

Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association

Association canadienne des commissaires d'écoles catholiques



June 2012

CCSTA NEWSLETTER / COMMUNIQUÉ DE L'ACCEC

www.ccsta.ca

Welcome to Sudbury! Bienvenue à Sudbury!

Sudbury Organizers prepare for CCSTA AGM Conference / Le comité organisateur de Sudbury se prépare à la conférence de l'ACCEC

The community of Sudbury, Ontario is poised and ready to host this year's annual Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association (CCSTA) conference June 7-9, 2012. Upon arrival in Sudbury, registration will take place at the Radisson Hotel located in downtown Sudbury. After registration and dropping off your shoes for the Shoe-Drop, (see the website for more information - <http://ccsta2012.sudburycatholicschools.ca/conference/Welcome.html>), the pre-convention tours will depart from the Radisson at 12:45 p.m. with student guides taking all on a tour of the city (tours available in both languages) with stops at the Sudbury Art Gallery, Laurentian University and Dynamic Earth. Along with the pre-convention tour, walking maps of the downtown area will also be provided, giving visitors the opportunity to explore a variety of exquisite shops, boutiques and one-of-a-kind restaurants and bistros.

Once settled, and refreshed for the beginning of the conference, the opening ceremonies will kick off at the Radisson with welcomes from a number of speakers, as well as a liturgy. The evening's keynote speaker is Dr. Thomas Groome, who is the chair of department of religious education and pastoral ministry as well as professor of theology and religious education at Boston College.

After listening to part one of Dr. Groome's address, delegates will have the opportunity to listen to a live performance of "Walking in the Truth" written by a graduate of Sudbury Catholic, Emily Cortolezzis, who was inspired to write the song from the theme of the conference.

Immediately following the performance is a wine and cheese reception where there will be the opportunity to catch up with fellow trustees and unwind from the day's events. A

La ville du Grand Sudbury en Ontario est bien prête à accueillir la conférence annuelle de l'Association canadienne des commissaires d'écoles catholiques qui se déroulera du 7 au 9 juin 2012. Dès votre arrivée à Sudbury, l'inscription se fera à l'hôtel Radisson situé au centre-ville de Sudbury. Suite à l'inscription et au dépôt de votre don de chaussures pour notre œuvre de bienfaisance « Shoe Drop » (voir notre site Web pour plus de détails au <http://ccsta2012.sudburycatholicschools.ca/conference/Welcome.html>), vous pourrez participer à la tournée pré-conférence bilingue qui partira de l'hôtel dès 12h45 en compagnie d'élèves guides qui vous offriront un aperçu de notre belle ville, y compris entre autres la Galerie d'art de Sudbury, l'Université Laurentienne et Terre dynamique. En plus de la tournée pré-conférence, nous vous fournirons des cartes pour visiter la ville à pied et ainsi profiter de la panoplie de magasins, de boutiques et de restaurants disponibles au cœur de la ville du Grand Sudbury.

Une fois bien installés et prêts pour le début de la conférence, vous êtes convoqués à la plus belle des cérémonies d'ouverture qui comprendra une belle brochette d'invités ainsi qu'une célébration liturgique. Entre autres, notre conférencier d'honneur sera le Dr. Thomas Groome, directeur et professeur au département d'instruction religieuse et de théologie pastorale du Boston College.

La première partie de la conférence du Dr. Groome sera suivie d'une performance du chant thème « Walking in the Truth » composée par Emily Cortolezzis, finissante du Sudbury Catholic District School Board. C'est sur les airs de ce chant inspiré du thème de la conférence que vous quitterez pour un vin-fromage où vous aurez certes l'opportunité d'échanger avec vos collègues et amis



Sudbury's Secondary School mascots recently met at the the local icon, the Big Nickel, to welcome CCSTA AGM delegates!

Les mascottes des écoles secondaires de Sudbury ont souhaité la bienvenue aux délégués de l'AGA de l'ACCEC devant le Big Nickel!

en plus de profiter d'une soirée de détente disponible à tous, gracieuseté du Sudbury Catholic School Board.

La deuxième journée débutera avec un déjeuner-buffet, une célébration liturgique et il nous fait grand plaisir d'accueillir le très honorable Paul Martin dans le cadre d'un panel de discussion qui comprendra également la professeure et auteure de l'Université Laurentienne, Dr. Pamela Toulouse. Nos deux invités d'honneur dis-

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Political Outreach



NCEA Conference



Embrace the Spirit

President's Message

I don't mind admitting that the 2011-2012 year has been somewhat challenging for several reasons at CCSTA.

As President of this association, I know the importance of having a presence with our Canadian Members of Parliament and as such John Stunt and I have taken every opportunity, (both formal and informal) to introduce ourselves to the MP's as well some of the Senators and their staffers. They are very receptive to our message and quite often take the time to ask questions of us which we are happy to answer.

As a cost-saving measure, we decided not to host a Meet and Greet this year and will probably commit to doing it every second year. However, we have just initiated a mail-out to some of the newer MP's as an information piece which shares our successes as well as our mission in our role as the trustees of Catholic education across Canada.

Catholic Education: A National Conversation was held in Ottawa on September 22-24, 2011. We had an exciting list of keynote speakers and the format was similar to our very successful first endeavor in September, 2008. Again, we had a wonderful and very committed conference team coordinated by Gerry Bibby. I offer a very heartfelt thank you to Gerry and team for sharing their time and their talents so generously. It was very unfortunate that so few could join us this year as the conference reviews were splendid. Financially, however, the conference was not a success. The Board of Directors remains hopeful and optimistic and has committed to hosting Catholic Education: A National Conversation in Ottawa from October 3-5, 2013. Please make plans to join us and support us as we host the only national Catholic education conference for all Catholic partners in this country.

CCSTA applied for and was granted intervener status in the case involving parental rights which was heard by the Supreme Court of Canada late in the fall of 2011. With financial support from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario (English and French), CCSTA represented a coalition of all our members from across Canada. It was unfortunate that the outcome of the case clearly set the bar very high in order for parents to determine that their children should or may be excused from a class that they believe might be harmful or goes against their own value and or faith beliefs. Very disappointing to say the least, and at this time we do not know if the case will be appealed.

Our ongoing communication and relations with the CCCB is also ever expanding and in our annual meeting with their representatives we discussed the importance of the role that CCSTA can play in the New Evangelization, which is the Bishops' new initiative. We have in our schools across Canada over 800,000 students which we believe is somewhat of a captive audience. Wouldn't you agree? We look forward to playing an integral role in the New Evangelization.

As I complete my term as CCSTA President, I am so grateful for the support of our board of directors who volunteer their time and their talents so generously to help support our mission "to promote and protect the right to Catholic education in Canada". We are truly blessed to have such a great team from coast to coast.

Thank you as well to John Stunt and Jean Montminy in the CCSTA office who look after the day-to-day activities in the national office in Ottawa. I can not say enough about their commitment, dedication and ongoing support.

Most importantly I thank each and every one of you who are so committed to the Catholic education of our children all across Canada. Truly, where would we be without you and those who came before us?

Finally, I thank you for allowing me the honour of serving and representing you as President of CCSTA. I have enjoyed it immensely. Catholic education has and will continue to be my passion.

I look forward to seeing you all in Sudbury in June!

Blessings to all!

Paula Peroni
President, CCSTA

Message de la présidente

Il faut avouer que l'année 2011-2012 a apporté sa part de défis à l'ACCEC, et ce pour plusieurs raisons.

En tant que présidente, je connais l'importance pour notre association d'être en lien avec les membres du Parlement canadien. John Stunt et moi avons saisi toutes les opportunités, de façon officielle ou informelle, de rencontrer les députés et certains des sénateurs et leurs attachés. Ils se sont montrés ouverts à notre message et nous avons eu le loisir de répondre à leurs nombreuses questions.

Cependant, dans le but de minimiser les coûts, nous avons décidé de ne pas organiser de soirée « Meet and Greet » avec les membres du Parlement cette année. Nous avons plutôt fait parvenir des

informations aux nouveaux députés dans le but de partager nos succès et expliquer notre mission dans notre rôle de conseillers scolaires catholiques au Canada.

Le congrès L'Éducation catholique: un échange national a eu lieu à Ottawa du 22 au 24 septembre 2011, selon un format semblable à celui de notre première édition, très réussie, en septembre 2008. D'excellents conférenciers étaient présents, et le congrès s'est déroulé sans faille grâce à une équipe dévouée sous la direction de Gerry Bibby. Je tiens à leur offrir mes remerciements les plus sincères pour avoir partagé leur talent et donné de leur temps avec autant de générosité. Malheureusement, la participation a été plutôt limitée, bien que les commentaires des participants aient été très favorables. Le conseil d'administration demeure optimiste et confirme son intention d'offrir ce congrès de nouveau, à Ottawa, les 3, 4 et 5 octobre 2013. Nous vous invitons à planifier y assister, pour nous appuyer dans ce qui constitue le seul congrès national d'éducation catholique au Canada.

L'ACCEC avait reçu le statut d'intervenant dans la cause des droits parentaux qui a été entendue par la Cour suprême à l'automne 2011. Grâce à l'appui financier de l'Alberta de la Saskatchewan et de l'Ontario (francophone et anglophone), l'ACCEC représentait une coalition de nos membres au Canada. Les parents désiraient le privilège de retirer leurs enfants d'un cours qu'ils jugent être à l'encontre de leurs propres valeurs ou leurs croyances. Malheureusement, les exigences de la cour ont fait que leur demande a été refusée, et on ignore toujours si la cause sera portée en appel.

Nos relations permanentes avec la CECC continuent de porter fruit. Lors de notre rencontre annuelle avec ses représentants, nous avons discuté du rôle important que pourrait jouer l'ACCEC dans cette nouvelle initiative des évêques, la nouvelle évangélisation. Plus de 800 000 élèves fréquentent l'école catholique au Canada, ce qui constitue un auditoire idéal, n'est-ce pas? Nous serons heureux de jouer un rôle significatif dans le projet de la nouvelle évangélisation.

