



*The Niagara Catholic District School Board through
the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership,
nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all
to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.*

AGENDA AND MATERIAL

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

*FATHER KENNETH BURNS, C.S.C. BOARD ROOM
CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE, WELLAND, ONTARIO*



A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer – Trustee Burtnik -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting -
 - 5.1 June 12, 2018 A5.1
 - 5.2 June 20, 2018 A5.2
6. Consent Agenda Items -
 - 6.1 Architect Selection for Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School A6.1
 - 6.2 Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities A6.2
 - 6.3 In Camera Items F1.1, F1.2 and F4 -

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Director of Education and Senior Staff Introduction to the 2018-2019 School Year C1
2. Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services - Special Education Plan C2
3. Niagara Compliance Audit Committee Report C3
4. Monthly Updates -
 - 4.1 Student Senate Update -
 - 4.2 Senior Staff Good News Update -

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information -
 - 1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – June 19, 2018 D1.1
 - 1.2 Calendar of Events – September 2018 D1.2

1.3	Ontario Legislative Highlights – June 22, 2018, July & August 2018	D1.3
1.4	Letter to Parents and Guardians – September 2018	D1.4
1.5	Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education Golf Tournament – September 19, 2018	D1.5
1.6	OCSTA 2018 Fall Regional Meeting – September 26, 2018	D1.6
1.7	OCSTA 2018 Fall Regional Meeting Questions for Discussion	D1.7

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action -

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

G. REPORT ON THE IN CAMERA SESSION

H. ADJOURNMENT

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING OF JUNE 12, 2018**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 12, 2018, as presented.



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2018

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 in the Father Kenneth Burns c.s.c. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair MacNeil for Vice-Chair Vernal. Trustee Burtnik served as Vice-Chair for this meeting.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

2. Roll Call

Chair MacNeil noted that Trustee Vernal and Trustee O'Leary joined electronically.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary		✓		
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Pat Vernal		✓		
Student Trustees				
Nico Tripodi	✓			
Hannah Tummillo	✓			
Student Trustees Elect				
Jade Bilodeau	✓			
Madison McKinney	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Pat Rocca**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Fera

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 12, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared with any items on the Agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 8, 2018

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 8, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED

6. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Sicoli requested Item A6.13 be held. This item was moved to Committee and Staff Reports Section C4.1 of the agenda.

6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of May 24, 2018

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of May 24, 2018, as presented.

6.2 Electronic Communications Systems (Students) Policy (301.5)

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole approval of the Electronic Communications Systems (Students) Policy (301.5), as presented.

6.3 Employee Code of Conduct & Ethics Policy (201.17)

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole approval of the Employee Code of Conduct & Ethics Policy (201.17), as presented.

6.4 Employee Hiring and Selection (Teachers) Policy (203.1)

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole approval of the Employee Hiring and Selection (Teachers) Policy (203.1), as presented.

6.5 Environmental Stewardship Policy (400.6)

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole approval of the Environmental Stewardship Policy (400.6), as presented.

6.6 Bottled Water Policy (701.5)

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole approval of the Bottled Water Policy (701.5), as presented.

6.7 Voluntary and Confidential Self-Identification for First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students Policy (301.9)

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole approval of the Voluntary and Confidential Self-Identification for First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students Policy (301.9), as presented.

6.8 Larkin Estate Admission Awards 2018-2019

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of \$4,275.00 for Larkin Estate Admission Awards per eligible student, as presented.

6.9 The Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services – Special Education Plan

Presented for information.

6.10 Research Collaborations in the Niagara Catholic District School Board 2017-2018

Presented for information.

6.11 Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2018-2019

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2018-2019, as presented.

6.12 Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities

Presented for information.

6.13 Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Committee

Moved to Section C4.5

6.14 Award of Roof Replacement Contract for St. Denis Catholic Elementary School

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Award of Roof Replacement Contract for St. Denis Catholic Elementary School to GRRC Roofing, as presented.

6.15 Capital Projects Update

Presented for information.

6.16 In Camera Items F1 and F3

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole adopt consent agenda items.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Student Trustees and Co-Chairs – Student Senate 2018-2019 Introductions

Director Crocco introduced Jade Bilodeau of Saint Paul Catholic High School and Madison McKinney of Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School, provided a background report and welcomed them as Niagara Catholic District School Board's 2018-2019 Student Trustees.

2. Student Trustees and Co-Chairs – Student Senate 2017-2018 Appreciation

Chair MacNeil expressed pride in the growth of Student Trustees Nico Tripodi and Hannah Tummillio and wished them all the best as they move forward.

Student Trustee Hannah expressed her gratitude to Niagara Catholic District School Board for being a community that fully embodies our Catholic faith and for inspiring her to pursue education in her post-secondary studies.

Nico acknowledged his privilege of representing the collective voice of the student body in Niagara Catholic and noted that he was greatly impacted by the precious gift of Catholic education, the brilliance of his peers and the steadfast dedication of each person around the table.

Nico and Hannah performed a special song as a farewell.

3. National & Provincial Medalists 2017-2018

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education provided a brief presentation on National and Provincial competitions during the school season and introduced Ivana Galante, Consultant K-12: Business-Technology/Specialist High Skills Major/COOP/OYAP Student Success and Dino Germano, consultant: NCAA Convenor/NCDSB-P.H.E. Support.

Ms. Galante, Mr. Germano, teachers and coaches introduced students who excelled in skilled trades and technology, athletics and music competitions.

Students were congratulated for their success, and Chair MacNeil and Director Crocco presented the students with Niagara Catholic "Excellence in Academics, Excellence in Arts, or Excellence in Athletics" pins.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Committee of the Whole System Priorities and Budget 2017-2018 Update

Director Crocco along with Senior Administrative Council presented the Committee of the Whole System Priorities and Budget 2017-2018 Update.

Director Crocco and Senior Administrative Council answered questions of Trustees.

2. English as a Second Language Program and Supports

Superintendent Baldasaro presented background information on English as a Second Language Program and Supports and introduced Randy Prunyn, Consultant K-12 Literacy/ESL, Melanie Neamts, Community Connections Coordinator Youth Services with the Niagara Folk Art Centre and Sandra Creelman, ESL Support Teacher.

Mr. Pruyn, along with Ms. Neamtz and Ms. Creelman presented the English as a Second Language Program and Supports report for Trustee information.

Mr. Pruyn answered questions of Trustees.

3. Capital Plan 2017-2020

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services presented the Capital Plan 2017-2020 for Trustee information.

Controller Whitwell answered questions of Trustees.

4. Original Estimates for the 2018-2019 Annual Board Budget

Director Crocco presented background information on the balanced Original Estimates for the year 2018-2019 Board Budget.

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services presented the Original Estimates for the 2018-2019 Annual Board Budget.

Senior Administrative Council answered questions of Trustees.

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole meeting be extended.

CARRIED

Discussions continued during the In-Camera session of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

5. Monthly Updates

5.1 Student Trustees' Update

Deferred to June 19, 2018 Board Meeting.

5.2 Senior Staff Good News Update

Deferred to June 19, 2018 Board Meeting.

6. Consent Agenda Item A6.13

Deferred to June 19, 2018 Board Meeting.

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – May 22, 2018

Deferred to June 19, 2018 Board Meeting.

1.2 Calendar of Events – June 2018

Deferred to June 19, 2018 Board Meeting.

1.3 Ontario Legislative Highlights – May 25, 2018, June 1, 2018, June 8, 2018

Deferred to June 19, 2018 Board Meeting.

1.4 Elementary and Secondary Graduation Dates 2018

Deferred to June 19, 2018 Board Meeting.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

Deferred to June 19, 2018 Board Meeting.

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 10:18 p.m. and reconvened at 11:58 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 12, 2018.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES INCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section A: Student Trustees Included) held on May 8, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section B: Student Trustees Excluded) held on May 8, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F3)

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the June 12, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **June 12, 2018.**

Approved on **September 11, 2018.**

Fr. Paul MacNeil
Chair of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2018**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 20, 2018, as presented.



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018

Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns c.s.c Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice-Chair Vernal.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer were led by Trustee Sicoli.

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chair Vernal noted that Trustee Charbonneau joined electronically and Student Trustee Tripodi asked to be excused.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau		✓		
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Pat Vernal	✓			
Student Trustees				
Nico Tripodi				✓
Hannah Tummillo	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Pat Rocca**, Superintendents of Education; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 20, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared with any items on the Agenda.

5. Original Estimates for the 2018-2019 Annual Board Budget

Director Crocco provided a brief overview of the Original Estimates for the 2018-2019 Annual Board Budget report from the reports initial presentation at the May 2018 Board Meeting.

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education/Human Resources provided an update on staffing. Superintendent Iannantuono answered questions of Trustees.

Chair MacNeil presented suggested amendments to the 2018-2019 Annual Board Budget.

Discussions took place between Trustees and Senior Staff members regarding Chair MacNeil's suggested amendments to the 2018-2019 Annual Board Budget.

Trustees requested the Committee of the Whole move In Camera for specific In Camera items on the suggested amendments.

B. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Committee of the Whole move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting at 8:25 p.m. and reconvened at 9:56 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole returned to public session at 9:56 p.m. and continued discussions. A recommendation was presented for consideration.

Student Trustee Tummillio made a request to exercise her right to a non-binding vote on the recommendations for the Original Estimates for the 2018-2019 Annual Board Budget. The Committee of the Whole approved the request.

The following motions were recommended;

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board approval of the Original Estimates for the 2018-2019 Annual Budget, as presented, with the ongoing intention to provide student supports and to continue to monitor the 2018-2019 Budget and make modifications as appropriate given resources available to the Board.

THAT Senior Staff will bring bi-monthly accountability financial reports to the Committee of the Whole and the Board on the current status of the 2018-2019 Budget, as presented.

CARRIED

C. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

D. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the June 20, 2018 Special Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **June 20, 2018**.

Approved on the **September 11, 2018**.

Pat Vernal
Vice-Chair of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: ARCHITECT SELECTION FOR:
OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - NEW CHILD CARE
AND
MONSIGNOR CLANCY/ST. CHARLES CATHOLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS – CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL
AND NEW CHILD CARE**

The Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School – New Child Care and Monsignor Clancy/St. Charles Catholic Elementary Schools - Consolidated School and New Child Care Architectural Selection report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services

Presented by: Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 11, 2018



**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

ARCHITECT SELECTION FOR:

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL
CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – NEW CHILD CARE
AND
MONSIGNOR CLANCY/ST. CHARLES
CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS – CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL
AND NEW CHILD CARE**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Architect Selection Committees met as follows:

Project: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School – New Child Care

Date: July 17, 2018

Committee Members:

Ed Nieuwesteeg, Trustee

Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Domenic Massi, Principal - Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Anthony Ferrara, Administrator of Facilities Services

Tunde Labbancz, Administrator of Facilities Services

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services

Project: Monsignor Clancy/St. Charles Catholic Elementary Schools – Consolidated School and New Child Care

Date: July 19, 2018

Committee Members:

Pat Vernal, Vice-Chair of the Board

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Dan Trainor, Principal - Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School

Anthony Ferrara, Administrator of Facilities Services

Tunde Labbancz, Administrator of Facilities Services

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services

In accordance with the Board's Architect and Consultant Selection Policy 701.1 the Architect Selection Committees for both of the above projects have recommended to the Director of Education that the architectural firm of Venerino V.P. Panici Architect Inc. be selected for the two subject projects. As Director of Education, he is supporting these recommendations of both Architect Selection Committee. Negotiations to finalize an agreement with this firm are currently underway.

The Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School – New Child Care and Monsignor Clancy/St. Charles Catholic Elementary Schools – Consolidated School and New Child Care Architectural Selection report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services

Presented by: Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 11, 2018

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The Report on Staff Development Department:
Professional Development Opportunities is presented for information.

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 11, 2018



REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In alignment with the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and Annual System Priorities, the Department of Staff Development, as an integral aspect of its mandate, acts as the point of co-ordination among various departments. Thus ensuring that all professional development opportunities for staff, both teaching and non-teaching, occur in a seamless fashion so as to minimize disruptions to the myriad services provided within our Niagara Catholic community.

The following is a listing of activities occurring during the period September 11, 2018 through October 9, 2018.

Monday, September 10, 2018

Elementary and Secondary Library Technician Meeting (St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School, Stevensville, ON)

- All Niagara Catholic Library Technicians will attend the annual start-up organizational meeting.

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Educational Resource Teachers' Meeting

- All Niagara Catholic Educational Resource Teachers will attend a morning meeting at the Catholic Education Centre (Father Burns csc Board Room).
- A meeting for ERT's New to the Role is scheduled for Thursday, September 27, 2018 at the Catholic Education Centre (Vincentian Sisters of Charity).

Monday, September 10 - Friday, September 14, 2018

School Secretary Finance Training – After-School (Catholic Education Centre)

- The voluntary after-school training sessions (4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) will focus on School Cash Custom Forms for selection during item creation, exporting School Cash Catalogue reports to excel, sorting and generating subtotals and cashbox application. A review of the Employee Centre will also be provided.

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Understanding the Needs of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students Workshop

- Educational Resource Teachers (ERT's) and regular Classroom Teachers, who will be working with deaf or hard of hearing students in their schools during the 2018–19 school year, are invited to attend one of two workshop sessions available on Wednesday, September 19, 2018 being held in the theatre at Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School (parking in the back parking lot). There are 2 half-day sessions; 9:00a.m. – 11:30a.m. or 12:45p.m. – 3:15p.m.
- Caterina Ruggirello, Resource Services-Outreach Programs Provincial Schools, together with a Niagara Catholic team of Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will be presenting on:
 - o hearing loss / the audiogram
 - o FM systems in the classroom

- Well-being
- academic and social implications of a student's hearing loss in the classroom.
- strategies and accommodations that are necessary to meet the needs of students who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- how the classroom teacher collaborates with the teachers of the deaf.

Friday, October 5, 2018

Professional Activity Day – All Sites

- The primary venue for all elementary and secondary school staff is their home school.
- The day in both the elementary and secondary panels will focus on the following topics:
 - Student Achievement/Student Success: Developing and Implementing Board and School Improvement Plans.
 - Health and Safety Training – Annual Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) Training for all staff.

The Report on Staff Development:
Professional Development Opportunities is presented for information.

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 11, 2018

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND SENIOR STAFF
INTRODUCTION TO THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR**

The report on the Director of Education and Senior Staff Introduction to the 2018-2019 School Year is presented for information.

Prepared by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Presented by: Senior Administrative Council

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 11, 2018



**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

**DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND SENIOR STAFF INTRODUCTION TO
THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Annually, at the first Committee of the Whole Meeting to begin a new school year, the Director of Education and Senior Staff present a visual report as an introduction to the 2018-2019 school year for the information of Trustees.

As part of the presentation, the following appendices are attached to this report:

- Appendix A: Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2018-2019
- Appendix B: Board Calendar 2018-2019
- Appendix C: Update: Education Funding for 2018-2019
- Appendix D: Niagara Catholic Summer Camp 2018

The report on the Director of Education and Senior Staff Introduction to the 2018-2019 School Year is presented for information.

Prepared by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Presented by: Senior Administrative Council

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 11, 2018



NIAGARA CATHOLIC SYSTEM PRIORITIES 2018-2019

Mission Statement

The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.



Vision 2020

NURTURING SOULS AND BUILDING MINDS

MINISTRY GOALS

- Achieving Excellence
- Ensuring Equity
- Promoting Well-Being
- Enhancing Public Confidence

BOARD STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

- Build Strong Catholic Identity and Community to Nurture the Distinctiveness of Catholic Education
- Advance Student Achievement for All

ENABLING STRATEGIES

Provide Supports for Success

- Enhance student and parent engagement and voice in student achievement, equity, well-being and mental health for all students
- Improve equitable and inclusive outcomes for students
- Explore next generation career pathway programs for students
- Continue to address the special needs of students on the margin

Enhance Technology for Optimal Learning

- Implement a system-wide electronic platform to facilitate communication between staff and parents
- Improve the learning experience of students through access and use of technology

Building Partnerships and Schools as Hubs

- Continue to nurture community partnerships to achieve strategic priorities
- Strengthen relationships and support between schools, parishes and families
- Enhance communication opportunities with parents and community partners to increase pathway opportunities for students



Strengthen Human Resource Practices and Develop Transformational Leadership

- Enhance staff wellness supports and programs to ensure consistency in delivering programs and supports for students
- Diversify the delivery of professional development opportunities through collaborative planning with a variety of stakeholders
- Implement health and safety awareness and training initiatives focused on employee safety
- Design a Workplace Violence Awareness program

Create Equity and Accessibility of Resources

- Explore a predictive data analytic model and strategy to enable school and system staff to make more precise, evidence-based decision
- Implement and review differentiated resource allocation to individual schools based on specified indicators

Ensure Responsible Fiscal and Operational Management

- Maintain financial stability through a balanced budget 2018-2019
- Increase economies of scale in the allocation of financial resources

Address Changing Demographics

- Continue to optimize efficiency in capacity utilization in all Board facilities
- Enhance strategies to optimize enrolment and retention of students



NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

2018-2019 School Year Calendar & Meeting Dates

SEPTEMBER 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5 SEAC	6 NCPIC	7	8
9	10	11 SAL CW	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25 PC BD	26	27	28 AC	29

OCTOBER 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 SEAC	4	5	6
7	8	9 SAL CW	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 PC BD	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

NOVEMBER 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 NCPIC	2	3
4	5	6	7 SEAC	8	9	10
11	12	13 SAL CW	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 AC	24
25	26	27 PC BD	28	29	30	

DECEMBER 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 INAUG BD CW	5 SEAC	6	7	8
9	10	11 SAL	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 BD	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25 Christmas	26	27	28	29

JANUARY 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 SEAC	10 NCPIC	11	12
13	14	15 SAL CW	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 PC BD	30	31		

FEBRUARY 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6 SEAC	7	8	9
10	11	12 SAL CW	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 PC BD	27	28		

MARCH 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 SEAC	5 SAL CW	6 Ash Wednesday	7 NCPIC	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26 PC BD	27	28	29	30

APRIL 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 SEAC	4	5	6
7	8	9 SAL CW	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Holy Thursday	19 Good Friday	20 Holy Saturday
HOLY WEEK						
21	22 Easter Monday	23 PC BD	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 SEAC	2 NCPIC	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK						
12	13	14 SAL CW	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 PC BD	29	30	31	

JUNE 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5 SEAC	6	7	8
9	10	11 SAL CW	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 BD	19	20	21 AC	22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

JULY 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

REGULAR SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

- Committee of the Whole Meetings
- Supervised Alternative Learning Meetings
- Board Meetings
- Inaugural Meeting of the Board
- Special Education Advisory Committee Meetings
- Policy Committee Meetings
- Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meetings
- Audit Committee Meetings

- 7:00 p.m. 2nd Tuesday of each month
- 2:00 p.m. 2nd Tuesday of each month
- 7:00 p.m. 4th Tuesday of each month
- 6:00 p.m. 1st Tuesday of December
- 7:00 p.m. 1st Wednesday of each month
- 4:30 p.m. 4th Tuesday of each month
- 7:00 p.m. 1st Thursday every other month
- 10:00 a.m.

