

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 22, 2009

National News

On Tuesday April 21, 2009, Nova Scotia MP Mr. Geoff Regan announced to Parliament that over thirty Canadian organizations have created a Healthy Schools Day in Canada.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS DAY in CANADA - Journée des écoles saines du Canada will be Monday, April 27, 2009. This is the inaugural year.

Why a National Healthy Schools Day?

1. Many schools have problems linked to indoor air quality (IAQ).
2. Children are more vulnerable to environmental hazards.
3. Poor indoor environmental quality is associated with a wide range of problems that include respiratory illnesses and poor concentration leading to poor learning and lowered work performance.
4. Healthy new and existing schools provide cleaner air and reduced exposures to toxic substances, provide a healthier and safer learning environment for children, and improved academic achievement and well-being.
5. Research suggests that children attending schools in good condition score 5 to 10 percent higher on standardized tests than students who attend schools in poor condition.
6. Our Country's school boards commonly make very difficult decisions between cutting back much needed academic programs vs. cutting back on needed building maintenance.
7. Federal and provincial governments have demonstrated interest in this important issue by developing programs like the Tools for Schools IAQ Action Kit.
8. Studies show that resources put into improving indoor environment quality have a rapid pay back.

Healthy Schools Day in Canada is for all Canadians!

The purpose of the day will be to foster improvements, celebrate successes, and create projects that make indoor environments of new and existing schools the best they can be. Each year, Canadians will be encouraged to develop projects big or small to celebrate Healthy Schools Day in Canada and improve school indoor environments.

For more information please contact:

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The Healthy Schools Day in Canada web page is: www.casle.ca/HealthySchoolsDay

More than thirty organizations from across Canada are together declaring April 27, 2009 the first national Healthy Schools Day in Canada - Journée des écoles saines du Canada to focus on indoor environments such as indoor air quality in Canadian schools.



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