

## Questionnaire for Catholic School Trustee Candidates

Education is of crucial importance to children, families, and to the general well-being of societies. Schools are the principal modern institutions by which societies recreate themselves and transmit sound values to their citizens. Catholic schools exist to teach and transmit the truths of the Catholic faith as taught by the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. The school trustee for Catholic school boards holds grave responsibility, being an elected steward of the school system, empowered to ensure that Catholic schools faithfully uphold and transmit the fullness of that teaching in every part of the school curriculum and in the social environment of the school

Please answer "yes" or "no" by marking with an X; you can include additional comments on page four:

1. **Will you work to ensure that your Board publicly promotes total fidelity to the faith and moral teachings of the Catholic Church? (Current examples include the illicitness of abortion, contraception and homosexual practice)**  
 YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. **Will you work to ensure that Catholic schools do not invite guest speakers who have publicly expressed positions that contradict the morality and teaching of the Church, no matter how great their achievements in politics, business, sports, science or the arts?**  
 YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. **Will you work to ensure that educational materials that enter the premises of Catholic schools (e.g., library resources, curriculum texts, awareness campaigns, flyers) and all approved school activities are consistent with and do not undermine the morality and teachings of the Church?**  
 YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. **Will you oppose sex-ed programs which are contrary to Church teaching?**  
 YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. **Given that the Gay Pride flag is a controversial political symbol which contradicts Church teaching on marriage & human sexuality, will you oppose any and all proposals to fly the Gay Pride flag at Catholic schools, at the board office, or to acknowledge June as "Pride month"?**  
 YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
  
6. **Will you work to ensure that your Catholic school board enacts a policy requiring all agents and employees of the board to uphold the rights of custodial parents to direct and control the education of, and any medical treatment provided to, their dependent children attending its schools?**  
 YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
  
7. **Are there any circumstances under which you believe a woman should have access to abortion\*?**  
 YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_  
 If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (\*Note: a surgical or medical intervention designed to prevent the death of the mother but which results in the unintended and undesired death of the pre-born child, is not an abortion)

Candidate's name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 School Board / Ward \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 Province \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Detailed explanation for each question on this survey:**

**#1.** All too often, issues such as abortion, contraception, family, marriage, sexuality, etc. are taught/discussed in schools in ways that contradict the moral teachings of the Catholic Church. It is imperative that Catholic Trustees ensure that if these issues are introduced to students, it is always done in accordance with Catholic teaching.

**#2.** Increasingly, Catholic Schools are inviting public figures or representatives from organizations who oppose the morality and teaching of the church. In some cases, they are also Catholic. For example, Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau who publicly states his support for abortion on an ongoing basis, has spoken in dozens of Catholic schools. Even if his talks have nothing to do with abortion, the fact that a Catholic School is financially supporting a politician who publicly undermines the Catholic Church, sends mixed messages to the student body and represents scandal to the faith.

**#3.** In regards to materials that are disseminated throughout the school, Catholic trustees have a responsibility to ensure that students are not given materials that oppose Catholic Teaching. For example, it would be wrong for schools to permit crisis-pregnancy brochures that highlight abortion or contraception as a perfectly acceptable solution.

**#4.** Over the years, the Ministry of Education has developed sex-ed curriculums which it insists Catholic school boards also teach, which are overly explicit and age-inappropriate. This curriculum also contradicts Catholic moral teaching in the area of marriage and human sexuality. However, Catholic School Trustees have the constitutional right, under Section 93 of the Constitution Act of 1867, to reject any government law, regulation or curriculum that adversely affects the content of Faith and Morals.

**#5.** The gay pride flag, or “rainbow flag” as it’s often called, stands in total opposition to Catholic moral teaching on the sinfulness of homosexual acts and God’s plan for marriage and human sexuality. To LGBT political activists, the gay pride flag has always represented approval and public celebration of sodomy and other forms of homosexual sex which are condemned by the Church and sacred Scripture. Indeed, that general public also view it as a celebration and endorsement of the homosexual lifestyle. The gay flag was always intended to send the political message that those who believe in marriage as a sacred union between a man and a woman are morally wrong, backwards and deserve to be derided for their beliefs. Under no circumstances should any Catholic school ever fly the homosexual pride flag nor celebrate June as “Pride Month”. To do so would be to celebrate grave sin. And yet, several Catholic schools across Alberta did exactly that, often trying to hide the objectively heretical nature of such acts by claiming they are not promoting homosexuality perse, but rather, only promoting “respect, inclusion and diversity”.

**#6.** This question is essentially about “medical treatment” that could be interpreted by some school staff or public health nurses to include contraception, abortion referrals, counselling for sexually-confused children that might suggest to them they are “born gay” and should embrace that lifestyle, or cross-dressing as the opposite sex, puberty blockers and sex-change surgery to impersonate the

opposite sex. It also includes the administration or recommendation of abortion-tainted vaccines which faithful Catholics have an obligation, in principle, to refuse, out of respect for the sanctity of human life. This question is not dealing with vaccinations for measles, mumps, or the emergency decision to give a blood transfusion in order to save a child's life.

**#7.** Some candidates state they are opposed to abortion but would still allow it under specific conditions. These exceptions vary widely depending upon these candidates' understanding of the issue or personal experiences or beliefs. It is important that the voters are aware if there are any such exceptions. "The life of the mother exception" is often misunderstood by candidates noting that exception. In the case of an ectopic pregnancy (baby implanted in the fallopian tube), the mother's life is endangered by that situation and the child is certain to die as he or she grows. Removal of the section of the fallopian tube which has become pathological to protect the mother's life is not a direct killing of the unborn child within the tube. It is considered treatment of the mother and is NOT an abortion. Similarly, when a pregnant woman is discovered to have cancer and is treated for that cancer with radiation and/or chemotherapy, the possible resulting death of her unborn child is NOT considered an abortion. That is because the measures are directly intended to treat the mother and NOT to kill her unborn child. As for intended abortions, there are no longer ANY valid reasons to consider such abortions being necessary to save a mother's life. The medical profession has for some time now been capable of treating BOTH mother and child in all situations. However, it is common for physicians to strongly suggest, in response to difficult pregnancies, that a mothers' life is endangered. Abortion is then frequently and unnecessarily recommended in order to lessen complications, extra costs and possible lawsuits. If you accept abortion for rape and incest, you kill the child for the crime (sins) of the father.

If further information is required please do not hesitate to call and ask for a CLC election issues specialist at 1-800-730-5358 (available 10 a.m. to 4p.m., Monday through Friday.)

**Elaboration Page (if desired)**

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Question 4

Question 5

Question 6

Question 7