



## REPORT TO

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

## DAYS OF RECOGNITION

*Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. - Joshua 1:9*

## Drafted

March 29, 2022

## Meeting Date

April 5, 2022

Shazia Vlahos, Chief of Communications &amp; Government Relations

## INFORMATION REPORT

**Vision:** *IN GOD'S IMAGE: Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope.*

**Mission:** *Nurturing the faith development and academic excellence of our Catholic learning community through the love of God, neighbour, and self.*



MULTI-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN  
2022 - 2025

IN GOD'S IMAGE: Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope



Dr. Brendan Browne  
Director of Education

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Associate Director of Facilities,  
Business & Community Development

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Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the Regular Board meeting on March 24, 2022, the Board deferred debate on a notice of motion seeking recognition of a new day to the Student Achievement and Well-Being meeting on April 5, 2022. At that time, it was also requested that staff come back with information about a process for days of recognition moving forward.

**The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 4 hours.**

## **B. PURPOSE**

1. Request at the Regular Board meeting on March 24, 2022, that staff come back with information about a process for days of recognition moving forward.

## **C. BACKGROUND**

1. Request at the Regular Board meeting on March 24, 2022, that staff come back with information about a process for days of recognition moving forward.
2. In an effort to create more inclusive school communities and to better reflect our diversity, the Communications Department and central departments work together to determine additional days of recognition.
3. To date, TCDSB's system calendar consists of dates from the following sources including:
  - a. Ministry of Education school year calendar;
  - b. Board proclaimed days and heritage months following a Trustee motion;
  - c. Catholic/liturgical days of celebration and recognition, and other major religious holidays; and
  - d. International, [federal](#) and [provincial](#) days of celebration and commemoration.
4. Each month averages between 10-20+ days of recognition. May, June and October are the busiest months where the Board recognizes approximately 20+ month/days.

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

1. The Communications Department reached out to all Catholic DSBs and Boards in the GTA to review their calendar for recognizing days/months.

2. Responses received to date are from Toronto District School Board, York Region DSB, Ottawa Catholic, Niagara Catholic, Durham Catholic, Simcoe Muskoka Catholic, and Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic.
3. After reviewing all the responses, please note the following observations:
  - a. Calendar of dates continues to evolve and is not meant to be comprehensive of every possible day of recognition.
  - b. Days/months recognized are aligned with the Government of Canada and Government of Ontario. Most also recognize international days using the United Nations as a source.
  - c. Central staff are responsible for identifying and maintaining a calendar of dates based on above noted sources.
  - d. Heritage Months were typically motioned by Trustees, if not already recognized.
  - e. Days recognizing a person or historical event, not already recognized internationally, federally or provincially, were not apparent in the lists reviewed or a common practice.
4. There have been instances where the name for a TCDSB day of recognition has varied (ie. different in a motion than what is more commonly used) and instances where dates change annually.

## **E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

1. The Communications Department includes all days of recognition on the TCDSB website, weekly wrap-up, and on social media channels.
2. When applicable resources are needed, central departments prepare and share information with staff and school communities.
3. Requests for suggested additions, can be made to [equity.dept@tcdsb.org](mailto:equity.dept@tcdsb.org) and will be reviewed by central staff.

## **F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT**

This report is for the information of the Board of Trustees.