<p>CW SAL BD INAUG SEAC PC NCPIC AC</p>	<p>Elementary P.A. Day</p> <p>Secondary P.A. Day</p> <p>Elementary & Secondary P.A. Day</p>	<p>Statutory & Other Holiday</p> <p>School Holiday</p> <p>Secondary Exams</p>	<p>Board Office Shutdown</p>
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2018-2019 NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

427 RICE ROAD, WELLAND, ON, L3C 7C1 • PHONE 905.735.0240 TOLL FREE: 905.382.3108 / 905.562.1321 / 905.684.8565
 FAX BUSINESS 905.735.2940 / DIRECTOR 905.734.8828 / PROGRAM 905.735.1687 / SPECIAL EDUCATION 905.735.9850 / SUPERINTENDENTS 905.735.9710
 WEBSITE/FACEBOOK www.niagaracatholic.ca E-MAIL info@ncdsb.com TWITTER @niagaracatholic

SCHOOL	PRINCIPAL	PHONE
Fort Erie		
Our Lady of Victory	Adrian Bishop	905.871.3092
St. George	Rosanne Sandel	905.894.3670
St. Joseph	Diane Pizale	905.382.3822
St. Philomena	Roger Demers	905.871.1842
Grimsby		
Our Lady of Fatima	Brian Palujanskas	905.945.5500
St. Joseph	Lisa Incaviglia	905.945.4955
Lincoln & West Lincoln		
St. Edward	Carla Bianco	905.562.5531
St. John	Lisa Selman	905.945.5331
St. Mark	Steven Ward	905.563.9191
St. Martin	Christopher Zanuttini	905.957.3032
Niagara Falls		
Cardinal Newman	Blaine MacDougall	905.354.9033
Father Hennepin	Amanda Cybula	905.354.4469
Loretto Catholic	Antonio Cardamone	905.356.4175
Mary Ward	Joseph Tornabuono	905.354.9221
Notre Dame	Christopher Moscato	905.358.3861
Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Domenic Massi	905.354.2523
Sacred Heart	Irene Ricci	905.295.3732
St. Gabriel Lalemant	Sheri Bassett	905.354.5422
St. Mary	Rosetta Araujo	905.354.7744
St. Patrick	Gustine Marchio	905.354.6631
St. Vincent de Paul	Jeff LaFontaine	905.356.7505
Niagara-on-the-Lake		
St. Michael	Janice Barretto-Mendonca	905.684.1051
Pelham		
St. Alexander	Anne Marie Crocco	905.892.3841
St. Ann	Jennifer DeCoff	905.892.3942
Port Colborne		
St. John Bosco	Mary Kay Kalagian	905.835.1930
St. Patrick	Mark Venzon	905.835.1091
St. Therese	Jay Lennox	905.835.8082
St. Catharines		
Assumption	Wendy Brant	905.935.5281
Canadian Martyrs	Alan Creelman	905.934.9972
Mother Teresa	Margaret Marion	905.682.6862
Our Lady of Fatima	Branka Jones	905.935.4343
St. Alfred	Emma Fera-Massi	905.934.9922
St. Ann	Scott Root	905.934.1755
St. Anthony	Loredana Spadafora	905.685.8859
St. Christopher	Greg Morawek	905.684.3963
St. Denis	Kevin Lamb	905.682.4156
St. James	Jacqueline Watson	905.934.3112
St. Nicholas	Theo Dagenais	905.685.7764
St. Peter	Victoria Wegelin	905.984.3040
St. Theresa	Deborah Mercnik	905.682.0244

SCHOOL	PRINCIPAL	PHONE
Thorold		
Monsignor Clancy	Dan Trainor	905.227.4910
St. Charles	Susy Walsh	905.227.3522
Wainfleet		
St. Elizabeth	Kimberly Kuchar	905.899.3041
Welland		
Alexander Kuska	Carlo Arghittu	905.735.4471
Holy Name	Terry Antoniou	905.732.4992
St. Andrew	Christopher Kerho	905.732.5663
St. Augustine	Jeff Moccia	905.734.4659
St. Kevin	Maria Solomon	905.734.7709
St. Mary	Joseph Romeo	905.734.7326

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Grimsby		
Blessed Trinity	Joseph Zaroda	905.945.6706
Niagara Falls		
Saint Michael	Glenn Gifford	905.356.5155
Saint Paul	Bradley Johnstone	905.356.4313
Port Colborne		
Lakeshore Catholic	Denice Robertson	905.835.2451
Lakeshore Catholic Toll Free		905.382.3846
St. Catharines		
Denis Morris	Danny Di Lorenzo	905.684.8731
Holy Cross	Andrew Boon	905.937.6446
Saint Francis	James Whittard	905.646.2002
Welland		
Notre Dame	Kenneth Griepsma	905.788.3060

OUR LADY OF GRACE RETREAT CENTRE

Our Lady of Grace	Fort Erie	905.894.8910
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CONTINUING EDUCATION LEARNING CENTRES

Fort Erie		
St. John Centre	Mario Di Vittorio	905.991-8951
Niagara Falls		
St. Ann Centre	Mario Di Vittorio	905.354.3531
St. Catharines		
St. John Centre	Mario Di Vittorio	905.682.3360
Welland		
Father Fogarty Centre	Mario Di Vittorio	905.734.4495
Pope Francis Centre	Mario Di Vittorio	905.735.8668

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN OR COMPLAINT (Complaint Resolution Policy 800.3 - as may be amended from time to time)

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is committed to open communication with its parents, Catholic ratepayers and all educational partners through effective system and school-based communication procedures. The Board recognizes that differences of opinion and concerns may arise during a school year. To facilitate the resolution of complaints the following process will be followed to focus on the issue:

- COMPLAINANT AND EMPLOYEE CONCERNED**
The complainant is to contact the employee involved to discuss the concern and attempt to resolve the matter. If not satisfactorily resolved, then:
COMPLAINANT AND THE EMPLOYEE'S IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR
The complainant will be referred to the employee's immediate supervisor to discuss the concern and attempt to resolve the matter. If not satisfactorily resolved, then;
- COMPLAINANT AND SUPERINTENDENT/CONTROLLER OF PLANT**
The complainant will be referred to the appropriate Superintendent or Controller of Plant to discuss the concern and attempt to resolve the matter. If not satisfactorily resolved, then;
- COMPLAINANT AND DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**
The complainant will be referred to the Director of Education for consideration of the complaint and the decisions made by supervisory staff of the Board. If not satisfactorily resolved, then;
- APPEAL TO THE BOARD**
A complainant may submit a written request to the Chairperson of the Board to delegate to the In-Camera Meeting of the Board if not satisfied with the decision of the Director of Education. The delegation request will follow Board By-Law Section 14 subsection B through J. The complainant will be advised in writing, unless otherwise advised by Board legal counsel, of any decisions taken by the Board in relation to the complaint.

TRUSTEES

Kathy Burtnik	St. Catharines	Home Phone 905.935.5564
Maurice Charbonneau	St. Catharines	905.687.3942
Frank Fera	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	905.374.8129
Fr. Paul MacNeil	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	905.933.9386
Ed Nieuwesteeg	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	905.354.3712
Ted O'Leary	Welland	905.732.7696
Dino Sicoli	Lakeshore	905.835.8177
Pat Vernal	Thorold/Merritton	905.227.5806
Jade Bilodeau	Student Trustee	
Madison McKinney	Student Trustee	

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

John Crocco	Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer	220
Yolanda Baldasaro	Superintendent of Education	227
Ted Farrell	Superintendent of Education	230
Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells	Superintendent of Education	229
Frank Iannantuono	Superintendent of Education	231
Pat Rocca	Superintendent of Education	228
Giancarlo Vetrone	Superintendent of Business & Financial Services	232
Scott Whitwell	Controller of Facilities Services	252



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

P.O. Box 2064, Suite 1804
20 Eglinton Avenue West
Toronto, Ontario M4R 1K8
T. 416.932.9460 F. 416.932.9459
ocsta@ocsta.on.ca www.ocsta.on.ca

Beverley Eckensweiler, *President*
Michelle Griepsma, *Vice President*
Nick Milanetti, *Executive Director*

August 27, 2018

TO: Chairpersons
- Catholic District School Boards

CC: Directors of Education

FROM: Dan Duszczyszyn, Policy Advisor - Finance

RE: 2018: B14 Memo Education Funding Update

Please see below, the summary of points contained in the above referenced memo (see attached) issued by the Ministry of Education on Friday, August 24, 2018. This memo reflects the new government's stated commitments towards changes in curriculum (i.e. mathematics, autism, etc.) and as well as finding efficiencies in the sector.

- The majority of funding changes focus on moving funding from one area to another "**Refocused Initiatives**" (i.e. **from** Special Incidence Funding **to** Special Ed. Per Pupil Amount)
- EPO Funding associated with changes in curriculum decisions, refocused initiatives: (i.e. Renewed Math Strategy **to** Focusing on Fundamental Mathematics)
- Executive Compensation (\$1.7M GSN + \$4.1M EPO) freeze effective August 10th with associated funding withdrawal in 2018-19 GSN
- Trustee Honoraria (\$ 0.6M GSN) freeze with associated funding withdrawal in 2018-19 GSN
- New Teacher Induction Program funding (\$0.75M) redirected to other unspecified initiatives.
- Cash Management Strategy, previously announced in spring 2018, the strategy will not include boards' Proceeds of Disposition balances in the calculation of cash flow. * more details will be released on this in the next few weeks.

Notwithstanding the above noted updates in this memo perhaps the most important message to boards & unions is contained in the conclusion: "***The government believes that Ontario students can attain a high level of educational achievement without the previous year-over-year trend of budget inflation.... and we will be looking to our partners in the education sector to help find efficiencies***".

OCSTA will be discussing these changes with Ministry officials advocating boards' concerns about the impacts on student achievement and well-being.

2018: B14

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Secretary/Treasurers of School Authorities

FROM: Bruce Rodrigues
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Education

DATE: **August 24, 2018**

SUBJECT: **Update: Education Funding for 2018–19**

I am writing to provide you with an update about education funding for 2018–19. The information included in this memo will provide new information further to memos:

- 2018: B06 – Grants for Student Needs (GSN) for 2018-19;
- 2018: B07 – 2018-19 School Year Education Programs – Other (EPO) funding;
- 2018: SB05 – Cash Management Strategy;
- 2018: SB09 – Grants for Student Needs (GSN) 2018-19, Supports and Updates;
- 2018: SB10 – Special Education Funding in 2018-19; and
- 2018: SB13 – 2018-19 Funding Updates and Estimate Forms for Section 68 School Authorities

NOTICE:

Some of the elements and proposals set out in this memo can only take effect if certain regulations are made by the Minister of Education or Lieutenant Governor in Council under the *Education Act*. Such regulations have not yet been made. Therefore, the content of this memo should be considered to be subject to such regulations, if and when made.

Total funding for the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) is expected to remain at \$24.5 billion in 2018–19. The average per-pupil funding is projected to be approximately \$12,300. Please see Appendix A for projected board-by-board changes to 2018–19 GSN funding compared to previously announced GSN allocations (2018:B06).

The 2018–19 GSN continues to reflect funding for increased enrolment, ongoing investments to meet prior years' labour agreements, and regular updates to the Grants for Student Needs with the following changes noted in this memo.

Consistent with the government's announcement during the throne speech to reorder Ontario's finances, including a line-by-line review of government spending, all education funding, including what is contained in this memorandum, will be reviewed. As school boards begin planning for the 2019–20 school year, please keep in mind this review will be underway and may impact on-going GSN and/or Education Programs – Other (EPO) funding.

All related GSN release documents will be updated and available in the coming weeks including: the 2018–19 Education Funding Technical Paper; Grants for Student Needs projections for the 2018–19 School Year; 2018–19 Guide to the Grants for Student Needs; Special Education Funding Guidelines: Special Incidence Portion (SIP), 2018-19; and 2018-19 Education Funding: A Guide to the Special Education Grant. Further communication will be sent when these documents are available as well as any transfer payment information for EPO funding outlined in this memo, as well as the Education Finance Information System revised estimates forms.

A. New Initiatives and Program Adjustments for 2018–19

Special Education Per-Pupil Amount (\$28M)

The ministry is investing a projected \$28 million in the GSN to provide an increase to the Special Education Per-Pupil Amount Allocation. Funding will be allocated to school boards by increasing all three Special Education Per-Pupil Amount Allocation benchmarks to the following:

- \$1,007.08 per JK to Grade 3 student;
- \$773.57 per Grade 4 to 8 student; and
- \$510.73 per Grade 9 to 12 student.

This increase will support all students with special education needs including those with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other needs such as mental health needs.

All 72 boards will see an increase in their Special Education Per-Pupil Amount Allocation funding for 2018–19.

Indigenous Graduation Coaches (\$3M)

The ministry will be launching a \$3 million pilot project through EPO to provide intensive supports to Indigenous learners and their families with the goal of obtaining an Ontario Secondary School Diploma and successful transition into post-secondary education, training or labour market opportunities.

This approach would include an Indigenous graduation coach, whose life experience is deeply rooted in the Indigenous community and holds deep experiential connection to the culture. The coach would act as a mentor and advisor to Indigenous students, facilitating access and referrals to community and school resources to provide integrated support for student achievement and well-being. With the coach as the hub, and community and school resources as the spokes, this 'hub and spoke model' will ease the current fragmentation of service access and delivery to provide holistic and efficient supports to vulnerable students.

A district school board eligibility list will be released in the coming weeks.

Rapid Response Northern Schools Teams (RRNSTs) (\$0.8M)

The ministry is providing \$0.8 million through EPO to support the development of teams to respond to urgent requests made by remote First Nation communities for access to qualified staff that have skills such as early literacy and numeracy, language, and special education qualifications to keep schools open and support the academic success and well-being of students.

Teams will be composed of highly trained and experienced, board-employed, certified educators, administrators and related positions (e.g., social workers, Elders). These Rapid Response Northern Schools Teams would be able to mobilize within a short period of time and stay within the community until stabilization is secured or new teams can be deployed.

B. Re-focused Initiatives for 2018–19

Focusing on Fundamental Mathematics (\$55M)

The ministry is replacing the previously announced \$55 million EPO funding: Renewed Math Strategy with the Focusing on Fundamental Mathematics EPO.

The funding will allow boards to hire mathematics facilitators and leads at the board and school levels for math-related training and support dedicated to teaching fundamental math skills. The funding will also allow boards to provide release-time for educators to participate in training and learning focused on fundamental mathematics.

Supporting Students: Career Counselling, Student Mental Health and Well-being (\$46M)

The ministry is maintaining the projected \$46 million through the GSN (formerly Preparing for Success in High School) in elementary guidance benchmarks; however, school boards have greater flexibility in using this funding to focus on ensuring students and parents are better informed about future options for post-secondary, careers, apprenticeships or trades, and to ensure students have the supports they need to succeed.

Students, parents, educators and stakeholders have indicated that current supports are not sufficient to help students and families make these critical, and often stressful, decisions.

It is important to note that this funding, while generated through Grades 7 and 8 enrolment, can now be used at school boards' discretion to support career counselling as well as student well-being in either the elementary or secondary panel, and student mental health in keeping with the boards' mental health strategy.

Expanded Role for Multi-Disciplinary Teams to Include Support for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Other Special Education Needs (\$52M)

The \$52 million GSN investment, announced in the 2018–19 GSN memo (2018:B06), for Special Education Multi-Disciplinary Teams and other staffing resources will be

refocused and expanded to include supports for students with special education needs including those with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other needs such as mental health. Autism is the fastest growing exceptionality in Ontario's publicly funded school system. Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder have a broad range of complex needs and would benefit from increased access to professionals in schools.

This funding continues to support school boards in hiring multi-disciplinary teams which could include Speech-Language Pathologists, Psychologists, Social Workers, Behaviour Experts and others, as appropriate, based on local needs to support all students with special education needs, including those with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other needs such as mental health. The staffing requirements for this funding are unchanged.

C. Efficiencies and Redistributions for 2018–19

Special Incidence Portion (SIP) (\$28M)

The Special Incidence Portion maximum claim amount will be \$27,405, rather than the \$38,016 announced in 2018: B06. Savings incurred from this adjustment will be reinvested into the Special Education Per-Pupil Amount Allocation funding announced earlier in this memo.

New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP) (\$0.75M)

The previously announced New Teacher Induction Program increase of \$0.75M has been re-directed to other initiatives. However, school boards retain the flexibility to offer the expanded program to long-term occasional teachers in positions of 80 days or more, as well as supporting any new teacher who falls outside of the New Teacher Induction Program required definition within their first five (5) years of employment.

Trustee Honoraria (\$0.6M)

Compensation adjustments are being suspended until the new government can conduct a review and put in place an appropriate expenditure management strategy. As a result, the ministry will not be increasing the base amount for the school board trustees' honorarium as announced in the 2018–19 GSN memo (2018:B06).

The base amount for district school board trustees will remain at \$5,900. The ministry may review trustee honoraria in the future.

In addition, the ministry will not be providing the trustees of Section 68 School Authorities an honorarium as announced in the 2018–19 Section 68 SB Memo (2018: SB13).

Executive Compensation (\$1.7M GSN and \$4.1M EPO)

The previously announced GSN and EPO funding to support executive compensation increases in the 2018-19 school year has been suspended. The increases introduced in 2017-18 will continue to be provided on an ongoing basis as these increases are now built into school board cost structures.

Adjustments for 2018-19 will no longer be provided through EPO funding or the 2018–19 GSN, through the Senior Administration benchmark for salaries and benefits. As a result, this benchmark will decrease from \$170,430.45 to \$167,912.27.

Cash Management Strategy – Proceeds of Disposition

In memorandum 2018:B05, the ministry communicated its updated operating cash flow policy and procedures to reduce the associated borrowing costs currently incurred by the Province and to more closely align with the Ontario Public Service cash management directive. The ministry is expanding the cash management strategy to apply to Proceeds of Disposition balances while recognizing the school boards’ needs for renewal and other capital projects. School boards’ funding entitlements will not be affected by this change. Further details on this policy will be released in the coming weeks.

D. Monthly Payments / Reporting

Cash flow payments will continue to flow based on the submitted school boards’ 2018–19 estimates starting in September. Isolate boards 2018–19 cash flow will be based on the 2017–18 estimates submission until the 2018–19 estimates forms are issued, submitted by the isolate boards and reviewed by the ministry.

As noted earlier in this memo, district school boards will be expected to update their budgets to reflect the changes outlined in this memo through the revised estimates submission process. Payments will be revised upon the review of the submitted revised estimates by the ministry.

E. Information Resources

If you require further information, please contact:

Subject	Contact	Telephone and email
Executive Compensation	Cheri Hayward	(416) 327-7503 cheri.hayward@ontario.ca
Financial Accountability and Reporting Requirements	Med Ahmadoun	(416) 326-0201 med.ahmadoun@ontario.ca
Indigenous Education	Taunya Paquette	(416) 314-5739 taunya.paquette@ontario.ca
Operating Funding	Paul Duffy	(416) 325-2035 paul.duffy@ontario.ca
Special Education	Julie Williams	(416) 325-2889 julie.williams@ontario.ca
Student Achievement	Marg Connor	(416) 325-2564 marg.connor@ontario.ca

General questions regarding the updated 2018–19 Grants for Student Needs can be emailed to: EDULABFINANCE@ontario.ca.

Conclusion

The government believes that Ontario students can attain a high level of educational achievement without the previous year-over-year trend of budget inflation. Ontario's government for the people is committed to improving accountability and making efficient and effective use of taxpayer dollars — and we will be looking to our partners in the education sector to help find efficiencies.

