



Suite 601, Atlantic Place
215 Water Street, Box 64-66
St. John's, NL, A1C 6C9
Tel: (709) 758-2372
Fax: (709) 758-2706
Website: www.esdnl.ca

MEDIA RELEASE

April 28, 2009

Eastern School Board Announces Interim CEO

(*St. John's, NL*) Mr. Milton Peach, Chair, Eastern School Board, today announced the appointment of Mr. Ford Rice as the interim CEO/Director of Education for the Eastern School District, effective immediately. Mr. Rice replaces Mr. Darrin Pike who is the new Deputy Minister for the Department of Education.

Mr. Rice held the position of Assistant Director of Education (Programs) with the Eastern School District since April 2008. Throughout his 28-year career in education, Mr. Rice has held teaching and administrative positions throughout the province in both large urban schools and small rural schools. He also held a number of senior management positions at the District level in the areas of student affairs, planning and Human Resources.

Today, the Board also announced the appointment of Ms. Janet Vivian-Walsh as the acting Assistant Director of Education (Programs). Ms. Vivian Walsh is a senior education officer at the District office with almost 30 years experience in teaching and leadership positions at the school and district level.

In naming Mr. Rice and Ms. Vivian Walsh to these senior positions, Mr. Peach says the experience and professionalism of these two education leaders will provide continuity for the District in the months ahead. "The Board is confident that Mr. Rice and Ms. Vivian Walsh will provide the leadership the District needs to continue on its path towards student achievement and success."

The Board will begin the recruitment process for a new CEO immediately and anticipates concluding the process by the end of this school year.

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For further information
Gwen Hurley
Corporate Assistant
Tel: 758-2381