

## **June Student Trustee Report**



### **June General Assembly:**

On Tuesday, May 30th, CSLIT held its final formal General Assembly of the year. This GA was filled with opportunities for students to network and talk about the various issues they face in their school communities. Trustee Davis came to speak to the GA members about the importance of being politically engaged while incorporating our Catholic values. The students were then encouraged to come to the end of the year BBQ scheduled for June 27th and the CSLIT weekend at Camp Olympia before the new school year starts.

### **Ontario Student Trustees' Association AGM:**

From Thursday, May 25th to Sunday, May 28th, the Student Trustees attended the Ontario Student Trustees' Association's Annual General Meeting at the Renaissance Hotel. The conference consisted of a keynote address from the Hon. Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education on the importance of student voice and on issues within education system. The OSTA-AECO executive also held a workshop on sharing best practices to transition incoming student trustees on board etiquette all the way to running successful leadership initiatives. Additionally, OSTA had a student trustee alumni panel, where former TCDSB student trustee, Natalie Rizzo was a panelist. There was also a roundtable with Educational Stakeholders for incoming student trustees giving them an opportunity to ask questions to different staff members. Most notably, former Leadership Director of the TCDSB, Greg Rogers held a workshop on student engagement in student leadership and fostering positive change.

The OSTA-AECO Gala was a night to acknowledge various students across the province for their contribution to their communities through the Ontario Student Voice Awards and the keynote address came from Karl Baldauf, Vice President of Policy and Government Relations Ontario Chamber of Commerce and founding president of OSTA-AECO.

The OSTA-AECO Executive Council bids farewell to Karina Dubrovskaya, their 2016-2017 French Relations Officer and congratulates Rhea Carlisle on her election as the Operations Officer for the 2017-2018 term.

OSTA-AECO has met with various parties at Queens Park this past year, including a meeting with Premier Wynne. The organization is sending a letter with recommendations to further solidify the presence of student voice in boardrooms, here is a summary of what the Ontario Student Trustees' Association asks of the government surrounding the student trustee position.

- 1. That the Ontario Government further the dynamicity and effectiveness of student representation across Ontario by supporting a recorded, binding vote for student trustees at the Board table on a policy formation and decision making level and;**
- 2. That the Ontario Government allow students to begin the discussions surrounding items that they feel are most pertaining to their constituency, by allowing student trustees the right to independently move and second motions during board meetings**

It is the goal of the Ontario Student Trustees' Association that these recommendations will motivate the Ontario government to engage in discussions surrounding the student trustee position.

### **Superior North Program:**

During May, 26 students from across the TCDSB traveled to Geraldton, ON in partnership with Superior North Catholic School Board. There were 3 online skype meetings between students prior to the trip. During their visit, the students visited 3 different schools and were immersed in First Nations culture (food, customs, clothing, dance, history and traditions). The TCDSB students had the opportunity to share their leadership best practices with the elementary students of the SNCDSB and together, they built long lasting relationships.

**Subcommittee Updates:****Social Affairs:**

The Director of Social Affairs along with the subcommittee are finalizing plans for the annual Gala, Once Upon a Gala, a gathering that creates a fun and lively atmosphere for student leaders to meet and socialize and reunite with student leaders they have met through the course of the year of leadership initiatives. The team has finalized their venue at the Toronto Botanical Gardens. Over 240 students are expected to attend this event. The team is also organizing the annual BBQ taking place on June 27th. This will be the final event of the year closing the 2016-2017 term of Catholic student leadership impact team.

**Equity:**

The Inclusion and Belonging retreat took place on May 26th, 2017. It was a day for Student Leaders to educate themselves and voice their opinions on different issues students face throughout the board (homophobia, racism, autism, mental illness). The day was a success, with over 10 schools and 100 students who participated. The day lasted from 9-3, where students got to interact through different workshops, with role models and were able to educate themselves with interactive games themed around the major topics.

**Elementary Affairs:**

During the month of May, ECSLIT was very busy with the Camp Olympia weekends. It was a great success, as many students left with many leadership tools/skills and many memorable memories. This Thursday, ECSLIT will be ending off the year with a fishing retreat at Bird's Family Fishing Place. It will be a little end of the year celebration to congratulate all elementary student leaders and what leadership initiatives they have accomplished this year.

**Faith:**

In the month of May, the Faith Subcommittee has worked to wrap up any outstanding duties, as the year is quickly coming to an end. In doing so, transitional files have been created with input of the committee, to help next year's Faith committee to properly execute their role on CSLIT and be prepared for all the tasks at hand.