

**PEITF
SCHOOL
COUNSELLORS
ASSOCIATION**

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SEPTEMBER 2006**

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**PEITF-SCA TEACHER TRANSFER
POLICY - Proposal
Accepted at the May 2006 AGM
of the PEICA-SCC
(now the PEITF-SCA)**

The PEITF teacher transfer policy is problematic for school counsellors. We will attempt to outline issues, as identified by counsellors, and make suggestions as to possible changes that will rectify the situation.

CURRENT STATUS

- ! School counsellors must meet the following qualifications:
 - S a professional teaching certificate
 - S a masters degree in counselling, counselling psychology or a related discipline with a focus on counselling.
 - S graduate courses in five areas identified by the Dept.
 - S currently there are 71 school counsellors employed in the province.
 - S This number includes both part time and full time status. The following table demonstrates an estimated break down of positions based on the last school year:

<i>WSB -</i>	<i>ESD-</i>	<i>FSB -</i>
<i>4 full time positions</i>	<i>18 full time positions</i>	<i>2 full time positions</i>
<i>19 part time positions</i>	<i>28 part time positions</i>	

- ! Variables in part time positions:
 - S itinerant counsellors travel between 2-4 schools making a compliment of 100%
 - S itinerant counsellors travel between 2-4 schools and may carry a teaching assignment to fulfill 100% employment status.
 - S part time position hence part time employment.

Under the current memorandum qualified teachers - who also hold the qualifications of a school counsellor - can be moved to a counsellor's position within that school if one becomes available (section 32:02 item b). This provision means that experienced, tenured itinerant or part time counsellors are commonly not provided the opportunity to compete for these positions.

- S This process does not allow for ease of reassignment that contributes to professional growth and development.
- S Counsellors affected by this policy feel undervalued and sometimes frustrated and unsatisfied in their roles .

RECOMMENDATION:

The PEITF-School Counsellors Association recommends that counselling positions be considered in one of the following manners to better serve the interests of the students in this province.

- S School counsellors be treated under a separate section of the memorandum that would allow for all openings to be posted and open for competition for all qualified and tenured counsellors currently holding a school counsellor position.
- S That counselling positions be viewed as administrative positions as outlined under section 32 :01 a. Openings must be publicly advertised to allow counsellors in part time and/or itinerant positions to compete for all vacancies.

Respectfully submitted by

PEITF-SCC Executive

Sandi Duffield-King, President

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Joan Murray, Secretary

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and

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