



# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE Faith and Equity Committee held on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. in the Large Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough.

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**Present:** Peter Bagnall, Wayne Clark, Christine Dunn, Sharon Lajoie, Fr. Paul Massel, Bart Scollard, Wendy Tedford,

**Absent/Regrets:** Linda Ainsworth (Chairperson), Patty-Anne Bronson, Christina Maschas-Hammond, Anne Heemskerck, Helen McCarthy, Kelly O'Boyle, Stephen O'Sullivan, Luke Stocking, Caitlin Currie, Jessica Devlin, Doug Dodd, Jim Gibson, Joe Monardo, Karen Stoker

**Administration:** Laurie Corrigan

**Recorder:** Michelle Kennedy

**Guests:** Jessica Rowland

## A. Call to Order:

Trustee, Christine Dunn, who was in attendance on behalf of Trustee and Committee Chairperson, Linda Ainsworth, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

### 1. Opening Prayer

Wayne Clarke was asked by the Christine Dunn, to lead the committee in prayer.

### 2. Land Acknowledgement – The traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe was acknowledged.

### 3. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Sharon Lajoie, seconded by Fr. Paul Massel  
that the Agenda be accepted as circulated.

Carried

### 4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None declared

### 5. Approval of the Minutes.

**MOTION:** Moved by Wendy Tedford, seconded by Peter Bagnall  
that the minutes of the Faith and Equity Advisory Committee meeting held on  
January 25, 2018, be approved.

Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

None

**B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:**

1. Renewing the Promise Presentation – Peter Bagnall

Peter Bagnall and Laurie Corrigan gave a presentation to the committee about the expected Pastoral Letter 'Renewing the Promise'. Renewing the promise will also be the theme for Catholic Education Week.

From the consultation that has taken place, some emerging themes have been established which will further the conversation. There are six themes have been identified: Nurture community and relationships; rekindle mission and values; develop faith and Catholic identity; live faith; engage student voice; invite and sustain leadership. Laurie Corrigan reviewed the key ideas of each of the themes as they were presented. Peter Bagnall then invited the group to respond to an online poll that requested each member to rank the six themes in order of importance. The committee results were visible immediately and the group was able to see the responses on the overhead screen. The committee ranked them as follows: 1. Live Faith; 2. Develop Faith and Catholic Identity; 3. Engage Student Voice; 4. Nurture Community and Relationships; 5. Rekindle mission and Values; 6. Invite and sustain Leadership

The group split into two groups to discuss the top three themes as decided by the committee: 1. Live Faith; 2. Develop Faith and Catholic Identity; and 3. Engage Student Voice. In the discussion the group answered the following questions: How do we personally relate to this issue? What are the myths and facts about this issue? How do you explain Church teaching on this matter to students? The groups then shared some highlights of their discussion.

Pastoral letter is highly anticipated and it is hoped that it will be distributed in time for Catholic Education Week. Each board employee is to receive a copy, provided by the Institute for Catholic Education.

**C. Information Items:**

1. Religious Education and Family Life Update

Peter Bagnall provided the committee with an update on Religious Education and Family Life.

Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ for Gr. 5 has been approved by the Council of Bishops and will be distributed to begin use in September.

Kindergarten Religious Education Curriculum will soon be released and resources will be developed in the Province for use in our schools.

The Secondary Religious Education Curriculum document was released last school year. Soft implementation was done in this year. There will be an inservice in early May to share curriculum resources and it will be available to teachers online and for sharing electronically.

Peter Bagnall also shared that he has been helping to review the Gr. 6 Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ program.

Peter reported that a Lenten Lunch and Learn Program was held at the Catholic Education Centre where guest speakers were brought in to speak on the following topics: Human Trafficking, Women at the Heart of Peace and Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

## 2. Diocesan Updates

Father Paul Massel gave the following diocesan updates:

Sacramental Preparations have been taking place throughout the Diocese. For Confirmation, the Bishop has been getting out to many of the different parishes.

The Confirmation pilot will go diocesan wide in the fall. There has been positive response to the 'Chosen' program and the parent portion of the program has been further engaging parents.