Au terme de mon mandat de présidente de l'ACCEC, je suis reconnaissante de l'appui de notre conseil d'administration, dont les membres offrent généreusement leur temps et leurs talents pour appuyer notre mission « de promouvoir et protéger le droit à l'éducation catholique au Canada ». Nous sommes privilégiés d'avoir une telle équipe d'un océan à l'autre.

Je tiens à remercier John Stunt et Jean Montminy, qui s'occupent des opérations journalières au bureau national de l'ACCEC à Ottawa. Leur implication et leur efficacité sont sans égal.

Je remercie surtout chacun d'entre vous qui êtes si dévoués envers l'éducation catholique de nos enfants partout au Canada. Que serions-nous sans vous ou sans nos prédécesseurs?

Finalement, je vous remercie de m'avoir accordé l'honneur de vous représenter et de vous servir comme présidente de l'ACCEC. J'ai beaucoup apprécié mon expérience, et l'éducation catholique continuera d'être ma passion.

Au plaisir de vous rencontrer en juin à Sudbury!

Mes meilleurs vœux à toutes et à tous!

Paula Peroni
Président, ACCEC



CCSTA/ACCEC President
Paula Peroni

Welcome to Sudbury!

FROM FRONT PAGE

hospitality suite hosted by Sudbury Catholic will be available for all after the wine and cheese.

Day two's events will begin with a buffet breakfast and will continue with a morning liturgy, and we are thrilled and honoured to be able to host the Right Honourable Paul Martin to take part in a panel discussion with Laurentian University professor and author Dr. Pamela Toulouse. Former Prime Minister Martin and Dr. Toulouse will be discussing the Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative and its positive impact on the First Nations, Métis and Inuit youth across Canada.

The panel discussion will follow with part two of Dr. Groome's keynote address.

Workshops will begin following lunch, which will include:

Honouring the Community School - in which the school's integrated focus is on faith development, academic improvement, health and social service awareness, youth and community development and community engagement.

The Outdoor Classroom – in which trustees will explore how Sudbury Catholic uses the Outdoor Education Centre to connect the mind, body and spirit to the world around us. Participants in this workshop will learn about the innate need for the outdoor classroom through the importance of experiential education.

Engaging, Enriching, Achieving – in which trustees will learn how Integrating technology with differentiated instruction is helping at risk students achieve goals for today and tomorrow.

Student Perspectives – in which students will explore what motivates and inspires their active participation, helping to engage them in their process. Students will share examples of best practices to motivate learners to reach their potential.

The two French Workshops include:

Identity Pedagogy: How to integrate language, culture and faith into teaching – in which the trustees will learn about the seven fundamentals of Identity Pedagogy: Cultural and spiritual animation in support of identity development will be presented as part of a fun and interactive activity

Prayer: How to motivate students with prayer strategies – in which trustees will be given a variety of techniques and strategies meant to instill a life of prayer in our youngsters to help keep them stay strong throughout the hardships of life.

Transportation will commence to Science North in which delegates will have the opportunity to explore the facility with a private after-hours tour. Science North is an interactive science museum which is Northern Ontario's most popular tourist attraction, on the southwestern shore of Lake Ramsey. A walk down the Bell Park boardwalk is also an option as the two-kilometre pathway brings you along the shore of Lake Ramsey with spectacular views of the water and greenspaces.

Cocktails will commence at 6:30 followed by a gourmet dinner. The evening's entertainment will be outstanding as local musician Jeff Wiseman (Jeff Wiseman trio) will showcase his cache of songs and will inspire guests to be up and dancing throughout the Science North cavern. Wiseman has performed internationally as well as on Canada AM., Global TV Entertainment Desk, as well as on numerous radio stations including CBC radio and local radio stations.

A hospitality suite will be set up for all who want to relax with their fellow trustees in a more informal setting immediately after the Science North dinner.

Saturday's keynote speaker is Sister Anne Smollin. Sister Smollin is an international lecturer on wellness and spirituality and her dynamic public speaking style and natural gift for entertaining have sent her far from her Albany, New York, home base to lecture on humor and its effect on wellness, aging, spirituality and stress.

After the keynote address, delegates will have the opportunity to take some time to relax and unwind, and possibly do some of their own exploring of the community of Greater Sudbury. An app is available for anyone with a smartphone, which will allow for a more in-depth history and tour of the city. "Discover Sudbury" is a free app which supports a GPS-enabled tour of the geological, glacial, mining and cultural history of the City of Greater Sudbury.

At 5:00 p.m., all will gather at Christ the King Parish located one block away from the Radisson to join together in faith and community – celebrating the calling to "Walk in the Truth" as Jesus wants us to do. Mass will be presided over by Bishop Jean-Louis Plouffe, and will be a wonderful opportunity to renew and strengthen our commitments to God and our Catholic community.

The gala dinner will take place back at the Radisson beginning at 7:00 p.m. and will provide the backdrop for an evening of camaraderie and joyous celebration as trustees united from across the nation.

Staff has been working tirelessly to prepare for this monumental event, and are looking forward to showcase all the beauty, culture and friendship the Greater City of Sudbury has to offer. We are in the home-stretch of preparations, and are anxiously awaiting the arrival of trustees from across the country!

Bienvenue à Sudbury!

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couteront de l'Initiative d'éducation autochtone Martin et de son impact positif sur les élèves des Premières Nations, Inuit et Métis à travers le Canada.

Suivant cette conférence, il y a la deuxième partie de la conférence du Dr. Groome. Vous pourrez participer aux divers ateliers offerts après dîner, incluant:

L'école communautaire à l'honneur, où l'on présentera un modèle d'école où la priorité est centrée sur le développement de la foi, le rendement académique, la sensibilisation à la santé et au service social, le développement communautaire et l'engagement communautaire des élèves. (en anglais seulement)

La salle de classe extérieure, où les participants auront l'opportunité de voir comment le Sudbury Catholic School Board utilise son Centre d'éducation extérieur pour arrimer la pensée, le corps et l'esprit avec le monde qui nous entoure. La valeur de la salle de classe extérieure sera mise en évidence par l'entremise de ce projet d'éducation expérimentale. (en anglais seulement)

Engager, enrichir, réussir, où les participants apprendront la richesse de l'enseignement différencié par l'intégration efficace des technologies, particulièrement en ce qui a trait au cheminement des élèves en difficulté (en anglais seulement).

Perspectives étudiantes, où les élèves exploreront ce qui les motive et les engage à participer activement dans leur apprentissage. Un partage de pratiques réussies permettra d'apprécier davantage le leadership de ces élèves qui cherchent à développer leur plein potentiel. (en anglais seulement)

La pédagogie identitaire: comment intégrer langue, culture et foi à l'enseignement, où les sept fondements de la « Pédagogie identitaire : l'animation culturelle et spirituelle au service de la construction identitaire » seront présentés dans le cadre d'une activité ludique et interactive. Les participantes et participants auront l'occasion de vivre ces fondements par l'entremise de stratégies variées, du jeu et de la communication.

La prière: stratégies pour motiver la prière chez nos élèves, où l'on présentera différentes techniques et stratégies pour développer la vie de prière chez nos jeunes afin qu'elles et ils demeurent forts malgré les tempêtes de la vie. Au moyen de différentes formes de prières et d'activités pédagogiques, les participantes et participants aborderont les questions suivantes : Qui je prie? Pourquoi je prie? Comment je prie? dans un atmosphère interactif et détendu.

Transport pour une visite guidée privée de Sciences Nord suivant. Sciences Nord, situé sur les bords du Lac Ramsey, est un musée de sciences interactif et l'une des attractions touristiques les plus populaires du Nord de l'Ontario. Une randonnée pédestre sur la promenade du Parc Bell s'avère également une belle option qui permettra aux participants de marcher un parcours de deux kilomètres tout en appréciant la vue spectaculaire offerte par le Lac Ramsey.

Le divertissement se poursuit en soirée avec une rencontre sociale à 18h30 suivi d'un repas gastronomique exquis. Tous se réjouiront d'une soirée musicale animée par le groupe local Jeff Wiseman Trio qui fera certainement danser et chanter l'ensemble de nos invités à même la caverne de Sciences Nord. Jeff Wiseman est un artiste de renommée nationale que l'on a pu apprécier aux émissions Canada AM et Global TV Entertainment ainsi qu'à la radio de la CBC et locale. Après le plaisir en groupe, c'est bien sûr le retour vers un contexte plus informel où pourront se poursuivre les discussions intimes fort appréciées.

Samedi, nous avons l'honneur d'accueillir Sister Anne Smollin, conférencière de renommée internationale sur les sujets du mieux-être et de la spiritualité. Son art oratoire dynamique, divertissant et naturel l'a amené loin de sa résidence d'Albany dans l'État de New York pour présenter des conférences sur l'humour, ses effets sur le mieux-être, le vieillissement, la spiritualité et le stress.

Nous vous invitons par la suite à vous détendre et apprécier davantage ce qu'à à vous offrir la Ville du Grand Sudbury. En fait, une application mobile est disponible pour vous permettre d'en apprendre davantage sur l'histoire et les attraits de notre communauté. « Discover Sudbury » est une application gratuite, téléchargeable pour toutes formes de téléphone intelligent, qui fournit une tournée à base de GPS de l'historique géologique, glacial, minier et culturel de Sudbury.

À 17h, c'est une célébration avec l'ensemble des participants à l'église Christ the King situé à un quartier de l'hôtel Radisson. Ce sera l'occasion de se réunir dans la foi, en communauté chrétienne, pour répondre à l'appel de « Marcher vers la lumière » comme nous le demande le Christ. Cette célébration dynamique sera animée par notre évêque Jean-Louis Plouffe et offrira certes à tous un moment mémorable qui nous permettra de renouveler notre engagement envers Dieu et la communauté catholique.

