

Meeting With CPIC for Consultation

Topic: Parent Engagement in Equity and Inclusion Project

Monday January 17th

Objective: To lead parent engagement in Equity and Inclusion Awareness

Connection to Equity Action Plan: Organizational Culture
Domain 4- Change in a Catholic Learning Community

Dates: Series Structure : April to June – 1 event for each month highlighting the various perspectives and critical lens approach in creating capacity for understanding in the parent community.

Importance: For parents to learn and understand as well as to gain awareness of Equity and Inclusion Issues in our schools.

1. Understanding Equity issues – increase parent engagement in equity and inclusion issues.
2. Identify barriers in Equity – reaching out to parents disengaged from educational system.
3. Increase understanding of how equity issues impact our classrooms and families.

Framework: This equity series will highlight community leaders, inspirational speakers who will share their personal narratives, experiences, as well as their experiences as parents and their work in promoting equity and inclusion in our schools and larger community. I will be leading a team of administrators, community leaders and parents in supporting this project.

BIOS: Taisha Lewis – Securities Law Top 40 under 40

In addition to her practice, Taisha is actively involved in the legal and broader community, currently serving as a mentor with Gems for Success in Law and the Black Law Students Association and as a director on the board of a not-for-profit organization. Taisha is a past member of the Ontario Bar Association's Business Law Section Executive and the Young Lawyers Division East Executive. In 2020, Taisha won a 40 Under 40 Award from the National Bar Association, which recognizes the top Black lawyers in the U.S. under the age of 40 who exemplify a broad range of high achievement, including in advocacy, innovation, vision, leadership and overall legal and community involvement.

Layth Gafoor

Layth Gafoor is a coveted speaker, legal commentator, agent and advisor to some of today's leading organizations, professional athletes & entertainers faced with the greatest risks. An expert in crisis management, Layth works as an international speaker delivering his knowledge to audiences worldwide. Layth is a partner at Lucentem Sports & Entertainment Law, one of Canada's top law firms, where he advises on legal and business matters within the sports and entertainment industries. He serves as counsel to a variety of sporting organizations, teams, elite professional athletes and artists within music, film and television.

Mark Strong

In the early 90s, Strong joined the cornerstone of the urban talent pool in Toronto, Fresh Arts. An organization that helped build the foundation of such talent like Kardinal Offishall, Saukrates, July Black and video director Little X. His writing skills and connection with those around him also helped branch out into acting, writing and producing several neighborhood theater plays, which strengthened his grounding in communities across the GTA. By 2001, Strong moved to commercial radio and in a matter of months, he advanced to the position of lead on-air personality and producer of the morning show, The Morning Rush on Flow 93.5; a position he held for over an impressive 4 years. Other notables on the entertainment front have been his demand for crowd/audience warm ups, landing him warm ups for Deal or No Deal for host Howie Mandel, Are You Smarter Than a Canadian 5th Grader for host Collin Mochrie and for both the 2008 and 2009 warmups for YTV's The Next Star