

**Presentation to North Bay Planning Area Accommodation Committee
School Closures and Potential Impacts to the Municipality
By Mayor Al McDonald – City of North Bay (15 Feb 2017)**

I am here tonight to encourage that the Student Accommodation Review Committee to carefully consider in their deliberations what the impact of school closures will have from a community perspective on our City. I will briefly speak to the impact I see on our city from a Community Development; Planning; Economic Development; and Infrastructure perspective.

It is inevitable that there will be school closing but I ask the committee to think of solutions that will have positive impacts on our community. Or a minimal negative impact on our community.

Community Development

- o Schools are viewed as symbolic hearts of their communities and hold an intrinsic value to the communities and neighbourhoods they serve.
- o Schools are an important component to the long-term strategic vision for many neighbourhoods. They are often the hubs around which the community develops.
- o From a planning

Economic Development

Maintaining a high school in the southern part of the City is critical to building and maintaining an attractive place to live and supporting development and investment in that part of the City. The decisions of the committee will for example impact futur

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