Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association

# 2026 CATHOLIC TRUSTEES SEMINAR

**Delta by Marriott Toronto Airport Hotel**
**655 Dixon Rd., Toronto, ON M9W 1J3**

## Program – January 16 to 17

**For more information on speakers and workshops please visit the following link 2026 CTS**

| THURSDAY, JANUARY 15 | |
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| **5:30pm – 6:30pm**<br>International Foyer | **Registration** |
| **FRIDAY, JANUARY 16** | |
| **7:30am**<br>International Foyer | **Breakfast/Registration** |
| **8:30am**<br>International BC | **Opening Prayer**<br>***Fr. Jim Mockler,*** *Chaplain, OCSTA*<br>**Welcoming Remarks and Presentation of OCSTA Short Video Awards – Catholic Elementary Schools**<br>***Jennifer Wigston,*** *Seminar Chair* |
| **9:00am**<br>International BC | **Keynote Address – "Inspired by Faith, United in Mission: Ontario's Catholic School Trustees"**<br>***Most Reverend Gerard Bergie D.D.,***<br>*Bishop of St. Catharines and*<br>*President of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario* |
| **10:00am**<br>International BC | **Presentation of OCSTA Short Video Awards – Catholic Secondary Schools**<br>***Jennifer Wigston,*** *Seminar Chair*<br>**President's Report and Q&A**<br>***Michael Bellmore,*** *President, OCSTA* |
| **10:45am**<br>International Foyer | **Break** |
| **11:00am**<br>International BC | **Canada at a Crossroads: Navigating Ontario's Demographic & Economic Future to the Year 2051**<br>***Jamie Cook, MCIP, RPP, PLE***<br>*Managing Partner, Planning & Land Economics*<br>*Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.* |
| **12:00pm**<br>International A | **Lunch** |
| **1:00pm- 2:00pm** | **Concurrent Workshops** |
| Halton | **1. Transparency, Accountability and Good Stewardship of Financial Resources – Discussion Panel**<br>***Tracy McLennan,*** *Associate Director, Corporate Services & Treasurer, Wellington CDSB*<br>***Paola Pace-Gubekjian,*** *Associate Director of Corporate Services, Hamilton-Wentworth CDSB*<br>***Erica Vervoort, CPA, CA, MAcc***<br>*Director, Audit & Assurance, Deloitte* |
| New York | **2. Effective Advocacy for Catholic School Boards**<br>***Stephen Andrews,*** *Director of Legislative and Political Affairs, OCSTA*<br>***John Capobianco,*** *VP & Senior Partner, National Practice Lead for Public Affairs, Fleishman Hillard*<br>***Christopher Holz,*** *Principal, Campbell Strategies* |
| Paris | ***3.*** **Conversation in the Spirit – Strengthening Relationships, Cultivating Deep Listening and Discerning Priorities**<br>***Linda Staudt,*** *Canadian Synod Delegate and Former Director of Education, London DCSB*<br>***Emelda Byrne,*** *Director of Education, Windsor-Essex CDSB*<br>***Lisa Soulliere,*** *Chair, Windsor-Essex CDSB*<br>***Donna Nielsen,*** *Trustee, CDSB of Eastern Ontario* |

| FRIDAY, JANUARY 16 (CONT'D) | |
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| Mississauga A | **4. Crisis Management Practices in Catholic Schools**<br>***Michael Faught,*** *Superintendent of Education*<br>***Mike Gundert,*** *Coordinator of Religion & Family Life*<br>***Jessica Salmon,*** *Manager of Strategic Communications*<br>*Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB*<br>***Alexandra Frankow,*** *Communications Officer,*<br>***Karen McKissick,*** *CRSP, Safety Coordinator,*<br>*Thunder Bay CDSB* |
| London | **5. Student Trustees Workshop #1**<br>**Pilgrims of Hope: On the Path to Holiness**<br>**CCCB Pastoral Letter to Young People**<br>***Most Reverend Gerard Bergie D.D.,***<br>*Bishop of St. Catharines and*<br>*President of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario* |
| **2:00 pm**<br>International Foyer | **Break** |
| **2:15pm -3:15pm** | **Concurrent Workshops #1-4** *(Repeat)*<br>**Student Trustees Workshop #2**<br>**Pilgrims of Hope: On the Path to Holiness**<br>**The Charisms of Saints - Working Session**<br>***Anne O'Brien,*** *Director of Catholic Education, OCSTA*<br>***Ruben Da Silveira,*** *Chair, Catholic Student Trustees* |
| **3:30pm**<br>International BC | **Leading Well in Difficult Times**<br>***Mark Weber,*** *Special Advisor to the Provost on Leadership Strategy and Development at the University of Waterloo* |
| **4:30pm** | **Day One Closing Remarks** |
| **6:30pm**<br>International Foyer | **Reception**<br>*(Cash Bar)* |
| **7:15pm**<br>International ABC | **Buffet Dinner** |
| **SATURDAY, JANUARY 17** | |
| **7:30am**<br>International BC | **Breakfast** |
| **8:30am**<br>International A | **Eucharistic Celebration**<br>2026 Catholic Education Song – Pilgrims of Hope: On the Path to Holiness<br>***Fr. Jim Mockler,*** *Chaplain, OCSTA*<br>***Christopher Rait,*** *Singer Songwriter, Student Achievement Consultant: Arts*<br>***Jeannine Duwyn,*** *Kindergarten Teacher, St. Cecilia School,*<br>***Steve Glowala,*** Music Teacher, Assumption College,<br>***Dr. Matthew Rait,*** Grade 7/8 Teacher, Our Lady of Lourdes,<br>*Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB* |
| **9:30am**<br>International BC | **OCSTA Resolution Process**<br>***Patrick J. Daly,*** *Executive Director, OCSTA*<br>***Rowan Rockley,*** *Data on the Spot (DOTS)*<br>***Liam Terry,*** *Data on the Spot (DOTS)* |
| **10:00am** | **Current Trends Impacting Education in Ontario**<br>***Dr. David Coletto,*** *Founder and CEO of Abacus Data, York Catholic DSB alumnus* |
| **11:00am**<br>International BC | **Closing Remarks & Adjournment**<br>***Jennifer Wigston,*** *Seminar Chair* |

As of January 8, 2026