ways – teleconference, email or in person. Once a student has been selected by his or her peers, the principal or the SRC faculty representative of the school concerned will forward the student's name to the DEC, for submission to the Department of Education. The nominated student will then receive an official letter of appointment.

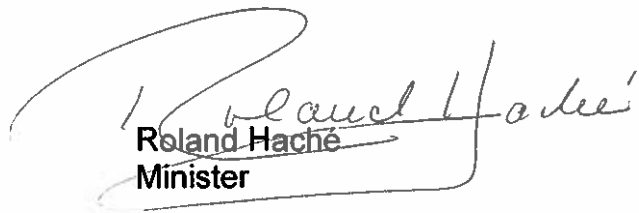
Normally, the student DEC member would serve from July 1st until June 30th the following year. In this first year of the initiative, however, the student will be appointed by October and will serve until June 30th, 2010.



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While I understand this is a very busy time for all students and teachers, I challenge you to become involved in this very exciting opportunity. New Brunswick is the only province to allow a student member with full voting rights on its DECs. The commitment required is great but the rewards from your participation are many. Please feel free to contact the Department of Education, your local DEC or your SRC faculty advisor for more information.

Sincerely,



Roland Haché
Minister

c. Chairs, District Education Council