Original signed by

Bruce Rodrigues
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Education

cc: School business officials

Appendix A: 2018-19 GSN Impacts

Board Name	Efficiencies and Redistributions for Special Incidence Portion (\$28M)	Special Education Per-Pupil Amount (SEPPA) (\$28M)	SEPPA DEA Impact (\$0.05M)	Efficiencies and Redistributions for NTIP Investment (\$0.75M)	Efficiencies and Redistributions for Trustee Honorarium Investment (\$0.3M)	Efficiencies and Redistributions for Executive Compensation (\$1.7M)
DSB Ontario North East	(241,762)	86,924	-	(2,281)	(4,400)	(18,821)
Algoma DSB	(456,666)	123,275	1,783	(1,203)	(4,400)	(19,266)
Rainbow DSB	(1,493,400)	170,588	4,629	(4,774)	(3,600)	(20,029)
Near North DSB	(332,177)	131,532	1,817	(4,591)	(3,600)	(16,711)
Keewatin-Patricia DSB	(80,576)	69,265	-	(3,330)	(4,400)	(20,705)
Rainy River DSB	-	30,253	436	(1,039)	(2,800)	(14,129)
Lakehead DSB	(294,750)	119,068	662	(3,349)	(3,200)	(16,995)
Superior-Greenstone DSB	-	16,023	635	(731)	(3,600)	(13,154)
Bluewater DSB	(135,192)	232,307	-	(9,528)	(4,000)	(17,735)
Avon Maitland DSB	(10,611)	208,322	848	(1,867)	(3,600)	(21,745)
Greater Essex County DSB	(17,720)	492,059	6,336	(3,609)	(4,000)	(24,028)
Lambton Kent DSB	(40,410)	293,476	1,304	(5,361)	(4,400)	(19,073)
Thames Valley DSB	(318,330)	1,090,927	-	(39,709)	(5,200)	(39,995)
Toronto DSB	(1,835,703)	3,449,052	-	(92,410)	(8,800)	(105,883)
Durham DSB	(1,168,439)	988,812	-	(34,560)	(4,400)	(36,004)
Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB	(432,300)	454,926	-	(9,614)	(4,400)	(23,092)
Trillium Lakelands DSB	(186,675)	222,323	2,980	(2,675)	(3,600)	(19,277)
York Region DSB	(870,102)	1,701,004	-	(34,868)	(4,800)	(55,797)
Simcoe County DSB	(420,770)	729,428	-	(16,678)	(4,800)	(32,575)
Upper Grand DSB	(943,200)	482,030	-	(14,041)	(4,000)	(23,487)
Peel DSB	(3,057,239)	2,221,807	-	(35,349)	(4,800)	(72,692)
Halton DSB	(489,739)	895,397	-	(38,159)	(4,400)	(33,455)
Hamilton-Wentworth DSB	(354,615)	702,324	-	(16,659)	(4,400)	(29,135)
DSB of Niagara	(243,660)	511,623	-	(3,705)	(4,400)	(24,598)
Grand Erie DSB	(58,361)	357,678	1,111	(8,652)	(4,400)	(20,707)
Waterloo Region DSB	(46,512)	889,463	-	(18,218)	(4,400)	(33,704)
Ottawa-Carleton DSB	(903,900)	1,005,807	-	(38,323)	(4,800)	(38,673)
Upper Canada DSB	(108,432)	362,222	-	(6,823)	(4,400)	(23,216)
Limestone DSB	(157,200)	266,371	-	(2,541)	(3,600)	(19,282)
Renfrew County DSB	(196,500)	123,386	-	(1,521)	(3,200)	(15,970)
Hastings and Prince Edward DSB	(58,950)	207,682	-	(3,003)	(4,000)	(17,773)
Northeastern Catholic DSB	(19,650)	32,233	174	(173)	(3,600)	(14,096)
Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic DSB	(396,820)	34,704	658	(991)	(2,800)	(12,675)
Huron-Superior Catholic DSB	(707,400)	63,753	342	(597)	(4,000)	(17,026)
Sudbury Catholic DSB	(314,400)	82,962	-	(895)	(2,400)	(14,597)
Northwest Catholic DSB	-	20,581	-	(1,213)	(3,600)	(14,096)
Kenora Catholic DSB	(21,222)	18,298	579	(529)	(2,800)	(13,464)
Thunder Bay Catholic DSB	(753,264)	105,449	413	(1,367)	(2,800)	(15,545)
Superior North Catholic DSB	-	9,863	430	(1,011)	(3,600)	(17,511)

Board Name	Efficiencies and Redistributions for Special Incidence Portion (\$28M)	Special Education Per-Pupil Amount (SEPPA) (\$28M)	SEPPA DEA Impact (\$0.05M)	Efficiencies and Redistributions for NTIP Investment (\$0.75M)	Efficiencies and Redistributions for Trustee Honorarium Investment (\$0.3M)	Efficiencies and Redistributions for Executive Compensation (\$1.7M)
Bruce-Grey Catholic DSB	(31,833)	59,533	-	(3,638)	(2,800)	(18,336)
Huron-Perth Catholic DSB	-	64,110	-	(2,079)	(2,000)	(18,262)
Windsor-Essex Catholic DSB	(21,222)	269,017	3,611	(2,435)	(3,600)	(18,360)
London District Catholic School Board	(127,045)	276,237	-	(8,036)	(3,200)	(23,346)
St. Clair Catholic DSB	-	122,789	-	(3,609)	(2,800)	(19,595)
Toronto Catholic DSB	(854,199)	1,263,977	-	(36,417)	(4,800)	(43,709)
Peterborough V N C Catholic DSB	(661,419)	211,453	-	(4,899)	(2,800)	(16,827)
York Catholic DSB	(825,300)	713,696	17,373	(28,304)	(4,000)	(34,351)
Dufferin-Peel Catholic DSB	(817,047)	1,074,540	-	(25,686)	(4,400)	(40,000)
Simcoe Muskoka Catholic DSB	(167,025)	297,831	-	(2,714)	(3,200)	(20,178)
Durham Catholic DSB	(746,700)	293,461	-	(4,571)	(3,200)	(23,720)
Halton Catholic DSB	(510,900)	480,880	-	(18,170)	(4,400)	(28,426)
Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic DSB	(440,799)	397,096	-	(7,045)	(3,600)	(21,710)
Wellington Catholic DSB	(106,110)	108,138	1,346	(1,896)	(2,400)	(19,287)
Waterloo Catholic DSB	(44,488)	322,597	-	(11,058)	(3,600)	(19,344)
Niagara Catholic DSB	(47,160)	287,141	6,053	(2,165)	(3,200)	(18,853)
Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic DSB	-	136,754	-	(4,725)	(2,400)	(15,284)
Catholic DSB of Eastern Ontario	(667,081)	174,233	1,248	(1,222)	(2,800)	(17,278)
Ottawa Catholic DSB	(490,189)	590,097	-	(15,928)	(4,000)	(26,464)
Renfrew County Catholic DSB	-	71,795	-	(1,290)	(2,800)	(13,865)
Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic DSB	(235,800)	160,931	-	(5,794)	(4,000)	(17,085)
CSD du Nord-Est de l'Ontario	(379,183)	33,503	-	(2,021)	(4,800)	(15,481)
CSD du Grand Nord de l'Ontario	(157,751)	35,853	-	(1,136)	(4,800)	(15,377)
Conseil scolaire Viamonde	(98,250)	185,165	-	(16,380)	(4,800)	(25,776)
CSD des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario	-	229,772	-	(13,108)	(4,800)	(19,980)
CSD catholique des Grandes Rivières	(629,234)	82,582	-	(635)	(4,000)	(17,827)
CSD catholique Franco-Nord	(615,438)	39,433	-	(885)	(2,400)	(13,208)
CSD catholique du Nouvel-Ontario	(392,607)	95,510	-	(3,734)	(4,800)	(19,621)
CSD catholique des Aurores boréales	(13,126)	12,153	-	(1,713)	(4,800)	(18,520)
CS catholique Providence	-	149,163	-	(8,402)	(4,400)	(24,257)
CS catholique MonAvenir	(393,000)	253,285	-	(18,613)	(4,800)	(26,532)
CSD catholique de l'Est ontarien	(839,055)	144,557	-	(4,648)	(3,200)	(15,514)
CSD catholique du Centre-Est de l'Ontario	(737,661)	358,310	-	(21,077)	(4,400)	(20,424)

- Does not include impacts from EPO or School Authorities
- Figures may not add due to rounding



NIAGARA CATHOLIC SUMMER CAMP 2018

Niagara Catholic Summer Camp 2018 is an *integrated* summer program that involves campers participating in a variety of activities themed around life skills, pathways planning, active living and general interests infused with lessons in literacy and numeracy. From July 4th to August 3rd, 2018, Summer Camp 2018 offered 336 students the opportunity to participate in a program that included the following modules and activities rotating at all sites listed below:

Modules:

- **Home Sweet Home** - Develop skills you need to be handy around the house. Learn how to read and follow instructions, algorithms, general assembly, fixing and maintenance, home budgeting, sewing and crafts.
- **Master Chef** - Have fun creating nutritious and popular meals and snacks with emphasis on reading instructions, measurement, ratio, proportions and counting. Learn about local produce, nutrition, health and wellness, gardening and safe food practices, with support from Healthy Kids Community Challenge Niagara.
- **Nuts and Bolts** - Learn woodworking and tool basics. Design and build large and small projects, read blueprints/ diagrams with emphasis on measurement, scale, angles and calculation. Build confidence and motor skills with the use of hand and small power tools.
- **On the Move** - Learn about common and alternative transportation and energy sources while focusing on mileage, consumption and power. Calculate numbers regarding travel and distance and utilize maps and guides to “travel” Canada and the world.
- **Robotics** - Explore VEX and build a robot. Sharpen your science, technology, engineering and math skills working both independently and as a group on simple machines, motion, sensors and computer programming.
- **General Camp Physical Education/ Activities** (with YMCA consultation)
- **Links for Greener Learning Environmental Activities**

Six sites across the Niagara Region:

1. Fort Erie - Our Lady of Victory Catholic Elementary School
2. Grimsby - Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School
3. Niagara Falls - Saint Michael Catholic High School
4. Port Colborne - Lakeshore Catholic High School
5. St. Catharines - Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School
6. Welland - Notre Dame College School

HIGHLIGHTS

- Full day camp with hours of operation Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., with bus transportation provided at various stops in each city
- Combination of fee for service (\$175 per week) and subsidized campers (CODE Summer Learning Program, OFIP Funding) used to fund camp experience
- Alignment with Continuing Education Summer School Program provided access and support of Summer School Principal and site Vice-Principals
- Camps to support English Language Learners, French Immersion students and students with Special Education needs operated within the general camp structure

Appendix D

- Literacy and numeracy instruction infused through life skills modules (Home Sweet Home, Nuts and Bolts, On the Move, Robotics, Master Chef) and traditional camp activities (physical activity, games, leadership, cultural lessons, healthy living)
- Each site staffed by Camp Teacher, Camp Counsellor and Assistant Camp Counsellor

Jennifer Pirosko, Coordinator - Student Success, will provide an overview of this year's Niagara Catholic Summer Camp 2018 program at the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: THE PROVISIONS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS
AND SERVICES – SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN**

The Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services – Special Education Plan
report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 11, 2018



**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

**THE PROVISIONS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND
SERVICES – SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As a follow up to the June 12, 2018 Report to the Board, The Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services – Special Education Plan, *Building Bridges to Services 2018 and Beyond* will be presented to the Board of Trustees and the Special Education Advisory Committee in the fall of each school year.

The plan is posted on the Board website, www.niagaracatholic.ca and can be viewed by accessing the following tabs: Programs/Special Education/Special Education Plan.

The Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services – Special Education Plan report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education
Presented by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Date: September 11, 2018

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: NIAGARA COMPLIANCE AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board continues as a joint participant in the Niagara Compliance Audit Committee;

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to the Niagara Catholic District School Board the approval the updated Terms of Reference, as established and updated (*Appendix I*);

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to the Niagara Catholic District School Board that the Secretary of the Board be delegated the authority to appoint members to the Niagara Compliance Audit Committee.

Prepared by: Jennifer Pellegrini, Communications Officer, Board and Corporate Services

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 11, 2018



REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

NIAGARA COMPLIANCE AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Niagara Compliance Audit Committee

Niagara Catholic and our co-terminus district school boards have remained a part of the Niagara Compliance Audit Committee (the Committee) since its creation in 2010. The legislative changes to the Act require the Committee to update its terms of reference to include provisions for registered third-party advertisers (local responsibility), over-contributor reports from the Clerk/Secretary and other housekeeping improvements. The updated Terms of Reference, which have been reviewed and approved by the Area Clerks Election Task Force, are attached as Appendix 1.

Key Facts

- The *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* (known as *The Act*), requires municipalities and local school boards to establish a Compliance Audit Committee prior to October 1st of an election year.
- A qualified elector, who has reasonable grounds to believe that a candidate or a registered third-party advertiser has violated the campaign finance provisions of the Act may apply to the Compliance Audit Committee for a compliance audit.
- In 2010, the Regional Municipality of Niagara, the Local Area Municipalities (LAMS), Niagara Catholic and our co-terminus boards (known as the *Joint Participants*) created a joint Niagara Compliance Committee (known as the *Committee*), under identical terms of reference.
- Legislative changes to the Act require an update to the terms of reference.

The Niagara Compliance Audit Committee

- The Committee shall be composed for no fewer than three and no more than seven members. Employees of local municipalities or school board, elected members of council or school board or registered third-party advertisers are ineligible to join the Committee.
- Preference shall be given to professionals with backgrounds in accounting, administration/public administration, auditing or law, in particular those familiar with municipal campaign finance rules, individuals with analytical and decision-making skills and previous experience as member of government boards, task forces or quasi-judicial bodies.
- The term of office for the Committee is concurrent with the term of school board or council.
- The council or local school board shall pay all costs in relation to the Committee's operation and activities.
- The Committee is tasked with the responsibility of considering all applications from eligible voters who reasonably believe that a candidate or registered third-party has contravened a section of the Act related to campaign finance, regardless of whether a financial statement has yet been filed under Section 88.25 of the Act.

- The Region will bear responsibility for processing and covering any costs for applications made against the Regional Chair or members of Regional Council. Local municipalities shall bear responsibility for registered third-party advertiser applications, and school boards are responsible for applications made against trustees.

The Compliance Audit Committee will:

- Receive applications;
- Determine whether to grant or reject an application;
- Appoint auditors as necessary;
- Receive the compliance audit report from the auditor and adjudicate whether it the claim indicates an apparent contravention of the Act, and whether legal proceedings should be commenced against the candidate or registered third party;
- Consider all reports submitted to the Clerk/Secretary where it appears that a contributor has exceeded the contribution limit; and
- Make decisions regarding any such report.

Joint Clerks/Secretaries:

- Act as secretary to the Compliance Audit Committee for responding municipality or school board;
- Establish stipends for the Committee;
- Recruit, appoint and train Committee members;
- Establish administrative practices and procedures;
- Ensure the process is in place to select an auditor;
- Ensure the Committee has access to legal representation; and
- Review and report on any contributor that may have exceeded campaign contribution limits.

Appendix 1 – Niagara Compliance Audit Committee Terms of Reference

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board continues as a joint participant in the Niagara Compliance Audit Committee;

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to the Niagara Catholic District School Board the approval the updated Terms of Reference, as established and updated (*Appendix 1*);

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to the Niagara Catholic District School Board that the Secretary of the Board be delegated the authority to appoint members to the Niagara Compliance Audit Committee.

Prepared by: Jennifer Pellegrini, Communications Officer, Board and Corporate Services

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 11, 2018

Terms of Reference for Niagara Compliance Audit Committee

1. Authority

1. Sections 88.33 and 88.35 of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (Act)* provides that an elector who is entitled to vote in an election and believes on reasonable grounds that a candidate or a registered third party has contravened a provision of the Act relating to election campaign finances may apply for a compliance audit of the candidate's or registered third party's campaign finances, even if the candidate has not filed a financial statement.
2. Sections 88.34 and 88.36 of the *Act* requires the clerk to review the contributions reported on the financial statements submitted by a candidate or registered third party and report any contraventions of any of the contribution limits to the compliance audit committee.
3. Section 88.37 of the *Act* requires the council or local board, to establish a compliance audit committee before October 1st in an election year for the purposes of Sections 88.33 to 88.36 of the *Act* relative to a possible contravention of the election campaign finance rules.

2. Establishment of Committee

1. A Joint Compliance Audit Committee is established with the potential participants as set out below, and shall be named the "Niagara Compliance Audit Committee" ("Committee"):

Local Area Municipalities": Town of Fort Erie, Town of Grimsby, Town of Lincoln, City of Niagara Falls, Town of Niagara on the Lake, Town of Pelham, City of Port Colborne, City of St. Catharines, City of Thorold, Township of Wainfleet, City of Welland and Township of West Lincoln

"Region": Regional Municipality of Niagara

"School Boards": District School Board of Niagara and Niagara Catholic District School Board.

2. The potential participants as set out in Section 1 above, shall each determine its participation in the Committee, the results of which shall form the "Joint Participants."
3. The Committee is a statutory committee.

3. References

1. The following municipal terms shall have a corresponding meaning for School Boards: municipality/board, Council/Board, Clerk/Secretary, responding municipality/responding board. Reference to Councils/Boards and Clerks shall be deemed to include those of the Joint Participants.

2. Responding municipality means the municipality/board responsible for the office, with the Region responsible for the offices of Regional Chair and Regional Councillors, municipalities responsible for the office of Mayor and Councillors/Aldermen and School Boards responsible for the office of trustees.
3. The local area municipalities shall receive the compliance audit applications on behalf of the Region and School Boards who will then immediately provide same to the Region or School Board to commence the compliance audit proceedings.

4. Term

1. The term of the Committee shall be concurrent with the term of Council. The term of appointment of the Committee members shall be December 1 of the regular election year to November 14 of the next regular election year, including any by-elections, or until such time as the applicable Committee has disposed of any remaining matters in accordance with the Act.

5. Duration

1. The Committee shall be established before October 1st in an election year.
2. The establishment of the Committee and terms of reference shall continue as set out herein from Council term to Council term unless determined otherwise by Council. However, the appointment of the members to the Committee shall be approved by each Council or delegated authority prior to October 1st in each election year.

6. Mandate

1. The mandate of the Committee is to hear and determine all applications filed in accordance with Sections 88.33 to 88.36 of the Act pursuant to the procedures established by the Clerks under the Act.
2. The powers and functions of the Committee as set out in Sections 88.33 to 88.36 of the Act include:
 - (a) within 30 days of receipt of a compliance audit application from an elector, review and decide whether it should be granted or rejected;
 - (b) if the application is granted, appoint an auditor licensed under the *Public Accounting Act, 2004* to conduct a compliance audit of the election campaign finances;
 - (c) receive the auditor's report;
 - (d) within 30 days of receipt of the auditor's report, consider the report and if the report concludes the candidate or registered third party appears to have contravened a provision of the Act relating to election campaign finances, decide whether legal proceedings against the candidate or registered third party for the apparent contravention shall be commenced, and
 - (e) within 30 days after receipt of a report from any participating municipality's Clerk of any apparent over-contributions to candidates or registered third parties, the

Committee shall consider the Clerk's report and decide whether legal proceedings against the contributor should be commenced.

7. Composition

1. The Committee shall be composed of a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of seven (7) members with membership drawn from the following stakeholder groups:
 - (a) accountants or auditors with experience in preparing or auditing the financial statements of municipal candidates;
 - (b) college or university professors with expertise in political science or local government administration;
 - (c) legal profession with experience in municipal law, municipal election law or administrative law;
 - (d) professionals who in the course of their duties are required to adhere to codes or standards of their profession which may be enforced by disciplinary tribunals, and
 - (e) other individuals with knowledge of the campaign finance rules of the Act.
2. The Committee shall not include,
 - (a) employees or officers of the Joint Participants;
 - (b) members of the Council or Board of the Joint Participants;
 - (c) any persons who are candidates in the election for which the Committee is established;
 - (d) any person who is or intends to volunteer or seek employment to assist any candidate or registered third party in the election for which the Committee is established, or
 - (e) any person who is a registered third party in any local area municipality.
3. When an application has been filed under Section 88.33 of the Act, only three (3) of the seven (7) members of the Committee shall comprise the Committee for the purposes of reviewing and considering the application.
4. The Clerk of the responding municipality shall determine the selection of the three (3) sitting members of the Committee from the pool of members based on availability.