Enfin, le moment couronnant, le souper gala aura lieu au Radisson à compter de 19h et sera la toile de fond idéale pour une soirée de fraternité et de célébration joyeuse rassemblant tous les conseillers scolaires d'à travers le Canada.

Le comité organisateur travaille d'arrache-pied à préparer cette activité à grand déploiement et attend avec anticipation cette opportunité de faire valoir la beauté, la culture et l'accueil chaleureux que seule la Ville du Grand Sudbury peut offrir. Il ne reste que vous pour assurer la réussite de cet événement tant attendu!



Vision

"Enlivened by the Word of God and our tradition, we promote and protect the right to Catholic education in Canada. We speak as one."

Mission

The CCSTA works in communion with the Catholic Church through:

- Collaborating with the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops;
- Dialogue with Catholic education organizations throughout the world;
- Working in solidarity with Catholic School Trustees' Associations and other partners in Catholic education throughout Canada;
- Providing opportunities for faith formation and professional development of trustees;
- Providing leadership and service by promoting and protecting the right to a Catholic education among the relevant government agencies within Canada;
- Promoting excellence in Catholic education throughout Canada.

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For news and links, visit our website at www.ccsta.ca.

From the Office Desk..

To maintain a truly national perspective on Catholic education, CCSTA requires the help of a dedicated board of directors. From coast to coast, and all points in between, we are blessed to have an excellent board that is truly representative of the diversity of our country.

While the opportunities to meet face to face have been reduced to address our fiscal situation, the board nevertheless meets regularly by teleconference. This year all board members are now part of the Conventions and Finance committee. While this adds to the workload of all trustees, it does now involve all of the board members in the important work of this committee. For greater efficiency, all committees meet prior to the board meetings by teleconference. We have been able to achieve significant savings by organizing the way we work more effectively.

As for CCSTA's political outreach strategy, the series of messages to MP's and Senators has been mailed out this spring. Copies of these messages appear elsewhere in this newsletter. These colourful mail-outs contain important messages about Catholic education and its contribution to Canadian society, and are intended to keep the value of Catholic education before our countries legislators.

Attendance at the National Leadership Dinner and Prayer Breakfast are other venues where the CCSTA president and executive director are present, and which there are a large number of MP's and Senators in attendance. Each year we meet new contacts and further establish our presence in Ottawa.

Planning for the third Catholic Education: A National Conversation conference is underway. The conference will be held in Ottawa from Oct. 3-5, 2013, so please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Afin de conserver un point de vue réellement national sur l'éducation catholique, l'ACCEC a besoin d'un conseil d'administration dévoué. D'un océan à l'autre, les excellents membres du conseil représentent bien la diversité de notre pays.

Même si les occasions de se rencontrer face à face sont réduites par notre réalité financière, nous communiquons régulièrement par conférence téléphonique. Cette année, tous les membres du conseil se sont retrouvés lors d'une rencontre du comité des congrès et des finances. En plus d'ajouter à la somme de travail des conseillers scolaires, cet important comité inclut maintenant tous les membres du conseil d'administration. Par souci d'efficacité, tous les comités se réunissent par conférence téléphonique avant les rencontres du conseil. Ces mesures nous ont permis de faire d'importantes économies.

Dans le cadre de notre stratégie de sensibilisation auprès des politiciens, nous avons fait parvenir ce printemps une série de messages aux députés et aux sénateurs. Vous trouverez copie de ces messages plus avant dans ce communiqué. Ces envois postaux attrayants comportent des messages importants au sujet de l'éducation catholique et son impact sur la société canadienne, et sont conçus pour faire valoir l'éducation catholique auprès des législateurs de notre pays.

La présidente et le directeur général de l'ACCEC ont aussi participé au Dîner national de leadership et au déjeuner-prière, et y ont rencontré de nombreux députés et sénateurs. Chaque année, nous faisons de nouvelles rencontres et continuons d'établir notre présence à Ottawa.

La planification du troisième congrès L'Éducation catholique : un échange national bat son plein. Il aura lieu à Ottawa, les 3, 4 et 5 octobre 2013, alors marquez ces dates à votre agenda et songez déjà à y participer.



Once again this year I was fortunate to attend the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) convention in Boston, Mass. Ten thousand delegates were treated to inspiring liturgies, excellent keynote speakers and a multitude of workshops to choose from. Marnie and I were pleased to attend the President's Award reception and dinner as the guest of NCEA president, Karen Ristau. Over the years CCSTA and NCEA have enjoyed an excellent reciprocal relationship.

Another key relationship for CCSTA is the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. We met earlier this year, and expect to meet with the Education Commission this fall. The bishops shared their database with us, so all of our information goes to the bishops and we in turn are on their email list. The Bishops see Catholic education as a partner in the New Evangelization.

The culminating event of this year is our Convention/AGM in Sudbury, Ontario, on June 7-9, 2012. The planning committee has worked hard to ensure that those attending will have a stimulating program and memorable experience. From all of my involvement to date, I think everyone will enjoy the Sudbury experience.

As always, I am grateful to our board for their dedication and contributions. Jean and I in the office appreciate the support we received from these individuals. We are blessed to be able to serve our members in this great enterprise of Catholic Education.

God Bless and hope to see you soon.

John Stunt
Executive Director, CCSTA

Cette année encore, j'ai eu le plaisir de participer au congrès de la National Catholic Education Association (NCEA), à Boston. Dix mille délégués ont profité de liturgies inspirantes, de conférenciers exceptionnels et d'un grand choix d'ateliers. Marnie et moi avons eu le privilège d'assister au dîner/gala du président en tant qu'invités spéciaux de la présidente, Karen Ristau. Depuis plusieurs années, l'ACCEC et la NCEA entretiennent d'excellentes relations.

La Conférence des évêques catholiques du Canada est aussi un partenaire important pour l'ACCEC. Nous nous sommes réunis plus tôt cette année, et nous comptons rencontrer la commission sur l'éducation à l'automne. Les évêques nous ont fourni leur liste d'envoi électronique, alors toutes nos informations leur parviennent et en retour, nous sommes aussi sur leur liste d'envoi. Les évêques voient l'éducation catholique comme partenaire dans la nouvelle évangélisation.

L'évènement culminant de cette année est notre congrès/AGA de Sudbury, en Ontario, les 7, 8 et 9 juin 2012. Le comité organisateur a travaillé fort pour que les participants profitent d'un programme stimulant et qu'ils vivent une expérience mémorable à Sudbury.

Comme toujours, je suis très reconnaissant du dévouement et du travail de notre conseil d'administration. Au bureau, Jean et moi apprécions grandement leur appui. Nous sommes privilégiés de pouvoir servir nos membres dans cette entreprise importante qu'est l'éducation catholique.

Que Dieu soit avec vous. Je souhaite avoir le plaisir de vous rencontrer bientôt.

John Stunt
Directeur général, ACCEC

Taking Political Action:

CCSTA steps out to spread word about Canadian Catholic education

Since the New Year, CCSTA has made a number of connections within the political field to ensure its message about the importance of Catholic education in Canada is prominently heard.

CCSTA Executive Director John Stunt and President Paula Peroni attended the 47th annual National Prayer Breakfast and Leadership Dinner in Ottawa from April 30 – May 1, 2012. Mr. Stunt and Ms. Peroni had the opportunity to meet and speak with a number of political leaders, including Minister of Defence Peter McKay and his wife, Nazanin Afshin-Jam, a human rights activist who was the keynote speaker at the dinner.

Just steps away from the Parliament

Hill, the event welcomed nearly 1,100 people, who received contrasting and complementary exposures to the theme of “faith and freedom” from this year’s two keynote speakers.

At the pre-breakfast Leadership Dinner, on Monday, April 30, Nazanin Afshin-Jam MacKay, described the work to which she has been drawn in advocating for mistreated and abused women in the place of her birth, Iran.

The next morning, at the Breakfast itself, National Post columnist and Queen’s University economics/education professor, Father Raymond de Souza, grappled with the question: Faith in our common life: Why politics – and politicians – need religion.

Ms. Peroni said the event was very successful and she was happy to

meet with many others on CCSTA’s behalf.

Prior to the National Prayer Breakfast, Ms. Peroni submitted a letter to the political newspaper, the Hill Times, once again sharing the success of Catholic education in Canada. The weekly publication’s readers include Cabinet ministers, MPs, Senators, political staffers, lobbyists, ‘backroomers,’ political junkies, and some of the top decision-makers in the country, including influential players in Parliament, Cabinet, the Prime Minister’s Office, the Privy Council, the Finance Department, Treasury Board, the Department of National Defence, the Justice Department, and more.

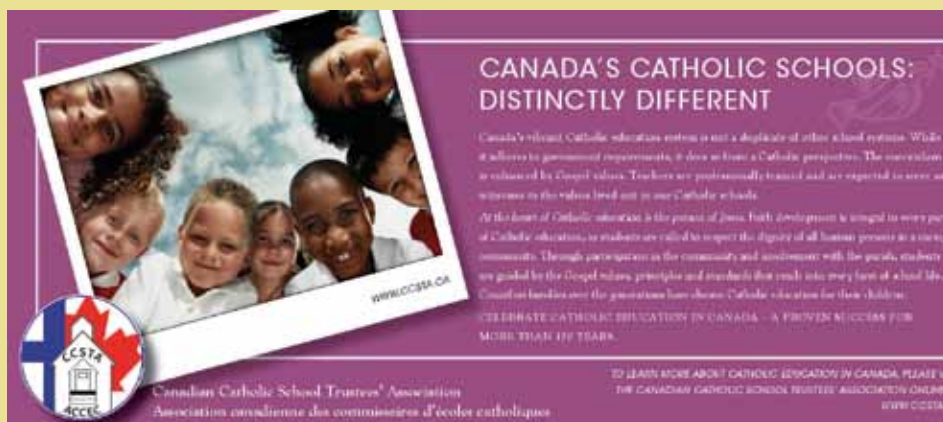
“The modern Catholic education system in Canada has been a proven success for more than 170 years, and it is imperative that we ensure it remains a vibrant institution in communities across the country,” she wrote.

