

For Immediate Release
June 16, 2014

Niagara Catholic DSB Recognized for Meeting Growing Demand for Early French Immersion

Mississauga – The Niagara Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) will receive an award for introducing French Immersion programs starting grade 1. This award recognizes the Board’s commitment to improving French Second Language (FSL) programming in its region. The ceremony will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday June 17, 2014 at the Education Centre on 427 Rice Rd, Welland.

During the 70’s and 80’s French Immersion grew rapidly in popularity. Today there are over 164,635 students in Ontario enrolled in French Immersion and more than 31,295 in the Extended French program. French Immersion remains one of the few programs that continue to grow in spite of the decrease in student enrollment that school boards are experiencing across the country.

The NCDSB has responded to the increasing demand for Early French Immersion programs, and for good reason. A greater awareness of the cognitive, cultural and employment benefits of a FSL education has contributed to the rise in French enrolment. Dedicated parent volunteers and members of Canadian Parents for French are available to support parents and students in this new program.

Betty Gormley, Executive Director of Canadian Parents for French (Ontario), will invite the following representatives to accept the plaque: Director of Education John Crocco, Chairperson Kathy Burtnik, and Jayne Evans, FSL and International Languages Consultant.

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Canadian Parents for French (Ontario) is a branch of a national network of volunteers who value French as an integral part of Canada and who are dedicated to promoting opportunities for youth in Canada to learn and use French