

**DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**POLICY**

<b>POLICY NUMBER:</b>	<b>P-3002</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Indigenous Education
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	February 18, 2020

*"In our work together with God, then, we beg you who have received God's grace not to let it be wasted."*

*2 Corinthians 6:1*

**1. OVERVIEW**

- 1.1. The dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all principles of Catholic Social Teachings.
- 1.2. Indigenous Peoples are distinct from equity seeking groups in that they are Self-Determining Nations with Inherent Rights, laws, and virtues of their civilizations. As the original peoples of this land, Indigenous People are rights holders.
- 1.3. Indigenous Peoples' rights are lawfully protected by:
  - Charter of the United Nations
  - International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)
  - International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)
  - United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)
  - United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
  - United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child (UNCRC)
  - Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (CCRF)
  - The Constitution Act of Canada (section 35)
  - Ontario Human Rights Code (OHRC)
- 1.4. There are three original civilizations in the area now known as Ontario. They are the Anishinaabek, Onkwehoweh, and Mushkegowuk. These civilizations are distinct from each other, each possessing the following: indigeneity, intelligences (political, social, psychological, artistic, emotional, etc.), languages, theologies and spiritualities, institutions, agency, laws and Inherent Rights, earth and social sciences, philosophies, physical and character traits, customs, conventions, protocols, virtues, moral character and compasses, as well as codes of ethics.
- 1.5. Today, Indigenous Peoples from many First Nations as well as Inuit and the Métis live in the community served by the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB). We recognize that families who are First Nation, Métis, and/or Inuit are part of the DPCDSB community.

## **2. DPCDSB IS COMMITTED TO RECONCILIATION**

- 2.1. “Reconciliation requires constructive action on addressing the ongoing legacies of colonialism that have had destructive impact on [Indigenous peoples’] education, cultures and languages” (Truth and Reconciliation Commission booklet, pg. 8). These ongoing legacies of colonialism continue to affect the dignity, innocence, and grace of Indigenous Peoples.
- 2.2. Guided by a moral commitment to reconciliation, the DPCDSB hereby confirms and reaffirms its commitment to the mandate of the Indigenous Education Council. The Indigenous Education Council (IEC) provides the voice and vision for Indigenous Education within the DPCDSB. The IEC will guide and inform DPCDSB on matters pertaining to Indigenous Education, any matters affecting Indigenous students, as well as the implementation of the Ministry’s First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework.