



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

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March 8, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
- All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: **Bill 193, Rowan's Law (Concussion Safety), 2018 - Update**

Further to the memorandum of January 23, 2018, the government passed Rowan's Law on March 6, 2018. For your information, we have attached the government's media release on this legislation.

Background

On December 14, 2018 the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport introduce for first reading Bill 193 - Rowan's Law, which sets out a legislative framework for concussion management and prevention. The bill applies to organized amateur competitive sports in schools, colleges, universities and communication groups. The legislation will require the following of school boards:

- Annual review of concussion awareness resources that help prevent, identify and manage concussions, which athletes, coaches, educators and parents would be required to review before registering in a sport;
- Removal-from-sport and return-to-sport protocols, to ensure that an athlete is immediately removed from sport if they are suspected of having sustained a concussion and giving them the time required to heal properly;
- A concussion code of conduct that would set out rules of behaviour to minimize concussions while playing sport.

The legislation also includes amendments to the *Education Act* that gives the Minister of Education authority to issue binding policies and guidelines for school boards regarding concussions in students consistent with new legislation.

In terms of the Bill's impact on PPM 158: School Board Policies on Concussion, it would make PPM 158 mandatory and include some additional requirements such as a concussion code of conduct.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Stephen Andrews at sandrews@ocsta.on.ca.

Attachment