

Ottawa looks into safety of school Wi-Fi networks

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TORONTO — Ontario Education Minister Leona Dombrowsky says the question of whether wireless Internet technology is safe in Ontario schools is in Ottawa's hands.

Dombrowsky says she is expecting an answer "within weeks" from the federal health minister, after sending a letter with parents complaints.

Some parents in central Ontario are urging their school board to remove Wi-Fi from schools, as they believe it may be making their children sick.

Speaking after an address to the annual meeting of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, Dombrowsky said her ministry has received complaints from the Simcoe area and the Peterborough area.

A resolution asking for teachers to lobby their district school boards to develop policies that prohibit the use of Wi-Fi within schools is expected to be voted on later today or early tomorrow.

Dombrowsky said understanding and ensuring that Wi-Fi technology is safe is Health Canada's responsibility.

She indicated to the Minister of Health, Leona Aglukkaq, that this is an important issue she hopes will be addressed as soon as possible, Dombrowsky said.

She said she contacted the federal minister of health because the information presented from families conflicts with information from Health Canada and the World Health organization.

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