



Let Your Light Shine Forth

June 2023

"So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them." 1 John 4:16

As I write my final newsletter as Chief Superintendent of this wonderful Division, I will leave you as I began, with the scripture that has guided me over the course of my vocation to Catholic education. It has been an honour to serve in the many roles that I have embraced during my tenure at Edmonton Catholic Schools, all with knowing that my calling has been to bring students and staff into an ever more deepening relationship with our God. It has truly been a blessing!

The Board of Trustees held a Special Public Meeting on May 29 to announce that Lynnette Anderson, who currently serves the Division as Superintendent of Learning Services, will assume the role of Chief Superintendent as of August 1, 2023. You can read more about her extensive experiences in the realm of education at www.ecsd.net. The Division will be well served with her wise and collaborative leadership.

At their May 31 Regular Public Meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the Edmonton Catholic Schools' 2023-2024 Division Operating Budget. The Division's budget for 2023-2024 is forecasting total revenues of \$555.8 million and expenditures of \$567.4 million, resulting in a \$11.6 million Operating Deficit. It will support an expected enrolment of 46,847 students. You can view the budget in greater detail at <https://www.ecsd.net/division-budget>.

June marks the beginning of National Indigenous History Month. Our Indigenous Learning Services Department has created a bank of resources to support our schools in honouring the history, heritage, and diversity of Indigenous peoples in Canada. National Indigenous History Month is a time for learning about, appreciating and acknowledging the contributions First Nations, Inuit and Métis people have made in shaping Canada. This aspect of our history is so important that it is embedded in the Teacher, Leadership, and Superintendent Leadership Quality Standards from Alberta Education. It also is fundamental in building our collective capacity to honour the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action.

Father's Day falls on June 18. It is a time for us to turn our eyes to St. Joseph, who humbly embraced his call to be the earthly father for Jesus, the Son of God. Let us pray together for his intercession, support, and guidance for all the men who embrace the role of father, grandfather, uncle, mentor, and so many more in the lives of our children.

I leave you with humble thanks for the gifts of heart and spirit that I have received in living out our mission to provide a Catholic education that inspires students to learn and that prepares them to live fully and to serve God in one another. I look forward to following the bright future that is ahead for our Division.

Have a wonderful June, and a truly glorious summer enjoying the bounty of Creation.

Yours in Christ,

Robert Martin
Chief Superintendent