

# DIVESTMENT:

## An attack on our Provincial and Demonstration Schools

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### What's happening?

The Conservatives are threatening divestment of the provincial schools. OPSEU has not been invited to be part of the process. We have many questions - and very few answers.

All we know is that when this government acts it usually creates bad news and headaches for the workers. Divestment and privatization has been a disaster. Walkerton should have been a warning for these guys to stop.

We also know that disabled people, children and public servants have been on this government's hit list from day one. Now they have the Provincial and Demonstration Schools in their sights. If the schools are divested, we have no successor rights!

- How will divestment benefit the children?
- How will funding and availability of service be guaranteed once the schools are out of the Ministry's hands?
- Who will be the decision makers on the Board of the new organization(s)?

### What have we been doing?

Your OPSEU team, consisting of the Presidents of Locals 104, 219, 223, 456 and 478, OPSEU Executive Board Members Bob Eaton, Ron Elliot and Jay Jackson, along with staff support from

head office, have a plan to save your jobs and the services for the children you serve.

We have already:

- Contacted the media in affected communities.
- Contacted most parents of children enrolled in provincial schools.
- Held meetings with stakeholders, where possible.

### Our Plan

Your OPSEU team will continue to fight against divestment of the provincial schools and for your jobs.

We will continue to contact key members of the community, politicians and the media to ask these important questions. Our goal is to have the issue of the Provincial Schools raised in the Legislature.

#### You can help by:

- Writing a letter, faxing or e-mailing your MPP.
- Discussing the situation with neighbours and friends.
- Writing a letter to the editor of your local newspaper.

Ask your local President what divestment will mean to you and how you can stop it.



Graphic courtesy Debbie Wilson