



Linda Ainsworth

Hello fellow trustees,

Last year it was my distinct pleasure to serve as your elected representative on the OCSTA Board of Directors. Over that time, I attended on your behalf every Board meeting, every meeting of the two committees to which I was assigned (Catholic Education and Trustee Enrichment as well as Budget and Human Resources) and I sat in as an observer for every meeting of the Political Advocacy Committee. I am a second term trustee with the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board and in 2018 I found that was very able to commit the time required to fulfill the mandate you entrusted to me. My experience over the last year has only strengthened my belief in the invaluable role that OCSTA plays in promoting and protecting Catholic Education in Ontario. I hope that you will vote to allow me to continue as the Region 9 representative on the OCSTA Board of

Directors for the next two years.

Just to refresh your memory, I am a Northern Ontario girl who grew up in Sudbury, graduated from Laurentian University and raised a family for 31 years in Timmins. My work life has included two managerial positions with the Timmins and District Hospital and ten years with the Diocese of Timmins as an Auditor for the Marriage Tribunal and translator (French to English). The translation work I have continued since moving south in 2006. This move to Toronto happened after my husband Alphonse retired as Director of Education for *Conseil scolaire catholique de district des Grandes-Rivières* and accepted the position of General Secretary for the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario. In 2008 we moved from Toronto to Bowmanville where we have now lived for eleven years.

An active member of my Catholic parishes, I have served as Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council and member of the Diocesan Pastoral Council as well as a lector, choir member, RCIA animator, President of the Catholic Women's League in my Bowmanville parish and member of the Peterborough Diocesan CWL Executive. Community service has been equally important to me and has included among other commitments, seven years working on the phone and on the Board of Telecare Timmins as well as board member and then President of United Way Timmins.

Alphonse and I have three children and five grandchildren, all of whom attend Catholic schools in three different boards in Ontario, including PVNC and Durham Catholic. Our daughter and her husband are Catholic teachers with PVNC. One of my sisters and her husband retired as teachers from Toronto Catholic.

I am a passionate defender of Catholic Education, partly in gratitude for my parents sacrificing to make it available to me but also for its contribution in making me the person that I am today. As a trustee I will defend and protect our right to Catholic Education and do my best to ensure the continuation of its proven success. I hope that at our AGM you will place your trust in me once again for the next two years. May God bless us all in this important work. Thank you.