To send the message directly to Parliament Hill, CCSTA mailed out a number of key messages to MPs and Senators as part of our Political Outreach Strategy.



CCSTA President Paula Peroni talks with Minister of Defence Peter McKay and Nazanin Afshin-Jam at the National Prayer Dinner on April 30.

“We know we can’t be complacent when it comes to Catholic education, so we’re working hard to spread the message across the country,” Ms. Peroni says.



CCSTA Executive Director attends NCEA Conference

CCSTA Executive Director John Stunt had the opportunity to learn from and converse with North American Catholic leaders during the annual National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) conference in Boston in April.

Mr. Stunt says the conversation surrounding Catholic education from an American point of view provided him the chance to continue the conversation about the importance of offering Catholic education opportunities to students across both the United States and Canada. During the three-day event, Mr. Stunt heard from a number of distinguished keynote speakers including Fr. Ron Rolheiser, whose topic was titled, “It’s a Big Enough Church”, which focused on eliminating division within the church.

“Fr. Rolheiser urged everyone to keep a “mellow heart” in times of polarization in the church. He reminded all that in dealing with each other that Jesus gave no loopholes on the essentials of how we are to treat each other with respect, charity and graciousness,” said Mr. Stunt.

Other keynote speakers included Dr. Mary McDonald, Superintendent for Memphis Catholic Schools as well as Bishop Malone, who spoke about evangelization and catechises.

“Overall, the conference was well attended and organized,” said Mr. Stunt. “As it always does, the conference allowed me to speak with others from across the continent about the struggles and successes of Catholic education.”



Provincial Reports

British Columbia

From beautiful British Columbia, those involved in Catholic Independent Schools (CIS) extend warm greetings to you all. The 2011/12 school year has been a challenging year financially.

For those of you that know little about the BC Catholic School System, there are five dioceses in the province. Each Diocesan School Board of Directors hires a Superintendent to oversee the Catholic Schools within that diocese. Each Board sets policy and direction for the schools in their diocese, with a number of responsibilities being handed on to local school boards (generally called School Councils or Education Committees). The local councils are responsible for local school policies and decisions.

Schools are funded 50 per cent of the per student operating grant of the local public schools; there is no financial support from the government for capital expenditures and buildings. Additional revenues to operate the schools come from tuitions, donations, fundraising and parish subsidies.

BC Ministry of Education

The Ministry of Education continues to support “choice” for parents. This is always good news for our schools. Currently, the Ministry is engaging parents, students and educators on BC’s Education Plan. Under the new plan, the system will be more flexible, dynamic and adaptable to better prepare students. A more personalized approach to learning is already happening in schools around the province and the Ministry wants all BC students to share in these changes.

For more information on the plan, go to <http://www.bcedplan.ca>

The Teacher Act was passed on Nov. 1, 2011. This marked the end of the BC College of Teachers, a self-regulating body. The new Teachers’ Branch of the Ministry of Education has taken over all regulation, certification and discipline of teachers in BC.

The preliminary per student operating grant estimates for the upcoming school year have again not increased; some district grants have even decreased. For the third year, this continues to impact all schools, making it extremely difficult to meet the demands of competitive salaries, current resource and technology needs, and facility maintenance and upgrades.

CISCBC (Catholic Independent Schools Committee of BC)

The Superintendents and a representative from each diocese in BC meet two times each year to work together on areas of common interest and concern. In addition, the five Bishops attended the first meeting of the year which was held in November. The CISCBC continues to work to meet the goals of the strategic planning document. The goals in this document include:

- Increase enrolment in and an awareness of Catholic schools across BC
- Create a stronger home-school-parish triad
- Promote one common Catholic voice and message
- Support a clear, common understanding and consistent application of Catholicity expecta-

tations for all employees

- Support “Active” Catholic involvement in BC Independent School committees (i.e. on Ministry and FISA subcommittees)
- Prepare new and perspective administrators with a better understanding of “Catholic” School Leadership.

Colleen Easson, who is a member of the CISCBC and from the Prince George Diocese, is our representative to the CCSTA.

Federation of Independent Schools (FISA)

The Federation of Independent School Associations, established in 1966, is an umbrella organization for all independent schools in BC. The Federation is the voice for all of its members, and acts as a liaison between the schools and the government, and other educational institutions. No individual school or association lobbies the government on its own behalf.

The FISA is dedicated to assisting independent schools in maintaining their independence while seeking fair treatment for them in legislative and financial terms.

The FISA’s mission is to enable parents to exercise the right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children and to promote the rightful place and responsibility of independent schools within a democratic and pluralistic society.

The FISA, a 15-member board, continues to be invited to attend meetings, give presentations, and sit on committees and dialogue with many organizations. The Catholic Independent Schools (CIS) group is one of the five associations within the FISA. Three CIS members are elected as representatives to the FISA Board. Members to the FISA Board ensure that the “Catholic” voice is heard.

Statistics published by the FISA show that Independent schools account for approximately 12 per cent of school aged children in the province and these schools receive approximately 5 per cent of the Ministry’s educational dollars.

Recently, in December 2011, the Ministry of Education changed the way independent schools were funded, resulting in many independent schools receiving a lower grant for the current 2011-12 year. The FISA met with government for several months arguing legality and unfairness of such reductions in mid-school year.

In April, the Ministry and the FISA agreed to 98.5 per cent funding protection for independent schools.

In future years, no independent school shall receive less than 98.5 per cent of the previous year’s grant, regardless of the funding in the public school system.

In addition, the FISA has lobbied the government for funding for adult education equal to that in the public school system. Currently, students over the age of 19 in an independent school are not funded by the government.

This has a profound impact on those students of special need who may not graduate from high school in the standard five-year program. It is anticipated that we will hear soon as to whether the government will support independent schools with funding for adult education.

Mr. Peter Froese, the new Executive Director for the FISA, succeeded Fred Herfst upon Fred’s retirement. Peter is well-respected as a past administrator in the BC Independent School

System.

On behalf of all Catholic Schools in BC, we would like to thank the CCSTA for all that they do in support of Catholic Education in Canada!

Alberta/NWT

Advocacy

The ACSTA provides on-going education, advocacy and legal counsel to our member boards.

Since our past report, Alberta has had a provincial election. The Progressive Conservatives, under the leadership of Alison Redford, were elected in a majority government on April 23, 2012. The Wildrose Party, under the leadership of Danielle Smith, has formed the Official Opposition.

Immediately prior to the election, the ACSTA was involved advocating for amendments to Bill 2: The Education Act. The ACSTA worked in dialogue with the government and with the public to call for changes to be made in the legislation that would ensure protection against blended boards and shared facilities. The ACSTA also asked, in recognition of parents as the primary educators of their children, that references to the Human Rights Code be removed from Section 16 of the bill. An election was called before the bill could move into third reading.

The ACSTA has maintained an active role in advocating for Catholic education within public discussions surrounding various issues involving the Catholic education community.



Tony Sykora

Faith Development

ACSTA ensures that our members continue to have opportunities for faith development through hosting various workshops and conferences.

The ACSTA and the Catholic Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories co-hosted the 2012 Catholic Conference, Open Wide the Doors... The New Evangelization, held in March 9-10 in Calgary and featured speakers from across the province and internationally. Our keynote speakers for the event were Steve Angrisano and Archbishop Gerard Pettipas.

As well, the ACSTA held its annual SPICE (keynote speaker: Jesse Manibusan) and Blueprints (keynote speaker: Rev. Raymond Carey) conferences on April 26-29, 2012 and May 1-4, 2012 respectively.

Communications

The ACSTA created a comprehensive communications action package to accompany the advocacy efforts calling for change surrounding Bill 2: the Education Act. These communication items were province-wide in their distribution and targeted all Catholic education stakeholders.

The ACSTA also prepared a communications package surrounding the April 2012 provincial election. This focused specifically on questions to candidates on the future of Catholic education and

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the future of Bill 2.

The ACSTA has published and distributed the 2012 Spring edition of the Catholic Dimension.

Governance

In March, the ACSTA underwent its Strategic Plan review with the Board of Directors. The board was able to evaluate and determine the effectiveness of the ACSTA's mission and vision, as well as its accountability pillars of advocacy, communications, faith development, and governance.

Saskatchewan

Theodore Litigation

On May 16, 2012, the Theodore litigation will continue with the hearing scheduled for Yorkton. This particular hearing has been rescheduled four times. The changes proposed by both sides two years ago have not yet been addressed by the Court. In these proceedings the Court will deal with applications to amend the plaintiff's claim, to amend the Crown's defence and to strike portions of the claim on the basis of standing. These proceedings will determine the scope of the court case and, depending on the outcome, may be appealed to a higher Court. With these new proceedings, the initial court case will be delayed pending the outcome of the applications.

Saskatchewan Education Announces Changes To 2012/13 School Year Opening Day

During the 2011 election campaign the government announced that in the 2012/13 school year all students will begin school after the Labour Day long weekend. This represents a change in government policy which has, in the past, left the decision related to school opening to individual school boards.

2012/13 Provincial Budget Announced

On March 21, the 2012/13 provincial budget was announced, which included the advent of a new funding formula for K-12 Education in the province. This new funding model has been in the making for the past two years and all school boards have been anxiously awaiting the unveiling of this new formula. The new model's intent is to provide equitable funding to all school boards across the province. It appears that most Catholic Boards will receive increased funding as a result of the new formula, but school division officials are still working out the numbers from the 2012/13 budget announcement. We are also aware that as the new budget allocations are being analyzed, at least two Catholic Boards have significant concerns with the 2012/13 allotment. The SCSBA will be closely monitoring the impact of this new formula and will work with all Catholic Boards to communicate to the Ministry issues and concerns from our boards.

