



REPORT TO

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

**NON-RESIDENT VISA STUDENT FEES**

*“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus”  
Galatians 3:28*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
March 26, 2021	April 8, 2021	<a href="#">Click here to enter a date.</a>
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<b>RECOMMENDATION REPORT</b>		

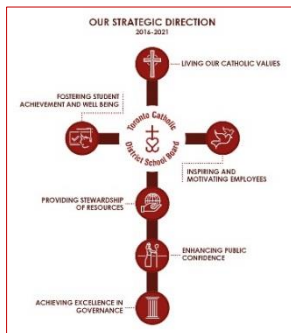
**Vision:**

*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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## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report recommends that the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) maintain the fees for Non-Resident VISA students. TCDSB does not receive any provincial grants for Non-Resident VISA students and the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) is expected to keep its fees for 2021-22 unchanged from 2020-21 at this time.

Business Services and International Education Department staff recommends maintaining TCDSB's fees of \$16,000 Elementary and Secondary respectively to effectively match the TDSB fees. It is anticipated that the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) will continue to remain competitive and attractive to Non-Resident VISA students for September 2021.

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

## **B. PURPOSE**

1. To set the TCDSB Non-Resident VISA student fees for the 2021-22 school year, enhance recruitment efforts and remain competitive with the co-terminus school board, the TDSB.

## **C. BACKGROUND**

1. *This is an annual report provided to the Board for its consideration.* In 2002, the Board approved a motion requesting staff to prepare an annual report on the setting of Non-Resident VISA student fees and updates on any changes that have occurred with surrounding boards.
2. *The Ministry sets a minimum, but no maximum for non-resident fees.* In March 2000, the Ministry of Education announced the Regulation made under the Education Act, "Calculation of fees for non-residents" for the 2000-01 school year. The regulation pertaining to the charging of tuition fees to VISA students does not set a maximum ceiling on how high the fees should be set, only a required minimum fee since the board does not receive any grants for Visa students.

3. ***The Ministry has added an International Student recovery beginning in the 2019-20 fiscal year.*** The TCDSB was faced with what amounted to a loss of revenue as the Province implemented a plan to recover \$1,300 per International Student beginning in the 2019-20 fiscal year. While the Board originally intended on increasing the tuition for the 2019-20 year to offset this revenue loss, staff advised that 95% of the tuition fees had already been collected for the following year and increasing fees could be seen as a breach of contract. As such, the Board passed the budget with a deficit, partially as a result of providing a one-year phase-in for these tuition fees with the intention of increasing fees in September 2020.

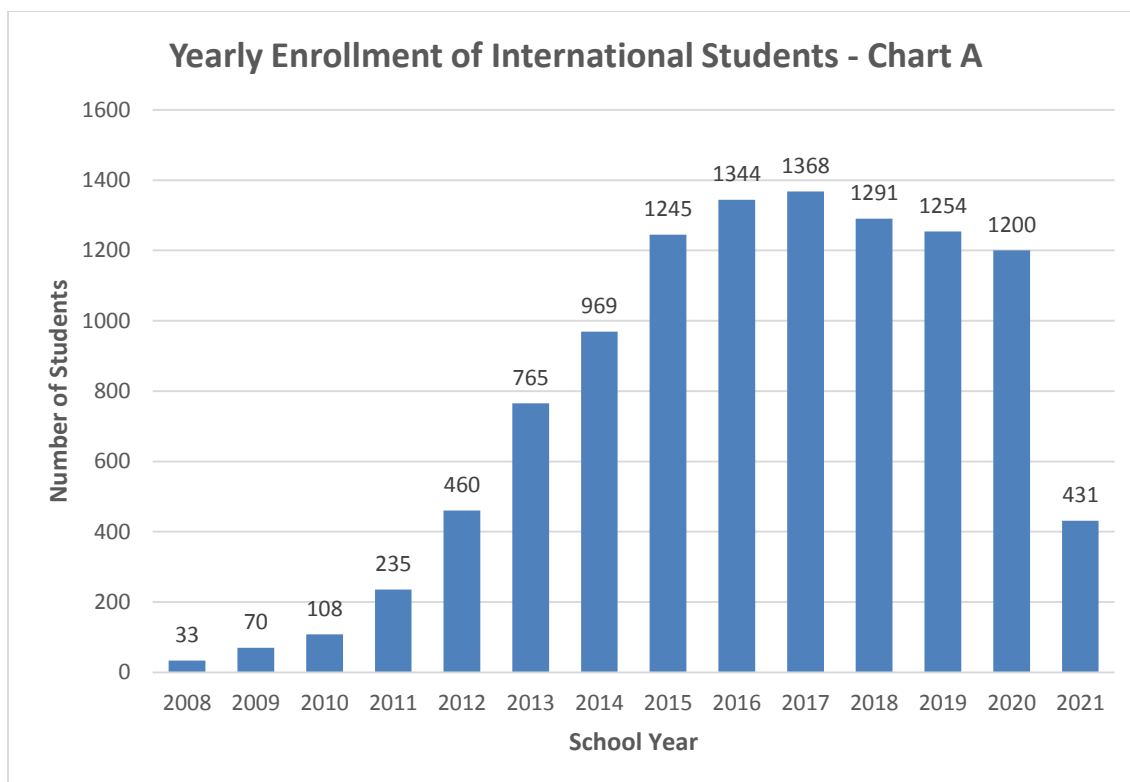
#### **D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS**

