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Executive Director



Making Connections

The Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario is the only independent Catholic principal and vice-principals' professional association in Canada. One of the two main goals of CPCO is to advance the cause of Catholic education. For the past 12 years, CPCO has held a conference each spring to provide the opportunity for Catholic principals and vice-principals to gather in one location in Ontario for professional learning, networking, celebration and responding to our call to leadership as a community founded in gospel values. As witnessed this year in Windsor, the annual conference is a very enriching experience for principals and vice-principals in Catholic education.

Given that this is the only Catholic principals' conference of its kind in Canada, in the future CPCO will be inviting both participants and presenters to the CPCO annual conference from other Catholic jurisdictions beyond our provincial and national borders. Through the Professional Services Standing Committee, a review of the spring annual conference began in 2009-10. Key elements focused on a consistent date and location for the conference, and ensuring the involvement of local associations by expanding the rotation to include all associations. Promoting the conference beyond our own provincial context will become an area of focus as well.

CPCO is involved in supporting two major provincial events in 2010-11. The Ontario Catholic Education Symposium, *Living our Legacy: Forging our Future* is sponsored by the Institute for Catholic Education (ICE). The International Confederation of Principals (ICP) World Convention: *Leading Student Achievement:*

An International Odyssey is being hosted by the three Ontario principals' associations.

Living our Legacy: Forging our Future will be the third Catholic education symposium held in Ontario since 2003. The symposium, which will be located in Toronto on May 15-16, 2011, will provide an opportunity for teams of Catholic educators from all school boards and Catholic organizations to celebrate the mission of Catholic education in Ontario.

The ICP World Convention is being held in Toronto on August 15-18, 2011. All three Ontario principals' associations will integrate their annual professional development conference for 2011 into the ICP convention. As a result, CPCO's annual spring conference will be folded into this event. CPCO is involved in the planning and delivery of workshops for Catholic principals and vice-principals at the ICP convention. This is an international conference, which attracts over 2,000 participants including significant representation from Catholic communities overseas. Ontario's Catholic school leaders will be invited to attend this international convention with colleagues from around the world; an opportunity, which is ensured to enrich our practices and our commitment to Catholic education.

Beginning in the spring of 2012, the CPCO conference will be held annually in Toronto at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel. Catholic principals and vice-principals will have an opportunity to access this leadership learning opportunity to further embrace and advance our mission in Catholic education.