8. Member Selection and Appointment

1. At a minimum, the recruitment of committee members shall be advertised in a local newspaper having general circulation and on the websites of the Joint Participants. Other recruitment measures may be initiated by the Clerks.
2. All persons interested in serving on the Committee shall complete an application form prescribed by the Clerks setting out their qualifications and experience.
3. A Nomination Committee consisting of a majority of the Clerks or designates, shall review the applications and submit a joint short list of candidates to the Councils/Boards, or Clerk as the delegated authority, for appointment approval.

4. In the event a vacancy occurs during the term, the municipality may rely on the remaining members to compose a Committee of three (3) members.

9. Selection Criteria

1. Without limiting the foregoing, members shall be selected on the basis of the following:
 - (a) demonstrated knowledge and understanding of municipal election campaign finance rules;
 - (b) proven analytical and decision-making skills;
 - (c) experience working on a committee, administrative tribunal, task force or similar setting;
 - (d) availability and willingness to attend meetings;
 - (e) excellent oral and written communication skills.

10. Chair of Committee

1. The Committee members shall select a Chair from amongst its three (3) sitting members at its first meeting.

11. Secretary to Committee

1. The Clerk of the responding municipality shall act as Secretary to the Committee.

12. Compensation

1. Members of the Committee shall receive a retention honorarium of \$300.00 including mileage, for attendance at a training session the costs of which shall be shared equally amongst the Joint Participants.
2. Members shall receive an honorarium of \$200.00 per meeting, plus mileage, at the rate of the responding municipality.

13. Costs and Funding

1. The responding municipality shall fund and pay all costs associated with the Committee, including the retention of an auditor and any costs incurred as a result of a decision of the Committee being challenged to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.
2. The Joint Participants shall equally share in the costs associated with advertising and training.

14. Auditor

1. The Area Clerks shall issue a joint RFP for auditor services and the Committee shall appoint an auditor.

15. Meetings

1. The Committee shall conduct its meetings in public but may deliberate in private.
2. The responding municipality's website shall be used to communicate meeting notices, agendas, minutes and decisions.
3. The Committee shall conduct its meetings in accordance with the responding municipality's Council Rules of Procedure By-law and the *Statutory Powers Procedures Act*, with modifications as deemed necessary.

16. Conflicts

1. Committee members shall comply with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and shall disclose a pecuniary interest to the Secretary in advance of any meeting, where possible or absent him/herself from meetings for the duration of the consideration of the application, discussion and voting with respect to the matter.
2. In the event a member discloses a pecuniary interest to the application in advance of the meeting, the Clerk of the responding municipality shall select another member to replace him/her on the Committee.
3. To avoid possible conflict of interest, an auditor or accountant appointed to the Committee must agree, in writing, not to undertake the audits or preparation of the financial statements of any candidate or registered third party seeking election to the Councils/Boards. Failure to adhere to this requirement shall result in the individual being removed from the Committee.
4. All Committee members shall agree, in writing, they will not work or volunteer for, or contribute to, any candidate or registered third party in any capacity in an election to the Councils/Boards. If upon being made aware that a member has participated or contributed to a campaign or registered third party, the Clerks or designates, by majority vote, shall remove the member from the roster or recommend to the Councils/Boards, or the delegated authority, to rescind the appointment to the Committee.

17. Practices and Procedures

1. The Clerk shall establish administrative practices and procedures for the Committee and shall carry out any other duties required under the *Act* to implement the Committee's decisions.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC – JUNE 19, 2018**



June 19, 2018

Trustees Approve Policies

During the June 12 Committee of the Whole Meeting, trustees approved six policies.

The updated *Electronic Communications Systems (Students) Policy (301.5)*, *Employee Code of Conduct & Ethics Policy (201.17)*, *Employee Hiring and Selection (Teachers) Policy (203.1)*, *Environmental Stewardship Policy (400.6)*, *Bottled Water Policy (701.5)* and *Voluntary and Confidential Self-Identification for First Nation, Metis and Inuit Students Policy (301.9)* are now available on the Board website under Board Policies.

2018-2019 School Year Calendar Approved

The Ministry of Education has approved Niagara Catholic's 2018-2019 school year calendar, and the Board has approved the calendar with 2018-2019 meeting dates.

To assist families as they look to plan into the coming year, the calendar is available [here](#).

Roof Repair Contract Awarded



Niagara Catholic trustees have authorized GRRC Roofing, the low compliant bidder in an open tender process, to complete roofing repairs to St. Denis Catholic Elementary School.

The project, which has an upset limit of \$540,000, is being funded by the School Condition Improvement Grant received from the Ministry of Education.

Niagara Catholic Student Choir Introduced to Board



The Niagara Catholic Student Choir was formed in April 2017 as an opportunity for students from all Catholic elementary schools to participate in an Honour Choir, representing the Board at various events. School principals and Itinerant Arts teachers selected choir members and their first performance was at the widely attended Festival of Families event in May 2017.

The Choir resumed last September under the leadership of elementary teachers Dr. Christina LeRose and Maria Arlia. Choir members represent Cardinal Newman, Notre Dame, St. Alfred, St. Anthony, St. Elizabeth, St. Mark, St. Peter, St. Theresa and St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary Schools. They rehearse monthly, and recently performed at the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast, Partners in Catholic Education Dinner and the Niagara Catholic Family Mass and Picnic.

During the June 19 Board Meeting, the choir performed two songs – *Shout to the Lord* and *Let it Be*.

100 Per Cent EcoSchools Certification for 2017-2018



Niagara Catholic Director of Education John Crocco is pleased to announce that the Board has received 100 per cent EcoSchools certification for the ninth consecutive year.

The Ontario EcoSchools program integrates environmental education, environmentally sound practices and environmentally responsible actions into a school or classroom setting. This creates a culture of conservation that is ingrained in students from their early years that they will practise at home and at school, and changes the habits of teaching and school staff. Niagara Catholic was the first school board in Ontario to receive 100 per cent EcoSchools certification in 2010, and is the only Board to have had nine years of consecutive Board-wide certification.

This year, Niagara Catholic doubled its number of Platinum certification with 10 schools achieving this outstanding rating, five schools received Platinum certification, 32 schools received Gold certification, 14 schools received Silver certification and one school received Bronze certification. This accomplishment was once again possible through the exceptional learning opportunities provided to students through our outstanding staff and community partnerships.

Father Paul MacNeil, Chair of the Board, offered his congratulations to students and staff for their ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship.

“Niagara Catholic students and staff have taken Pope Francis’s call to preserve the world God created for and entrusted to us to heart,” he said. *“If we could harness the power of their energy and enthusiasm we could rival the power of Niagara Falls, and that energy and enthusiasm spreads to all those around them. On behalf of the Board, congratulations to everyone who worked so hard toward this very impressive result in 2017-2018, and thank you to all of those who supported them.”*

Director Crocco said that this year's results are evidence of the Board's Green Niagara Catholic initiative. He praised students and staff for their commitment to environmental stewardship.

"Environmental stewardship is an integral extension of the culture of life that exists throughout Niagara Catholic," he said. "I'm extremely proud of all students and staff, whose continued commitment to the EcoSchools program, as part of our Green Niagara Catholic initiative, and has resulted not only in 100 per cent certification for a precedent-setting ninth straight year, but in a 100 per cent increase in the number of Platinum certifications."

Check the school standings [here](#).

Celebrating Excellence at Saint Paul Catholic High School



At every Board meeting, Niagara Catholic showcases one school as part of the School Excellence Program.

Saint Paul Catholic High School was in the spotlight for the final Board meeting of the 2017-2018 school year.

Principal Brad Johnstone spoke about the school's 36-year history, and its close relationship with sister-school Saint Michael Catholic High School across town. The school's motto, *In Hoc Signo Vincemus* (In this sign we conquer), is a reminder to students and staff to do their best to walk in the footsteps of Jesus every day.

Principal Johnstone spoke about school's tradition of academic, athletic and artistic excellence, and about the close tie between the school and the Ste. Croix de Milo School in Haiti, which Patriots support each year during the Annual Pilgrimage. He also spoke about the excitement among students and staff when the new turf field was blessed at the school in October.

Prior to the choir performing, Principal Johnstone spoke about the school's focus on physical, mental and spiritual well-being, praised students who represented Saint Paul at the Skills Canada competition, and showed a short video depicting a day in the life of Saint Paul.

Kids Helping Kids Raises \$29,000 for Niagara Children's Centre



Every year since 1998, Niagara Catholic has raised funds to support the Niagara Children's Centre. In its 20th year, students raised \$29,287.69 through a variety of events and activities during the week of February 12-16, Kids Helping Kids Week.

Scott Canter, a Grade 6 student at St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School who has benefitted from the programs offered by the Centre, made the presentation to Oksana Fisher, Chief Executive Officer (left). Joining them in the photo are Superintendent of Education Pat Rocca, Director of Education John Crocco and Chair of the Board Father Paul MacNeil.

In addition to doing fun activities during Kids Helping Kids Week to raise funds, students also learned about the way the Centre assists many students in the Board.

Good News!

If it's been a while since you visited our Good News section of this website, be sure to check to see what you've missed! Check it out to learn about our [students who represented the Board at the provincial level with their history projects](#), and about [Gavin Gascon](#), a student from St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School, who recently won a city-wide logo contest. While you're there, be sure to look through photos of some pretty adorable tiny teachers from the [Roots of Empathy celebration](#) and scenes from our [Retirement and Service Recognition Celebration](#).

Follow us!

To ensure you stay connected with Niagara Catholic news and events, please be sure to like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), and check our website often for updates and breaking news. It's the best way to stay in the know, especially now that winter is here! If you like what you see online – tell your friends and have them like or follow Niagara Catholic, too!

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
CALENDAR OF EVENTS SEPTEMBER 2018**



SEPTEMBER 2018

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WELCOME

BACK TO SCHOOL

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4 First Day of School	5 SEAC Meeting	6 NCPIC Meeting	7	8
9	10	11 SAL Meeting CW Meeting	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education Golf Tournament	20	21	22
23	24	25 Policy Committee Board Meeting	26	27	28 Terry Fox School Run	29
30						

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS
JUNE 22, 2018
JULY 13, 2018
JULY 20, 2018
JULY 27, 2018
AUGUST 3, 2018
AUGUST 10, 2018
AUGUST 17, 2018
AUGUST 24, 2018
SEPTEMBER 7, 2018**

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ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

 enterprisecanada.com/ontario-legislative-highlights-june-22

June 22, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

SPIRIT OF 76 – It’s been a long time since Ontario’s Tories were in a celebratory mood at Queen’s Park, but that was certainly the case this week as Premier-designate **Doug Ford** convened the first meeting of his 76-member caucus. The sheer size of the gathering – the largest single caucus for any party since the previous PC government reduced the overall number of seats in the Assembly in 1999 – added to the feeling of jubilation, although at the same time it was a sobering tableau of the multitude of interests and egos that will need to be managed. For now, all seem content to go about getting organized to form government (and, for the 50 rookie MPPs, even more basics like learning the layout of the building) and tackling the mountains of paperwork that come with starting the job. Offices are now being assigned, which is always a thorny task given the aforementioned egos – as in real estate, it’s all about location, location, location – but many will be temporary anyway, with new addresses allocated when cabinet minister and parliamentary assistant roles are doled out in late June and early July. The massive process of staffing up is also underway, with hundreds of applications pouring in from would-be political aides.

SELECTIVE SERVICE – One of Ford’s first moves after setting up shop was obvious, but nonetheless sent a chill through the civil service. Many in the bureaucracy were already stressed, scrambling to prepare briefing notes and bracing for the upheaval of a change in government. Then came the memo from Cabinet Secretary **Steve Orsini**, advising that until further notice public servants are in “caretaker” mode. That’s the actual word Orsini used in the directive issued to Deputy Ministers this week, telling senior bureaucrats that “only routine or very urgent business” should be conducted – in essence extending the hibernation of the election period – until the new government’s “expenditure management strategy” is in place. (Read: Ford’s team gets a look at the books.) Orsini’s memo also outlines additional spending restrictions – again routine for a transition but intensified by recognition of the Ford administration’s commitment to finding “efficiencies.” (Orsini’s memo doesn’t specifically use

that word, but it is a looming subtext.) Among the measures now in place are freezes on non-essential hiring and discretionary spending, curtailing international travel, cancellation of all paper-based newspaper and magazine subscriptions, and a ban on food at internal staff meetings. (Ford, according to his staff, personally bought the pizza for his caucus.)

BELLWETHER – Technically, civil servants are non-partisan, but they do have their own philosophies and priorities, which don't necessarily align with the government of the day. When the government of the day changes, it inevitably signals movement at the very top of the administrative food chain. This has already started, with word that Deputy Health Minister **Bob Bell** is leaving – reportedly not directly because of the new regime coming in, but in recognition that if he isn't planning to be around for the long-haul it's better to get out in the early stages of the new government. A massive reshuffling of deputies is expected to follow.

CAP HIT – Aside from putting a clamp on the civil service, Ford also took an aggressive policy step, announcing that his government's first order of business will be to cancel Ontario's cap-and-trade program for carbon emissions. As one of his few hardcore platform planks, this will come as no surprise, and Ford took the opportunity to repeat his election campaign rhetoric. "After 15 years of being gouged at the pumps, gouged by high taxes and cap-and-trade, the people of Ontario want relief," he thundered. While there are still question marks around *how* he will unscramble the egg – Ford has committed \$30 million to fighting a legal battle against a federal carbon tax filling the void, and acknowledged that companies who have purchased credits under the cap-and-trade system will need to be compensated – he was adamant that this policy will proceed. "In Ontario, the carbon taxes' days are numbered ... They're gone, they're done," he declared. Following these remarks, NDP MPP **Peter Tabuns** had the distinction of making his party's first public policy comment as the Official Opposition, chiding, "It was totally vague. He didn't answer any substantial questions." First-ever Green Party MPP **Mike Schreiner** also got his inaugural digs in, offering, "It is unfortunate to see Mr. Ford's sloganeering and back-of-the-napkin ideas continuing post-election."

FOR THE RECORD

"We look after you from birth to death and everything in between. Everything you can imagine that affects your life is included in this freeze. I hope it doesn't go on forever... Not filling a job is the same as a cut."

OPSEU President **Wayne "Smokey" Thomas**, not thrilled with the hiring freeze imposed on the public service, nor the prospect of the long-term thinning of government ranks through attrition.

"We spent approximately \$10 million to get seven seats. I think Liberals want an answer in that regard. They want us to take a look at the campaign and pre-campaign and look at where we made mistakes."

Interim Liberal Leader **John Fraser**, admitting that the party has some "soul-searching"

to do as it looks to rebuild after its election debacle.

“Doug Ford is my guy and I am telling you is going to be a great Premier. I think he is going to be so good, that he will one day be Prime Minister of Canada, too.”

Hockey legend **Don Cherry**, effusive in his praise of the Premier-designate. When asked if Cherry will be at the new government’s swearing-in on June 29, Ford said, “I sure hope so. He is being invited, no question.” (Notably, when Cherry attended the swearing-in of Doug’s late brother **Rob Ford** as Mayor of Toronto in 2010, he stole the show with his quote, “I’m wearing pink for all the pinkos out there that ride bicycles and everything. Put that in your pipe you left-wing kooks.”)

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ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

 enterprisecanada.com/ontario-legislative-highlights-july-13

July 13, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

SUMMER OF 42 – Ontario’s 42nd Parliament is now officially underway, following one of the shortest post-election transitions in the province’s history. That transition is still very much a work in progress, of course, but Premier **Doug Ford** felt compelled to convene the Legislature for an unusual summer sitting, barely a month after being elected and less than two weeks after the official swearing-in. Government House Leader **Todd Smith** suggested MPPs will meet for at least “a couple of weeks” before recessing.

SPEECH RECOGNITION – As always, the new session kicked off with a Speech from the Throne. And as always, it was mostly pretty vague. In recent decades Throne Speeches have tended to be more philosophical than practical, and given that Ford’s own election platform was short on policy details no-one thought this week’s speech would offer an elaborate blueprint. As read aloud by the Lieutenant-Governor, the speech reiterated most of Ford’s election promises – without specifics on when or how – such as a Commission of Inquiry into the financial practices of government, a line-by-line audit of all government spending, balancing the budget on a “responsible, modest and pragmatic” timetable, implementing a back-to-basics math curriculum, and enabling beer and wine sales in corner stores – all underscored by the now ubiquitous “Government for the People” mantra.

PRIORITY POSTS – Ford could have waited to bring back the House, as most new administrations do, except for one pressing piece of business: the months-long strike by staff at York University. Back-to-work legislation requires legislators, hence the quick launch of the new parliament. While they’re there, Ford’s Tories opted to add two other matters requiring what Smith called “urgent legislation” to the top of the agenda. Not surprisingly, killing the previous government’s cap-and-trade carbon emission program was right up there; somewhat less expected as a top priority was the cancellation of the White Pines Wind Project – a

controversial, almost-completed turbine farm in Prince Edward County (which happens to be in Smith's Eastern Ontario riding) that received regulatory approval during the election campaign and can only be undone through legislation.

ZAPPED – Ford didn't need the Legislature to check off two more election promises:

"I'm happy to say today the CEO and the board of Hydro One, they're gone. They're done. They're done. We're going to turn a new corner," Ford beamed as he announced that Hydro One CEO **Mayo Schmidt** is "retiring" (the government news release didn't put quotes around it, but everyone else did) and the giant utility's board will be completely changed over by mid-August. Ford had dubbed Schmidt the "Six Million Dollar Man" throughout the election campaign, deriding Hydro One for exorbitant salaries amidst soaring electricity rates. The Premier didn't hide his delight that Schmidt is voluntarily leaving with a \$400,000 obligatory payout and the board is following him out the door. "The severance was zero ... absolutely zero," Ford gushed, although it later emerged that Schmidt will walk away with about \$9 million in stock options.

Education Minister **Lisa Thompson** seemed less enthusiastic about announcing that sex education in the coming school year will be taught from a 20-year-old curriculum. But Ford's vow to kibosh the Liberals' updated sex-ed curriculum was one of his more high-profile election promises, so he could hardly abandon it now. Thompson insisted a review – including extensive consultation with parents – will be undertaken quickly, but in the meantime teachers will have to consult a 1998 guide for their lesson plans. Most educators don't expect the consultations to produce a dramatically different curriculum, but Ford only promised to revisit it – not necessarily revamp it.

THE REF – Presiding over the legislative proceedings will be **Ted Arnott**, who was elected Speaker of the Legislature in a secret ballot. This is the only time MPPs can vote without their choices being publicly recorded, creating intense – and intensively private – behind-the-scenes campaigning. The four candidates, all PC MPPs, reportedly pitched along the same lines, pledging fairness and respect. Arnott won over the majority on the first ballot (that's all we know – the actual vote count is guarded with Da Vinci Code secrecy) by touting his experience having "seen it from all sides" as a government, Opposition and Third Party MPP. Word is that Ford's advisers breathed a sigh of relief that **Randy Hillier** didn't win. Insiders say that Hillier, known as a maverick prone to butting heads with party brass, promised his fellow MPPs that as Speaker he would push for staff raises – clearly a thorny issue for the cost-conscious Fordites. Many new MPPs have voiced concerns about the challenges of recruiting good staff when the pay, which has been frozen for years, is so low. But apparently championing that issue wasn't enough to get Hillier the job. He reportedly finished a close second.

