



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

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## NEWS RELEASE

### **École Riverview School officially opens innovative outdoor learning space**

**Sept. 24, 2015 (Winnipeg, MB)** — Winnipeg School Division's École Riverview School has officially opened a new and innovative outdoor learning space (OLS). The development was made possible through the hard work of École Riverview School parent council and staff. Together, they have created an OLS that incorporates sitting and gathering areas and integrates Aboriginal perspectives as well as other curricular areas. Components include a new berm, a water cistern and water troughs, a deck area, limestone sitting areas and oak stumps in the shape of a turtle, incorporating Aboriginal Turtle Teachings and related to petroforms.

"We're very excited about the opportunity to use this space to engage our students and add an entire new level of interest to their education," said Principal Grant Bridgeman, École Riverview School. "Future plans include adding animal silhouettes to the outside gymnasium wall representing the Seven Teachings."

The school was very pleased to welcome Education Minister James Allum, Winnipeg City Councillor Jenny Gerbasi's Executive Assistant, Hilary Allum, and Winnipeg School Division Board Trustee Chris Broughton to help cut the ribbon on the new space.

"The Winnipeg School Division Board of Trustees is pleased to support innovative projects like the outdoor learning space that help improve learning outcomes for the students in our division," said Broughton. "We thank the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg for contributing to this development, and we thank the school staff and parents who have worked so hard to see this project to fruition."

École Riverview School is a Nursery to Grade 6 school with over 325 students. It's part of Winnipeg School Division, the largest school division in the province with 77 schools and over 33,000 students.

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