



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE FAITH AND EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING held on Thursday, April 30, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. virtually through teleconference.

PRESENT:

Trustees/Members	Kevin MacDonald (Chairperson), Michelle Griepsma, Emmanuel Pinto, Adam White, Jennifer Angelo, Maria Fitzgerald, Mary Cozzarini, Maureen Potts, Fr. Paul Massel, Peter Bagnall, Sharon Lajoie, Stephanie Dahl
Administration	Stephen O'Sullivan, Michael Nasello
Absent/Regrets	Anne Heemskerk, Jessica Devlin, Natalie Rizzo, Angela Connors, Bart Scollard, Christine Haffie, Eveline Fisher, James Brake, Nora Shaughnessy
Recorder	Vicki Blakely

A. Call to Order:

1. Welcome

Kevin MacKenzie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Opening Prayer

Stephanie Dahl led the opening prayer.

3. Territorial Recognition

Kevin Mackenzie acknowledged although virtually the meeting would normally take place on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishnabe Peoples.

4. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Maureen Potts, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto
that the Agenda be accepted.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

None.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday, October 9, 2019

MOTION: Moved by Fr. Paul Massel, seconded by Jennifer Angelo

that the Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday, October 9, 2019 be approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

8. Welcome – Continued from before. Introductions were made and committee members provided updates.

Adam White – Prior to the pandemic, ELL students had the New Canadians Centre (NCC) coming in and meeting as a lunch group, with outside groups joining in. ELL has transitioned to Online Learning, with lots of successes happening with itinerate teachers.

Jennifer Angelo – Many resources have been provided to different people within the PVNC community to ensure we have a plan to help with mental health. Staff have adapted well to the new situation to have resources available to students given the circumstances through virtual or telephone communication.

Mary Cozzarini – Amazed at how staff has overcome hurdles to roll out Online Learning, the very creative ways that they have come together and how families have adapted to the situation and learning. At Immaculate Conception CES families got together and raised \$1000 to purchase gift cards for families in need.

Maureen Potts – Busy supporting teachers with Google Classroom, given the change to Online Learning, things are running almost as normal.

Maria Fitzgerald – Catholic Women's League will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary in Canada, although all planned gatherings have been cancelled due to the pandemic. The St. Peter's CWL Diocese will celebrate 100 years in 2021.

Michael Nasello – Welcomed Stephen O'Sullivan as the new Superintendent of Learning to the Committee. Online Learning has rolled out with good feedback from families in regards to support. Senior Admin and staff are continuing to work day-by-day to meet current challenges and plan for the future. The PVNC family has been directly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, with the passing of George Dimitrof, retired board psychologist, we continue to pray for his soul and his family.

Fr. Paul Massel – Has been busy planning with the Diocesan response to COVID-19.

Peter Bagnall – This will be Peter's last meeting with the Committee, as he and his family will be taking a 1 year leave to work and live with L'Arche in Quebec.

Sharon Lajoie – There was a great start to the year, amazing support reconnecting with the land and bringing in the environmental piece. There has been an increase of indigenous students in Ally Circles.

Stephanie Dahl – Has found the pandemic challenging as a teacher but has also has seen personal growth. She sees the challenge for family has well, engaging students in meaningful ways. Everyone is working together to support the students. Needs for students continue to be met with social workers, which is reassuring as an educator that those children's needs weren't forgotten. Parent feedback has been very positive.

Stephen O'Sullivan – Thanked the committee for the opportunity to be there. Stephen has replaced Dawn Michie as Superintendent, she officially retires today. Stephen wished Dawn all the best in her health and retirement and thank her for her dedication.

Emmanuel Pinto – Thanked everyone for attending. It has been absolutely phenomenal hearing how adaptable staff, teachers, students and families have been to this whole unique and challenging situation. Looking forward to Catholic Education Week.

Michelle Griepsma – Has been amazed to hear all the wonderful things that are happening at PVNC in regards to Online Learning and Catholic Education Week (CEW) and is very grateful. Anne O'Brien was recently appointed to Director of Catholic Education and has been a pivotal member on CEW. The CEW committee has been working hard to ensure the tools are more user friendly for use at home.

B. Discussions/Presentations:

1. Religion and Family Life Online Education Update – Peter Bagnall

Peter Bagnall presented how Religious Education Online is being supported. PVNC uses the Growing in Faith Growing in Christ (GIFGIC) virtual resource which has made the transition to Online Learning easier to help support parents. Secondary Religion courses have been supported by resources from the Catholic Education Institute and OCSTA.

2. Catholic Education Week Virtual Events and Activities – Peter Bagnall

Peter Bagnall presented a slide show highlighting Catholic Education Week's innovative and creative ways to engage students through an online platform. The annual Catholic Leadership Awards will proceed online through Twitter on May 16. A video has been assembled with the Virtual Choir singing the theme song "Hope". Provincial Mass will go forward Wednesday May 6, at 10:00 a.m. with the Diocesan Mass the following day. Additional CEW resources were included.

3. Celebrating Sacred Teachings Resource – Peter Bagnall/Sharon Lajoie

Michael Nasello gave a brief history of how the resource began and organically grew from the connection between Catholic Spirituality and the 7 Grandfathers teachings.

Peter Bagnall and Sharon Lajoie presented the Celebrating Sacred Teachings Resource's that will roll out in September. The Holy Spirit Binder (2012) was the resource for schools, with the intention to be revisited every 5 years. Celebrating Sacred Teachings aligns the Grandfather Teachings, Fruits of the Holy Spirit, Gifts of the Holy Spirit and Catholic Graduate Expectations into an interactive document. The resource will be available to roll out in September.

4. Distance Learning as it Relates to Special Education Considerations – Maureen Potts

Maureen Potts gave an overview of Distance Learning and PNVC's response to support students in regards to Special Education. The Ministry of Education sent out a memo April 21 highlighting and guiding what needed to be done for Special Education, PNVC had already set up the necessary supports/programs and were meeting the memos requirement as at the date it was sent. Everyone has worked to create guides for teachers, special education support workers with access to a plethora of resources to bring the staff and students together. Staff has worked to ensure students could get their equipment to use at home, as well as technology and access to internet. The EMPOWER program has continued, SickKids has provided us with the opportunity to teach it online or live. Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are all still going ahead. Classroom teachers, special education resource teachers, educational assistance have collaborated to ensure accommodations and alternate goals are still in place. Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IRPC) is still going ahead as it normally would. Social workers, psychometrists, speech and language pathologists are still functioning in their roles as usual, just virtually. There has been a lot of good feedback from families in the support they are receiving.

The Professional Development (PD) Day that took place Friday, March 24 concentrated on Autism with great feedback from teachers and staff.

C. Information Items:

1. Diocesan Response to COVID-19 – Fr. Paul Massel

Fr. Paul Massel gave an update on the Diocesan Response to COVID-19, although Mass is not taking place at this time, the Parish has been busy helping out in the community. Mass is being recorded and/or live streamed online to parishioners with good feedback from the community.

D. Next Meeting:

1. Next Meeting to be determined.
2. Future agenda Items are to be forwarded to Vicki Blakely
3. Selection of Member for Opening Prayer – Jennifer Angelo
4. Selection of Member for Closing Prayer – Mary Cozzarini

E. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer


Emmanuel Pinto led the closing prayer.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Adam White, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto
that the meeting adjourn – 7:45 p.m.

Carried.

Committee Chairperson



Superintendent of Learning
per VB