RUEBEN SANDWICH – Speaking of salaries, the \$348,000 Dr. **Rueben Devlin** will be earning annually had the new government briefly on the defensive. In these early days, Ford's Tories will naturally enjoy a grace period, largely given a free pass as voters, having made their choice, tune out of politics and wait to see how it all unfolds. But that won't stop Ford's opponents from trying to keep the honeymoon short, sowing the seeds of negative

perceptions. Such were the dynamics around the appointment of Devlin to head up the Premier's Council on Improving Healthcare and Ending Hallway Medicine. His bona fides in health care are indisputable, as an orthopedic surgeon and former hospital CEO. So too are his Conservative credentials, as a former party president and a senior member of Ford's transition team. The Tories have high hopes Devlin can make headway in solving hospital overcrowding, which justifies, in their minds, the large stipend. "We were very clear on the campaign trail we wanted to draw from his expertise on the health-care field," PC MPP **Lisa MacLeod** insisted. The Opposition NDP, however, jumped at the opportunity to treat the appointment as value signalling. "The theme of Ford's early days in office has been backroom deals to benefit his wealthy friends, and nothing to actually fix health care," chided NDP MPP **France Gélinas**.

NOBODY'S A CRITIC – While Ford's team expedited its transition process to facilitate the July legislative session, NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath** is taking a slower approach. She's decided to forgo naming a shadow cabinet until the fall. In the meantime, she'll assign Question Period duties ad hoc – in the absence of specific critic portfolios – for as long as the summer sitting lasts.

BREAKING THE RULES – This week's Throne Speech only mentioned it in passing, but cutting bureaucratic paperwork appears to be high on Ford's to-do list. Largely missed in the noise around the naming of his cabinet was a mini shuffle of Deputy Ministers, which saw veteran civil servant **Giles Gherson** bumped up to a Cabinet Office post, specifically as Deputy Minister of Red Tape and Regulatory Burden Reduction. Previous governments have similarly aimed at easing rules impacting businesses – then-Premier **Mike Harris** made much ado about the Red Tape Commission headed by the late **Frank Sheehan** – but never before has it been given such lofty authority.

An updated Ontario Legislative Highlights chart listing ministry contacts is now available for download. Click [Government Contact Chart](#).

MUNICIPAL BONDS – Provincial elections often feature a spate of municipal politicians looking to level up, and that was certainly true of the 2018 version just past. Now, the flow is going the other way, as some former MPPs try to get elected municipally this fall. Topping the list is ex-PC Leader **Patrick Brown**, who is running for Chair of Peel Region. He may have some high-profile competition, as former Liberal Finance Minister **Charles Sousa** is reportedly eyeing the same post. (Adding another level of intrigue, insiders say Sousa would have avid support from some Queen's Park Tories who harbour a lingering dislike of Brown from his stint at the party helm.) Sousa's former cabinet colleagues **Chris Ballard** and **Steven Del Duca** will also be on municipal ballots, running for Mayor of Aurora and York Region Chair, respectively. One of Del Duca's challengers is another former Liberal MPP, **Mario Racco**, who left Queen's Park in 2007. Also looking to make a comeback to elected office after years away are former Liberal MPP and Speaker **Steve Peters**, a one-time St. Thomas Mayor who is running to return as a local councillor, and ex-Liberal cabinet minister **George Smitherman**, who is running for Toronto City Council.

IN THE HOUSE

- Following the Throne Speech, Premier Ford introduced the traditional Bill 1, purely symbolic legislation that will never be heard from again.
- Real legislation will have to wait until next week, when the three government priority bills are expected to be introduced. Monday will also see the first Question Period with Horwath as Opposition Leader.

FOR THE RECORD

“A new day has dawned in Ontario. A day of prosperity and opportunity. For everyone. And help is here.”

Lieutenant-Governor **Elizabeth Dowdeswell**, concluding the Speech from the Throne.

“Ontarians don’t want to be greeted by a robot at the one privatized regional hospital left after all their local hospitals have been shut down.”

Ontario Health Coalition executive director **Natalie Mehra**, sounding an early alarm about hospital consolidation and/or privatization as the Ford government looks to rein in health-care costs.

“It struck me that I was sworn in on June 29 and it was June 30 last year that I had my accident. I feel very fortunate to be able to do this job and I really am very grateful to all the health-care professionals.”

Health Minister **Christine Elliott**, who spent more than a month in hospital after a fall that fractured her skull last year, marvelling that she is now in charge of the whole system.

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ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

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July 20, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

SOUND AND FURY – Within a couple of hours of the Legislature resuming this week the ostensible reason for the summer session had been checked off. An omnibus bill was introduced – the not-so-subtly titled *Urgent Priorities Act* – covering the three issues the new government feels require immediate legislation (see In The House, below). It must now wend its way through the parliamentary process before the House recesses for the rest of the summer. Without any other legislative agenda, that leaves a lot of time to fill with the MPPs assembled in one place – a void that has been filled, not surprisingly, with a lot of partisan rhetoric. Both **Doug Ford's** Tories and **Andrea Horwath's** NDP largely reverted to their campaign themes and styles, as each aims to lay the foundation for the next four years.

SETTLING OF ACCOUNTS – Premier Ford didn't need the Legislature to move forward with one of his key campaign promises, announcing the Independent Financial Commission of Inquiry to be headed up by former B.C. Premier **Gordon Campbell**. "Follow the money and shine a light on the darkest corners of the government," Ford instructed Campbell's team, reiterating his election mantra that "the books were cooked. The deficit numbers were false." At the same time Ford announced that his government is seeking bids for experts to conduct a line-by-line audit of government spending. "The Commission will give you the answers about what went wrong and the line-by-line audit will give you the answers on how we can fix it," he declared. Cue the Opposition New Democrats, who cited the short time-frame – Ford wants the reviews finished by the end of the summer – as indicative of an ulterior motive. "He's going to want a cover for cutting things," charged NDP MPP **Peter Tabuns**. "This could be the perfect cover."

SEX CRAZED – Keeping another election promise, revisiting the province's sex-ed curriculum, has been somewhat more fraught for Ford's Tories. As a mixture of sex and politics (with a side of religion thrown in) it's an issue that creates plenty of discomfort, as rookie Education

Minister **Lisa Thompson** quickly discovered. At first she announced that the 2015 curriculum update was to be scrapped, with teachers reverting to the 1998 version for the coming school year. This naturally triggered a maelstrom of outrage, as critics scoffed that the 20-year-old curriculum mentions the Internet – source of much of the angst around sexuality for today’s kids – exactly once. Thompson retreated, explaining that the newer curriculum would stay intact, except for the “developing sexual relations” part – i.e., how and when students are taught about body parts and sexual activities, which is what opponents, primarily social conservatives, complained about. “We know [students] need to learn about consent,” Thompson insisted. “We know they need to learn about cyber safety, we know they need to learn about gender identity and appreciation. But we also know that the former Liberal government’s consultation process was completely flawed.” Horwath wasn’t buying it, thundering, “Why is the Premier more focused on keeping social conservatives happy instead of keeping students, young people and queer youth safe?” Ford himself eventually took over the messaging, resurrecting his election stance by firing back at Horwath, “The Leader of the Opposition actually believes in the nanny state. They believe that the government knows best when it comes to our students, they know best when it comes to our children and they know best when it comes to our parents. We take a different approach.” Ford promised a new curriculum will emerge through “the largest consultation ever in Ontario’s history when it comes to education,” then dug in further, chiding that in developing the previous sex-ed update, “there was next to zero consultation. Out of 14 million people, 0.001% were consulted. That is disgusting.”

POLICE BRUTALITY – Sex-ed consultations apparently weren’t the only thing that “disgusted” Ford. In yet another example of the rapid descent into incivility, Horwath confronted Ford over the new government’s decision to delay new rules around police conduct. Again, the Premier blasted back with a reboot of his election rhetoric (in this case about “radical” NDP candidates), taunting, “unlike the Leader of the Opposition and unlike their party, who are police-haters, military-haters, veteran-haters, poppy-haters and—” he was cut off by interjections and asked by the Speaker to withdraw the remarks, which he did. But he followed up later by charging, “We didn’t have any MPP like the [NDP] member from Brampton East who walked around, running up and down the streets, with a sign that says, ‘eff the police.’ That is disgusting, absolutely disgusting.” The discourse deteriorated even further when Community Safety Minister **Michael Tibollo**, in response to an NDP question about police checks, noted that he had donned a bullet-proof vest for a ride-along with police in the high-crime Jane and Finch area of Toronto. Horwath called the comment “inexcusably racist,” fuming, “It is absolutely unacceptable to make an insinuation that going into a highly racialized community is going to necessitate the wearing of a bulletproof vest.”

QUESTION MARK – Ford still has to decide whether to grant the Liberals some form of official party status, which they lost by only winning seven seats in June. Without it they have very limited resources for staff. But they will at least have some presence in the daily Question Period. Speaker **Ted Arnott** has allotted one question per day for an independent MPP – without party status, the seven Liberals and Green Party Leader **Mike Schreiner** are technically unaffiliated, at least for parliamentary purposes – as long as they give prior notice.

They will also be allocated time during debates. Interim Liberal Leader **John Fraser** was first up in Question Period, using his slot to ask about climate change. Ditto for Schreiner when his turn came.

WASHINGTON BULLET – Economic Development Minister **Jim Wilson** made his first out-of-town foray this week, heading to Washington D.C. to champion Ontario’s auto industry to the U.S. Department of Commerce. On his way there, he might have passed **Monique Smith** on her way out. Smith, the former Liberal cabinet minister, had been Ontario’s trade representative in Washington, but was dismissed by Ford as one of his first orders of business.

DANDY ANDY – Boaters in Sarnia will now forever be reminded of a former PC leader, as they moor in the **Andrew S. Brandt** Marina at Sarnia Bay. Brandt, who was Mayor of Sarnia before serving as an MPP for nine years – including as interim PC leader from 1987-90 – and then led the revamp of the LCBO, helped secure provincial funding for the marina that now bears his name. Sarnia City Council voted unanimously this week to rename the facility after Brandt, then gave him a standing ovation.

IN THE HOUSE

- Energy, Northern Development and Mines Minister **Greg Rickford** introduced Bill 2, the *Urgent Priorities Act*, omnibus legislation in three parts: The *Back to Class Act* (York University), to end the strike by York University staff; the *White Pines Wind Project Termination Act* to stop an Eastern Ontario wind farm project; and the *Hydro One Accountability Act*, to constrain compensation for Hydro One executives.
- PC MPP **Sam Oosterhoff** had the distinction of introducing the first private member’s bill of the new session. Not that it has much chance of ever passing, his proposed *Compassionate Care Act* calls for a provincial framework to improve access to hospice palliative care.

FOR THE RECORD

“We agreed today to join forces and use every single tool at our disposal to challenge the federal government’s authority to arbitrarily impose a carbon tax on the people of Ontario and Saskatchewan. Carbon taxes make life unaffordable for families, and put thousands of jobs at risk. This type of taxation does nothing for the environment and hits people in the wallet in order to fund big government initiatives.”

Premier **Doug Ford**, just before stepping on to the national stage for the first time at the Council of the Federation meeting of provincial and territorial leaders in New Brunswick, issuing a joint statement with Saskatchewan Premier **Scott Moe**.

“Mr. Ford’s going to have to explain why his insiders are better than Kathleen Wynne’s insiders.”

NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath**, taking exception to Dr. **Reuben Devlin**, a former PC Party President, heading up the province’s hospital review task force.

“Maybe the Minister should sit down and have a nice cup of tea, calm down a little bit and maybe phone me and apologize for calling me unCanadian.”

Lisa MacLeod, the Ontario Minister responsible for Immigration, after a run-in with her federal counterpart **Ahmed Hussen**. MacLeod had walked out of a ministers’ meeting after disagreeing over how to treat asylum seekers.

“I think that was just politics during the election campaign. It’s always easier to blame the problem on your predecessor and assume all responsibility for any victory.”

Former PC Leader **Patrick Brown**, who is now running to be Chair of Peel Region, shrugging off the criticism of him from Ford and other Tories in an interview with the *Caledon Enterprise*.

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ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

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July 27, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

MUNICIPAL ACTIONS — Nominations for this fall's municipal election were to close this afternoon, but the Ford government is forcing a change of course. This morning the premier announced reforms to the *City of Toronto Act* and the *Municipal Act* that will impose sweeping changes on municipal governance in time for local elections that are only 87 days away. The keystone of the legislative shake-up is shaving the size of Toronto city council nearly in half, from 47 wards down to 25 that align with federal and provincial riding boundaries. Ford is also dismantling another measure from the **Kathleen Wynne** government, repealing the popular election of regional chairs in the regional municipalities of Peel, York, Niagara and Muskoka. To facilitate these changes, the nomination period will be re-opened and extended to mid-September. The impact of these changes will be significant. Many candidates were already in place and had been fundraising and spending money on their campaigns. And perhaps not incidentally, some of Ford's foes will be directly affected, and his supporters appeased:

- In Peel, deposed PC Leader **Patrick Brown** (Ford has not split hairs when talking about his feelings towards Brown's time as leader of the party) had filed papers to seek the chair's post, as had former Liberal MPP **Bob Delaney**.
- Former Liberal Transportation Minister **Steven Del Duca** was to be on the ballot for York's first popularly elected regional chair.
- Niagara had an interesting chair's race shaping up with a local mayor, a former local mayor and the incumbent squaring off, but from the time the previous government announced the post would be popularly elected many PC supporters were not enamoured with the idea. This includes **Tony Quirk**, a Niagara regional councillor and former Vice-President of the Tories, who noted on Facebook Thursday night that since the Wynne government made the initial change without consultation, he would be OK with reverting to the status quo.

Not surprisingly, the Opposition NDP quickly lined up against the move. Horwath issued a statement at 11 pm Thursday condemning the changes for a lack of consultation and absence during the election campaign as a priority for the PCs. “The actions we hear Mr. Ford plans to take not only mean less accountability and transparency at City Hall, but that each Torontonian will have less help and less access to their city councillor,” Horwath’s statement read. “And reports that Mr. Ford is cancelling elections in which his political enemies are running — elections for the chairs of the York and Peel regions — are deeply chilling.” Legislation facilitating the changes is expected to be introduced Monday.

SUMMER SCHOOL— The possibility of a summer vacation for Ontario’s legislators is looking slim. On Wednesday evening, Ford issued a statement indicating the Legislature could sit for another two to three weeks, which could potentially take the sitting into mid-August. How that will affect a fall session — which would traditionally convene shortly after Labour Day — is still uncertain as more details about Ford’s legislative calendar are as yet unavailable. However, Ford did say the extended session is required because, “Our government for the people still has legislation we hope to pass in the near future.” While the nature of the legislation was unspecified, it can be safe to assume he is referring to the *Cap and Trade Cancellation Act*, introduced by Environment, Conservation and Parks Minister **Rod Phillips** on Wednesday (see *In the House* below) and ...

SOMBRE MOMENT— In a rare showing in the Legislature, all four party leaders had an opportunity to address the members on Monday following the tragic shooting in Toronto’s Greektown that claimed the lives of two young people and injured 13 more. MPPs observed a moment of silence for the victims, and each leader took five minutes to express their thoughts, condolences for the victims and their families and appreciation for first responders. Liberal Leader **John Fraser** and Green Party Leader **Mike Schreiner** were tearing up as they spoke, and NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath**, after praising the work of police, paramedics and health-care workers, turned the floor over to MPP **Peter Tabuns**, who represents the area: “This morning is a very hard day for my community and for this entire city,” Tabuns said. “For people in my constituency, the Danforth is our home. It is the centre of our community. It’s where families enjoy their dinner together. It’s where couples go for a stroll on a summer evening.” Premier **Doug Ford** emphasized the need for law and order, with a touch of hope for the future. “What happened on Sunday night was despicable,” he said. “But I hope it is also a catalyst for all of us to come together — to protect our communities against this kind of outrageous violence.”

FIRST AMONG MINISTERS— Ford attended his first Council of the Federation meeting last week — the bi-annual meeting of Canadian premiers — in New Brunswick and certainly left his mark. As is fitting the largest province in the country, Ontario often sets a tone as the “big brother” of Confederation and one of the early priorities of the Ford government has become a priority of Canada’s Premiers. Ontario has been locked in a heated confrontation with the federal government over immigration and refugees, particularly at land border crossings. Incidentally, Canada’s Premiers ended their summer session with a communiqué that highlights this exact issue, which also happens to align with Ontario’s position, calling on

Ottawa to “provide full compensation to affected provinces for the costs incurred” as a result of pressures on shelters, housing, education, health care, language training and other support services. Ford’s government followed this up with a formal request of \$200 million from Ottawa to cover said costs (see *For The Record*).

WYNNE IN THE PARK— For the first time since losing the June 7 election, Wynne returned to Queen’s Park. The former Premier has been relatively quiet in recent weeks, toning down her social media presence — her Twitter activity since the election has been limited to a thank you note a week after the election, a post during Pride and a congratulatory note to a former staffer — and skipping the first two weeks of this rare summer session. But Wynne took her place among her Liberal colleagues on Monday — sitting beside Fraser — pressing her successor on the state of NAFTA talks. Wynne conceded to *The Toronto Star* that it is difficult for her to be sitting across the from government, but she still recognizes the importance of her role: “Somebody said this to me, but it’s what I really believe: there’s no bad seat in that House. There are only 124 of us. It is a huge honour.”

IN THE HOUSE

- The Ford government passed its first piece of legislation this week. The *Urgent Priorities Act*, an omnibus bill that cancelled renewable energy projects, gave the province veto power over Hydro One compensation and legislated an end to the 143-day strike at York University, was supported by the PCs, but voted against by the NDP, Liberals and Green Party.
- Phillips introduced the *Cap-and-Trade Cancellation Act*, which repeals the previous government’s *Climate Change Mitigation and Low-Carbon Economy Act, 2016*. The act also puts on Phillips’ shoulders the responsibility to prepare a new climate change plan, with progress reports and clear targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

For the current status of government legislation, click [Government Bills](#).

FOR THE RECORD

“If gay kids don’t know it’s OK to be gay, they are stressed, depressed and that can destroy their relationships with their friends and families. They need to know that being gay is normal. The hatred and lack of understanding is killing us.”

Gay activist **Carol Pasternak**, participating in a rally on the lawn of Queen’s Park calling for the government to restore a modern sexual education component of the health curriculum.

“What I’m simply asking is that they pay their bills. I would love a cheque.”

Community and Social Services Minister **Lisa MacLeod**, requesting the federal government pay Ontario \$200 million to cover cost of resettling asylum seekers who have illegally crossed the border into Canada.

“Among Ontario’s strengths are its reputation for fair dealing and respect for the rule of law. Many of the business leaders I represent are concerned that this hard-earned reputation is at risk.”

John Manley, President of the Business Council of Canada and former federal Liberal cabinet minister, urging the Ford government to reconsider its cancellation of 758 approved renewable energy projects in the province.

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ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

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August 3, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

QUESTION ... PERIOD! — It was a classic case of a he said-she said confrontation in the Legislature as the governing PCs and Opposition NDP shouted back and forth over an alleged racial insult incident on Tuesday. All decorum went out the window and Speaker **Ted Arnott** was unable to maintain any sense of order as Premier **Doug Ford** and NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath** exchanged verbal blows. Ford and the PCs allege NDP MPP **Gilles Bisson** was mocking the accent of PC MPP **Kaleed Rasheed**. Bisson strongly denied the accusation and is backed by Horwath, beside whom he sits in the House. The Tories decided they would refuse to answer any questions from the NDP until an apology was issued. The exchange — which prompted Tory House Leader **Todd Smith** to observe that the environment in the House is currently “very toxic” — temporarily took the focus off a series of contentious matters, but, given the frantic pace at which the Ford government is pushing its agenda, the diversion didn’t last long.

