

2021-2022 CSLIT ACTIONS BASED ON PILARS OF FOCUS FROM 2021 VOICES THAT CHALLENGE REPORT

The following is a summary of CSLIT's 2021-2022 actions based on the Pillars of Focus from the 2021 Voices that Challenge Report:

Pillar of Focus #1: Supporting Special Education

- CSLIT aspired to ensure every student had access to leadership opportunities at the school and Board level. For our students in Special Education, CSLIT promoted greater participation in Catholic Student Leadership events and placed a greater emphasis on ensuring all activities and opportunities planned were accessible to all, including those with special needs.

Pillar of Focus #2: Mental Health and Well Being

- On Thursday, April 7, 2022, the *Stop the Stigma* student symposiums were held virtually. The secondary student symposium was attended by 2445 students from 23 different secondary schools where CSLIT members actively participated as contributors to the Student Mental Health Advisory Council.

Pillar of Focus #3: Enhancing Equity

- CSLIT built the capacity of 2 newly developed student groups: *Catholic Youth Black Alliance* and *Asian Core Team*. These two student groups focussed on awareness, education, and equity.
- CSLIT continuously supported the Equity, Diversity, Indigenous Education and Community Relations Department with multiple virtual and in-person events including:
 - the Newcomers' Conference
 - Anti-Racism Conference
 - African Canadian Heritage initiatives including the I Am King: Black Male student conference and Power to Girls Black Female student conference
 - Asian Canadian Heritage Virtual Celebrations
 - Filipino Canadian Heritage Month and Day Celebrations including Proudly Pinoy

Pillar of Focus #4: Indigenous Education and Immersion

- CSLIT invited Hip Hop Artist and speaker Que Rock to speak at several CSLIT events to help students increase knowledge and awareness of Indigenous cultures, histories, traditions, and perspectives.

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- CSLIT students contributed to the design and production of the inaugural bench for the TCDSB Welcome Bench initiative.
- CSLIT supported the National Indigenous Peoples Day at the CEC on June 22, 2022, which was attended by 300 Grade 6 students from various TCDSB schools.

Pillar of Focus #5: 2SLGBTQ+ Inclusion and Acceptance

- CSLIT student leaders served as members of the 2SLGBTQ+ Student Advisory Committee to help plan events and initiatives grounded in inclusion and belonging of all students. In addition, CSLIT student leaders collaborated to develop a safe, inclusive, online forum and a TCDSB symbol of support (“We All Belong” stickers) for students to wear or display voluntarily to show inclusion and solidarity with the 2SLGBTQ+ community.
- CSLIT advocated to have the Pride Flag flown at the CEC and all TCDSB schools as well as acknowledging June as Pride Month. We are proud to see the Board's journey in showing support and inclusion towards our 2SLGBTQ+ students and staff.

Additional Exemplary Catholic Student Leadership Initiatives

- From August 28 to September 3, 2022, 28 student leaders from over 20 secondary schools across the school board gathered at Olympia Sports Camp. Over the last 13 years, CSLIT has organized *Catholic Leadership Camp* to encourage students from various TCDSB secondary schools to celebrate and reflect on our Catholic faith. This year's camp was facilitated in partnership with Development and Peace (Caritas Canada).
- CSLIT hosted *Let's Talk Faith*, a monthly student-led virtual reflection exploring faith and hope with Catholic student leaders and staff from across the TCDSB. The monthly reflections encouraged student leaders to nurture interaction, discussion, communal prayer, and the sacramentality of life.
- With support from the Nurturing our Catholic Community Team, our CSLIT Executive Director of Faith facilitated a virtual *Faith Camp* experience for 106 student participants from various secondary schools across the TCDSB. This two-day initiative was embedded in spiritual renewal and growth and the celebration of our Catholic faith through active participation in liturgy.
- CSLIT hosted an online webinar on financial literacy.
- The *President's Council* event was hosted by CSLIT for student council members from each Catholic secondary school to come together and share best practices.