2012 Spring Seminar

On April 20/21, the SCSBA hosted a very successful Spring Seminar in Regina. The keynote speaker was Jon Leonetti, a national leader, mis-

sion leader and radio host from Des Moines, Iowa. Jon garnered national attention in 2009 while walking from California to New Jersey. Along the way he promoted prayer as a means of turning away from the empty promises of lust, fame and greed to find life's true satisfaction in our calling from Christ. Jon proved to be an inspirational leader as he shared many stories related to the theme of "Living the new Evangelization".

Joint Catholic Education and Catholic Health Conference

The SCSBA Board of Directors has agreed to jointly host a major conference with the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan (CHAS). The conference theme will be "One Lord, One Call – A Rainbow of Ministries". With this partnership we are anticipating more than 400 delegates from the broader Catholic community in the province will join with us in celebration of Catholic Health Care and Catholic Education from November 2-4, 2012 in Regina.

Manitoba

As of Sept. 30, 2011, Catholic schools in Manitoba reported to the Government an enrolment of 4,992 students, which was comprised of 1,616 students in the eight CSC schools and 3,376 students in the 10 AWCS schools. This represents a 10 per cent increase in the number of students in Catholic Schools over the past 10 years and runs counter to the decrease in the number of public school students over the same period of time. Many of our schools currently have waiting lists and will be unable to accommodate all the students who wish to start Grade 9 in our four high schools. Parents are willing to pay tuitions that range from \$800 to \$6,000 per year to send their children to Catholic schools. Manitoba Catholic Schools have strong academic and religious programs.

Hosting the 2013 AGM

The Catholic School Community of Manitoba



is very excited with the opportunity to host the CCSTA/ACCEC convention in June 2013. Please plan to join us in and Embrace the Spirit – Vivez de l'Esprit of Winnipeg. Greater Winnipeg is home to 800,000 people and offers a vast experience of historical sites and museums, great shopping, eclectic dining experiences, and warm, friendly people. Our host venue, the Fort Garry Hotel, is a national treasure and is within easy walking distance to the Forks Market, River Walks, Canadian Museum for Human Rights, the French Quarter of Saint Boniface, Manitoba

Legislature Building, the Winnipeg Art Gallery, and the shops of Portage Place.

We have an exciting program planned that begins with a pre-convention tour where one can enjoy the sights, sounds, and tastes of the fur trade era at the Fort Garry National Historic Site and the Riverview Cafe. Companion tours include an art and shopping excursion which will include the Leo Mol Sculpture Garden or a French Quarter tour including the St. Boniface Museum and Gabrielle Roy House. Conference Guest Speakers include Rev. Stefano Penna, Dr. Sandra Kennedy, and Rev. John Pungente, SJ. An administrator's workshop will be offered at the new Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Workshops topics include: Hiring Catholic Teachers, The Role of a Pastor in a Catholic School, Media Relations, Les écoles Catholiques Francais du Manitoba, and Servant Leadership.

Embracing the Spirit

Embracing the Spirit of the Red River will have your heart pounding to the drums and songs of the First Nations People and the music and dance of the Métis at the opening ceremonies. The Friday evening celebration will begin by sampling some of the tasty ethnic dishes and sweets that are found in Manitoba from the many people of Europe, Asia, Africa, and Americas that have made Winnipeg home. Your eyes will be amazed as Ukrainian Cossacks thrill with jumps high into the air, girls dance intricate Irish jigs, and Filipino dancers gingerly step between fast-moving bamboo poles. This is Winnipeg, home of Folklorama, the largest and longest running multicultural event of its kind in the world, where world-class entertainment happens on a daily basis.

Please plan to Embrace the Spirit- Vivez de l'Esprit with us, June 6-8, 2013 in Winnipeg.

Ontario

Legislative Affairs Bill 13

One of the hottest news items in education this year in Ontario has been the government's anti-bullying legislation, Bill 13. OCSTA has been very active on a number of fronts to address this legislation.

While we are most assuredly on side with the government with respect to combatting any and all instances of bullying in our schools, there are aspects of this legislation that required clarification and advocacy on our part to ensure that our denominational rights would be respected.

For example, the legislation's focus on bullying related to sexual orientation as opposed to all other types of bullying raised some concern in our communities for the safety and protection of "all" students in our schools.

Sexuality is an important part of who we are and must be respected, but it doesn't define us. We focus on the mind, body and spirit of the "whole" child.

That kind of distinction had to be explained to the government and to the media on numerous occasions and is just one of the ways we work to protect our denominational rights within the public

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realm in which we operate.

Catholic school boards have for many years provided for student led initiatives and groups to address bullying of all types in schools – including bullying related to sexual orientation.

At the time Bill 13 was announced, OCSTA was actually partnering with the Ontario Bishops to enhance the array of anti-bullying resources in Catholic schools to align effectively with the province's 2009 Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy.

That work took on a new direction following the introduction of legislation directing school boards to implement a specific type of equity group to deal with bullying related to sexual orientation.

The result of our collaboration was the "Respecting Difference Resource for Catholic School Boards." This resource offers a protocol for establishing student-led groups in Catholic schools that empower students to combat bullying of all types in a way that is faithful to our Catholic teachings while adhering to Ministry guidelines and legislation.

The Resource, endorsed by Cardinal Collins, was sent to all boards and was shared with the media. The response has been fairly positive among the general population as a whole but in particular among our Catholic parents and strongest supporters of our school system.

We are pleased that Respecting Difference groups are being implemented in Catholic schools across the province. Some boards continue to use the names they previously used for similar equity groups and that is absolutely fine.

We all have the same objective and that is to ensure that our school environments are safe for all students – regardless of their race, sexuality, creed, economic status, gender or other qualifier.

Bill 39

Among the newer pieces of legislation announced by the McGuinty government is the anti-concussion legislation – Bill 39. Bill 39 presents a broad mandate for the Ministry to develop and implement guidelines that respect and raise awareness for head injuries and concussions in pupils, Bob Murray, OCSTA's new Director of Legislative and Political Affairs, has a unique background that helped to add an important and refreshing perspective to our analysis of this legislation.

As a football coach at the university, semi-professional and high school levels, Bob has a comprehensive understanding of some of the current key issues and controversies surrounding diagnosis, treatment, recovery and "return to learning" following a concussion.

Walking in
the Light of
Christ

With the theme, Walking in the Light of Christ, OCSTA celebrated Catholic Education Week in early May, 2012.

Given the provincial focus on student safety and the growing awareness and concern about the long-term effects of concussions, a decision was made to create an OCSTA Bill 39 Advisory Group, chaired by OCSTA's Vice President, Marino Gazzola.

Participating in this group are representatives from the Canadian Football League Alumni, the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, and the teaching and coaching community and the Chair of the Sport Neurotrauma and Concussion Initiative Research Committee.

The recommendations and strategies to be produced by this group will, we believe, help to ensure that any resulting legislation or guidelines on the issue of concussions will have the appropriate focus on safe recovery and practical guidelines for school boards.

Lobbying

Since February, OCSTA has met with all three major political parties in the province to discuss a number of priorities for Ontario's publicly funded Catholic schools including:

The 2012 Budget – especially with respect to the government's plans to amalgamate boards (Catholic boards with Catholic boards, Public boards with public boards, etc.) and push for the consolidation of under-utilized schools

Anti-Bullying Legislation - Bills 13 & 14

Issues arising from the implementation of Bill 177.

GSN Highlights

A few weeks ago the government released the 2012 Grants for Student Needs or GSNs. Following is a brief overview:

- It was no surprise that the government's top three priorities in the GSN framework were:
- the continued rollout of the Full Day Kindergarten program
- the cap on class sizes, and
- the reluctance to make cuts to teaching and support staff positions.

In addition, the government will honour the commitments made in the 2008-12 Provincial Discussion Table (PDT) agreements.

Overall there will be a 1.7% increase in the coming year, but this is almost exclusively allocated to the Full Day Kindergarten program.

The total GSN amount is \$21 billion which works out to be \$11,189 per pupil.

Conclusion

As the theme of this year's Catholic Education Week is "Walking in the Light of Christ", OCSTA believes that trustees must be cognizant of their unique and pivotal role promoting the value of our system and the contributions we make to the life of this province.

Through the many initiatives we choose to lead to enhance our school environments and improve education policy to the steps we take locally to inspire our students, staff and families, Catholic trustees have a vital role to play in ensuring the continued strength and success of Ontario's Catholic schools.

Provincial elections 2011

AFOCSC prepared for the provincial elections by putting in place its political action plan. Besides meeting key candidates, AFOCSC sent a questionnaire to all the party leaders pertaining to their support of the Catholic francophone system. The results of the polling were made available to the trustees in order to help them decide on their choice of candidate.

As we now know a Liberal minority government was elected. The education community, we believe, was pleased that a government that had restored education as one of its priorities and had invested a good portion of its budget to it, had survived to some degree.

Budget highlights – education – 2012

- Consolidation of under-utilized schools – in order to encourage boards Ministry would modify funding
- Capping number of high school credits funded at 34 – 30 are required for diploma. A fee to be charged for additional credits; this will help to reduce the number of students who return for classes after graduating
- Cut in funding for purchase of classroom computers
- Competitive procurement process for transportation and a 1 per cent reduction for boards that don't achieve a high level of efficiency and effectiveness in their student transportation services
- Special education funding is maintained
- A reduction of \$6.4 million to the budgetary line administration of school boards (a total of \$21.8 million for last three years)
- Teaching – reduction of 15 per cent destined for specialists, co-ordinators; a reduction of \$21 million in professional development; transfer of \$20 million from program improvement to a new outdoor education program to be offered by boards or a third party
- Maintaining the full-day kindergarten program; maintaining the level pupil per class
- Possibility of amalgamation of small school boards with low population growth and declining enrolment – although this would not imply merging Catholic with public. Francophone boards would not be involved in this process.

