

From: Wendy Taylor
Sent: May 20, 2008 4:27 PM
To: Stephen, Myra (EDU)
Cc: Courville, Debra (EDU)
Subject: Canadian Federation of University Women Request

Hello,

My name is Wendy Taylor and I am the Education Chair for the Canadian Federation of University Women Ontario Council. We are an organization comprised of 5800 university educated women through out Ontario. We are strong advocates for quality education and women's rights. We have a website www.cfuwontariocouncil.ca that shows more of what we do and have done. The Minister of Education, Kathleen Wynn has spoken to us at our Standing Committee meetings and is well acquainted with our work. I received both of your names from Jacqui Strachan of People for Education.

This past July at our National AGM in Vancouver, the North Bay CFUW club presented a resolution for approval. In November, I did send Minister Wynn an outline of the policy and a letter stating our position on HIV/AIDS education. The policy is as follows,

Resolved, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) promote the development and implementation of age-appropriate HIV/AIDS education curricula in each province and territory beginning at grade one and continuing at each grade level to encompass the social, cultural, health and science studies of this disease; and

Resolved, That the CFUW urge the federal, provincial and territorial governments of Canada to ensure sufficient funding provisions are available for teacher training and resource material for HIV/AIDS curriculum development and implementation.

I would like to know if the Ministry of Education has made any advances or considered adding **HIV/AIDS education to the health curriculum**. We are very concerned and anxious to see this education being considered for our students in Ontario.

I look forward to a response about my inquisition about HIV/AIDS education.

Sincerely,
Wendy Taylor
Education, Standing Committee Chair
CFUW Ontario Council

RESPONSE

From: Myra Stephen
To: Wendy Taylor
Cc: Debra Courville
Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2008 11:27 AM
Subject: RE: Canadian Federation of University Women Request

Hello Wendy

Thank you for your e-mail about including **HIV/AIDS education in the curriculum**.

We appreciate you taking the time to share some of the details of the CFUW proposal, including the resolutions from the national CFUW association and background information about HIV/AIDS education.

The Health and Physical Education curriculum review began in September 2007. The review is not a development of a completely new curriculum, but is intended to ensure that the curriculum remains current and relevant and is age-appropriate from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Ontario recognizes the importance of HIV/AIDS education and sexual health education in the current Health and Physical Education curriculum. This curriculum is being reviewed to ensure it reflects the current needs and realities in society to maintain its relevance based on information gathered through research, consultations with teachers, students, parents, health stakeholders, faculty of education, universities and colleges. The consultations sessions were conducted from January through to April and included a session with representatives from the AIDS Bureau and Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

The staff analyzes all of the material from the consultation sessions, written submissions and a variety of research. The curriculum expectations, including those expectations relating to healthy sexuality and HIV/AIDS education, will be reassessed to determine how they might be revised or strengthened.

We are currently in the process of finalizing recommendations for revision. Educators will be working on making revisions this summer and there will be an opportunity for feedback and input regarding the revised curriculum in the fall.

Thank you for writing.

Myra Stephen and Debra Courville

*Myra Stephen (elementary) and Debra Courville (secondary)
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