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## DURHAM CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

### CHAIR'S REPORT

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**TO:** DCPIC, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, SCHOOL CHAIRS, STAFF AND PARENTS  
**FROM:** ROXANNE HORWITZ  
**SUBJECT:** MARCH 2014 REPORT  
**DATE:** MARCH 27, 2014

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As we celebrate the Lenten season, we are called to service and penance. The Archdiocese of Toronto has a wonderful blog which poses a weekly Lent challenge. I'd like to share the challenge for week 2 of Lent that focuses on service:

**Beginner:** Thank a bishop, priest or member of a religious congregation for the service they provide to the Catholic faithful—invite them out for coffee or invite them to your home for a meal.

**Intermediate:** Buy a coffee for someone living on the street and learn their name and something about them.

**Advanced:** Find an organization to volunteer with and sign up to help out! (Message us if you need help with this one, we know lots of great organizations.)

**Super-advanced:** Do all the challenges listed above: beginner, intermediate and advanced!

(For those wishing to fulfill the Advanced level challenge – the DCPIC is always keen on having more volunteers!☺)

The committee was particularly busy in the past few weeks as we had two events. The first was the Family Literacy Fair with acclaimed authors, Ted Staunton, Richard Scrimger and Mireille Messier. It was a terrific morning with reading workshops, booksellers, board consultants and community organizations that all helped to foster a love for reading. Our second event was the presentation, Boys and Girls Learn Differently with Michael Reist. This evening event was very well received by parents who provided us with many positive feedbacks. We look forward to the remainder of the events this year, and continue to seek input from all parents about future resources and events that could help them support their children's learning and well-being.

Here is the update for this month:

#### March Report

- Conferences
  - a) Ministry of Education's Annual PIC Symposium – April 25 -26,2014
    - Roxanne, Jim, Eileen and Anita are attending
    - DCPIC will have a display table to highlight successes and best practices
    - Need to gather marketing materials and samples of work
  - b) OAPCE 75<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary
    - Need to determine how many are attending from our board
    - May 23-24 in Mississauga
    - Registration is now open online [www.oapce.on.ca](http://www.oapce.on.ca)
- OAPCE (Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education)

- a) OAPCE is celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with conference on May 23-24 in Mississauga. Cardinal Collins will be officiating mass.
- b) Regional Updates
  - Next quarterly meeting is on April 5
- Subcommittees
  - a) Report from each subcommittee and discussion items will be discussed at each meeting
  - b) Recently reached out to school councils and school communities to join our subcommittees, in order for us to continue our work
- Upcoming DCPIC Events
  - a) April 1 – Kevin Cameron at Board Conference Centre
  - b) May 13 – Barbara Coloroso at Notre Dame CSS
  - c) June 12 – 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – more info to follow
    - The Anniversary Subcommittee will be meeting this week to discuss plans
    - This will be held in conjunction with the regular meeting (similar format to last year’s June meeting where meeting was shortened and followed by retirement celebration)
  - d) October 15 – Dr. Jean Clinton at St. Mary CSS (re-scheduled date)

For more details on these events, please refer to our website at [www.dcpic.ca](http://www.dcpic.ca)