

LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT DIPLOMA REQUIREMENT

The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify the board's insurance for the Community Involvement Program as outlined in the Ministry Policy/Program Memorandum #124.

The program is mandated by the Ministry, and managed by the principal, with school board involvement on the types of activities and the forms to be completed for the program. This meets all the criteria for the board's liability insurance to apply in the same way as it does for Co-op or "Take Our Kids to Work" programs.

The board's liability insurance will protect the students and the community sponsors for liability law suits that may arise from the students' activities in the community involvement program for the 40 hours required.

As with programs such as "Take Our Kids to Work", the board's insurance does not cover the sponsors for law suits that arise from their negligence, or for student injuries in the work place. The liability insurance of the community sponsors would be expected to respond to cover the sponsors for suits arising out of their negligence.

OSBIE will not be issuing certificates of insurance for community sponsors, as coverage falls within the terms and conditions of the liability policy. For those community sponsors who are looking for a statement about the school board's insurance, a copy of this memorandum may be provided.

As an alternative, we have also provided a sample statement on the back of this memorandum.

The Ministry has provided a list of ineligible activities. School boards are asked to review the list and add to it, if they wish. In addition school boards are asked to draw up an approved list of activities. This is to be attached to the information that is provided to the student, parents and community sponsors. We would encourage boards to share their list of approved and ineligible activities with OSBIE. We will initial the lists and return them to you, with our comments or concerns.

The Community Involvement program can be a positive experience for the students and the sponsor organizations. Clear information, good communication, and a "safety first" attitude will ensure the success of this new program.