

January Student Trustee Board Report

Update from the Student Trustees:



- Keith released a statement under OSTA-AECO with Stephanie's help to raise student concerns on the Ministry's return to school plan. We emphasized the need for further student consultations, the continuation of reporting covid-cases, and providing adequate PPE for students.
- Keith and Stephanie were interviewed by CTV News, Toronto Star and CHCH News regarding the return to in-person learning and hear our honest opinions on it.
- Keith hosted the second meeting of the 2SLGBTQ+ Student Advisory Committee. At this meeting, we continued planning this year's initiatives and ideas.
- Keith and Stephanie met with CSLIT Moderator Mr. Consul, Superintendent Caccamo, Superintendent DiMarco and Superintendent Fernandes to discuss the idea of potentially cancelling exams. After some insightful discussion, we proposed that if a student's exam mark were to negatively affect their overall grade, it should not be counted due to the additional mental health stress during this time due to the pandemic and Omicron variant.
- Keith joined a panel session called "If I had 1.08 billion dollars", funded by Wilfred Laurier University and moderated by *People for Education*. He joined other leaders in education and Ontario educational stakeholders to discuss the challenges of learning recovery and solutions we can implement.
- Keith joined a panel session at the *Cannexus Conference*, Canada's largest conference focused on career and workforce employment. The session Keith joined focused on "A Future of Public Education Driven by Youth".
- Keith and Stephanie held individual meetings with secondary school student councils from across the board with the goal of discussing CSLIT initiatives, menstrual products in schools, the anonymous alerts app, and any concerns their student body had in regards to the return to in-person learning.
- Keith and Stephanie had a virtual OSTA-AECO executive meeting to discuss ongoing initiatives including the publication of a new document that

builds a platform that ensures students' voice is heard in the upcoming provincial election and planning for the next OSTA-AECO conference.

- Stephanie was interviewed for a research and journalism podcast to discuss the positive impacts recognizing pride month had on students and school communities.

CSLIT Executive Council

Elementary Affairs

For the month of December, the Directors of Elementary Affairs hosted their Christmas-themed General Assembly where the topic of generosity was discussed. During this meeting, Audri and Mara encouraged the elementary leaders to send in any socks, gloves, and winter hats to the CEC to donate to the homeless. The response was awesome and the items will be donated to the Good Shepherd Refuge in January. Mara and Audri also hosted their January General Assembly where their guest speaker, Juan Bendana focused on the Indigenous Grandfather teaching of "Truth." Audri and Mara are continuing to prepare for the upcoming iLITE conference scheduled on January 27th. As always, the directors thank Mr. Caccamo and the board for their continuous support in ECSLIT events.

Social Affairs

After a well-deserved break, the Social Affairs subcommittee is ready to get back into action. For the month of January, the subcommittee got together and split into different groups in order to discuss specific events planned for 2022. The next event will be themed around Valentine's Day. One initiative is creating *letters of love* to be sent out to hospital patients. Students will be able to purchase and personalize these anonymous Valentine's cards. The Social Affairs subcommittee wants to remind students about balance and how taking breaks and having fun leads to better mental health.

Social Justice

The Social Justice Subcommittee is in the final planning phases of their recycling for social justice initiative. This idea involves collecting batteries and scrap metal from schools and students in a safe and logistically convenient way to raise money

for community causes. More details to come about this unique initiative. In addition, the Social Justice subcommittee wants to host different events in 2022 including something on February 20 which is the World Day of Social Justice. In addition, the committee is brainstorming ideas related to learning and celebrating Indigenous culture and language (which is part of our Indigenous education pillar of focus). Details about these events will be released when finalized and reviewed by staff.

Equity

The Director of Equity, Adekunbi Luwaji is working alongside her subcommittee to commence the integration of CVMA—Catholic Visible Minority Alliance. This student group amalgamates last year's *Catholic Youth Black Alliance* and *Asian Core Team*. This group is brainstorming some Black History Month initiatives for February.

Faith

The Director of Faith, Roy Bou Abboud, prepared opening and closing prayers for our monthly CSLIT and ECSLIT online meetings. Roy will host the first Let's Talk Faith webinar of the year on Wednesday, February 16th, 2022 with the help of the Faith Subcommittee. The Faith Subcommittee has been meeting on a weekly basis, planning the upcoming Let's Talk Faith webinar as well as preliminary planning for our annual Faith Camp. Roy also attended the monthly 2SLGBTQ+ Student Advisory Committee meeting on Friday, January 14th, 2022. Roy is one of the leads on our *2SLGBTQ+ Inclusion and Acceptance* pillar of focus.

Charity

To raise engagement on our social media, our Directors of Charity Julisa and Nicole, have been posting Advent reflections every Sunday. Advent posts were created for every week of December with various prompts connected to our faith. Before the break, we also had the amazing opportunity to fundraise for the charity Meagan's Hug which supports kids with brain cancer. Through the selling of gingerbread houses, our charity subcommittee was able to raise close to \$800. Julisa and Nicole are also part of our Equity Pillar and have been working closely with our Director of Equity, Adekunbi planning events for Black History Month.

Public Relations

The month of December and the weeks leading up to the return from the Holiday has been busy for the Public Relations Team. With the guidance from Student Trustees, and Mr. Consul, The Public Relations Team has worked hard to put out the most up-to-date posts and constantly update students on developments regarding school. Furthermore, with the final stretch of the semester looming, The Public Relations Team has increased attention towards swiftly responding to students who reach out to CSLIT via Instagram. On a good note, CSLIT's social media presence has been growing at a rate higher than previous months, with a net increase of 400 followers. With this new audience, we expect an uptick in participation in CSLIT and Catholic Student Leadership events.

Administrative Affairs

In the month of January, Junette Tindan has been working alongside the student trustees and the executive directors in support of the future plans for the school year. Junette has been working on plans within the Indigenous Education pillar as well as helping organize iLITE happening on Jan. 27th. As always, Junette is an asset when it comes to helping organize upcoming general assembly meetings, make sure all details are covered, and everyone is upholding their responsibilities.

Catholic Student Leadership - GET INVOLVED!