



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

May 11, 2021

MEMORANDUM

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

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff
Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: **Legislative Update**

Recent and Current Legislation

Bill 288, Building Opportunities in the Skilled Trades Act, 2021

This Bill was introduced by Labour Minister Monte McNaughton on May 6, 2021. Proposed amendments include establishing Skilled Trades Ontario, a new Crown agency to replace the Ontario College of Trades and to “streamline” apprenticeship training. The link to the news release is below.

Current Status: First Reading

Bill 287, Equity Education for Young Ontarians Act, 2021

This private member’s Bill was introduced by Liberal MPP Lucille Collard. The legislation would require the history of colonization and its impact on Indigenous Peoples to be included in school curricula from kindergarten to Grade 12 in an age-appropriate manner.

Current Status: First Reading

Bill 276, Supporting Recovery and Competitiveness Act, 2021

This Bill was introduced by Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, the Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction. The Bill contains changes to 28 Acts, including the *Education Act* which includes a proposed amendment regarding demonstration schools. This Bill has been referred to the Standing Committee General Government for hearings on May 17 and 18, 2021. Written submissions are due May 19, 2021.

Current Status: Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on General Government.

Bill 260, Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act, 2021

This Bill was introduced on February 8 by Liberal MPP Stephen Blais. The Bill proposes to amend the *Municipal Act* and the *City of Toronto Act* to include code of conduct breaches that involve workplace violence and harassment policies. The introduction followed a previous government announcement on March 5, indicating that the government will be reviewing Municipal Codes of Conduct. This consultation is not applicable to school boards or trustees.

Current Status: First Reading

Bill 251, An Act to enact, amend and repeal various Acts in Respect of Human Trafficking Matters.

This Bill was introduced on February 22 by Solicitor General Sylvia Jones. In addition to this proposed legislation, the Ministry of Education connected with education stakeholders, “to inform the development of an anti-human trafficking policy framework for the provincially-funded education sector.” OCSTA sent a submission to the Ministry of Education on March 18, 2021 on how schools play a role in protecting students against trafficking.

Current Status: Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy for a hearing on May 12 and 13 (via videoconference). OCSTA will be making a submission on the Bill.

Please contact me (pdaly@ocsta.on.ca) or Steve Andrews (sandrews@ocsta.on.ca) if you have any questions.