CHESS MOVES— Last week’s snap announcement to reduce the size of Toronto city council — and cancel elections for the regional chair in Peel, York, Niagara and Muskoka — was made official Monday when Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister **Steve Clark** presented the legislation to make it happen (see *In the House* below). With a large Tory majority, ultimate passage of the bill is just a matter of time, but discussion around the reforms dominated Question Period through the first half of the week. The swift action by the government on this matter is marking a shift in the approach the PC government takes towards municipal politics. The NDP has typically been more organized at the city level in Toronto, but Ford has effectively clipped the wings of the NDP in the city. Before Ford’s changes, Toronto council was slated to grow to 47 councillors, a move that would have doubled the wards in the downtown area from three to six. It was a reasonable assumption that the NDP were poised to win at least five of those. Ford has put the brakes on that.

PROMISE MADE, PROMISE BROKEN — The municipal debate was finally edged aside with another surprise announcement that the government was ending the province’s basic income pilot project. Critics lined up to denounce the move as short-sighted, cold-hearted and wasteful — and for those keeping score, it is also noted as the first broken promise of the Ford government, as they pledged during the campaign that they would not touch this social program. In addition to ending the pilot project — which was providing a base income to about 4,000 low-income people in Hamilton, Thunder Bay, Brantford and Lindsay — the government is scaling back a planned three per cent increase in social assistance rates to 1.5 per cent. As self-described champions of the impoverished, the NDP were near apoplectic with the announcement. “And this callous, mean-spirited premier sees this as a priority?” Horwath thundered. “Making poverty worse? Making life worse for families? Absolutely disgraceful. Shameful.” In making the cuts, Children Community and Social Services Minister **Lisa MacLeod** said the basic-income pilot was too expensive and not sustainable; she is now tasked with developing a new social assistance model for Ontario within 100 days.

NOT DONE YET— He may have fallen short in his bid to become the longest-serving MPP in Ontario history, but former Liberal cabinet minister **Jim Bradley** is not done with politics just yet. The 73-year-old Bradley was first elected as an MPP in 1977 and was a regular face at Queen’s Park until his party was swept from office on June 7. But despite finishing third in his St. Catharines riding, Bradley has registered as a candidate for one of the six seats St. Catharines has on Niagara regional council. Incidentally, one of the other candidates is **Sandie Bellows**, who represented the Tories in St. Catharines and bested Bradley’s numbers for second place behind winner NDP **Jennie Stevens**. It has been widely held in local political circles that Bradley’s longevity in office was a testament to his name and brand in the riding, and not his party — which should bode well for the veteran in a citywide municipal race. There are also rumours that, with Ford cancelling the popular election for the regional chair, some members of regional council will encourage Bradley to seek the appointment for the top political post in the region. No word from Bradley as to whether he is interested.

WHAT THE POETS ARE DOING— It’s rare that private members bills make it into law, but NDP MPP **Percy Hatfield** is taking a second shot at an effort to establish in Ontario an office of the Poet Laureate in memory of **Gord Downie**, the late lead singer of the iconic Canadian rock band The Tragically Hip. The *Poet Laureate of Ontario Act (in Memory of Gord Downie)*, 2018, would create a new officer of the Assembly, appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, to promote art and literacy in the province. Hatfield introduced a similar bill in the last term, but it died on the order paper when the session was prorogued. He is hopeful such a measure will get the support of all parties. “A Poet Laureate: Canada has one; other provinces have them,” Hatfield said. “Many municipalities in Ontario have them, including my city of Windsor. I think it’s appropriate and it’s past overdue.”

RUMOURS & RUMBLINGS

WARNING SHOTS

The rapid-fire pace at which the Ford government is moving is a clear indication that things at Queen's Park are not like they used to be. All previous assumptions, assumed processes and thoughts on how business is conducted are useless. It has also sent a mild panic through the ranks of parties and organizations that would regularly lobby the government. For them, it is a cautionary tale. The usual timeframes that folks may have expected are gone — witness the speed with which Ford altered the municipal elections in five municipalities. It means advocates will have to adjust how they approach the government; there is no time for complacency and no assumptions that just because something has always been done a certain way that it will continue to do so. Ford's hard push to get matters done is likely rooted in the recent history of the PC Party. Consider that since the beginning of the year, the PCs have seen their leader disgraced by scandal, resign, the internal structure of the party overhauled, financial books put back in order, a leadership contest hastily convened, Ford installed as leader, a new campaign team put in place and an ultimate victory on June 7 with a significant majority. The party accomplished what many thought could not be done, and party insiders believe that experience has the Tories firmly believing they can throw all normal assumptions out the window and still be successful.

PREVENTIVE PLAY

It is more than a whisper that there is a tinge of vengeance behind Ford's rapid dismantling of regional chair elections in four municipalities — his predecessor and a former Liberal cabinet minister were among the displaced candidates — and last-minute changes to the size and shape of Toronto City Council. It is also rumoured that Ford and his supporters were behind the aborted candidacy of **Blayne Lastman** to challenge **John Tory** for the Toronto mayor's office. Tory and Ford have never really seen eye-to-eye, and Ford was the primary challenger to Tory four years ago. What will be interesting to see is what Ford Nation does now. It is an unabashedly partisan group, which means they may have to swallow hard and get on board with Tory if only to ensure the mayor's chain of office does not end up around the neck of NDP sympathizer **Jennifer Keesmaat**.

IN THE HOUSE

Clark introduced the *Better Local Government Act*, which enacts amendments to the *City of Toronto Act*, the *Municipal Act* and the *Municipal Elections Act* to reduce the number of wards in Toronto, extend the nomination date for city council posts in Toronto and repeal the general election of the regional chair in Peel, York, Niagara and Muskoka regional municipalities.

FOR THE RECORD

“Maybe he's listening to too much Bruce Springsteen. He's born to run.”

NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath**, responding to former PC Leader **Patrick Brown** shifting gears and filing papers to run for Mayor of Brampton after Ford abruptly cancelled the

regional chair election in Peel where Brown had previously stated his intentions.

“There’s going to be less left-leaning politicians in the City of Toronto and that means it’s a great thing and it’s a great day for the taxpayer.”

Toronto City Councillor **Giorgio Mammoliti**, expressing his support for Ford’s reduction of the number of wards in the city while his fellow city councillors were voting to send a “strong message” to Ford about the cut, request a binding referendum on the issue and explore a court injunction to stop, or at least delay, the legislation.

“It’s like being back in university again where you’re there for the first few weeks of school and they’re just downloading all this information on you.”

Natural Resources and Forestry Minister **Jeff Yurek**, who is not only getting up to speed as a rookie cabinet minister and filling out his staff, but is also expected to provide leadership to 800 ministry staff as they battle the worst wildfire season Northern Ontario has ever seen.

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ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

 enterprisecanada.com/ontario-legislative-highlights-august-10

August 10, 2018

August 10, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

SUMMERY CONVICTION – When Premier **Doug Ford**'s brand-new government convened the Legislature just weeks after winning the June election, the expectation was that the rare summer sitting would be brief — basically long enough to pass back-to-work legislation ending the York University strike — and then the transition process would resume as everyone geared up for a more robust session in the fall. Now here it is mid-August and the Assembly is still very much assembled. Two government bills are working their way through the legislative process — one killing the province's cap-and-trade carbon pricing program, the other shrinking Toronto City Council — and it looks like MPPs will sit until those laws are on the books. Tory insiders say they hope it will all be sealed as early as next Tuesday, but even then any summer break is likely to be short. While there's no confirmation the House will resume as scheduled on September 10, word is Ford's Tories are compiling a heavy legislative agenda for the fall and will want to get on it ASAP.

BEER MUSCLE – Ford didn't need the Legislature to make good on his "buck-a-beer" election promise, cheerily announcing that the floor price for beer will be reduced from \$1.25 to \$1.00. This is almost entirely symbolic — brewers are not obligated to lower their prices — but Ford will happily take the symbolism, as it reinforces the consumer-focused affordability message that underpinned his successful campaign. Ford did offer some encouragement for brewers to pass on the savings, dangling special promotional considerations at LCBO outlets for brewers who play ball before Labour Day. What he did not say, however, was how and when beer and wine will be available in corner stores — another key campaign promise that will presumably be part of the legislative package coming this fall.

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT – One of the reasons the PCs have been able to come out guns blazing is their depth of experience at the staff level. It may be a rookie government, but it is certainly not a government of rookies, as senior staff are well-versed in the machinations of

government. That is entirely by design: insiders say most cabinet ministers' chiefs of staff were dictated by The Centre (a.k.a. the Premier's Office) and government experience was a prerequisite for getting the job. There is a relatively small pool of aides who have worked for a Conservative government, meaning that most were staff under Prime Minister **Stephen Harper** federally, plus a few from Alberta and Saskatchewan. Across the aisle, the NDP has little such experience in its ranks — **Michael Balagus**, Chief of Staff to party leader **Andrea Horwath**, is one of the few, having held senior posts with the NDP government in Manitoba — and the greenness is showing as they haven't been able to mount much resistance to the Ford agenda.

SEX APPEAL – One issue Horwath is pursuing with some confidence is the province's updated sex-ed curriculum, Ford's repeal of which continues to cause consternation among educators faced with using the 1998 version for the coming school year. This week opposition to the rollback swelled to include about 1,800 health-care professionals, who submitted a petition calling for the 2015 update to be reinstated, and a human rights challenge from parents of LGBTQ kids. That was Horwath's cue to once again champion the cause, railing against "the Premier's backroom deal with social conservatives" to revisit the curriculum. It's no secret that the previous Liberal government's internal polling showed that most Ontarians were onside with the updated curriculum, hence Horwath's eagerness to use it against Ford. Health Minister **Christine Elliott**, doing double duty as Deputy Premier, fended off Horwath's charge, essentially buying time as the Tories undertake a large-scale consultation on the issue. "The leader of the official opposition is presupposing what's going to be in the updated curriculum," Elliott responded during Question Period, adding to the sense that while Ford promised to review the curriculum, the updated update won't necessarily change all that much.

WEST COAST OFFENCE – Looks like Horwath will soon be losing a key ally, at least geographically. Federal NDP Leader **Jagmeet Singh**, who was Horwath's Deputy Leader when he was a Brampton MPP, has decided to run in a by-election in Burnaby, B.C. Singh has been seat-less since winning the national NDP leadership, and the Vancouver-area riding is being vacated by an NDP MP so it presents an enticing opportunity. Singh was a visible campaigner during last spring's Ontario election, appearing with Horwath at various events, and presumably she will return the favour during next year's federal campaign. But that participation has to be tempered somewhat when his home base is 4,000 kilometres away.

RUMOURS & RUMBLINGS

FIX THE SIX

Anyone following Toronto politics in the past decade knows there's no love lost between Doug Ford and **John Tory**, with the latter besting the former to become Toronto Mayor in 2014. But with Ford now ensconced in the Premier's Office and Tory running for re-election municipally, the dynamics may be changing. Much as they don't like Tory, those around Ford would be even more loath to see former Chief City Planner **Jennifer Keesmaat** in the Mayor's chair – especially given proposed PC legislation that would significantly increase the Mayor's powers.

Using the enemy-of-my-enemy-is-my-friend logic, Ford Nation could rally around Tory to foil Keesmaat's attempt to usurp him. Ford's team had reportedly been instrumental in speculation about **Blayne Lastman** running against Tory as a right-wing challenger. But with the decidedly left-leaning Keesmaat in the race the Fordites may suddenly find themselves cheering for Tory. However, even if they do end up supporting him, look for Ford's strategists to get behind a slate of preferred candidates for the other 24 council positions.

IN THE HOUSE

- No new government legislation was introduced this week.
- NDP House Leader **Gilles Bisson**, knowing the PC majority will push through its legislative agenda, did his best to hold up proceedings. It wasn't exactly filibustering, but Bisson chewed up time introducing no fewer than 13 private member's bills, each with a long, cumbersome title. His proposed legislation calls for analysis and zebra mussel counts in various waterways – and the title of each bill alphabetically lists those waterways, averaging about 160 words per title. To introduce each bill, Bisson read the long title – in English then repeated in French – with even more time taken up by recorded votes. None of this will deter the Tories, of course, but the irritation value was priceless.

FOR THE RECORD

“It's time to get serious about fighting guns and gangs. It's time to get serious about fighting gun violence – no more talk, no more grandstanding. Tell the bad guys out there, ‘Heads up, we're coming to get you.’ ”

Premier Ford, revelling in a tough-on-crime announcement – “sending a clear message to the thugs,” as he put it – of \$25-million for Toronto police.

“As a former Toronto city councillor, Premier Ford wants to improve fiscal efficiency in his hometown, and that's understandable. However, reducing the number of seats in council — while perhaps a strong symbol — is not an effective way to achieve this goal. In fact, it may grow the size of government, consume more taxpayer money and reduce democratic accountability to boot.”

Josef Filipowicz, a senior policy analyst at the Fraser Institute, cautioning against the Ford government's plan to shrink the size of Toronto council – a rare right-wing criticism, with most opposition coming from the left of the political spectrum.

“This is what we're dealing with and we should move on. You don't fight city hall. I guess you don't fight Queen's Park either.”

Toronto Councillor **Jim Karygiannis**, who supports the move to reduce the council, dismissing proposed legal action to thwart the provincial legislation as a waste of time.

“There will be a lengthy and compassionate runway.”

Children, Community and Social Services Minister **Lisa MacLeod**, amidst a backlash over scrapping the province’s basic income pilot project, insisting the wind-down will be done slowly.

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ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

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August 17, 2018

August 17, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID THIS SUMMER – For most of us, the last weeks of August signal the end of summer; for Ontario’s MPPs and their staff summer is just now beginning, after frenetic months of campaigning, transition and a five-week legislative session. Not that Premier **Doug Ford**’s new PC government is showing any signs of slowing down, but for now the Legislature has gone dark, freeing politicians to take a bit of a breather. Their final act before recessing was for the PC majority to pass legislation shrinking Toronto City Council and nixing the popular election of Regional Chairs in Peel, York, Niagara and Muskoka. This adds to a dizzying list of changes since Ford took office that included (deep breath): legislating an end to the York University strike, terminating a windfarm in Eastern Ontario, cancelling 758 renewable energy contracts, overhauling the Hydro One board, starting the process to scrap cap-and-trade emission pricing, ditching the province’s Chief Scientist and Chief Investment Officer, repealing the updated sex-ed curriculum, launching audits of government finances, delaying new rules on police conduct, aborting the pilot basic income project, halving a planned social assistance rate hike, halting the opening of new overdose prevention sites, dropping the minimum price for beer, giving Toronto police \$25 million more to fight crime, completely changing the way legalized cannabis will be sold and freezing public sector executive salaries. Much more is reportedly on the way, with the House due to reconvene on September 24 – a timetable that gives MPPs a longer respite, returning two weeks later than originally scheduled on the parliamentary calendar.

DOPE SCOPE – As noted above, the new government is radically changing the process around cannabis sales once recreational weed becomes legal in October. In a categorical repudiation of the previous Liberal government’s approach – something Ford’s Tories are clearly revelling in – the new system will be decidedly pro-business, with government assuming a purely regulatory role. Instead of replicating the LCBO model of government-run

retail outlets as the Liberals had planned, cannabis will temporarily be sold through the online Ontario Cannabis Store while Ford's PCs work out a private retail system. The online sales will satisfy the federal demand that cannabis be publicly available as of October 17, buying the Tories some time as they aim for an April 2019 launch of "tightly regulated" private stores.

HARD LIQUOR – With cannabis being sold by private retailers, speculation will undoubtedly heat up about whether booze sales will continue to be a government operation. Ford has not even hinted at an interest in privatizing the LCBO, but it is a long-standing aspiration among many Tories. (The previous PC government under **Mike Harris** pursued the idea, but left the LCBO in public hands after a makeover resulted in the shiny, well-stocked outlets we see today replacing Soviet-style wickets.) Whatever the future of the LCBO, it won't be **Ed Clark** running the agency. To no-one's surprise Clark, the former bank executive who was a senior advisor to ex-Premier **Kathleen Wynne**, is stepping down (being pushed?) as LCBO Chair, less than a year after taking the post – at a symbolic salary of \$1 a year. Clark was demonized by Ford during the election campaign, primarily for being an impetus behind the sale of Hydro One.

HEAD OF THE CLASS – Another familiar face around Queen's Park is also leaving, as Deputy Education Minister **Bruce Rodrigues** bids adieu after two years. He'll be replaced at the end of this month by **Nancy Naylor**, who is currently an Assistant Deputy in Health and Long-Term Care. ***An updated Ontario Legislative Highlights chart listing government contacts is available for download at [Government Contacts](#).***

MUNICIPAL BONDS – With the *Better Local Government Act* now on the province's books, the fight over the reduction in the number of Toronto councillors shifts from the Legislature to possible legal action. But Toronto is the one municipality that *won't* be on Ford's mind for much of next week, as he heads to Ottawa for the annual meeting of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. Toronto opted out of AMO years ago, so the city's tribulations won't be on the agenda (although they're sure to be a topic of conversation in the hallways). Some 440 other municipalities will be represented by nearly 2,000 delegates, and with civic elections on tap for this fall the atmosphere figures to be highly charged. Ford, NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath**, Interim Liberal Leader **John Fraser** and Green Party Leader **Mike Schreiner** are all scheduled to speak, and each will be joined by large contingents from their respective caucuses. (Well, Schreiner is his entire caucus. But this is a significant event for him, as his first major speech since becoming Ontario's first-ever Green MPP.)

WORKS FOR ME – Wynne's Liberals could almost always point to positive job figures during their administration, but that ultimately didn't much help their popularity, so Ford probably won't crow about the 61,000 new jobs in Ontario during his first month as Premier. Nonetheless, Statistics Canada pegged the province's unemployment rate at 5.4% in July – the lowest it's been since 2000 and below every other province except British Columbia.

FOR PUCK'S SAKE – Former PC Leader **Patrick Brown** has had a pretty rough year – being ousted from caucus amid sexual misconduct allegations, giving up his seat, then having his bid for Peel Regional Chair wiped out by Bill 5 – but he was all smiles at the annual Hockey Night

in Barrie fundraiser he's spearheaded for more than a decade. Federal Conservative Leader **Andrew Scheer** dropped the puck for the ceremonial face-off – indicating Brown still has some support within the Conservative family – and a handful of NHL players and alumni took part, but there were no provincial MPPs at the event. Brown is promising to launch a Hockey Night in Brampton, where he is now running for Mayor.

IN THE HOUSE

Bill 5, the *Better Local Government Act*, passed Third Reading by a vote of 71-39. This leaves one government bill on the Order Paper. The *Cap and Trade Cancellation Act* is at Second Reading, to be picked back up in the fall session.

For the status of government legislation, click [Government Bills](#).

FOR THE RECORD

“Teachers will not be muzzled by a government whose political agenda takes precedence over the protection and education of their students. ETFO will vigorously defend members who continue to follow the 2015 health curriculum and will pursue all options to respond appropriately to the government’s reckless behaviour.”

Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario President **Sam Hammond**, telling his 83,000 members to feel free to teach the updated sex-ed curriculum, even though it has officially been repealed while the Ford government undertakes a massive consultation.

“When we do anything with contractors or developers from Manitoba and they’re coming into Ontario they just shake their head. The rules and regulations are so stringent, they duplicate themselves so much it’s got to straighten itself out or we’re not open for business.”

Kenora Mayor **Dave Canfield**, planning to press the new PC government on Premier Ford’s vows to cut red tape at next week’s Association of Municipalities of Ontario meeting in Ottawa.

“History matters ... John A. Macdonald plays a central role in our national story. He did more to found our nation than any other father of Confederation. In fact, we would not be debating here today without Sir John A.”

