



REPORT TO

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

### ESTABLISHMENT OF BILINGUAL YOUTH COUNCIL

*Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.  
(1 Timothy 4:12)*

| Created, Draft   | First Tabling    | Review                                      |
|--|------------------|---|
| October 26, 2020   | November 4, 2020 | <a href="#">Click here to enter a date.</a> |
| K. Baybayon, Student Trustee, CSLIT Co-Chair<br>K. Nguyen, Student Trustee, CSLIT Co-Chair<br>M. Consul, Catholic Student Leadership Resource Teacher<br>A. Faraone, French Resource Teacher<br>M. Caccamo, Superintendent of Nurturing our Catholic Community, Safe Schools, and Continuing Education |                  |   |

### INFORMATION REPORT

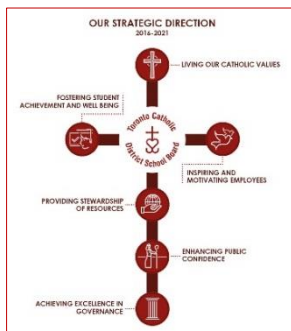
**Vision:**

*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.*



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Director of Education

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## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is in response to the delegation presented to the Board on September 3, 2020, with respect to the creation of a Catholic Youth Council whose focus would be bilingualism and supporting students who speak both French and English. This report lists the goals of this new student led committee and provides a vision for what the Student Trustees, the Catholic Student Leadership Impact Team (CSLIT) Executive, and the CSLIT General Assembly plan to work on during the upcoming academic year.

*The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 20 hours.*

## **B. PURPOSE**

1. This report recognizes the unique needs of students bilingual in French and English and outlines ways these students can better served.
2. The goals raised within this report represent the collective voice of the students. The opportunity to present these goals at the Board level allows for direct involvement and needed dialogue regarding relevant issues that impact TCDSB students.
3. The formation of this new Bilingual Catholic Youth Council will be advertised at the next CSLIT monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 27th, 2020.

## **C. BACKGROUND**

1. On September 3, 2020, a student delegation was presented to the Board that was received and referred to staff.
2. After consultation with staff, the Student Trustees and members of CSLIT, the vision, goals, and logistics of this new council were outlined.
3. Formation of this new council will take place before the end of the 2020 calendar year with the first official meeting to be scheduled in late November.
4. The goals and recommendations put forth by this new committee will be more successful with the assistance of different departments and appropriate staff.

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

1. On Tuesday, October 27th, CSLIT will publicize to the student general assembly the opportunity to join the new Bilingual Catholic Youth Council.
2. The goals and recommendations contained in this report were compiled by the Student Trustees, CSLIT Executive, and appropriate staff.
3. These goals and recommendations will only serve as a starting point for this not yet formed Bilingual Catholic Youth Council. The members of this new council will ultimately determine the direction of this new committee.

### **VISION**

Bilingual Catholic Youth Council could serve as a springboard for implementing local initiatives that will help promote Canada's official bilingualism via French learning, led by and for youth. The committee will be responsible for raising awareness among youth, while allowing a group of qualified young persons to receive training in governance and project management in French.

### **GOALS**

1. Develop programs, projects, and initiatives that promote bilingualism in French and English through a Catholic lens.
  - o Many programs for students exist but none cater exclusively to students bilingual in French and English.
2. Raise awareness among students about the value of bilingualism in Canada.
  - o Since French is one of Canada's official languages, students should be more aware about the value of bilingualism; for example, in the teaching field across the nation, there is a shortage of "French as a Second Language" teachers.
3. Opportunity for students bilingual in French and English to meet, network, socialize and learn from each other.

## **POTENTIAL INITIATIVES**

1. Organize a yearly mass celebrated solely in French.
2. Organize a Catholic youth camp focusing on the French language, culture and heritage.
3. When safe to do so, given pandemic realities/restrictions, organize a service trip to an African Francophone country (e.g. Benin, Togo, Congo) to give bilingual students the opportunity to help those less fortunate in these poverty stricken countries.

### **E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

1. Students should be motivated to create positive change in the world and not ignore any form of injustice. Students feel a calling to live out their faith; as such, involvement in social justice actions allows them to make their faith more visible. Students feel that Board policies must include student voice and perspective when addressing current and relevant local and global issues.
2. The Bilingual Youth Council can report annually to the board on the impact of their initiatives.

### **F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT**

This report is for the consideration of the Board.