New Minister of Education

AFOCSC and its member boards hailed the arrival of the new Minister of Education, the Honourable Laurel Broten, a fervent defender of women and children. We are convinced she will contribute significantly to the expansion of Catholic French language education in the province.

AFOCSC's President had the pleasure and good fortune to meet with the minister only two days following her nomination, and not yet settled in her new quarters. The minister underlined her desire, "to establish good communications with the provincial school board associations", and that her door was open to all proactive questions relative to the development of education in Ontario.

AFOCSC

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Meeting with the francophone Bishops, October, 2011

The fall meeting with the francophone bishops was held on the morning and early afternoon of Oct. 6, preceding AFOCSC's Board meeting. The directors of education, the presidents or delegates from the eight school boards, OPÉCO (Office of catholic education in Ontario – a francophone organization similar to ICE in Ontario), the Board of AFOCSC and the francophone bishops who belong to the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (AÉCO) attended this meeting. This gathering of the major players in French Catholic education in Ontario allows these leaders to discuss and share concerns as well as develop common projects that will foster Catholic education in Ontario. Discussions also involved the follow-up to the Symposium on Catholic education, on the political climate following the provincial elections and the support given to catholic education, on the latest pedagogical projects from OPÉCO to support religious education and the initiatives to counter bullying resulting from the Ministry strategy on equity and inclusion.

Meeting with the Bishops March 2012

The spring meeting with the francophone Bishops was held again in Toronto. His Excellency Cardinal Thomas Collins joined us for a discussion concerning Bill 13 - Accepting Schools Act, 2011. It was most generous on his part to take time from his busy schedule to come and remind us that catholic schools have always been tolerant and accepting schools following the teachings and example of Christ.

Francophone bishops in Ontario

The Catholic francophone community in Ontario has lost some of its ardent defenders as a result of death and transfers. We were all saddened at the sudden death of Msgr. Paul Marchand, Bishop of Timmins. His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, named Msgr. Durocher, Bishop of Alexandria-Cornwall as Archbishop of the Diocese of Gatineau, Quebec. Msgr. Noël Simard, bishop of Sault-Ste-Marie, who had been chaplain of AFOCSC, was made bishop of the Diocese of Valleyfield Québec. As a result, these areas are now wondering and worrying who will replace them. It is important for the further development of Catholic French language education in these areas that francophone bishops be selected. To that effect, AFOCSC sent a letter to the papal nuncio to explain the important role that the aforementioned bishops have played in regards to French Catholic education not only in their respective areas but also in the province as well and that the continued partnership is vital to the full realization of our mission. It is hoped that the needs of our Catholic school communities will be taken into consideration.

AFOCSC's 14th AGM

"Au Nord des sentiers battus, accueillons notre mission!" "North of explored routes let us follow our mission" - (a loose translation). That is the theme chosen by the board of directors for our 14th AGM to be held in North Bay from May 4-6, 2012 with the gracious collaboration of Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-Nord acting as host. The award for excellence in Catholic education

will be given during the Saturday banquet.

At its December 2011 meeting the board also adopted a succession plan to find a replacement for Carole Drouin, our executive director who, after serving AFOCSC so professionally for these past six years, announced her departure effective end of August 2012. The position was posted officially in early 2012, to allow for interviews in the spring and have someone in place at the beginning of the 2012 school year.

Those interviews have now taken place and the board of directors selected the candidate who will replace Madame Drouin starting September 2012. An official announcement will be made at the appropriate time.

Negotiations with employee groups – 2012

The first months of 2012 witnessed the multiplication of meetings leading up to and including the first encounters with the various employee union groups. AFOCSC has been involved from the beginning. The government established clear parameters within which the parties are to find an agreement, which is to extend to the end of August, 2014.

The budget has provisions for significant cost savings which will impact teachers and will make for interesting contract discussions: some of these follow;

- Salary freeze on grid with no lateral or horizontal movement for two years.
- A freeze on banked sick days accumulated as of August 31, 2012.
- The introduction, effective Sept. 1, 2012, of a short-term sick-leave plan of six days per year non accumulated at full salary and 24 weeks at 2/3 salary.

Departure of Raymond Th  berge, assistant deputy minister for French language education

After three productive years at the Ministry, Mr. Th  berge is leaving his post to assume a new challenge as president and chancellor of the University of Moncton, duties he will assume as of June 1, 2012. We thank him for his leadership and dedication with respect to the French Catholic system in Ontario and wish him success in his new post. No announcements have been made at this time as to his successor.

New research study published by EQAO : inclusion of result obtained on EQAO Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics in course grade

EQAO has published a research bulletin dealing with the correlation existing between the fact that students know or do not know that the Grade 9 Math Test will be included in compiling the final course grade and their motivation and performance in relation to the test. EQAO stresses the importance for teachers to inform students and parents whether the EQAO assessment results will count or not in the final course grade. Consult this research document and other items of research in the section EQAO Research on the EQAO website at www.eqao.on.ca.

Bill 14 and Bill 13

Bill 14 - The short title of this Act is the Anti-Bullying Act 2011.

Bill 14 was introduced in 2011 to address bullying particularly in schools by an awareness week and providing curricula, policies and accountability in schools. The motivation stems from research that bullying can leave a harmful and long-lasting mark on its victims, including emotional and

mental scarring and a lifelong struggle with self-esteem. (Gov. website)

We might have thought that the above initiative would have been sufficient to address bullying and the right for every student to be respected and accepted, free from intimidation but it seemed to have morphed into what we now know as:

Bill 13 – The short title of this Act is the Accepting Schools Act, 2011

Much ink has flowed and much controversy has developed around this initiative of the government.

Section 303.1 of the Act states: Every board shall support pupils who want to establish and lead,

a) activities or organizations that promote gender equity;

b) activities or organizations that promote anti-racism;

c) activities or organizations that promote the awareness and understanding of, and respect for people with disabilities; or

d) activities or organizations that promote the awareness and understanding of, and respect for,

people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, including organizations with the name gay-straight alliance or another name.

That last section prompted Catholic boards both French and English to respond to the government as the initial wording of clause (d) did not include the famous last three words "or another name".

OCSTA prepared a document with input from the bishops called Respecting Differences which is to be available in a French version. It outlines the Catholic viewpoint concerning our approach to this very sensitive issue. It is interesting to note that a newspaper columnist wrote "If anything, the Catholics have offered the most thoughtful and reasoned arguments about this controversy".

Upcoming Events

- June 7-9, 2012 in Sudbury: CCSTA Annual General Meeting
- September 20-22, 2012 in Montr  al: Annual general meeting, ACELF (Canadian association of French language education)
- October 18-21, 2012 in Moncton: Annual general meeting FNCSF (National federation of Francophone school boards)

AFOCSC

  lections provinciales 2011

L'AFOCSC a mis en place son plan de d  mar- chage politique en vue des   lections provinciales de l'automne 2011. En plus de rencontrer les candidats de marque, l'AFOCSC a aussi exp  di   aux chefs des partis un questionnaire portant sur leur appui envers le syst  me catholique de langue fran  aise – les r  sultats ont   t   communiqu  s aux conseillers afin d'  clairer leurs choix.

Comme nous le savons, un gouvernement minoritaire Lib  ral a   t     lu sans doute    la satisfaction du secteur de l'  ducation. Nous croyons que tous du secteur   taient contents de voir que le gouvernement qui avait restaur  

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l'éducation comme une de ses priorités et y avait en plus investi un bon pourcentage de son budget avait survécu, de justesse quand même.

Budget 2012 – faits saillants - domaine éducation

- Consolidation des écoles sous-utilisées – afin d'encourager les conseils scolaires à consolider leurs sites sous-utilisés, le ministère modifiera les allocations des conseils scolaires.
- Maximum des crédits au palier secondaire – il y aura, à compter de septembre 2013, un cap afin de fixer le nombre de crédits au palier secondaire au nombre de 34. Ceci place le cap à 4 crédits au-delà de ce qui est requis pour l'obtention du diplôme d'études secondaires actuellement.
- Technologie: les coupures au financement pour les ordinateurs en salle de classe annoncées au cours des dernières années deviennent permanentes
- Transport: la mise en place de processus de procurement compétitif pour le transport scolaire et autres efficacités au niveau des opérations permettraient d'économiser 34 millions sur une période de 3 ans. Diminution de 1% des fonds pour les conseils qui n'obtiennent pas la note «élevée» lors des évaluations d'efficacité et d'efficience.
- Enfance en difficulté: maintien du niveau de financement – et la consultation sur les composantes de la Subvention pour l'éducation de l'enfance en difficulté
- Administration des conseils: - Retranchement de 6,4 millions à la ligne "Administration des conseils scolaires" (un total de 21.8 millions au cours des 3 dernières années).
- Enseignement: réduction de 15% des fonds destinés aux spécialistes du curriculum soit des conseillers pédagogiques et des coordonnateurs d'initiatives comme la lecture et la programmation, réduction de 21 millions pour le perfectionnement professionnel, transfert de financement de l'ordre de 20 millions dédié à l'amélioration des programmes (SAP) vers un nouveau programme d'éducation en plein air offert par les conseils ou des tierces parties.
- Maintient du programme de Jardin à temps plein et maintient du nombre d'élèves par classe
- Possibilité de fusion de conseils scolaires : les conseils où il y a une faible croissance de la population et une diminution de l'effectif scolaire. Le gouvernement ne considérera pas des fusions catholique – public ni les conseils francophones

Nouvelle ministre de l'éducation

L'AFOCSC a salué l'arrivée de la nouvelle ministre de l'éducation, l'Honorable Laurel Broten, une fervente défenseuse des enfants et des femmes. Nous sommes convaincus qu'elle fera une contribution significative envers l'épanouissement de l'éducation catholique de langue française dans la province. La présidente de l'AFOCSC eu le plaisir d'établir un premier contact avec madame Broten, deux jours après sa nomination, alors qu'elle n'avait pas encore pris place dans son nouveau bureau. La ministre a souligné qu'elle «souhaitait établir de bonnes

communications avec les associations provinciales de conseils scolaires», et que ses portes étaient ouvertes pour toute question proactive visant le développement de l'éducation en Ontario.