Tourism, Culture and Sport Minister **Sylvia Jones**, telling the Legislature that Ontario would be willing to take the Macdonald statue that was removed from Victoria, B.C.’s City Hall because of his role in the residential school system. Victoria’s Mayor declined the offer.

“After 15 years a government of any stripe can become so full of themselves that they fail to listen and learn. Soon they come to believe they are right about everything all of the time. They become detached and arrogant. No one is guilty but everyone is responsible. When our government finally woke up to the fact that we had alienated just about everyone: teachers, doctors, farmers, hydro users, police associations, union leaders, parents with autistic children, home builders, small business people and others, it was too late to recover. A burgeoning sense of ‘mistrust’ had developed. With that loss of trust came the political decimation that followed.”

Former Liberal cabinet minister **Ted McMeekin**, in a *Hamilton Spectator* column, neatly summing up what went wrong for his party.

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ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

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August 24, 2018

August 24, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

CROSS MY HEART AND HOPE TO DIALOGUE – At first glance, the news release announcing a massive consultation on education issues seemed to bury the lead – the controversial sex-ed curriculum isn’t mentioned until five paragraphs down, half-way through the fourth of six bullets. But there were a whack of other potential story lines, as the consultation will visit a range of contentious topics. Premier **Doug Ford**’s Tories will be asking Ontarians about far more than sex-ed, inviting input on touchy subjects like “back to basics” teaching in math and science; better preparing students with “needed job skills” and “important life skills” like financial literacy (reigniting the age-old ideological tug-of-war over whether education’s basic purpose is to prepare kids to be workers or philosophers); measures to improve standardized testing (sure to miff teacher unions who want the province-wide tests eliminated altogether); and steps to ban cellphones in classrooms (which could create a generational war, with young people – and many of their parents – loath to cut their digital umbilical cord). Sex-ed itself – the ostensible catalyst for this consultation – is decidedly underplayed, bundled along with mental health and legalization of cannabis in a point about building an “age-appropriate” Health and Physical Education curriculum. Coinciding with the beginning of the new school year, the consultations will include an online survey, regional telephone town halls and a “submission platform” for groups to present detailed proposals.

PARENTAL DISCRETION – Submerging sex-ed in a much broader education re-think was interpreted by some as the Tories trying to mitigate an issue that is not playing particularly well for them. But it was front-and-centre regardless, thanks largely to the “interim” curriculum Ford announced for the coming school year (reverting to the 1998 curriculum for teaching on sexual matters in elementary schools) and the Fortheparents.ca website launched as a portal for parental feedback. The latter was immediately decried by critics as little more than a “snitch line” – as it advises, “any parent who believes that their child’s teacher is jeopardizing their

child's education by deliberately ignoring Ontario's curriculum" should contact the Ontario College of Teachers. Ford himself directly threw down the gauntlet to teacher unions (see For The Record, below), inflaming tension that will only increase as negotiations for new teacher contracts get underway in the coming months.

SEE YOU IN COURT – While Ford's Tories look to consult widely, City of Toronto politicians are only concerned about the views of one person – Superior Court Justice **Edward Belobaba**, who will hear their arguments to overturn recently-passed provincial legislation shrinking the size of Toronto council. Most legal minds think the challenge will fail, inasmuch as Queen's Park appears to have total authority over municipal governance. But this is somewhat unprecedented territory, in that the changes were brought in mid-way through an election campaign, so the outcome is not a sure thing. In any case, opponents of Bill 5 will be making plenty of noise leading up to the August 31 hearing. "Today's the day that we take a stand," proclaimed Councillor **Josh Matlow** (a former provincial Liberal candidate), who put forward the motion that launched the legal challenge. "This is an affront to democracy ... we will take this to the Supreme Court if necessary." Despite all the rancour on both sides, the political fallout could be largely moot. While losing in court would obviously be an embarrassment for the new government, Ford's majority does not include any MPPs in downtown Toronto – ground zero for the fight against Bill 5 – so the Tories aren't much worried about losing support.

CIVIC ACTION – Ford took another shot at Toronto this week as he addressed the Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference, criticizing the city for pulling out of AMO 13 years ago when lefty **David Miller** was Mayor. "It's a missed opportunity for Toronto not to be participating in some capacity," Ford lamented. At the same time, he assuaged fears among delegates from the province's other 440 municipalities, assuring them, "many of Toronto's issues are specific to Toronto" (read: Toronto's council is too left-wing) and that he has no plans to intervene in anybody else's administration.

Other notes from the AMO conference in Ottawa:

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The thousand-seat hall was overflowing for Ford's speech, with some 300 attendees standing at the back. NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath** attracted a full house, but the other party leaders dramatically less so. In a stark indication of how the mighty have fallen, less than a quarter of the seats were filled for interim Liberal Leader **John Fraser's** address (see photo), a far cry from the crowd then-Premier **Kathleen Wynne** drew a year ago. Wynne, notably, was in the front row as Fraser spoke – opting to maintain her visibility despite her election debacle in June. Attendance for Green Party Leader **Mike Schreiner's** speech was similar to the Liberal draw, but he was thrilled just to be at the podium as an MPP for the first time.

- Wynne was on hand for Ford's speech, standing at the back of the ballroom and overheard to mutter her disapproval of Ford's remarks. At one point Ford referred to "repairing crumbling infrastructure" and Wynne exclaimed, "Oh, please" loudly enough to be heard by a dozen people.
- Cannabis legalization was a hot topic throughout the conference, as municipalities try to get their heads around issues like policing and how much revenue they might generate from sales in their jurisdictions. For the most part they seemed okay with the Ford government's approach. A group of mayors met with Finance Minister **Vic Fedeli** and Attorney General **Caroline Mulroney** and were reportedly happy with the way it went. Afterward, one mayor enthused, "It was positive, collegial and open to new ideas – in a way I'm not used to based on past dealings with the Ontario Government." That mayor, by the way, is a known Liberal.
- Sunday night a reception thrown by local MPP and cabinet minister **Lisa MacLeod** in a Byward Market pub was packed. Municipal Affairs Minister **Steve Clark** was, understandably, a popular guy in the bar with a steady stream of courtiers wanting to chat.
- Since old politico/lobbyist haunt Hy's Steakhouse closed several years ago the race has been on to see which Ottawa watering hole would be the new insider hotspot. If AMO

was anything to go by, the hands-down winner is the Metropolitan Brasserie. This stylish resto, located between Parliament Hill and Sussex Drive, was a popular destination for conventioners. Among the luminaries spotted there Monday night were MacLeod, Mulroney and cabinet colleagues **Greg Rickford**, **Sylvia Jones** and **Monte MacNaughton**.

DRIVING HOME HIS POINT– Whatever other issues may clutter up the new government’s agenda, Ford knows his bread-and-butter is affordability. Hence this week’s latest pocketbook announcement: a freeze on driver fees that were slated to increase September 1. “People are fed up with paying more and more every time they need to renew their licence or take a driving test,” Ford was quoted in the news release alongside Transportation Minister **John Yakabuski**. Lest anyone miss the bigger point, he added a now-familiar line (inserting “drivers” in the appropriate slot), “This will make life more affordable for drivers right across the province. This is the latest example of our government putting money back where it belongs — in the pockets of hard-working Ontarians.”

CASTING SHADOWS – When the House reconvenes in exactly one month, the 40-member NDP caucus will have specific roles. Horwath unveiled her shadow cabinet this week, assigning critic roles topped by two Deputy Leaders in rookie MPP **Sara Singh** (who is also Critic for the Attorney General) and veteran **John Vanthof** (who also takes on Agriculture, Food and Rural Development). Note that Vanthof’s role refers to “Rural Development” – not quite the same as the “Rural Affairs” Minister he will be shadowing. Other discrepancies in titles also send messages about NDP priorities, with some critics assigned portfolios that don’t exist on the government side. **Jessica Bell** is Critic for Transit, separate from Transportation and Highways (**Jennifer French**), **Rima Berns-McGown** is responsible for Poverty and Homelessness, and **Wayne Gates** has Health and Safety and the WSIB (apart from general Health Care, which is the purview of **France Gélinas**). Other stand-alone critic duties: **Percy Hatfield** takes on OLG and Horse Racing; **Bhutila Karpoche**, Mental Health and Addictions; **Terence Kernaghan**, LGBTQ Issues; **Gurratan Singh**, Auto Insurance; **Faisal Hassan**, Youth Engagement; and **Jennie Stevens**, Veterans, Legions and Military Affairs. **Sandy Shaw** takes on the all-important Finance and Treasury Board files, while her successor in that role, **Catherine Fife**, has been assigned to Jobs, Employment, Research and Innovation.

Updated Ontario Legislative Highlights charts listing MPP responsibilities and government contacts are now available. Click on the following links to download:

[MPP Chart](#)

[Government Contact Chart](#)

AIDES NETWORK– Now that the Legislature has recessed, the new government’s transition has resumed in earnest. Many cabinet ministers endured the session with minimal staff support, and are now in the process of staffing up. Among those now employed at Queen’s Park is **Ben Levitt**, the PC candidate in Hamilton West, who has been named issues manager for Health Minister **Christine Elliott**.

FOR THE RECORD

“We will not tolerate anybody using our children as pawns for grandstanding and political games. And, make no mistake, if we find somebody failing to do their job, we will act.”

Premier Ford, rebuffing teacher unions who vowed to protect members teaching the modernized sex-ed curriculum that Ford repealed.

“The Premier is running an employment agency for lawyers.”

Green Party Leader Mike Schreiner, scoffing as legal action piles up, including a Canadian Civil Liberties Association challenge of the sex-ed rollback.

“I think when the Prime Minister, when confronted with some of the problems his government has created, turns around and fearmongers and calls people un-Canadian or racist, [he] really debases the debate that we’re having.”

Lisa MacLeod, the Ontario cabinet minister responsible for immigration, with the latest salvo in an intergovernmental war of words, this time chastizing PM **Justin Trudeau** for accusing a Quebec woman of intolerance when she heckled him at a rally.

“Ford could be forgiven for pausing for a rest after this tsunami of activity, but I doubt that he will. The guy is like a Harley – he doesn’t idle well.”

Former PC cabinet minister **John Snobelen**, in his Sun Media column, approving of the breakneck pace of the new government.

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ENTERPRISE

ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

 enterprisecanada.com/ontario-legislative-highlights-august-31

August 31, 2018

August 31, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

THE SECRETS THAT YOU KEEP — A return to the norm, or a secretive move to keep the government's true intentions unknown — it is all a matter of perspective how you view Premier **Doug Ford**'s decision to treat his Cabinet Ministers' mandate letters as top secret. The letters spell out the government's priorities for each ministry, and until 2014 they were rarely seen by anybody other than the cabinet minister and perhaps the deputy minister. Everybody else was on a need-to-know basis. They were first released publicly in Ontario by former Premier **Kathleen Wynne**, and now, the federal government and every provincial government except Quebec releases their mandate letters. In returning to the pre-2014 practice, Ford is also treating the letters as cabinet documents, essentially the highest level of secrecy in the province. They will only be seen by people the minister shows them to, cannot be accessed by civil servants and are protected against searches under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

ONTARIO LEGAL — With the House in a late summer recess, the focus on provincial politics this week shifted to a house of a different nature – a legal one:

- Four residents of Lindsay, Ont., launched a class-action lawsuit on Monday against the government for cancelling the basic income pilot project after Ford promised during the campaign that the program was safe. Lawyer **Mike Perry** — who has taken the case pro bono — filed the suit for breach of contract and damages, with a request for a judicial review of the government's actions. "We take no joy in this," he said. "It is not fun to sue the government. ... This will be a David versus Goliath (fight)." With more than 4,000 residents in Lindsay, Hamilton, Brantford and Thunder Bay displaced by the abrupt cancellation of the pilot, more people are expected to join the suit.
- Unsuccessful Tory candidate **Roshan Nallaratnam** has launched a \$2.45-million libel and defamation lawsuit against the NDP, its Leader **Andrea Horwath**, the Toronto

Police Service and two individuals on the allegation that they falsely accused him of sending a threatening email during the campaign. On June 4, three days before Ontarians cast ballots, the NDP issued a media statement accusing then-police officer Nallaratnam of sending an “ominous” message to members of the Tamil community in the Scarborough-Guildwood riding where he was seeking office. At the time, Nallaratnam immediately denied sending the email, calling it a fake, and now claims the NDP’s action stole from him the election (he ended up losing to Liberal **Mitzie Hunter** by only 74 votes). “This is a totally random email created under my name a few days before the election...” Nallaratnam said. “This is the low level of politics we’re getting into... It changed the election outcome.”

- One of the first acts by Ford after becoming premier was to quickly strike down the previous government’s rebates for buyers of electric vehicles. But that move contained a curious clause regarding the wind-down of the program — the pay back would remain in place until September 10, but only for people who bought electric vehicles through a dealership — that landed the government in court. Telsa owner **Elon Musk** initiated the legal proceedings because Telsa does not use a typical franchise dealership model; his customers buy directly from the company, and therefore do not qualify for the rebate in the final days of the program. The Ontario Superior Court found in favour of Telsa this week, ordering the government to pay Telsa’s legal fees of about \$125,000 and, ostensibly, an unknown amount to the estimated 600 Tesla buyers since the program was cancelled July 11. The government is still considering if it will appeal the ruling.
- The province and the City of Toronto are expected to be in a courtroom today as city council challenges Ford’s reduction of the size of council from 47 members to 25, and the government tries to quash the motion. The city’s lawyers are challenging the Constitutional validity of Ford’s *Better Local Government Act*, and are seeking to have it struck and its changes reversed back to the status quo.

THE PEOPLE’S SUDS — It’s not widely available, but if brewers so choose they can now sell beer in Ontario for as little as a buck a bottle. As of Monday, the minimum legal price for beer was lowered by 25 cents — but so far only three breweries have announced they will offer beer at the new lowered rate. Barley Days Brewery in Prince Edward County has released Loon Lager (available in only 11 LCBO locations across the province), Toronto’s Cool Beer Brewing Co. is offering four-packs of its signature beer for \$4 (plus deposit) and Loblaws has announced that its President’s Choice beers will be available for a buck-a-bottle in The Beer Store — but even that has turned into little more than a PR exercise as Loblaws will be returning to regular prices on September 3. Regardless of the minimal pick up of the initiative, Ford made this a key election point and is sticking to his guns: “Health, education and everything is important, but all I heard everywhere I went was ‘buck a beer, buck a beer, buck a beer.’ So sometimes the media, ourselves even, we live in a bubble, and you don’t realize some of the kitchen table issues that people want to get done ... a simple thing like a buck a beer goes a long way.”

WIND BENEATH MY WINGS — The tight bond between the Ford government and that of former Prime Minister **Stephen Harper** made itself more apparent at last weekend's Conservative Party of Canada convention in Halifax. Several MPPs — including Ford, **Monte McNaughton**, **Lisa MacLeod** and **Sam Oosterhoff** — and political staff who previously served in the Harper government were all present. Before becoming an MPP, MacLeod was a Harper government staffer, and McNaughton was heavily involved in Conservative Leader **Andrew Scheer**'s leadership campaign. Ford also offered a very complimentary address at the convention, and engaged with former Harper cabinet minister — and current leader of Alberta's United Conservative Party — **Jason Kenney** on Twitter, praising each other for their stance and action against the federal carbon tax.

UNCLE MINISTER — It seems NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath** was doing more than just sticking a thorn in the side of the government when she named her shadow cabinet last week — she was also stirring some tension into the family pot. Her Agriculture, Food and Rural Development critic is **John Vanthof**, a logical choice in that the Northern Ontario MPP was raised on a dairy farm and was once president of the Temiskaming Federation of Agriculture. But it will be interesting to see how Vanthof addresses the minister he has been charged with shadowing — Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Minister **Ernie Hardeman** also happens to be Vanthof's uncle.

FOR THE RECORD

“Our role is to explain. It's important to me that we always come across as non-partisan, because that's where our credibility comes from.”

Ontario's Financial Accountability Officer **Peter Weltman**, who is expected to have his first real look at provincial spending plans this fall when Ford releases a budget update.

“It's not just me, there's 3,999 other people who are directly affected by this and they have stories, too. They've been using Basic Income to go back to school or start businesses or move into safer living or get themselves out of poverty. I keep on hearing these stories and honestly, it's the most heartbreaking photo series that I have ever done.”

Jessie Golem, a Hamilton photographer and participant in the recently cancelled basic income pilot project, has completed *Humans of Basic Income*, a picture series project documenting the stories of people who have been impacted by the program's demise.

“If it's competition the premier and the privatizers want, let's actually have competition. If it's important that cannabis consumers have a choice, let's give them a real choice. For those smart municipalities who choose to opt out of the risky and costly private model there must be a public option available. Otherwise, it will be a bonanza for organized crime.”

OPSEU head **Warren 'Smokey' Thomas** criticizing the Ford government for preventing the LCBO from competing with the private sector on cannabis sales.

ENTERPRISE

ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

 enterprisecanada.com/ontario-legislative-highlights-september-7

September 7, 2018

September 7, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

GETTING SCHOOLED – Maybe even more than New Year’s, the first week of September signals a new annual chapter – a feeling that was amplified in Ontario politics this year. There was symbolism galore this week: The unofficial end of summer (although it was, admittedly, far busier than most summers around Queen’s Park as the new **Doug Ford** government moved swiftly after being elected to a majority in June) and shift toward what figures to be an intense fall; Labour Day, taking on greater significance as the union movement started mobilizing against what it sees as a hostile right-wing government; and of course the beginning of the new school year, which this year has extra layers of angst amid concerns about math scores, the repealed sex-ed curriculum, pending consultations on a range of contentious school issues and the foreboding spectre of expiring teacher contracts. This unease extended to post-secondary institutions, thanks in part to an edict from the new government – issued just before the long weekend – around free speech on campus. “Colleges and universities will have until January 1, 2019, to develop, implement and comply with a free speech policy that meets a minimum standard prescribed by the government and based on best practices from around the world,” declared the news release from the Premier’s Office, driving home the point by threatening to reduce operating grants for institutions failing to comply.

IN YOUR COURT – Classrooms will share the spotlight with courtrooms for the foreseeable future, as groups opposed to the Ford government’s actions try to thwart them judicially. Ford is 0-for-1 in legal battles so far, having lost to car manufacturer Tesla – who successfully fought exclusion from rebates after Ford’s Tories cancelled subsidies for electric vehicles. (Tesla sells directly to customers, and the rebates were originally only through dealerships.) But there are far bigger court cases on the horizon, notably a decision expected next week on legislation shrinking Toronto City Council – followed by the inevitable appeal by the losing side. On another legal front, this week the Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario sought an

injunction against the repeal of the modernized curriculum – and the accompanying “snitch line” targeting teachers sticking to the new version – in a case that will likely dovetail with a lawsuit launched by the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. Legal action is also reportedly pending around Ford’s cancellation of various initiatives from the previous government, including the cap-and-trade carbon emission program, wind turbines, a task force looking at part-time and contract work, and the basic income pilot project.

SUBWAY SANDWICHED – Regardless of how the Toronto election case turns out, Ford’s battles with the city figure to be a sub-theme through much of his early mandate. This week he reiterated his pledge to upload Toronto’s subways to the province, appointing infrastructure expert **Michael Lindsay** to head up an advisory panel looking into how it could be done. Former PC Leader **Tim Hudak** made a similar pledge during the 2014 election, and was ridiculed for it – a contributing factor, albeit a minor one, in his losing campaign. But Ford appears keen to follow through, asserting, “An upload of the subway would help the province to implement a more efficient regional transit system, reduce costs and build transit faster.” It will be up to Lindsay – who is working for free as a “special adviser” – to make recommendations, including addressing the issues Hudak evidently couldn’t get past, such as the complications of a split transit system where trains and buses are operated separately. Former Toronto Transit Commission CEO **Andy Byford** opposed the idea when Hudak floated it, citing a scenario of a sudden subway shutdown requiring shuttle buses, which might not be so readily available if they have different masters.

