

# Halifax Independent School: Evolution of a Stakeholder Co-operative



**We are a diverse community of enthusiastic educators, students and their families striving for academic excellence.**

**Children learn in a co-operative and respectful environment through theme-based studies in multi-age classrooms.**

# A Brief History

- **Early 70's "Lab" school:**  
Dalhousie Experimental School
- **The 80's:** "Learning and Loving it" - the development of the Theme Studies approach
- **1993:** University rationalization and Dalhousie Co-operative School is born
- **1998-2002:** Halifax Independent School - searching for a new home, expanding
- **2002-05:** Finances and building
- **2005-now:** Taking stock, looking at Governance



# After the Co-operative



- Governance Project: decision making, role of the Board, conflict of interest, policy development, personnel committee
- Social Economy and Sustainability Project: defining, identify stakeholders, create evaluation measures, Retreats and Strategic Planning, implement changes.

# The Future of Halifax Independent School



- Challenges: growth, new buildings, keeping families involved and informed
- Governance Project
- Refining evaluation measures, include Alumni
- Succession Planning