14e AGA de l'AFOCSC "Au Nord des sentiers battus, accueillons notre mission!"

C'est le thème choisi par les membres du C.A. pour le 14e congrès annuel de l'AFOCSC qui s'est tenu du 4 au 6 mai 2012 à North Bay en collaboration avec le Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-Nord, fier hôte de cette 14e édition. Le prix pour l'excellence en éducation catholique sera remis lors du banquet du samedi soir.

À sa réunion de décembre 2011, le conseil d'administration a également adopté un plan de succession afin de remplacer la directrice générale de l'AFOCSC, Carole Drouin, qui quittera ses fonctions à l'automne de 2012. L'affichage du poste s'est fait au début de l'année

2012 afin de nous permettre de compléter le processus d'entrevue au cours du printemps et de voir par la suite à la transition avant la rentrée scolaire 2012.

Nous pouvons annoncer que les entrevues ont en effet eu lieu et que la personne désignée entrera en poste au début septembre 2012. Une annonce officielle suivra dans les prochaines semaines au moment opportun.

Réunion avec les évêques octobre 2011

En matinée et en après-midi précèdent la réunion du C.A. les présidences, les directions générales et les membres du conseil d'administration de l'AFOCSC ont tenu la rencontre d'automne avec l'OPÉCO et les évêques francophones de l'Ontario (AÉCO) le 6 octobre dernier. Il s'agit d'un sommet stratégique qui permet aux intervenants clés d'échanger et de se donner aussi des projets communs favorisant le développement de l'éducation catholique en Ontario. Des discussions ont porté sur les suivis au Symposium en éducation catholique, sur l'environnement politique suite aux élections provinciales et l'appui accordé au système catholique, sur les derniers projets pédagogiques en soutien à l'enseignement religieux de

l'OPÉCO et aussi sur les questions de 'messes virtuelles, et les initiatives pour contrer l'intimidation des élèves liée à l'orientation sexuelle (stratégie ontarienne d'équité et d'inclusion en éducation).

Rencontre avec les évêques mars 2012

La réunion du printemps avec les évêques francophones a eu lieu à nouveau Toronto. À cette réunion le nouvellement installé Cardinal Thomas Collins est venu partager avec nous l'or d'une discussion sur la question du projet de loi 13 - Loi de 2011 pour des écoles tolérantes. C'était généreux de sa part d'avoir pris de son précieux temps pour venir nous rappeler que les écoles catholiques ont toujours été des écoles tolérantes et accueillantes, suivant l'enseignement et l'exemple du Christ.

Évêques francophones en Ontario

La communauté francophone catholique en Ontario a perdu de ses évêques qui étaient parmi les plus grands défenseurs de l'éducation catholique en Ontario. Tout d'abord nous avons

été attristés par le décès soudain de Monseigneur Paul Marchand, évêque de Timmins. Par la suite nous avons appris la nomination de Monseigneur Paul-André Durocher de Cornwall-Alexandria comme archevêque du diocèse de Gatineau, Québec et du transfert de Monseigneur Noël Simard de Sault-Ste-Marie qui était également évêque répondant auprès de l'AFOCSC, au diocèse de Valleyfield Québec. Il va sans dire que les trois communautés s'inquiètent à savoir qui les remplacera. Il est important que des évêques francophones soient nommés afin de poursuivre le développement de l'éducation catholique francophone dans ces régions. C'est dans ce sens que l'AFOCSC a écrit au nonce épiscopal pour expliquer le rôle vital qu'ont joué ces trois évêques dans l'épanouissement de l'éducation catholique francophone non seulement dans leurs régions mais en toute la province. Il est espéré qu'on tiendra compte de l'importance de la continuation de ce précieux partenariat pour mener à bien notre mission.

Négociations (TDP – Table de discussion provinciale) 2012 :

Le début 2012 a été témoin de la multiplication de rencontres en préparation aux négociations avec les différents groupes d'employés syndiqués. L'AFOCSC, appuyée de son équipe, est impliquée depuis le début. Les premières rencontres ont été de nature exploratoire, les syndicats cherchant les données du Ministère et des conseils pour préparer leurs réactions. Le gouvernement a établi les paramètres à l'intérieur desquels les négociations se dérouleront.

Le budget provincial contient des mesures pour effectuer des économies qui auront un impact auprès des enseignants et qui rendront les discussions pour renouveler l'entente fort intéressantes, entre autres :

Un gel des salaires de deux ans, sans augmentations progressive sur la grille

Le gel des congés de maladie accumulés au 31 août 2012



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À compter du 1er septembre 2012, le remplacement des régimes de congés de maladie et de gratifications de retraite par des régimes de congé de courte durée semblables à ceux de la Fonction publique de l'Ontario (6 jours de congé à 100% du salaire, jusqu'à 24 semaines à 66,67% du salaire, non transférable d'une année à l'autre

Départ de Raymond Théberge, sous-ministre adjoint en éducation de langue française

Après trois années fructueuses au sein des ministères de l'Éducation et de la Formation et des Collèges et Universités, M. Raymond Théberge quittera son poste de sous-ministre adjoint, Division de l'éducation en langue française, de l'éducation autochtone et de la recherche, pour devenir recteur et vice-chancelier de l'Université de Moncton. Il assumera ses nouvelles fonctions le 1er juin 2012.

Nous remercions M. Théberge pour son leadership et son dévouement à l'égard de nos conseils. Nous lui transmettons nos vœux de réussite dans ses futures fonctions. Les annonces quant à sa succession n'ont pas encore été faites.

Nouvelle étude de recherche publiée par l'OQRE: inclusion de la note obtenue au Test de mathématiques, 9e année, dans les notes de cours

L'OQRE a diffusé un nouveau bulletin de recherche portant sur le rapport qui existe entre le fait que les élèves savent ou ne savent pas que leur note au Test de mathématiques, 9e année, sera incluse dans leur note finale de cours, et leur motivation et rendement au test. L'OQRE insiste sur l'importance pour l'enseignant d'informer l'étudiant et les parents à savoir si le résultat du test de l'OQRE fera partie ou non de la note finale du cours. Consultez ce nouveau bulletin de recherche, et d'autres travaux, dans la section Recherche de l'OQRE du site web de l'OQRE, au www.oqre.on.ca

Projets de loi 14 et 13

Projet de loi 14 - Le titre abrégé de la présente loi est Loi de 2011 sur la lutte contre l'intimidation.

Le projet de loi 14 a été introduit en 2011 pour adresser la question de l'intimidation surtout dans les écoles en désignant une semaine de sensibilisation et prévoyant des programmes-cadres, des politiques et une responsabilité administrative à l'égard de la prévention de l'intimidation dans les écoles. L'intimidation a été reconnue comme un problème de plus en plus important au Canada. Selon les recherches, l'intimidation peut laisser chez ses victimes des traces néfastes et durables. Elle peut causer des cicatrices psychologiques et psychiques douloureuses chez les enfants et peut être à l'origine de problèmes d'estime de soi qui perdurent tout au long de la vie.

On aurait pu croire que cette initiative du gouvernement aurait suffi pour adresser la question du droit de chaque étudiant d'être respecté et accepté mais il semble qu'elle s'est transformée en ce que nous connaissons comme :

Projet de Loi 13 - Le titre abrégé de la présente loi est Loi de 2011 pour des écoles tolérantes.

Beaucoup d'encre a coulé et une polémique s'est développée entourant cette nouvelle directive.

La section 303.1 de la Loi déclare : Chaque conseil appuie les élèves qui désirent mettre sur pied et diriger :

a) des activités ou des organisations qui encouragent l'équité entre les sexes;



St Bonaventure's College, located in St. John's, NL, is a K-12 co-educational school which opened as an independent Catholic school in the Jesuit tradition in 1999.

Le St. Bonaventure College, situé à St. John's, T.-N.-L., est une école mixte de la maternelle à la 12e année, qui a été inaugurée en 1999 comme école catholique de tradition jésuite.

b) des activités ou des organisations qui encouragent la lutte contre le racisme;

c) des activités ou des organisations qui encouragent la sensibilisation aux personnes handicapées, la compréhension de leur situation et le respect à leur égard;

d) des activités ou des organisations qui encouragent la sensibilisation aux personnes de toutes orientations et identités sexuelles — y compris les organisations portant le nom «alliance gai-hétéro» ou un autre nom —, la compréhension de leur situation et le respect à leur égard.

Cette dernière ligne, avant d'être modifiée, avait fait réagir les conseils catholiques autant francophones qu'anglophones car elle ne contenait pas les quatre petits mots "ou un autre nom".

Un document appelé Respecter les différences a été préparé par OCSTA en consultation avec les évêques et on attend la version française. Le document explicite l'approche catholique et l'enseignement de l'Église sur la question très sensible en cause. Un journaliste anglophone a écrit que si rien d'autre, les catholiques avaient présenté les arguments les plus raisonnés et réfléchis sur le sujet.

Activités à signaler

- 7-9 juin 2012 à Sudbury : Congrès annuel ACCEC
- 20-22 septembre 2012 à Montréal Congrès annuel de l'ACELF
- 18-21 octobre 2012 à Moncton : Congrès annuel de la FNCSF

two kinds of schools: facilities, number of teachers, administrative positions, and school-specific policies such as teacher salary goals. With no government funding whatsoever, our Boards must rely on tuition and charitable contributions to continue operations. While compared to non-government funded private or independent schools throughout Canada, our schools operate very efficient budgets, Board members are acutely aware that there is a fine point between the financial needs of the school and what parents can afford. A particular challenge is the bursary programs. As tuition costs continue to rise, the amounts set aside for bursaries must, out of necessity, also be increased. Hence the need to develop a strategic plan on how to address this issue. Boards have the same need for capital funding. The various Boards are confident that the goals they identify will indeed be reached.

