

## **Arts & Social Sciences**

<b>Date</b>	October 6, 2023
<b>Length</b>	2 Hours
<b>Topic</b>	Decolonizing: Indigenous Culture and Historical Truths
<b>Entity Hosting</b>	Niagara Catholic DSB
<b>Location</b>	Holy Cross Secondary School
<b>Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s)</b>	Indigenous Team with Guests Karl Dockstader, and Tanja Steinbach
<b>Description</b> <p>Dear brothers and sisters, many of you and your representatives have stated that begging pardon is not the end of the matter. I fully agree: that is only the first step, the starting point. I also recognize that, “looking to the past, no effort to beg pardon and to seek to repair the harm done will ever be sufficient” and that, “looking ahead to the future, no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such situations from happening” (<a href="#">Letter to the People of God</a>, 20 August 2018). An important part of this process will be to conduct a serious investigation into the facts of what took place in the past and to assist the survivors of the residential schools to experience healing from the traumas they suffered. ~ <a href="#">Pope Francis</a>, Maskwacis, July 25, 2022</p> <p>Today’s session Gary Parker, Karl Dockstader, and the Indigenous Team will aid you in your “investigation into the facts of what took place in the past” and assist you in unpacking the historical truths implemented to oppress Indigenous culture. Participants will examine the timeline of events from contact to confederation, as well as participate in the blanket exercise and a sharing circle. Gary and Karl are experienced and trained in safely facilitating the blanket exercise, and Indigenous mental health support worker, Tanja Steinbach, will be available on-site for participants’ support and safety. The Indigenous Team hopes to support staff as they learn the truth on their professional and personal journeys of Truth and Reconciliation.</p> <p>“Education is the key to Reconciliation. Education got us into this mess, and education will get us out of it” ~ Murray Sinclair, former Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Retired Senator</p>	