



POLICY 22: RED DEER REGIONAL CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Schools in Alberta continue to meet the needs of students within the constraints of allotted resources. Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools ensures its position as a leading school system by continuing to offer a high quality Catholic education. This is maintained by allocating its resources to the highest priorities and eliminating other low priority services. The Division possesses the ability to reallocate existing resources for the support of changing needs.

Over 85% of the Division's resources are allocated to fixed expenditures. Due to this, there is a need to explore additional ways and means for supporting innovations and initiatives that help maintain Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools as a leading edge school division. One such alternative is to establish a school division Education Foundation and to use this Foundation to actively pursue grants, endowments and sponsorships.

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools supports the establishment and operation of an Education Foundation to be known as the Red Deer Regional Catholic Education Foundation. The work of the Education Foundation shall enhance our mission, which embraces the teachings of Jesus Christ, our model and leader, as a guide.

Specifically:

The purposes of the Education Foundation are to:

1. Promote and celebrate Catholic education in the community.
2. Promote the advancement of education for the students of Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools;
3. Provide for educational opportunities for students;
4. Identify new potential sources of additional revenue;
5. Secure additional financial resources to be placed in an educational trust, which can then be allocated to special projects and programs that have a specific focus and limited time span; and
6. Promote research supporting innovation in Catholic education.

The goals of the Education Foundation are to:

1. Encourage, solicit, seek and accept contributions of services and of money and property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, restricted, designated or unrestricted, from local community individuals, groups, agencies, and corporations, for the benefit of past and current students in Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools;
2. Seek grants, endowments, and other contributions from individuals, corporations, governments, and other agencies;
3. Promote the use and support of the Educational Foundation as a desirable element of the Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools culture;
4. Encourage and promote educational and associated activities for the betterment of learning Catholic Christian leadership skills.

The operational procedures and structures will be as follows:

1. The Red Deer & District Community Foundation will manage the Education Foundation's endowment fund and provide an annual financial report.
2. Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools retains ownership of assets and can add or withdraw from the fund in accordance with the Red Deer and District Community Foundation Managed Fund Policy.
3. The Education Foundation will meet regularly to conduct business and shall hold an Annual General Meeting on or before the 31st of October of each year.
4. The Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools Education Foundation Committee will consist of a minimum of 5 members to a maximum of 17 members. The committee will include:
 - two trustees;
 - the Superintendent;
 - the Secretary-Treasurer of Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools;
 - minimum of 5 to a maximum of 17 community members; and
 - Communications Coordinator, as an ex-officio member.

The terms of community members will be for three years, with a maximum appointment of two terms.

The Education Foundation will elect a Chair by majority at the first meeting of the year. A Vice-Chair will also be elected. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall have a one year term.

Membership is open to any person being of the age of 18 years. The Education Foundation will recruit members from rural communities. Any member may withdraw from the committee upon written notice to the Secretary of the Board.

Each member of the Education Foundation has one vote and all votes must be given in person. Questions arising shall be settled by a majority of votes.

Selection of committee members shall be through application to the Superintendent. Two trustees, the Division's Secretary/Treasurer and the Superintendent shall approve membership to the Education Foundation.

6. Individuals and staff will submit funding requests for proposed projects to the Education Foundation. Proposals having direct links to the Division's Education Plan will receive first consideration. Project proposals should include an evaluation component.
7. The Foundation will enhance the existing school-based fund-raising by concentrating upon major sources of support and will not compete directly with existing school-based initiatives.