



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

**JANUARY 9, 2020**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, held on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at White Oaks Resort and Spa, 253 Taylor Rd, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON.

**Note:** The Director of Education’s Designate Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells; Superintendent of Education presided over the meeting until the election of the Chair of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

In order to meet quorum, Superintendent Forsyth-Sells called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

#### 1. Opening Prayer

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells led the opening prayer with a special intention for the victims and their families affected by the plane crash in Tehran.

#### 2. Roll Call:

Parent Members	Affiliations	Present	Excused	Absent
Shonna Daly	Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	Arrived at 6:10 p.m.		
Darryl Nohara	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	√		
Kim Hedden	Merriton/Thorold			√
Heather McCluckie	Merriton/Thorold	√		
Marilyn Fabiano	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Chris Kouroushis	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Josephine Muraca-Lettieri	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake		√	
Jitto Tom Uthup	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake		√	
Rita Colling	St. Catharines			√
Jeremy Harb	St. Catharines	√		
Kate Hingston	St. Catharines			√
AJ McLaughlin	Welland	Letter of Resignation received Dec. 14, 2019		
Carrie Vernelli	Welland	√		
Leone Strilec	Development and Peace		√	
Shelley Gilbert	Society of St. Vincent de Paul		√	
Fr. Peter Rowe	Bishop/Diocesan Representative	√		
Melissa Coleman	Secondary Student Senate Representative		√	
<b>Trustees</b>				
Dino Sicoli	Vice-Chair of the Board	√		
Leanne Prince	Trustee	√		

The following staff were in attendance:

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells, Kim Kuchar, Elementary Principal, Josie Rocca, Support Staff and Yvonne Anderson, Recording Secretary.

Regrets: Melissa Coleman, Shelley Gilbert, Brad Johnstone, Josephine Muraca-Lettieri, Leone Strilec and Jitto Tom Uthup

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Darryl Nohara requested, and made a motion that the policy review section be moved-up on the agenda under section A Routine Matters in an order to address the Code of Conduct Policy in a timely manner. The motion was defeated by consensus, as there were other items on the agenda that needed to be addressed.

Moved by: Heather McCluckie

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the agenda of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of January 9, 2020 as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No conflict of interest was declared with any item on the agenda.

**5. Letter of Resignation**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that on December 14, 2019, AJ McLaughlin submitted a letter of resignation as the Chair and as a parent member on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee effective immediately.

**6. Filling a Vacancy**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reviewed the NCPIC Policy No. 800.7 and NCPIC By-Laws in reference to filling vacancies on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and stated that a vacancy in the membership of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee does not prevent the committee from exercising its authority.

**MOTION**

Moved by: Shonna Daly

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee advertise a parent vacancy for the geographical area of Welland.

**CARRIED**

**7. Election of Chair**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reviewed the process for the election of the Chair of the NCPIC. Superintendent Forsyth-Sells called for nominations for the position of Chair of the NCPIC.

Moved by: Shonna Daly

**THAT** she, Shonna Daly be nominated for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee; and

**THAT** Carrie Vernelli be nominated for the position of Co-Chair of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

1. It was determined that Shonna Daly was not eligible to run for the position of Chair of the NCPIC as she was acclaimed as the Niagara Catholic OAPCE Regional Director at the November 7, 2019 meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

As a result, Shonna declared her intent to stepdown from her role as the Niagara Catholic OAPCE Regional Director in order to run for Chair of the NCPIC.

2. It was also determined that Carrie Vernelli was not eligible to run for the position of Co-Chair as she is currently holding a one-year term.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells asked if there were any further nominations.

Moved by: Darryl Nohara

**THAT** he, Darryl Nohara be nominated for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells asked Darryl Nohara if he wished to stand for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee. Darryl Nohara accepted.

Once, Darryl Nohara confirmed that he wished to stand for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, Shonna Daly was no longer eligible to run for the position of Chair of Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee as per the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Policy and By-Laws and in accordance with the Education Act.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells asked if there were any further nominations.

Moved by: Shonna Daly

**THAT** Chris Kouroushis be nominated for the position of Co-Chair of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells asked Chris Kouroushis if she wished to stand for the position of Co-Chair of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

Chris Kouroushis accepted the nomination.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells asked if there were any further nominations. There were no further nominations.