FAREWELL, JIM – Queen’s Parkers of a certain era were sad to hear of the passing of **Jim Breithaupt** last week at age 83. Breithaupt was the MPP for Kitchener from 1967 to 1985, and was a powerful Liberal voice during those Opposition years. Had the Liberals been able to upend the PC dynasty (which didn’t happen until after he retired), Breithaupt would surely have been a senior cabinet minister.

RUMOURS & RUMBLINGS

THE L WORD

Still licking their wounds from last spring’s decimation, the Ontario Liberals are showing some signs of life, as buzz starts to build around the coming leadership race. Word is that Ottawa MPP **Marie France Lalonde** – one of the seven Liberal MPPs who survived the June drubbing – is making some serious noises about running and is putting together a campaign team. Speculation will only heat up ahead of the September 29 provincial council meeting that will be the first gathering of grassroots Liberals since the election debacle. Party officials will no doubt welcome the distraction of leadership talk, taking some of the focus off the anticipated bloodletting from angry riding associations. Tickets are selling very quickly for the one-day event, which will take place at Toronto’s Chestnut Hotel – not exactly the swankiest digs, indicative of the Liberals’ hard times.

FOR THE RECORD

“Thank you for the work you will be doing for us over the next four years so we can keep our foot on the neck of Doug Ford and kick him the hell out of office in four years’ time!”

NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath**, at a Labour Day rally in Hamilton.

“We don’t usually do labour relations in the press, but when you disregard basic workers’ rights with such impunity, it doesn’t give us much choice. ... It’s unacceptable from any employer, but it’s appalling from the NDP. You shouldn’t have to lose your job to have your human rights protected.”

Patty Clancy, Ontario Director of the Canadian Office and Professional Employees (COPE) union, defending three NDP office workers who have brought forward allegations of human rights violations against two Hamilton MPPs who employed them. One worker has since been fired, while on parental leave, and the other two are no longer being paid, as they all await an arbitrator’s ruling.

“I think Rob was quintessentially a person who thrived on being with people and taking little notes of their problems and taking their phone calls and so on. Doug is more interested in making decisions. They’re different people, but both of them are outside the mould.”

Toronto Mayor **John Tory**, who has known the Ford family for more than 20 years, offering his take on the current Premier and his late brother – Tory’s predecessor at City Hall – in a *Macleans*’ interview.

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**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
LETTER TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS – SEPTEMBER 2018**



Dear Parents and Guardians:

Happy New School Year!

The first day of school is an exciting time for students, staff and families. Each new school year brings the promise of endless opportunities for students, inspired by our dedicated and talented Niagara Catholic staff. We look forward to sharing a wonderful year of faith and learning with your child and family. Welcome back to all returning families, and a very special welcome to all new members of the Niagara Catholic family. We know that you will feel at home in our schools.

Summer was busy across Niagara Catholic. Through our Continuing Education Department, students took summer credit courses and joined our summer camps, and we welcomed students from China and Korea.

Our Facilities Services team works hard to make sure our schools and sites are healthy and safe. The team was busy with approximately 150 projects this summer from West Niagara to Fort Erie, totaling more than \$17.5 million.

We celebrate our faith every day at Niagara Catholic. Our 2018-2021 Theological Theme called *Seeds of Faith: Mass, Mercy, Mission* will begin in September. This theme will guide all parts of our faith life across Niagara Catholic. Over the next three years, we will focus on what Mass, mercy and mission mean to our lives. In 2018-2019, we will focus on our understanding of the Mass, and, in particular the Eucharist, reminding us of its importance in our lives and in the life of the whole Church.

During the provincial review process of the elementary Health and Physical Education Curriculum, our Catholic elementary schools will deliver all of the curriculum expectations as set by the Ministry of Education in *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1–8: Health and Physical Education, Interim Edition, 2010 (Re-issued 2018)* through a method that conveys, respects and models Catholic principles to our students. We will also continue to deliver content through the *Fully Alive Program* that was sponsored and developed with the approval of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario, in collaboration with Catholic educators and families, and is the approved student and teacher resource for the Family Life Curriculum. Catholic schools have provided a Family Life Curriculum consistent with our faith for more than 30 years. *Fully Alive* is the program that delivers the family life curriculum, which is holistic and interdisciplinary in its approach, in meeting many specific expectations in the Ontario Curriculum documents in Catholic schools. We are confident that the *Fully Alive Program* taught by our staff will continue to meet the needs of students as they encounter the challenges of our modern world. If you have any questions, please contact the principal of your school.

The 2018 Municipal Election will take place on October 22. Please make sure you are an English-Separate school board supporter, especially if you have moved since 2014, and ask family and friends to do the same. This helps us plan for the future, and allows you to vote for English-Catholic trustees. To confirm you are an English-Catholic supporter, and declare your support for Catholic education, click on the *Have Your Say* slide on the Board website at niagaracatholic.ca.

Families are important partners in Catholic education. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for breaking news, and for photos and videos from special events and activities.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and all staff, we extend every blessing for a faith-filled, fulfilling and inspirational school year, as together we nurture the souls and build the minds of our most treasured gift, our students.

Father Paul MacNeil, Chair of the Board

John Crocco, Director of Education

2018-2019 System Priorities

Provide Supports for Success

- Enhance student and parent engagement and voice in student achievement, equity, well-being and mental health for all students
- Improve equitable and inclusive outcomes for all students
- Explore next generation career pathways for students
- Continue to address the special needs of students on the margin

Enhance Technology for Optimal Learning

- Implement a system-wide electronic platform to facilitate communication between staff and parents
- Improve the learning experience of students through access and use of technology

Building Partnerships and Schools as Hubs

- Continue to nurture community partnerships to achieve strategic priorities
- Strengthen relationships and support between schools, parishes and families
- Enhance communication opportunities with parents and community partners to increase pathway opportunities for students

Strengthen Human Resources Practices and Develop Transformational Leadership

- Enhance staff wellness supports and programs to ensure consistency in delivering programs and supports for students
- Diversify the delivery of professional development opportunities through collaborative planning with stakeholders
- Implement health and safety awareness and training initiatives, focused on employee safety
- Design a Workplace Violence Awareness program

Create Equity/Accessibility of Resources

- Explore a predictive data analytic model and strategy to enable school and system staff to make more precise, evidence-based decisions
- Implement and review differentiated resource allocation to individual schools, based on specific indicators

Ensure Responsible Fiscal and Operational Management

- Maintain financial stability through a balanced budget 2018-2019
- Increase economies of scale in the allocation of financial resources

Address Changing Demographics

- Continue to optimize efficiency in capacity utilization in all Board facilities
- Enhance strategies to optimize enrolment and retention of students

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
NIAGARA FOUNDATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION GOLF
TOURNAMENT – SEPTEMBER 19, 2018**

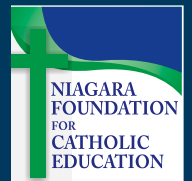
THE NIAGARA FOUNDATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION'S CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC

is in its 17th year. The proceeds of the tournament are managed through the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education. Funds raised provide financial assistance for students in need and scholarships to Niagara Catholic District School Board students who may otherwise not be able to pursue their dreams of a rewarding education. Over 640 students have received financial support since the inception of this annual tournament. We thank you for your outstanding generosity and support in helping these students.

In these difficult financial times we have maintained last year's fees and thank you for your continued participation and support.



HAVE A GREAT DAY ON THE GOLF COURSE
ENJOY GOURMET DINING AND FINE FELLOWSHIP
SUPPORT STUDENTS IN NEED



WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 19TH
2018

LEGENDS ON THE NIAGARA
9233 NIAGARA PARKWAY, NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO



10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Registration & Driving Range

11:00 am to 12:30 pm
Barbecue Lunch Buffet
Choice of Hamburgers, Sausage,
Veggie Burgers with Gourmet Toppings and Salads,
Assorted Sweet Platter
Soft Drinks, Tea & Coffee

1:00 pm
Battlefield - Shotgun Start

5:30 pm
Reception — Host Bar

followed by Presidential Buffet Dinner featuring
Assorted Salads, Seafood Station
including Baby Lobster Tails, Oysters, Jumbo
Shrimp, Mussels, Carved Prime Rib of Beef au Jus,
Oriental Chicken Stir Fry, Penne Carbonara, Baked
Salmon,
Decadent Desserts and much more

AGENDA

FOR WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

CONTACT INFORMATION

Sue Baxter at 905-735-0247 ext 321 or sue.baxter@nfce.org
Jim Marino at 905-735-0247 ext 210 or jim.marino@nfce.org
Mark Ferri at 905-735-0240 ext 247 or mark.ferri@nfce.org

PLAYERS ENTRY FORM

Please note the format for golf will be as in the past; each group may choose to play as a scramble or to play their own ball.

Names of Players

Player #1

Player #2

Player #3

Player #4

Contact Information

Individual or Company/Business Name

Street Address

City

Postal Code

Phone Number

Contact Email

ENTRY FEE: \$250 per player

CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:

Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education
c/o Mark Ferri, Administrator of Purchasing Services
427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario L3C 7C1

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH YOUR
PAYMENT IN ENCLOSED ENVELOPE BY:

AUGUST 8TH, 2018

Sincere thanks for your support!

Payment by Cheque _____

(please make payable to Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education)

or MasterCard / Visa _____ Amount \$ _____

Name on Credit Card _____

Credit Card # _____

Expiry Date _____

SPONSORSHIP / DONATION: *please indicate your level of support*

- Sponsor a hole (\$450)
- Sponsor a student (\$250)
- Donate a prize for Silent Auction (\$200 +)
- Cash: please indicate amount \$ _____

Contribution Towards:

- Lunch \$ _____
- Dinner \$ _____
- Wine \$ _____
- Reception \$ _____
- Other \$ _____

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
OCSTA 2018 FALL REGIONAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 6,
2018**



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

P.O. Box 2064, Suite 1804
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Toronto, Ontario M4R 1K8
T. 416.932.9460 F. 416.932.9459
ocsta@ocsta.on.ca www.ocsta.on.ca

Beverley Eckensweiler, *President*
Michelle Griepsma, *Vice President*
Nick Milanetti, *Executive Director*

June 27, 2018

TO: Trustees, Student Trustees & Directors of Education
FROM: Nick Milanetti, Executive Director
SUBJECT: **2018 Fall Regional Meetings**

OCSTA's Fall Regional Meetings are scheduled as follows:

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>WEST</u> Monday, September 17 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Hosted by: Bruce-Grey CDSB Location: Walkerton Water Centre 20 Ontario Road, Walkerton N0G 2V0</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>EAST</u> Wednesday, September 19 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Ottawa CSB (Boardroom) 570 West Hunt Club Road Nepean ON K2G 3R4</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NORTH EAST</u> Saturday, September 22 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Hosted by: Huron-Superior CDSB Location: St. Mary's College 868 Second Line East, SSM P6B 4K4 <i>A reception for delegates and guests will be held on the evening of Friday, September 21 at the Water Tower Inn.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CENTRAL</u> Wednesday, September 26 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Niagara CDSB (Fr. Burns Boardroom) 427 Rice Road Welland, L3C 7C1</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NORTH WEST</u> Saturday, September 29, 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon Valhalla Inn, 1 Valhalla Inn Road, Thunder Bay P7E 6J1 <i>In conjunction with the Thunder Bay Diocesan Catholic School Trustees' Association</i></p>	

The format of the meetings is designed to engage our membership in dialogue with OCSTA Directors and staff. A draft agenda is attached.

There will be Facilitated Discussions on *Current Priorities in Catholic Education & Labour Updates*.

REGISTRATION

Meetings are open to trustees, student trustees and senior board personnel (both academic and finance). The registration fee is \$124.30 and \$84.75 for student trustees (includes HST).

Deadline for refunds due to cancellation is 2 weeks prior to each meeting.

[Registration link to follow.](#)

ACCOMMODATION

If your delegates require overnight accommodation, please make your bookings directly with the hotel as soon as possible.

West – September 17

[Best Western Plus Walkerton Hotel & Conference Centre](#), Walkerton (next door to meeting venue)

A block of rooms is set aside for the night of September 16 under “OCSTA” and will be held to August 15.

\$146 plus taxes. Reservations: 1-855-436-3030

East – September 19

[Days Inn](#) – 4.6 kilometers

[Hampton Inn Ottawa Airport](#) – 5.8 kilometers

[Hilton Garden Inn \(Ottawa Airport\)](#) – 8.3 kilometers

North East – September 22

[Water Tower Inn](#), Sault Ste. Marie (5 minutes to meeting venue)

A block of rooms is set aside for the night of September 21 under “OCSTA Regional Meeting” and will be held until August 21.

\$109.00 single / \$119.00 double (plus taxes). Reservations: 1-800-461-0800

Central – September 26

[Canada’s Best Value Inn](#) – 3 kilometers

[Best Western Rose City Suites](#) – 5 kilometres

North West – September 29

Registration and accommodation details for this meeting will be included with information for Thunder Bay Diocesan Catholic School Trustees Conference.

We would like to thank the trustees and staff of the Catholic District School Boards that will host our 2018 Regional Meetings:

*Bruce-Grey ♦ Ottawa ♦ Huron-Superior ♦ Niagara ♦ Thunder Bay
& Thunder Bay Diocesan Catholic School Trustees’ Association*

Attachments: *Draft Agenda, Regions Chart*



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

2018 FALL REGIONAL MEETINGS

AGENDA

- 9:30 REGISTRATION (*continental breakfast*)
- 9:45 WELCOME – *President, Beverley Eckensweiler & Chair of Host Board*
GATHERING PRAYER
- PRESIDENT’S REPORT AND Q & A – *Beverley Eckensweiler*
- An overview of the current issues in education and OCSTA initiatives.
- 10:30 **BREAK**
- 10:45 RENEWING THE PROMISE – *Brian O’Sullivan, Director of Catholic Education*
- This session will focus on “unpacking” the Pastoral Letter released in May by the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario. Specific attention will be given to the role of Trustees as integral to Catholic Education and Faith Formation.
(Participants are asked to bring their copies of the Pastoral Letter.)
- 12:00 **LUNCH, INFORMAL DISCUSSION & NETWORKING**
- 12:45 CURRENT PRIORITIES IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION – *Nick Milanetti, Executive Director*
Facilitated Discussion
- A survey will be issued to OCSTA member boards. The responses from the survey will be shared and discussed by participants during this segment of the meeting.
- 1:45 LABOUR UPDATE – *Nick Milanetti*
Facilitated Discussion
- 2:55 CLOSING REMARKS & ADJOURNMENT – *Beverley Eckensweiler*



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

2018 FALL REGIONAL MEETINGS

Date	Area	Boards / OCSTA Region #	OCSTA Director / Region #	Host / Location
Mon, Sep 17 9:30 – 3	West	Bruce-Grey (4) Huron-Perth (4) London (5) Waterloo (4) Wellington (4) St. Clair (5) Windsor/Essex (5)	Marino Gazzola (4) Linda Ward (5) Beverley Eckensweiler, President	Bruce-Grey CDSB Walkerton Water Centre 20 Ontario Rd, Walkerton
Wed, Sep 19 9:30 – 3	East	Algonquin & Lakeshore (10) Eastern Ontario (10) Peterborough-Victoria- Northumberland & Clar. (9) Ottawa (12) Renfrew (10) Simcoe-Muskoka CDSB (9)	Linda Ainsworth (9) Todd Lalonde (10) Brian Coburn (12) Michelle Griepsma, Vice President	Ottawa CSB (Board Office) 570 West Hunt Club Road Nepean K2G 3R4
Sat, Sep 22 8:30 – 2:00	North East	Huron-Superior (1) Nipissing-Parry Sound (1) Northeastern (1) Sudbury (1)	Colleen Landers (1) Michael Bellmore (3)	Huron-Superior CDSB St. Mary's College 868 Second Line East Sault Ste. Marie P6B 4K4 <i>A reception for delegates and spouses will be held at the Water Tower Inn on the evening of Friday, September 21.</i>
Wed, Sep 26 9:30 – 3:00	Central	Brant-Haldimand Norfolk (11) Dufferin-Peel (7) Durham (9) Halton (11) Hamilton-Wentworth (11) Niagara (11) Toronto (6) York (8)	Ann Andrachuk (6) Michael Del Grande (6) Mario Pascucci (7) Thomas Thomas (7) Carol Cotton (8) Linda Ainsworth (9) Clifford Casey (11) Arlene Iantomasi (11) Patrick Daly, Past President	Niagara CDSB (Fr. Burns Boardroom) 427 Rice Road Welland, L3C 7C1
Sat, Sep 29 8:00 – 12:00	North West	Kenora (2) Northwest (2) Superior North (2) Thunder Bay (2)	Paul Landry (2) Michael Bellmore (3)	Thunder Bay Diocesan Catholic Catholic School Trustees' Association Valhalla Inn, 1 Valhalla Inn Road Thunder Bay P7E 6J1

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
OCSTA 2018 FALL REGIONAL MEETING – QUESTIONS FOR
DISCUSSION**



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

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August 16, 2018

TO: Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons & Directors of Education
- All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: Nick Milanetti, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Regional Meetings –Questions for Discussion

The four questions on the attached page are from the Ontario Government's Platform and are provided as a basis for the facilitated discussion at our upcoming Fall Regional Meetings.

It is hoped that these questions can be considered by your Trustees and Staff at an upcoming Board Meeting in order to prepare a comprehensive response to be shared and discussed with your peers at the Fall Regional Meetings.

Once your Board Response is complete, please send a copy to OCSTA (jponte@ocsta.on.ca) and assign one of your delegates to bring copies to the meeting and distribute to the participants.

Mon, Sep 17 9:30 – 3	West 45 Copies	Bruce-Grey, Huron-Perth, London, Waterloo, Wellington, St. Clair, Windsor/Essex
Wed, Sep 19 9:30 – 3	East 45 Copies	Algonquin & Lakeshore, Eastern Ontario, Peterborough-Victoria- Northumberland & Clarington, Ottawa, Renfrew, Simcoe-Muskoka
Sat, Sep 22 8:30 – 2:00	North East 30 Copies	Huron-Superior, Nipissing-Parry Sound, Northeastern, Sudbury
Wed, Sep 26 9:30 – 3:00	Central 40 Copies	Brant-Haldimand Norfolk, Dufferin-Peel, Durham, Halton, Hamilton- Wentworth, Niagara, Toronto, York
Sat, Sep 29 8:00 – 12:00	North West 30 Copies	Kenora, Northwest, Superior North, Thunder Bay,

The feedback from your boards will be instrumental for an informed and productive discussion at the meetings.

Thank you for your assistance.

Attachment



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Questions for Discussion at 2018 Fall Regional Meetings

- 1. The government plans to restore “proven” methods of teaching math fundamentals to support student success. Math will also become mandatory in teachers’ college programs.**

What concerns or questions does this raise for your board?

What feedback do you want OCSTA to provide to the government on this issue?

- 2. OCSTA will be monitoring and consulting with the government as steps are taken to initiate the government’s planned consultation on the “sex-ed” component of the Health and Physical Education curriculum.**

What concerns, issues and perspective do you wish to share with OCSTA on this topic?

- 3. The government has suspended the Broader Public Sector Executive Compensation Framework that was established with the input and support of Ontario’s education partners including all trustee associations.**

What concerns does this decision by the government raise for your board?

What feedback would you like to share with OCSTA on this topic?

- 4. The government plans to maintain the current school closures moratorium until a full review of the school closure process is completed.**

What are the concerns and priorities of your board with respect to this issue?