

**REGARDING:** Public funding for separate (Catholic) school systems in the Province of Ontario

**WHEREAS:**

1. Public funding of one religion’s schools violates the right to equal benefit of the law without religious discrimination as outlined in section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights,
2. The United Nations Human Rights Committee has censured Canada for its discriminatory funding of schools for a single religion,
3. Religious requirements for employment in the separate (Catholic) school systems deny otherwise qualified non-Catholic teachers access to one-third of publicly funded teaching job opportunities,
4. Ontario taxpayers fund 100% of the cost to build new Catholic schools and 92% of operating costs. Property tax school board designations fund only 8% of Catholic school operating costs,
5. Funding a single, secular school system, with French and English boards, would save Ontario taxpayers approximately 1.5 billion dollars annually,
6. The Ontario government can, by passing a resolution in the Legislature, eliminate the discriminatory public funding of the separate (Catholic) school systems, as has been accomplished by the provinces of Quebec and Newfoundland & Labrador in 1997 and 1998.

*We, the undersigned, request that the Ontario government eliminate the public funding of separate (Catholic) school systems and move to one publicly funded school system, open to all, with French and English boards. This will end the province’s policies of discrimination and segregation, and save Ontario taxpayers approximately 1.5 billion dollars each year.*

[Please note: You must be a resident of Ontario to sign this petition]

<b>NAME (PLEASE PRINT)</b>	<b>STREET ADDRESS, CITY, POSTAL CODE</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>

**Please mail ORIGINAL signed petitions, no later than October 1, 2023, to:  
Petitions c/o CFIC, PO Box 83045, Ottawa RPO Bank&Walkley, K1V 1A3**