



## MINUTES OF THE NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

**MARCH 5, 2020**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, held on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland, ON.

Chair Nohara called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

#### 1. Opening Prayer

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells led the opening prayer from the March 2020 Vineyard.

#### Welcome, Introduction and Commissioning of New Parent Member

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells introduced and welcomed Melanie Oakes-Flegg, newly acclaimed parent member representing the geographical area of Welland. As a member of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Melanie was commissioned by Superintendent Forsyth-Sells and publicly proclaimed her commitment to promote the Mission of Catholic education and the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

#### 2. Roll Call: Guest-Director of Education/Secretary Treasurer, John Crocco

Parent Members	Geographical Area	Present	Excused	Absent
Shonna Daly	Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet		√	
Darryl Nohara (Chair)	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	√		
Kim Hedden	Merritton/Thorold	√		
Heather McCluckie	Merritton/Thorold	√		
Marilyn Fabiano	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Chris Kouroushis (Co-Chair)	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Josephine Muraca-Lettieri	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake		√	
Jitto Tom Uthup	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√	Arrived at 6:42 p.m.	
Rita Colling	St. Catharines			√
Jeremy Harb	St. Catharines	√		
Kate Hingston	St. Catharines	√		
Melanie Oakes-Flegg	Welland	√		
Carrie Vernelli	Welland		√	
<b>Development and Peace</b>				
Leone Strilec	Development and Peace		√	
Shelley Gilbert	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	√		
<b>Bishop/Diocesan Representative</b>				
Fr. Peter Rowe	Bishop/Diocesan Representative	√	Arrived at 7:25 p.m.	
<b>Secondary Student Senate Representative</b>				
Melissa Coleman	Secondary Student Senate Representative		√	
<b>Trustees</b>				
Dino Sicoli	Vice-Chair of the Board	√		
Leanne Prince	Trustee		√	

The following staff was in attendance:

Director of Education, John Crocco, Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, Brad Johnstone, Secondary Principal and Yvonne Anderson, Recording Secretary.

Regrets: Trustee Prince, Melissa Coleman, Shonna Daly, Kim Kuchar, Josephine Muraca-Lettieri, Josie Rocca, Leone Strilec and Carrie Vernelli.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: Kim Hedden

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the agenda of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of March 5, 2020 as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Melanie Oakes-Flegg informed the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee that she is an employee of the Board.

**5. Approval of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2020**

Moved by: Heather McCluckie

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

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATION**

1. Niagara Catholic 2020-2021 System Priorities and Budget-*John Crocco, Director of Education*
  - Director of Education, John Crocco presented and reviewed the design of the Board's 2020-2021 System Priorities and Budget. The 2020-2021 balanced budget is designed to align with and to achieve the Board approved System Priorities 2020-2021 and accomplish the expectations of Niagara Catholic's Strategic Plan. Director Crocco invited NCPIC members to provide feedback and/or submit a measurable action verb System Priority to Superintendent Forsyth-Sells, and to participate in the online Design of the System Priorities and Budget 2020-2021 consultative feedback by Friday, April 24, 2020.

**C. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Faith Formation
  - Chair Nohara, spoke on behalf of Josie Rocca, Chair of the Faith Formation subcommittee who had sent regrets, but requested to have a Faith Formation subcommittee meeting in March to discuss the possibility of a guest speaker in May 2020 for parents/guardians. An email will be sent to all members with a potential date.
2. Goals/Parent Engagement Events
  - Chair Nohara requested that the Goals/Parent Engagement Events subcommittee have a meeting on April 16, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre to discuss a draft Blueprint to support Catholic School Councils in building community, networking, fundraising and the Triad of the home, school and church. Kate Hingston will create a draft template to present at the meeting. An email will be sent to all members to confirm their attendance.

## **E. POLICY FEEDBACK**

1. Attendance Area Policy (301.3)
  - o Feedback was provide for submission.
2. Criminal Background Check Policy (302.6.7)
  - o No comment
3. Use of Corporate Logo Policy (100.14)
  - o No comment
4. Video Security Surveillance Policy (701.3)
  - o Feedback was provide for submission.

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

### **1. Parent Feedback: "Parenting with Wisdom"-Kevin Cameron**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that as part of the 2019-2020 Parent Engagement Funding received from the Ministry of Education, the ministry requires a parent/guardian feedback report on all parent engagement initiatives implemented by the Board. The Ministry provided the questions outlined in the parent/guardian feedback survey. The parent/guardian survey feedback from the "Parenting with Wisdom" workshop with Kevin Cameron was provided and reviewed.

### **2. Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that nomination forms are being accepted for the Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction. This award recognizes and honours those individuals and/or groups, who have made, or continue to make outstanding contributions to Catholic Education in the Niagara Region. Superintendent Forsyth-Sells encouraged members to complete and submit a nomination form.

