



News Release

Two Red Deer Catholic principals to be recognized with ATA Distinguished Leadership Award

For immediate release – May 15, 2025

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools is proud to announce that Andrea Gringhuis, Principal of Sylvan Lake's École Our Lady of the Rosary School, and Teresa Borchers, Principal of St. Gregory the Great Catholic School in Blackfalds, have been selected as recipients of the Alberta Distinguished Leadership Award, on behalf of the Council for School Leadership of the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA).

The Alberta Distinguished Leadership Award highlights exceptional school leaders; celebrates creative, innovative, and effective leadership; and brings public attention to excellence in school leadership.

The two division principals will be recognized for their exceptional leadership in front of colleagues at an awards ceremony next month.

"I'm deeply honoured to receive the Distinguished Leadership Award from the Council of School Leadership. Being nominated alongside respected mentors makes this especially meaningful. I am truly humbled. I'm grateful to Red Deer Catholic Regional Division for supporting my growth as a visionary leader, to the courageous staff at École Our Lady of the Rosary who have been willing to be vulnerable and grow together on a shared journey, and to the Sylvan Lake parent community for their trust and support in my leadership along the way," said Andrea Gringhuis.

"I am very humbled and honored to receive the Distinguished Leadership Award from the ATA Council of School Leadership. Leadership in education is very much a collaborative experience and a rewarding act of service. I am truly blessed to work with an amazing team, students and

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school community at St. Gregory the Great each day. I am grateful to Red Deer Catholic Schools for the recognition and for the many incredible people who I have had the privilege to work alongside, supporting me on my leadership journey,” said Teresa Borchers.

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools Board Chair Murray Hollman said the Board is proud to see both Andrea Gringhuis and Teresa Borchers recognized for their commitment to fostering positive and innovative learning environments within their schools.

"On behalf of the Board, I extend warmest congratulations to both Andrea and Teresa. Their passion for Catholic education and their ability to inspire those around them are truly commendable. This award rightly celebrates their significant contributions and the positive impact they have on the lives of our students and the broader Red Deer Catholic community," said Chair Hollman.

The Alberta Distinguished Leadership Awards will be presented at an awards gala in Calgary on Friday, June 6.

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools serves over 9,600 students in 21 schools in Red Deer, Blackfalds, Sylvan Lake, Rocky Mountain House, Innisfail, and Olds. It also supports the learning of over 950 students in a Home Education Program. The Division is committed to serving children and parents with a complete offering of learning opportunities delivered within the context of Catholic teachings and within the means of the Division.

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