



## NOTICE TO PARENTS / GUARDIANS RE: STUDENT TRAVEL PROGRAMS

World events have complicated many aspects of our lives, including school trips. In recent memory are incidents of terrorism, war and diseases caused by unheard of viruses. While the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board (CCRSB) reviews and approves school trips in terms of their education appropriateness, CCRSB has acknowledged and reminded parents in a number of ways and at various times about the inherent risks associated with student travel. It is a daunting task to keep track of potential risks involved in student travel, especially outside of Canada.

The Board believes that a final decision on participation in a school trip is best left with parents/guardians, in consultation with the student. Also, the School Board wants to inform you as clearly as possible that both known and unknown risks are assumed by parents and students when they decide to participate in a trip.

CCRSB cannot provide any guarantees or assurances of student safety during such travel programs. As much as we want everyone to reflect on the known risks of travel, we now recognize there may be unknown and involuntary risks as well. Despite this, our Board concluded that the significant educational and civic benefits of student travel should not be sacrificed as a result of this increased uncertainty.

CCRSB does carry a basic student insurance coverage plan for accidental death or injury while involved in Board-approved travel programs. There are a variety of conventional restrictions on that policy, including exclusion of coverage for any loss caused or contributed to by a declared or undeclared war. Furthermore, this Board insurance policy only insures limited personal injury, not the other indirect costs that may flow from travel disruption.

Again, participation in student travel programs is a decision best left with parents/guardians. The purpose of this letter is to simply notify parents/guardians that student travel programs continue and that the individual decision to participate rests with the family, not the School Board.

Attached to this letter you will find a Parent/Guardian Consent Form that will be required for each student participating in our student travel program this year. The form acknowledges your receipt of this letter and confirms that the decision to participate is made freely and voluntarily by you, without any representations or assurances from CCRSB.

**If you have any questions regarding school insurance or the attached form, please contact your school Principal.**

Yours sincerely,

CHIGNECTO-CENTRAL REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD

Superintendent