Nomination forms are to be submitted and received by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 13, 2020 to the attention of:

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education  
Niagara Catholic District School Board  
427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario L3C 7C1  
or email [frank.iannantuono@ncdsb.com](mailto:frank.iannantuono@ncdsb.com)

### **3. Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education Gala**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education Benefit Gala will be held on Friday, April 17, 2020 at Club Roma Event and Conference Centre and that the recipient(s) of the Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction will be honoured and celebrated at the Gala. Tickets are available on the Board website.

### **4. OAPCE Update**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells encouraged NCPIC participation at the OAPCE AGM & Summit hosted by Halton CDSB and Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB on Saturday, May 2, 2020 at Holy Trinity High School in Oakville. A Save the Date flyer was provided for information.

### **5. NCPIC Financial Report**

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

## **F. COMMUNITY REPORTS**

### **1. Development and Peace-Chair Nohara on behalf of Leone Strilec**

- The Share Lent Launch was held on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at St. Alfred Parish. Bishop Bergie and representatives from 10 parishes joined in this informative and motivating workshop. During Lent, Development and Peace will highlight their partners in the Amazon on their website and through social media. Leone encouraged members to take a few minutes to see what great work is happening in social justice with the support Development and Peace.
- The annual Development and Peace High School Workshop was held on Thursday, February 27, 2020 at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish Hall. All Niagara Catholic secondary schools sent representatives. The students were very engaged in various activities and we look forward to hearing how they will bring Development and Peace back to their school communities.
- The bi-annual general meeting for the St. Catharines Diocesan Council for Development and Peace will be held on Monday, June 15, 2020 at St. Alfred Parish in St. Catharines. Members were encouraged to attend and learn more about the accomplishments of Development and Peace over the past two years and plan for the next two years.

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

- St. Vincent de Paul had a successful Christmas season with many of the elementary and high schools students helping create Christmas Baskets.
- St. Vincent de Paul had a successful “Sock” exchange fundraiser.
- With the support of volunteers from the Welland St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, the Niagara Falls St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store was able to remodel their store to make it more accessible.
- Fr. Daniel and guests from Nunavut met with St. Vincent de Paul to discuss the needs of the Nuajaat community. St. Vincent de Paul is starting to collect for the sea container that will be sent to Nuajaat Nunavut in late June, early July. Community support is necessary as the needs have increased.
- St. Vincent de Paul we will be hosting their Annual Trivia Night on Friday, May 29, 2020 at St. Alfred Parish. The proceeds will help support sending children to summer camp at no cost to the family. Tickets are \$20.00 and may be purchased by contacting Shelley Gilbert.

## **G. SEAC REPORT**

- Nil Report

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

- Fr. Peter Rowe encouraged all members to review the March 2020 edition of the Vineyard and the Lenten Messages by Bishop Bergie, Leone Strilec, and Terri Pauco.
- Fr. Peter Rowe reported that the Day of Penance will be celebrated on March 28, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in every parish.
- Fr. Peter Rowe was pleased to report that Carlo Acutis, an Italian Roman Catholic teenager who created a website documenting and cataloging Eucharist miracles around the world will be beatified sometime during the 2020 year. Carlo had a deep devotion to the Eucharist, which became a core theme of his life before his death from leukemia at 15 years of age. His mortal remains are kept in Assisi.
- Fr. Peter Rowe invited members to take part in the Perpetual Adoration “Stay Awake with Me One Hour” at Our Lady of Scapular Church in Niagara Falls.

**I. STUDENT SENATE REPORT**

- Nil Report

**J. STAFF REPORTS-Brad Johnstone**

Elementary and secondary school updates were provided for information.

**K. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

- Nil Report

**L. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS/NEW BUSINESS**

1. Superintendent Forsyth-Sells stated that the Niagara Catholic Annual Volunteer Breakfast will take place on Monday, April 20, 2020 at the Holiday Inn & Suites Parkway Convention Centre commencing at 8:00 a.m. and concluding at approximately 10:00 a.m. NCPIC members who wish to attend are to confirm their attendance with Yvonne Anderson, no later than Wednesday, April 8, 2020.
2. Chair Nohara shared that the Welland, Port Colborne Pro Life will be taking part in 40 Days of Life in Niagara Falls from February 26 to April 2020 and are asking for witnesses to be present during Lent. For more information and to sign up for vigil hours, please visit the Welland, Port Colborne Pro Life website.
3. Chair Nohara shared the importance of taking a stand against Bill C-14, passed by the Parliament of Canada in June 2016, to legalize both physician-administered euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide, and to govern access to both procedures in Canada. Chair Nohara encouraged all members to educate themselves on Bill C-14 and to support the moral state of our country by contacting their local MP to have their voice heard.

**M. NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at Catholic Education Centre

**N. CLOSING PRAYER:** Fr. Peter Rowe led the closing prayer from the March 2020 Vineyard.

**Q. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by: Shelley Gilbert

**THAT** the March 5, 2020 meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

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