World Catholic Education Day

Schools were made aware of the May celebration of World Catholic Education Day, with its goal of having students, teachers, and trustees conscious of the communion they share with those around the world involved in Catholic education. Our schools see their active involvement in the various parishes they serve as an example of their commitment to bring Catholic education to the wider Catholic community.

Schools this spring continue with a wide variety of programs and activities – drama (Shakespeare's Twelfth Night at OLOS), French language trip to Quebec (IHMS), Kiwanis Gold Bowl win (SBC), pro-life march before the NB Legislature (DMC).

John McGrath's Dedication

The 2012 CCSTA AGM marks John McGrath's completion of service as the RCISA, AR delegate to the CCSTA Board of Directors. We are grateful for the dedication and commitment John has brought to the task both at the various meetings and throughout the full two years. Not surprisingly, he has been a regular sounding-board for a multitude of concerns that affect this association. He will continue his role as a member of the St. Bonaventure's College Board of Governors.

Atlantic Region

The majority of Boards in RCSIA, AR have turned their attention to developing updated strategic plans to cover critical areas of operation. Central is the concern with funding, both overall and in particular for capital and bursary programs. Our schools may be seen as of two groups, three elementary schools and two high schools. The costs of operation dramatically differ between the

Chaplain's Corner

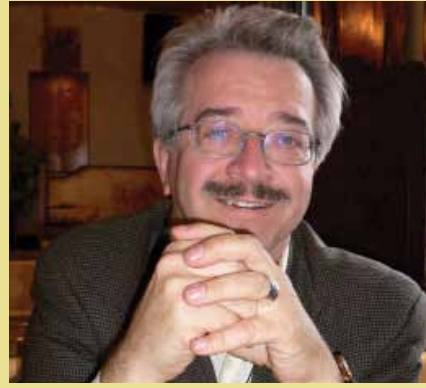
The New Evangelization

In the introductory text for preparing the upcoming Synod on New Evangelization to be held in Rome this October, it is written: "Today all Christians, the particular Churches and the universal Church, are called to have the same courage that inspired the missionaries of the past, and the same readiness to listen to the voice of the Spirit. The New Evangelization is primarily a spiritual activity capable of recapturing in our times the courage and forcefulness of the first Christians and the first missionaries... In a world where the lessening of distance makes the world increasingly smaller, the Church community ought to strengthen the bonds among its members, exchange vital energies and means, and commit itself as a group to a unique and common mission of proclaiming and living the Gospel."

Can Catholic schools participate to this new missionary approach that is this New Evangelization? I believe so! However, to do so, schools must help their students to open up to the reality of others, to take the first steps. Like missionaries, they are called to leave behind their personal securities, their world of comfort to encounter others and listen to their personal stories. The fundamental attitude in all evangelization process requires that one exit his or her own world, may it be geographical, psychological or even virtual, to acknowledge others, their culture, their suffering, their talents, and their dreams. Only then should missionaries share their own reality, their personal experiences and their faith. In doing so they will establish a true dialogue with those they encounter. Consequently, it is very important that schools assist children in their efforts to truly dialogue with others.

The 1974 Synod proclaimed that all Christians are responsible for the mission of the Church, not only the experts. This mission no longer wants to simply establish the Church's structure in new geographical areas, nor does it wish to limit its activities to proclaiming the Gospel. Rather, it works at the integral development of all peoples and of the human being. It seeks to penetrate the cultures it encounters with the Gospel and dialogues with other religions, other philosophical understanding of existence, atheism and contemporary society.

Through its pastoral activities and its academic courses, Catholic schools can foster these two basic attitudes of the New Evangelization: active listening and true dialogue. It only requires a special and sustained attention, individually and collectively, to those walking daily the corridors of our Canadian catholic schools. They will then feel entrusted with the mission of the Church: proclaim and live the Gospel at the heart of our secular society.



Fr. Rémi Lessard
CCSTA Chaplain/Aumônier

La nouvelle évangélisation

Nous voilà dans le temps de l'Avent. Nous nous préparons à Noël. C'est un moment privilégié dans la liturgie chrétienne. La joie envahit nos foyers et nous vivons dans l'attente de rencontrer ceux et celles que nous aimons à Noël ou encore au Jour de l'An. Mais cette joie est particulière. Elle est celle de l'attente. Elle pétillie dans notre cœur et nous fait rêver à de bons moments à venir. Elle est là et pas totalement encore ! Elle nous fait également revivre ce temps d'attente que nos frères et sœurs juifs vivaient en espérant la venue du Messie, celui qui enfin rétablirait une fois pour toutes l'amitié avec Dieu. Joie dans nos cœurs et joie dans

l'âme!

Les préparatifs vont bon train, la nourriture, les décorations, la musique, les achats, etc. Avec la venue de l'ère électronique, une tradition semble disparaître et je le regrette. Cette coutume de faire parvenir à ceux et celles que nous aimons et que nous ne pourrions pas voir dans le temps des Fêtes une carte de Noël. Quel bonheur que de se laisser habiter par ceux-ci lorsque nous nous arrêtons pour leur écrire un message rempli de bons souhaits. Je considère ces messages de Noël comme des semences de joie planter en plein hiver défiant le froid et la neige. Une chaleur et une lumière qui rendent la vie plus agréable et qui franchissent les plus grandes distances! Qu'il est bon de savoir que quelqu'un a pensé à nous et qu'il nous veut du bien! Pourquoi ne tentons-nous pas de restaurer cette belle coutume qui humanise notre société ? Il n'est pas nécessaire d'en envoyer cent. Une, deux et peut-être trois suffiraient pour semer en nous la joie d'aimer et de se savoir aimés.

Ce temps de l'attente nous prépare à accueillir le temps des miracles : la naissance d'un enfant, les retrouvailles familiales, les pardons accordés, les accolades sincères et les silences habités par l'amour. Car Noël est bel et bien le temps des miracles puisqu'il récolte les fruits de la semence de la joie de l'Avent. Oui, cette joie engendre l'impossible, guérit des cœurs, élimine des barrières, redonne courage, ouvre des perspectives et affirme qu'il est bon de vivre!

Préparons notre cœur, notre âme, notre foyer et nos communautés chrétiennes à accueillir ce temps où l'impossible est possible en vivant déjà dans la joie. Le bonheur est beaucoup plus qu'un simple sentiment, il est une décision fondée sur la certitude que nous ne sommes pas seuls, que nous habitons non seulement dans le cœur de Dieu, mais aussi dans le cœur d'une personne humaine, que quelque part quelqu'un pense à nous et s'apprête à nous écrire un petit mot, à nous redire son amitié. Choisissons le bonheur, décidons de semer la joie et le monde se renouvellera.

1. A synod is a gathering of Bishops from all over the world to discuss a specific subject.
2. Peelman, Achiel, Les nouveaux défis de l'inculturation, Lumen Vitae – Novalis, 2007, p. 80

1. Un synode est une rencontre d'un groupe d'évêques représentant l'Église du monde entier pour discuter d'un sujet particulier.
2. Peelman, Achiel, Les nouveaux défis de l'inculturation, Lumen vitae – Novalis, 2007, p. 80

Please mark these dates on your planning calendar:

• June 6-8, 2013
CCSTA AGM/Convention
Winnipeg, Manitoba

• Oct. 3-5, 2013
Catholic Education: A
National Conversation
Ottawa, Ontario

• June 5-7, 2014
CCSTA AGM/Convention
Kingston, Ontario

CANADA'S CATHOLIC SCHOOLS: THE SYSTEM WORKS

Catholic education is an integral part of society. It has deep roots throughout the country's history and culture – as much as our other institutions. Catholic education is built on a strong foundation supported by parents, students, teachers, administrators, religious sisters and brothers, the clergy and the community. It is a proven success.

Historically, Canada's Catholic education system was established in harmony in Quebec. In 1867, the British North America Act guaranteed that all educational rights belong to provinces at the time of Confederation would be constitutionally protected. Without this protection of denominational schools, Confederation would not have been achieved, and the Supreme Court of Canada has upheld this pillar of our nation.

CELEBRATE CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN CANADA – A PROVEN SUCCESS FOR MORE THAN 150 YEARS.

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Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association
Association canadienne des commissaires d'écoles catholiques

Les écoles catholiques au Canada : un système qui fonctionne

L'enseignement catholique fait partie intégrante de la société. Il est profondément enraciné dans l'histoire et la culture du pays – autant que nos autres institutions. L'enseignement catholique repose sur une fondation solide appuyée par les parents, les élèves, les enseignants, les administrateurs, les sœurs religieuses et religieuses, le clergé et la communauté. Il est d'un succès éprouvé.

Historiquement, le système d'éducation catholique au Canada a été mis en place par l'entente avec le catholicisme. En 1867, l'Acte de l'Amérique du Nord britannique garantissait que tous les droits d'enseignement appartiennent au temps de la confédération seraient protégés par la constitution. Sans cette protection des écoles confessionnelles, la confédération n'aurait pas été réalisée. La Cour suprême du Canada a d'ailleurs maintenu ce pilier de notre nation.

CÉLÉBRER L'ENSEIGNEMENT CATHOLIQUE AU CANADA, UNE RÉUSSITE ÉProuvée depuis plus de 150 ans.

POUR EN SAVOIR PLUS SUR L'ENSEIGNEMENT CATHOLIQUE AU CANADA, VISITEZ LE SITE DE L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES COMMISSAIRES D'ÉCOLES CATHOLIQUES À WWW.CCSTA.CA

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