

## **NEWS RELEASE**

St. Patrick School goes Green and Receives Green Apple School Grant for Special Project

Kapuskasing, February 10, 2011:



St. Patrick School in Kapuskasing, has received two Green Apple School grants that will provide St. Patrick School with their first outdoor classroom. The new outdoor classroom will allow students to have a place to study within a natural environment.

Gretchen Morgan, Principal of St. Patrick School and Lynn O'Reilly, Environmental Coordinator and Librarian commented, "We feel an outdoor classroom is an ideal setting for hands-on learning as students can personally interact with much of what they are learning. As students learn about the environment, they will learn to make decisions that affect the use and management of our natural resources."

Some of the nature and environmental studies will include the planting of native grasses, wild flowers, trees and berry producing shrubs. Bird houses and wildlife feeders will be studied and the creation of a local animal track plot and an archaeological area plot are planned for this space as well.

Funds received from the Green Apple School Grant Program (Metro) will assist to develop this green environmentally friendly site and also help purchase materials to create the seating area: including logs, rocks and benches. By using reclaimed wood products and rocks from the local community, this will demonstrate to students the importance of buying locally while also being able to reduce, reuse and recycle.

St. Patrick School is working with all of their community partners, staff, students, parents, local contractors, local businesses, the school council, St. Patrick Parish and residents of Kapuskasing to make this green project a success.

## For more information, please contact:

Andrew Marks, Community Relations Officer (705) 268-7443 ext. 3213