



PRESS RELEASE

Unique Professional Development Opportunity for District Custodians

Timmins and Englehart, November

2008: The Northeastern Catholic District School Board's Manager of Plant, Bob Landry, facilitated an hour workshop to all custodians focused on the Board's commitment to ensuring the health and safety of all staff, students and service providers. This special audience included 30 staff members with over 461 years of



work experience with the Board. The two longest standing employees, Brian Beaudry and Gaston Romain, have thirty-six and thirty-one years experience respectively.

The goal of the professional development opportunity was to present the Board's Asbestos Management Plan(AMP) that all school boards are legislated to complete under Bill 278/05. The AMP is a management system to control disturbance of designated substances during demolition, renovation, alteration, maintenance, repair or other activities. As part of this project, a Hazardous

Material Assessment was conducted in all of our thirteen schools as well as the Board office to catalogue any designated substances found. Hundreds of samples were submitted for analysis. Mr. Landry explained to his team how coming into contact with hazardous material has the potential of:

- causing a variety of health hazards
- the steps and precautions to take should anyone come into contact, and
- the importance of training



“On behalf of the CUPE Local 4681 (Custodial), I would like to thank the Board for giving us the opportunity to attend this short workshop on the Board’s Hazardous Material Management Plan. We now understand the importance to know the dangers involved with designated material and what to do if we encounter any issues in the workplace. Thanks to Bob Landry for his time for this important information.” Gaston Romain, President of CUPE Local 4681.

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board is the first school board in the Northern area to complete this process.