1. ***TCDSB remained comparable for both the Elementary and Secondary Visa Student fees in the 2020-21 School year.*** Most boards will not set their fees for the following school year 2021-22 until March or April of 2021 so there is very little comparative data. At this time the only board to set its fees for September 2021-22 is the TDSB. Staff expect that other boards will follow this example to recover the International student recovery amount which effectively reduced revenues by \$1,300 per student in 2020-21.
  
2. ***International Student Fee amounts was a topic during budget discussions.*** The chart below shows the 2020-21 approved fees as per the approved board motion and shows what the market will bear based on TDSB keeping their fees at \$16,000.

Panel	Sep 1 2019 Approved Rate for 2019-20 Communicated to Agents worldwide	Sep 1 2020 Fee as per Board Motion	Sep 1, 2021 Market Rate Suggested by Staff
Elementary	13,000	16,000	16,000
Secondary	14,500	16,000	16,000

Business Services and International Education staff recommend that the tuition for elementary and secondary remain at \$16,000, the application fee to remain at \$350, and the administration fee of \$40 for those paying by wire transfer as the TCDSB incurs additional costs and tracking and reconciling wire transfers. The administration fee may also encourage parents to make their child's payment using CIBC's on-line banking services, which would not incur the \$40 additional fee.

3. ***All Boards exceed the minimum fee level set by the Ministry.*** For context, the Ministry of Education's Grants for Student Needs (GSNs) requires a minimum VISA tuition fee charge of \$10,844 for elementary and \$11,505 for secondary.
4. ***The TCDSB implemented Director's Caps in 2018-19.*** In collaboration with the International Students department, Planning Services and Director's Council, caps for International VISA students have been developed for all secondary schools, with a particular focus on oversubscribed schools. These CAPS were approved at the February 2, 2018 meeting of the Student Achievement and Well-Being Committee and are applicable as a total for all grade level International students per school.
5. ***TCDSB will continue to monitor the market.*** In the event TDSB or surrounding boards increase or decrease their fees for the 2021-22 school year, TCDSB staff will re-evaluate and recommend adjustments to the tuition fee as appropriate.
6. ***The increase/decrease in fees could result in an increase or decrease in enrolment which would affect the additional revenue generated by the International students.*** Currently these additional revenues are used to offset costs from other program areas in the budget. A decrease in enrolment or a reduction in fees could result in loss of this additional income which could mean other program cuts would be required to balance the budget. The chart A below provides some projections for enrolment and Chart B provides some estimates on revenue and expenditures.



**E. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the fees for Non-Resident VISA students for September 2021 for Toronto Catholic District School board to remain at \$16,000 for both Elementary and Secondary, inclusive of the \$500 mandatory cost of Health Insurance.
2. That the administrative fee remains at \$350.

<b><u>Panel</u></b>	<b><u>Yearly Fee</u></b>	<b><u>Pro-Rated Fee</u></b>
Elementary	\$16,000	or \$1,600 per month
Secondary (under 21)	\$16,000	or \$1,600 per month
Secondary (over 21-Fraser)	\$16,000	or \$2,000 per additional course