



*Teresa Lubinski
Trustee Ward 4*

E-mail: Teresa.Lubinski@tcdsb.org

Voicemail: 416-512-3404

To: Student Achievement and Well-Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee Regular Meeting, February 3, 2022

From: Teresa Lubinski, Trustee Ward 4

Subject: Consideration of Motion - To Proclaim Katyń Massacre and Smolensk Air Disaster Commemoration Day in all Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Schools on April 10, 2022 and Every Year Thereafter

MOVED BY: Teresa Lubinski, SECONDED BY: Trustee Kennedy

WHEREAS: The Toronto Catholic District School Board recognizes the contributions of Poles globally and to the fabric of our communities;

WHEREAS: There is a high number of students with Polish background in the Toronto Catholic District School Board that have made significant contributions to our schools (through sharing their rich heritage, history, culture and language) and who form a part of the firm foundation of this Board;

WHEREAS: There are over 1.1 million Canadians who claim full or partial Polish ancestry, of whom over 145,000 reside in the City of Toronto, with many attending our Catholic schools;

WHEREAS: Approximately 22,000 Polish people, mainly reserve officers, engineers, doctors, teachers, university professors, members of the intelligentsia, and others, were shot individually at the back of the head during April and May of 1940 by the Soviet Union Government;

WHEREAS: On April 10, 2010, Polish President Lech Kaczyński, First Lady Maria Kaczyńska, Senior Polish Government Officials, family members of the Katyń Massacre lost their lives in a fatal plane crash (96 people), known as Smolensk Air Disaster while travelling to Katyń to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of Katyń Massacre;

WHEREAS: To date, the Katyń Massacre continues to be a historical wound for the Polish community in Etobicoke-Lakeshore and Parkdale-High Park, Canada and across the world;

WHEREAS: The TCDSB is committed to educating students about social injustice; and

WHEREAS: The TCDSB envisions graduates who are responsible citizens who give witness to Catholic teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: All schools at the Toronto Catholic District School Board have a moment of silence and reflection for the victims of Katyń Massacre and Smolensk Air Disaster on April 10, 2022 and every year thereafter; and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Toronto Catholic District School Board do hereby proclaim April 10, 2022 as Katyń Massacre and Smolensk Air Disaster Commemoration Day in all of the TCDSB schools this year and every year thereafter.

Teresa Lubinski

Trustee, Ward 4