The Ordination of Stephen DiCarlo will be held on May 25, 2018, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter-in-Chains, Peterborough.

On the weekend of May 5 and 6, Principals are invited to speak at their parishes about Catholic Education Week.

The National Day of Mourning for those who have died as a result of a workplace accident will be observed at the Board on April 27. The National Day of Mourning is recognized as April 28.

Father Paul then answered questions from the Committee.

## 3. Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy Update

Peter Bagnall gave summary of the work in the Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy project that has taken place so far.

Two training sessions were held, one with principals and the other with teachers, with the expertise of Nicole and Jeff, who are experts that were hired as facilitators. Highlights of learning included exploring social identity, power and privilege. Comparing charity and social justice and equality versus equity were also explored.

The components of CRRP are high expectations for all students regardless of background, cultural competence. There is a goal to elevate critical consciousness and how we can move towards change to remove barriers.

Next steps for CRRP include the participation of schools in collaborative inquiries and the delivery of feedback to the schools who take part in the collaborative inquiries.

The Board is waiting on future funding announcements which will also direct next steps in this project.

#### 4. Committee Member Updates

Committee members were invited to share any updates with the Committee.

Wendy Tedford – Reported that the CWL Convention will be held at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary next week. The Diocese works with the school to stage this event.

Their group is working on a Homelessness Project. A truckload of goods is going to the students in the Thunder Bay area.

Wendy reported that a lot of CWL members help with the sacraments.

Wayne Clark – Reported that Catholic Education Week is May 6 -12 and there are lots of events planned in all of the schools. On Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, Principals will be participating in a Twitter event 'A day in the life of the Principal' which will give a behind the scenes look at a principal's day.

Congratulations were extended to Frank Bradica, who was a recipient of the Learning Partnerships' Outstanding Principal Award and to Stephen O'Sullivan who is a member of council for the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario.

Wayne announced that the Catholic Student Leadership Awards, sponsored by the Principal/Vice-Principals' Association, will be held on Wednesday, May 9, 2018, at Holy Cross.

Sharon Lajoie – Reported that there are now revised Social Studies Curriculum documents that are available on the Ministry web site now. These documents will be in use beginning in September, 2018. These new curriculum requirements include First Nation, Métis and Inuit history and perspective. Secondary curriculum will also be revamped; five course outlines will also be released.

Sharon also reported that through the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee and the Parents Reaching Out Grant, four information evenings with Indigenous Education Focus, including the blanket exercise, were planned at four secondary schools: Monday, April 23, 2018, at St. Mary CSS, Cobourg; Monday, April 30, 2018 at Holy Cross CSS, Peterborough; Thursday, May 3, 2018 at St. Stephen CSS, Bowmanville; Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at St. Thomas Aquinas CSS, Lindsay.

Indigenous Cultural Competency has been offered and so far there have been eight 'cycle one' sessions, one 'cycle two' session. More dates are scheduled in the near future. Sharon stated that just under 20 percent of the Board's personnel has received training.

Bart Scollard – Reported that as an OECTA representative he tries to monitor media for news relating to Catholic Education. He recently read an opinion piece that was in the Peterborough Examiner which wrote about the Halton Catholic District School Board's efforts to recruit

students who were not Catholic to attend their school. The article had some false statements and has since been printed in other papers as a campaign opposing two school systems.

**D. Next Committee Meeting Date:**

1. Dates for 2018-2019 Meetings

Thursday, October 11, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 24, 2019 – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 2, 2019 – 6:30 p.m.

2. Future Agenda Items

Please forward any future agenda items to Michelle Kennedy, Administrative Assistant.

3. Selection of Member for Opening Prayer – Peter Bagnall

4. Selection of Member for Closing Prayer – Fr. Paul Massel

**E. Conclusion:**

1. Closing Prayer

At the request of the Chairperson, Fr. Paul Massel closed the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Moved by Wayne Clark, seconded by Sharon Lajoie,  
that the meeting adjourn at 8:29 p.m.

Carried.