

For immediate distribution

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## **A First French-language public elementary school in Thunder Bay**

The Conseil scolaire public du Grand Nord de l'Ontario (CSPGNO) is pleased to announce the opening of the first public elementary school in Thunder Bay. The school is scheduled to open in September 2023.

The new École publique de Thunder Bay will be located in the former Edgewater Public School at 511 Victoria Avenue West and will offer an academic program for students from Kindergarten to Grade 8.

Since the establishment of the CSPGNO, enrolments have continued to grow. More and more parents are choosing a CSPGNO school for their children because they recognize that CSPGNO provides its students with a first-class education and privileged learning opportunities.

According to CSPGNO Board Chair Anne-Marie Gélinault, "It is with great enthusiasm that we embark on this beautiful project. It is a long awaited dream. At CSPGNO, our priority is the development, growth and success of our students. We have a responsibility to Francophone families who wish to educate their children in a public school environment where language, open-mindedness and human values are of primary importance. Today, in Thunder Bay, we are taking a concrete step that demonstrates our commitment to our families, to education and to the future of children."

"We will soon be undertaking renovation projects to improve the school facility," said Director of Education Sebastien Fontaine. "The school will be equipped with state-of-the-art classrooms to allow not only for curriculum delivery but also for cultural and artistic activities. An office and reception area will also be renovated to provide a warm welcome to parents and visitors. The Board will soon be hiring a Principal in order to have the most qualified staff in place for the start of the school year."

Parents who wish to enroll their child in this school can contact CSPGNO now at 705 671-1533 or 1 800-465-5993."

The Board now has four schools in the Superior Greenstone area, including É. s. Chateau-Jeunesse in Longlac, É. p. Franco-Manitou in Manitouwadge, É. s. Cité-Supérieure in Marathon and the new École publique de Thunder Bay. The CSPGNO also provides high quality French language public education in Markstay, Noëlville, Greater Sudbury, Blind River, Elliot Lake, Sault Ste. Marie, Dubreuilville and Wawa. At CSPGNO, together we think BIG!

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