



REPORT TO

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

### ONTARIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION (OCSTA) ANNUAL FEES

*“And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ”*

**Philippians 1:9-10**

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
October 22, 2019	November 7, 2019	<a href="#">Click here to enter a date</a>

P. De Cock, Comptroller of Business Services & Finance

### RECOMMENDATION REPORT

**Vision:**

*At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.*

**Mission:**

*The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.*

*We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.*



Rory McGuckin  
Director of Education

D. Koenig  
Associate Director  
of Academic Affairs

L. Noronha  
Associate Director of Facilities,  
Business and Community  
Development, and  
Chief Financial Officer

## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the Board of Trustees with contextual background information concerning annual fees paid to the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA).

The OCSTA collects membership fees in order to support their activities for the promotion and protection of Catholic education in Ontario.

This report recommends the Board of Trustees approve the payment of OCSTA's annual fees of \$219,851.84 as per the attached invoice in Appendix A.

*The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 2 hours*

## **B. PURPOSE**

1. This recommendation report is on the Order Paper of the Student Achievement and Well Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee for approval as the amount due exceeds the \$50,000 procurement threshold.

## **C. BACKGROUND**

1. The Board Purchasing Policy FP01 provides delegation of authority to the Director of Education to approve the award of all contracts and expenditures not to exceed a threshold of \$50,000 where the Board of Trustees has approved the budget, project or report.
2. The Board is in receipt of invoices from OCSTA related to annual membership fees of \$219,851.84.

## **D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS**

1. The payment of OCSTA and Friends and Advocates of Catholic Education (FACE) annual membership fees supports the advocacy activities that support the goals for the promotion and protection of Catholic education in Ontario. The OCSTA invoice regarding annual membership fees and supporting

documents regarding membership benefits, fee calculation and OCSTA's 2019-20 annual budget appears in Appendix A.

2. In response to the TCDSB's request to the OCSTA, Nick Milanetti, Executive Director and Beverley Eckensweiler, President presented to the TCDSB at the Board of Trustees during the Regular Board meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup> 2019.
3. The OCSTA provides one unified provincial voice for Ontario's English Catholic school boards. Throughout the history of Catholic education in Ontario, the OCSTA organizes Catholic school trustees under the guiding principles of the Gospel to advance the shared goals for the promotion and protection of Catholic education in Ontario. This is achieved through ongoing lobbying efforts, our membership development services and the following key activities that directly benefit our members including the following:
  - a) Represents Catholic school boards on all provincial consultations and work groups.
  - b) Provides advice to boards on significant policy issues.
  - c) Provides an extensive array of classroom and community resources for Catholic Education Week. Information is located online at <http://www.goodnewsforall.ca>. These resources resonate strongly with students, parents and parishes and boards have expressed their appreciation for the materials and information that are generated and shared.
  - d) Lobbies the government on all funding issues most of which are identified by our member boards.
  - e) Represents Catholic boards on significant legal issues as they arise.
  - f) Develops provincial messaging and platforms on key issues and developments in education affecting Catholic schools and shares such strategic resources with boards. To further support effective school board communications and community relations, OCSTA hosts an annual professional development session for school board communication staff.
  - g) Provides enrichment opportunities for Catholic school board trustees and staff, including the delivery of 19 enrichment modules on various topics related to the role and responsibilities of Catholic trustees.

- The 19 trustee enrichment modules are now offered online in the "Trustee Modules" area on the OCSTA website ([www.ocsta.on.ca](http://www.ocsta.on.ca)). All members can enter this centre using their OCSTA user ID and password.
- Annual trustee development events include January Catholic Trustees Seminar, Business Seminar, Labour Relations sessions (as needed) and the Annual General Meeting and Conference.
- The recently developed OCSTA Certificate Course in Leadership and Good Governance was made available to all trustees in 2019. This unique program was offered in partnership with the University of St. Michael's College (University of Toronto) and included an online component.

## **E. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Trustees approve the OCSTA's annual invoice for 2019-2020 of \$219,851.84 appearing in Appendix A.