



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

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November 21, 2018

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Brian O'Sullivan, MA, Ed.D, Director of Catholic Education

SUBJECT: **Trustees Learning Modules**

The October Municipal Election saw 60+ new trustees elected in our 29 Catholic school boards. We would like to welcome all of them to OCSTA. At OCSTA, we have two major program offerings for our trustees.

The first offering is a series of trustee modules entitled the **Module A Series**. Please see these modules at <https://www.ocsta.on.ca/trustee-modules-2/>. These were organized with Catholic content to support the trustee learning modules organized first by the OESC – a consortium of Ontario school board associations (English Catholic, English public, French Catholic and French public). These modules were first developed by Ontario public school board associations, however we have added additional Catholic content to meet the specific needs of our Ontario Catholic trustees. A presentation on **Catholic Trustee Challenges: Past, Present & Future** by Professor Mark McGowan will be offered as credit toward Series A and Series B programs in **January 2019** at our OCSTA provincial conference.

Attendance at Professor Mark McGowan's presentation will be added to each trustee's electronic record card for Module Series A & Series B –a record which we compile at the end of each module done by each trustee.

You can view the link (see above) to the **Module A Series** to get a sense of the topics offered in this series. These are very much self-serve learning modules where you study and complete the courses at your own pace, with final electronic quizzes at the end of each module, before proceeding to the next module.

...Continue

The second offering entitled **Module B Series**, was developed by OCSTA for a more detailed look at issues in Ontario Catholic education. Based on the regional enrolment we receive, trustees will belong to a regional study cohort of other trustees (east west, north, or south) and their group is led by university staff who have both board level experience and university teaching experience. The study group leaders for this program were drawn from such places as King's College (University of Western Ontario), St. Michael's College, Regis College (both of Toronto), and Laurentian University for our northern trustees... All Catholic colleges with deep roots in Ontario education.

In this Series B program, trustees correspond with their regional group leader (e.g. staff at St. Michael's College) and at semester's end have a chance to meet their class colleagues and professor in their cohort to share their course work in Catholic education – all coinciding with the spring 2019 provincial gathering of OCSTA. The candidates who have taken this course in the past are trustees seeking to advance to leadership positions in their school board (e.g. Chair or Vice-Chair) or those who simply wanted a deeper knowledge in Catholic issues offered in this program, to assist them in their role as trustees). To see this program in more detail, please review the attached document.

Series A focuses primarily on operational issues in Catholic school boards and Series B focuses on more historic, theological, and current events in Catholic education, in Canada and in the world. Those taking Series B have often completed the Series A program first, but you are free to take either one first.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions. I can be reached at bosullivan@ocsta.on.ca.

**OCSTA CERTIFICATE COURSE IN LEADERSHIP &
GOOD GOVERNANCE
FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES**

January – April 2019



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

**IN COLLABORATION WITH THE FOLLOWING ONTARIO
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES FROM OUR 2015 COURSE PROGRAM**



St. Augustine's



USMC



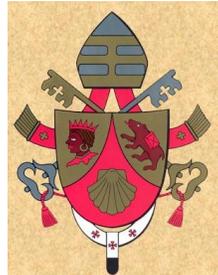
Assumption



St. Jerome's University



King's College



St. Paul's



Regis



UNIVERSITÉ
de SUDBURY
UNIVERSITY
of SUDBURY

SINCE / DEPUIS
1913

University of Sudbury

You are invited to enroll in the 2019 OCSTA Certificate Course in Leadership & Good Governance. This course, delivered on-line, involves weekly readings and reflection papers focused on important and contemporary issues facing Catholic trustees. This course is designed to provide you with excellent background knowledge in Ontario Catholic education.

While all Catholic colleges expressed interest in the program in 2015, only when we have received final regional trustee enrolment numbers can we finalize which Catholic colleges will be part of the program. In 2015, all eight Catholic colleges agreed to join us, but our trustee enrolment numbers only permitted us to enroll in four regional Catholic colleges.

Time Commitment:

2 hours /week plus a 10 hour practicum project over the three month course.

Course Topics

- ***Ontario Catholic Education: A Legal & Historical Overview***
(at the January 2019 Provincial Trustee Conference)
- ***Social Teaching, Catholic Education & The Catholic Trustee***
- ***Catholic Media: Informing Your Catholic Trustee Leadership & Governance***
- ***Governance and Leadership in the Changing Reality of Catholicism***
- ***Leadership Lessons of Pope Francis***
- ***Our Catholic Future: The Important Challenge of Youth Engagement in Catholic Education***
- ***First Nations, Metis, and Inuit: Past Issues and Current Best Practices in Catholic Education***
- ***Servant Leadership, Community Building and the Catholic Trustee as Public Advocate of Catholic Education***
- ***Catholic Trustee Leadership: Best Practices for Enhancing the Triad Relationship (Board, Parish and Parents)***
- ***The World Presence of Catholic Education; Current Issues in Canada, the USA, Europe, India, South America, Africa and Australia***
- ***Two classes to be focused exclusively on local Catholic issues with the local Catholic University***

Our University Partners in Catholic Education

The unique feature of this course is its collaboration with eight Catholic universities that are located in the major regions across Ontario. Each university will conduct the online course with one of its faculty and these local sites will organize the two local content classes.

Job Embedded Practicum

As part of this course, you will design your own job embedded local project in Catholic education that will further enhance your leadership experience as a trustee. In the past, trustees designed projects that were relevant to their own board work, such as student leadership, teacher/adult faith programs, local Catholic school history projects, etc.

Cost: \$500 from Board PD funds / trustee.

Questions

If you have further questions about the course, please contact Dr. Brian O'Sullivan, the OCSTA Director of Catholic Education at bosullivan@ocsta.on.ca.

To Enroll in the Course

To enroll in the course, please contact Dr. Brian O'Sullivan and specify your:

- Name
- Catholic District School Board
- The Ontario Catholic University of Your Choice