
DURHAM CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE
CHAIR'S REPORT

TO: DCPIC, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, SCHOOL CHAIRS, STAFF AND PARENTS
FROM: LINDA DODSON TRCHALA
SUBJECT: MAY 2016 REPORT
DATE: May 12, 2016

Recently, we hosted the 3rd Annual Distinguished Catholic Volunteer Award on April 12th. It was a wonderful evening, honouring one parent from each of our schools for their tremendous service throughout the year. We would like to thank everyone from the board staff, trustees, students and Knights of Columbus, who made the event such a great success! I would also like to recognize the DCPIC members for all their time and effort in putting on another magnificent Award Ceremony!

We celebrated Catholic Education Week during the first week in May. This year's theme is Opening the Doors of Mercy. Pope Francis has said, "The holy year won't be very effective if the doors of our heart do not let Christ enter, who pushes us to go towards others, to bring him and his love. Therefore, as the holy door remains open because it is the sign of the welcoming that God himself reserves for us, so also our doors -- those of the heart -- must always be open to not exclude anyone. Not even those that bother me. No one!" This could be seen as some members attended the Bishop's Dinner (or the annual Durham Catholic Children's Foundation Dinner). As partners in Catholic education, Pope Francis' quote could be seen that evening when we all came together (home, school, church and community) opening our doors (hearts) and having them remain open for what we all believe in and that is to promote equity in our schools.

Here is the update for this month:

May Report

- DCPIC Membership
 - a) 1 position is vacant for a Parent Member of the DCPIC, and we are waiting for application submissions from any parent with a child attending one of our schools.
 - b) Advertising for the Community Representatives of the DCPIC began last month. There are up to 3 available positions and term begins July 1st.

- OAPCE (Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education)
 - a) OAPCE's next meeting will be in July 2016.
 - b) The 77th OAPCE conference occurred on May 6-7 in Toronto, Ontario. It successful event with over 180 people in attendance.
 - c) The next OACPE conference will be hosted by Kingston Catholic, it will be in May 2017.

- Conferences/Professional Development
 - a) October 22-24 – When Faith Meets Pedagogy (attended by Kim, Amanda & Richard)
 - b) October 24 – CPF Ontario (attended by Linda & Christina D.)
 - c) November 5 – Cardinal's Dinner (attended by Linda and Roxanne)
 - d) November 7, 8 – People for Education (Nov 8 PIC Chairs/networkers – attended by Linda & Roxanne)
 - e) April 9, 2016 – Ministry of Education PIC Symposium (Karolina, Christina, and Linda)
 - f) April 12, 2016 – Distinguished Catholic Volunteer Award Ceremony
 - g) May 6-7 – OAPCE (Linda)

- Upcoming Events
 - a) August 2016 – Strategic Planning Session for DCPIC