



SECTION:	Foundations and Basic Commitments	APPROVAL DATE:
SUBSECTION:	The Dignity of Person	April 3, 1995
POLICY NAME:	Anti-Racism and Ethno Cultural Equity	LAST REVISED:
POLICY NUMBER:	P.FBC.B.6	March 1, 1999

In order to develop faith centered individuals, the Wellington Catholic District School Board will promote and maintain an educational environment that recognizes and acknowledges that all people are created in the image of God, and as such will be treated with dignity, respect and equality. The Wellington Catholic District School Board is fully committed to eliminate discrimination and to foster respect for racial, ethnic and cultural diversity in the Catholic community that we serve.

In working partnership with staff, students, parents, trustees and members of our wide community, the Wellington Catholic District School Board will create and maintain an environment that ensures policies, programs and curriculum material will provide opportunities for students to develop positive Christian attitudes toward the diversity of the global human family, to advocate for a society that is just and inclusive, and to benefit fully from our multicultural/multiracial society.

This commitment is limited to the extent necessary for the preservation and promotion of Roman Catholic values and tenets and the denominational nature of its schools.

Legislated protection for Catholic schools was first enacted in 1841. The Scott Act of 1863 gave Roman Catholics the right to establish, operate, and maintain Roman Catholic schools in which Roman Catholic teachers would teach children of Roman Catholic parents in accordance with the tenets of Roman Catholicism. The British North America Act (Constitution Act, 1867) declared in Section 93:

Nothing in any such law shall prejudicially affect any right or privilege with respect to denominational schools which any; class or persons have by law in the Province at the Union.

The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, signed into law on April 17, 1982, states in Section 29:

Nothing in this Charter abrogates or derogates from any rights or privileges guaranteed by or under the Constitution of Canada in respect of denominational separate or dissentient schools.

In the following policy on Race, Religious, and Ethnocultural Equity, the Wellington Catholic District School Board is compelled to promote universal equality within a context that allows for the preservation and promotion of Catholic values.