



# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE Faith and Equity Committee held on Thursday, January 25, 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:** Linda Ainsworth (Chairperson), Peter Bagnall, Patty-Anne Bronson, , Stefani Burosch, Sharon Lajoie, Christina Maschas-Hammond, Fr. Paul Massel, Helen McCarthy, Aiden Murphy (on behalf of Anne Heemskerk), Kelly O'Boyle, Stephen O'Sullivan, Bart Scollard, Luke Stocking, Wendy Tedford

**Absent/Regrets:** Wayne Clark, Caitlin Currie, Jessica Devlin, Doug Dodd, Jim Gibson, Joe Monardo, Karen Stoker

**Administration:** Laurie Corrigan

**Recorder:** Michelle Kennedy

**Guests:** Jane Braithwaite, Leslie Keating, Jessica Rowland

## A. Call to Order:

### 1. Opening Prayer

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. The traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe was acknowledged and Sharon Lajoie was asked by the Chairperson, Linda Ainsworth, to lead the committee in prayer.

### 2. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Stephen O'Sullivan, seconded by Wendy Tedford that the Agenda be accepted as circulated.

Carried

### 3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None declared

### 4. Approval of the Minutes.

**MOTION:** Moved by Wendy Tedford, seconded by Patty Anne Bronson that the minutes of the Faith and Equity Advisory Committee meeting held on

October 12, 2017, be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Father Paul Massel was asked about the new Confirmation program, which has been used in Peterborough this year, being extended to the rest of the Diocese next year. Father Paul indicated that the program is going well in Peterborough and there is every expectation that it would go forward to the rest of the Diocese next year.

**B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:**

1. Ministry of Education Action Plan

Laurie Corrigan, Superintendent of Learning and Peter Bagnall, Religious Education Consultant, gave a presentation to the committee about the Ministry of Education's Equity Action Plan.

A brief history of the Equity in Education in Ontario was explained and in 2017-18 there is now an Equity Action Plan which endeavours to support student success by removing barriers experienced by marginalized groups. It is expected that the equity action plan will give school boards the tools to break down the barriers present which prevent all from experiencing well-being and achievement.

2. Culturally Relevant and Responsive Pedagogies (CRRP)

Peter Bagnall explained the Culturally Relevant and Responsive Pedagogy (CRRP) project in which PVNC is participating. Our Board will use funding to have 50 teachers participate in CRRP training.

There is also a working group on Equity which will operationalize what implementing this will work like at our Board.

Laurie Corrigan reviewed the pillars in the Equity Action Plan and then answered questions from the committee.

3. When Faith Meets Pedagogy, Conference Highlights

Peter Bagnall gave an overview of the 'When Faith Meets Pedagogy Conference' held in Toronto in October, 2017. There were four presenters and nine participants who attended from PVNC. Peter then answered questions from the committee.

4. Admission to Catholic Schools – Administrative Procedure Review

Laurie Corrigan introduced the Administrative Procedure, 'Admission to Catholic Schools' which is aligned with the directional policy, 'Catholic Education' and operationalizes the processes of registering students in our schools.

Laurie invited the committee to review the draft that was provided with the agenda package and provide feedback via email prior to the Policy Committee meeting on January 30, 2018.

## C. Information Items:

### 1. Renewing the Promise Update

Laurie Corrigan gave a brief update regarding Renewing the Promise. A team of fourteen from PVNC attended the symposium, where they took part in conversations about the strengths and challenges of Catholic Education. Part of the presentation included a history of Catholic Education which was performed by students. Data collected from the symposium will be used to write the pastoral letter on the direction of Catholic Education in Ontario, which will be published in late April this year.

### 2. Religious Education and Family Life Update

Peter Bagnall reported that the development of the Gr. 5 Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ program is well on its way. Will be coming this year and there is a fairly significant change in the presentation of the content from the previous four years.

There has been a focus to work on strengthening the use of the parish portals, thus making significant connections between home and parish.

### 3. Diocesan Updates

Father Paul Massel reported Diocesan updates to the committee.

Confirmation meetings are continuing throughout the parishes. It is hoped that parents will be engaged and all are working towards having good collaborations between parish and school.

Father Paul made the following announcements:

There is a fundraising dinner on February 3, 2018, to raise funds for Vocations.

All are invited to witness 'The way of the Cross' which is the outdoor procession in Peterborough, at Easter.

Fr. Thom Lynch is now the principal of Sacred Heart College.

Dr. Donald Graham is giving a talk about Cardinal Newman on February 22, 2018 at St. Alphonsus.

### 4. Committee Member Updates

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

Bart Scollard – reported that he attended 'Renewing the Promise' as part of the Board contingent, where there was lots of good discussion. OECTA gave a survey to teachers in the board to ask them about their well-being. OECTA and the Board met to share the results and there is a commitment to work together to continue to address the needs of the teachers in the schools.

Stefani Burosch – reported that the first Well-Being Summit took place with 70 student participants from six secondary schools. Stefani also attended the OCSTA Conference where herself and three other mental health leads gave a presentation.

Leslie Keating – asked the committee to take time to read and carefully consider the Administrative Procedure regarding Admission to Catholic schools as it is an important

document to principals and the operation of the school. Leslie reported that the Principals were able to have a retreat with Fr. Con O'Mahony which was a great experience.

Wendy Tedford – was sad to report that Maria Fitzgerald's (Rosary Program) mother has passed away. Wendy also reported that there are two women whose names were put forward for National awards. The recipients will be announced in July.

Christine Maschas Hammond – Reported that in 2015, there were 63 students who were new to Canada in our system. In 2017, there were 152 students who were new to Canada. There are now three ESL secondary classes being run as full year courses in our schools.

Sharon Lajoie –reported that on January 17, 2018 there was a training session for Indigenous Cultural Competency. To date, 18 percent of PVNC staff have taken this training. There is new curriculum in the area of history which includes Indigenous education with specific expectations for which there will be training for teachers coming up in the near future.

Jane Braithwaite – reported that February is Black History Month and she has provided information regarding this to Peter Bagnall.

Luke Stocking – reported that on February 15, 2018, there will be a Development and Peace Lenten Retreat with secondary schools. Luke told the committee about the new Share Lent phone app that will bring up a reflection for each day. The theme this year is "Together for Peace" and there are many resources, including the Lenten calendar on the website.

Luke also reported that lawyer, Felix Morka, will be speaking in Peterborough on March 17, 2018, about working with the people living in the slums in Nigeria, empowering them to work with Government.

Aiden Murphy – reported that the Chaplaincy Leaders are meeting with Laurie Corrigan and working through a book study called 'Redeeming Administration' together as a group.

Father Paul Massel – reported that he will be travelling with a Medical Brigade again this year and will be in the Philippines in February.

Linda Ainsworth – reported that she was in attendance at the OCSTA event where Stefani and her colleagues were presenting and shared points on what was learned there.

#### **D. Next Committee Meeting Date:**

1. The next meeting is scheduled for, **Thursday, April 26, 2018**, at the Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough
2. Future Agenda Items  
Please forward any future agenda items to Michelle Kennedy, Administrative Assistant.
3. Selection of Member for Opening Prayer – Stephen O'Sullivan
4. Selection of Member for Closing Prayer – Anne Heemskerk

**E. Conclusion:**

1. Closing Prayer

At the request of the Chairperson, Stefani Burosch and Stephen O'Sullivan closed the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Moved by Helen McCarthy, seconded by Stephen O'Sullivan, that the meeting adjourn at 8:29 p.m.

Carried.