

22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2010.

Our P&C members and community are concerned that the building we received from the program was not what the school first asked for. The building cost the Federal Government \$250,000. It is a 10x10metre multipurpose room, which has been built but is not of good quality for the amount of finances spent on it.

We do not see the value in the building considering you could purchase a “Room” for far less money than was shelled out.

There are pieces of sharp metal exposed on the out side, not finished off that is of great concern to us as it is not safe for our students to go near, especially to our younger students in the primary area.

The grounds surrounding the building have not been finished off, leveled out and have uneven, grooved dirt around. Again unsafe for the students to be near.

The workers on the job did not have respect for the safety of our students when they brought in the materials in large semi trucks. It was as if they were in a hurry to deposit the materials and get out of there as fast as they could, not bearing in mind that during school hours there are students moving to different classes throughout the day.

It would have been great to see the Federal Government allow the school to support local builders in the area, giving them the work instead of bringing in workers from around the state.

When the school first put in for the BER program, we asked for an outdoor synthetic playing surface to replace the current dangerous surface on the combined tennis, basketball and netball courts. We also asked for COLA (which is an outdoor learning area) to be constructed next to the courts. This would have been a huge asset to our school as we are situated in an area where we have to travel up to an hour and sometimes much more to get our students to any sporting facilities.

The resurfacing of the courts and COLA would have enabled us to invite other schools around the district to participate in sporting events at our school. It would also give the students the opportunity to practice and participate in these sports in their home town instead of traveling many kilometers to do this.

The town too would benefit by these as they would be able to use the facilities as well.

Unfortunately we were denied the choice we made as it did not fit the criteria of the BER program so we had to settle for a choice of four predetermined options given to us by the BER program. We were told that we could have the 10x10 meter multipurpose "Room" which would cost under \$100,000 then still be able to resurface the courts for the money allocated to the school.

**Surely the "Room" is not value for money at the cost of \$250,000.**

Alas this was not to be and now we are stuck with the "Room" which will utilized but to have the resurfacing of the courts and COLA would have benefited our school immensely, where by the students would enjoy more options for sport.

I'd like to thank you for being concerned about the BER program and the wastage that has happened through it.

I look forward in hearing the results you get back from the inquiry.

Yours sincerely,

Dianna Blackwell  
P&C President  
Emmaville Central School.