



Distinctly Catholic

PARTNERS IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION
THE INSTITUTE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION (I.C.E.)
SERVICE ONTARIO STUDENTS, EDUCATORS AND PARENTS





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PURPOSE

From the Statement of Mission...

The Ontario Institute for Catholic Education (ICE) is dedicated to working with, bringing together, and assisting all those who share responsibility for anglophone Catholic education in their efforts to promote and maintain Catholic schools animated by the Gospel and reflecting the tenets of the Catholic faith...

The Institute was established by the Bishops of Ontario in 1986. Recognizing the collaborative nature of Catholic education, the direction of the ICE has been confided to a Board of Directors representing Ontario's Catholic educational community.

"Catholic education is inspired by the general principles enunciated by the Second Vatican Council concerning collaboration between the hierarchy and those who work in the apostolate. In consequence of the principle of participation and co-responsibility, the various groupings which constitute the educational community are, according to their several competencies, to be associated in the decision-making concerning the Catholic school and in the application of decisions once taken ... The assigning of various responsibilities is governed by the principle of subsidiarity, and with reference to this principle, ecclesiastical authority respects the competence of the professionals in teaching and education. Indeed, 'the right and duty of exercising the apostolate is common to all the faithful, clerical and lay, and laypeople have their own proper competence in the building up of the Church'" (para. 70)

The Catholic School
(Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education, 1977)

OBJECTIVES

Among the goals the Institute seeks to pursue in co-operation with other Catholic educational organizations are the following:

The Partners

- To provide a model of collaboration in the governance and operation of the ICE which involves all of the partners of the anglophone Catholic educational community.
- To maintain effective liaison with our francophone partners in Catholic education as together we strive to maintain, foster and develop the special characteristics of Catholic education.
- To enable both parents and clergy to participate with a clear voice in decision making about Catholic schools.
- To recognize the historical contribution to Catholic education of religious communities of both men and women and to invite their continued participation in the development of the Catholic education community.
- To promote discussions with the other churches or religious groups in Ontario regarding their views and positions on religious education and Christian education.
- To arrange periodic gatherings of representatives from every sector of the Catholic education community for the purpose of exploring together contemporary issues in Catholic education.

Curriculum

- To cooperate with all Catholic education associations in individual or cooperative efforts to examine curricula, courses, learning materials, policies, etc. to determine if and how they might be developed and updated to better support the underlying philosophy of Catholic education of our school system.
- To continue the development and review of ICE curriculum materials (Religious Education, Family Life Education, AIDS education, Special Religious Education, etc.) in concert with those involved in these areas in the Catholic school system.

Education for Trustees and Professional Educators

- To distribute throughout the province the vision statement on teacher education agreed on by the ICE partners and to pursue discussions on the implementation of this vision with all stakeholders.
- To carry forward conversations with local partners in Catholic education with a view to urging Ontario's faculties of education to introduce the courses in a philosophy of Catholic education and in religious education already validated by the Catholic educational community.
- To provide trustees and Catholic school boards with a self-assessment instrument or program through which they can evaluate the board in terms of its modelling of the Catholic character of our schools.
- To support all those who assume or aspire to leadership positions in Catholic education in developing both the leadership and managerial skills which reflect and sustain the spirituality of our school system.

Research

- To elaborate a strategy which will both identify necessary areas of research, encourage individuals and associations to pursue such research and undertake particular projects itself; and to identify sources of funding for such research.
- To visit other Catholic school systems to learn of their attempts to maintain and develop the specifically Catholic characteristics of their schools.
- To examine with all partners in Catholic education the feasibility of developing assessment procedures for all aspects of Catholic schools and Catholic school systems which would benefit each of the partners in the fulfillment of their own responsibilities.
- To review, with the partners involved, all administrative and structural systems and processes within Catholic schools with a view to assuring that they reflect the spirit of equality for all and mutual Christian respect; and to search, as well, for alternative models.

Sister Joan Cronin is the Executive Director for the Institute.

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I.C.E. PUBLICATIONS

AIDS: A Catholic Educational Approach
to HIV - Ontario
Catholic Schools Second Edition (1999)
Cost: \$15.00 - (plus shipping)

Curriculum Matters -
A Resource for Catholic Educators (1996)
Cost: \$5.00

Educating the Soul - Writing Curriculum for
Catholic Secondary Schools (1998)
Cost: \$3.00

Ontario Catholic Education and the
Corporate Sector (1997)
Cost: \$5.00

Ontario Catholic School Graduate
Expectations (1998)
Cost: 50¢ (plus shipping)

Ontario Catholic Secondary School
Curriculum Policy Document -
Religious Education (1999)
Cost: \$5.00

Writing Curriculum for Catholic Schools -
A Framework (1996)
Cost: \$2.50

All of the above publications are GST exempt
and include shipping/handling charges unless
otherwise noted.