Darryl Nohara was acclaimed as the Chair, and Chris Kouroushis was acclaimed as the Co-Chair of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee for the 2019-2021 school years.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells turned over the Chairship of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meeting to Chair Nohara.

**8. Approval of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2019**

Moved by: Heather McCluckie

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve **the** minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of November 7, 2019 as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

- Nil

**C. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Faith Formation
  - Nil Report
2. Goals/Parent Engagement
  - Nil Report

**D. POLICY FEEDBACK**

Chair Nohara requested feedback on the policies currently being vetted until January 15, 2020.

***Feedback due January 15, 2020***

- Establishment and Cyclical Review of Policies Policy (100.5)
  - Marilyn Fabiano submitted her feedback to be included in the vetting process.
- Volunteering in Catholic Schools Policy (800.9)
  - Marilyn Fabiano submitted her feedback to be included in the vetting process.
- Trustee Electronic Meetings (Board and Committees) Policy (100.8)
  - Marilyn Fabiano submitted her feedback to be included in the vetting process.
- Purchasing/Supply Chain Management Policy (600.1)
  - Marilyn Fabiano submitted her feedback to be included in the vetting process.
- Code of Conduct-Safe Schools Policy (302.6.2)
  - Marilyn Fabiano submitted her feedback to be included in the vetting process.
  - Chair Nohara remarked on the importance of receiving feedback on the language used in the Code of Conduct Policy to preserve the rights of Catholic education in accordance with the denominational right of the Catholic Faith, afforded and protected under the Ontario Human Rights Code, the Constitution Act, 1982 and in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
  - Superintendent Forsyth-Sells provided the *Supporting Students Who Identify as*

*Transgender in Our Catholic Schools* published by the Institute for Catholic Education for review.

- A policy subcommittee meeting will be take place before January 15, 2020 to further discuss this policy and provide feedback to the Board on behalf of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

**Feedback due February 6, 2020**

Chair Nohara invited members provide feedback for the policies due February 6, 2020 to Yvonne Anderson no later than February 5, 2020.

- Concussion Policy (303.1)
- Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7)
- Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11)
- Occupational Health and Safety Policy (201.6)
- Naming of a Board Facility, Designated Area or Chapel Policy (100.15)
- Sexual Misconduct Policy (201.13)
- Student Use of Guide Dogs and Service Animals Policy (NEW)

**E. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION**

**1. School Year Calendar 2020-2021 Consultation**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that as part of the consultation process for the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars 2020-2021, members of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee are invited to provide feedback to Jennifer Pellegrini at [jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com](mailto:jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com) no later than Friday, January 31, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

**2. Review: By-Laws of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee**

The NCPIC By-Laws were sent to all members for review prior to the meeting. Superintendent Forsyth-Sells asked for any edits/additions and/or comments. No feedback was received.

**3. NCPIC Financial Report**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported on the NCPIC financial statement for information.

**F. COMMUNITY REPORTS**

**1. Development and Peace-*Leone Strilec***

- Nil Report-Regrets sent

**2. Society of St. Vincent de Paul-*Shelley Gilbert***

- Nil Report-Regrets sent

**G. SEAC REPORT-*Nil Report***

**H. BISHOP/DIOCESAN REPORT-*Fr. Peter Rowe***

- The Church calls us to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18 to 25, 2020. A Service of Prayer for Christian Unity at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria with Bishop Bergie will take place on Sunday, January 19, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. followed by refreshments. The themes and materials for this year's world-wide prayer were prepared by the Christian Churches of Malta. The key verse in the week of prayer is: "*They showed us unusual kindness*" (Acts 28:2).

**I. STUDENT SENATE REPORT**-*Melissa Coleman*

- Nil Report-Regrets sent

**J. STAFF REPORTS**-*Kim Kuchar and Brad Johnstone*

Elementary and secondary school updates were provided for information.

**K. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

- Nil Report

**L. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

**M. NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

**N. CLOSING PRAYER:** Fr. Peter Rowe led the closing prayer.

**Q. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by: Shonna Daly

**THAT** the January 9, 2020 meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. in order for the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee to attend the parent workshop "Parenting with Wisdom" by Kevin Cameron.

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