

May 05, 2021

Dear Trustee's

His Excellency Cardinal Thomas Collins has released a statement with guidance against flying the Pride flag in Catholic schools.

The statement approves of flying only the Canadian flag as a prudent way to keep the school boards out of battles over diverse causes.

The Cardinal says the cross indicates inclusion and acceptance for all, and that **no other secular symbols besides the cross are necessary for Catholic institutions:**

"There is a belief among some that unless one embraces secular symbols, one cannot be inclusive or accepting. This is simply not true. Where there are cases of injustice and mistreatment of any student, whether they are bullied or rejected due to their sexual orientation, appearance, race, sex or any other reason, we must seize the moment, address the situation and ensure that we lead by example, as we foster a culture of care and love for every individual. That truth is perfectly represented in our most fundamental Catholic symbol: the cross."

This is to remind, you took an oath to protect the Catholic faith in Catholic schools and that you have an obligation to support the Cardinal's statement with their votes on flying the flag.

Voting to raise a secular symbol over a Catholic school violates the choice of parents who send their children to schools where they can expect things will be done in a Catholic way. As the statement says:

"Parents make a clear choice when they decide that their children will attend a Catholic school.

They rightly expect that trustees, principals, teachers – all partners in education – will ensure that Catholic teaching is presented, lived and infused in all that we do."

- This is to let you know that the Cardinal has instructed that the Pride flag is unnecessary for Catholic schools.
- **We are asking you to vote against flying the pride flag in schools.**

Thank you and keep safe.

For and on behalf of:
UNITED HINDU CONGRESS CANADA.

V. Sharma
President.