



# York Catholic District School Board

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April 25, 2023

## REQUEST FOR ANTI-ITALIAN DISCRIMINATION INQUIRY

**Whereas** on September 27, 2022 the Board of Trustees unanimously approved a Motion:  
*THAT the Board formally contact the Ministry of Education requesting that a public inquiry be immediately conducted regarding discriminatory comments made by a sitting Trustee about Trustees of Italian heritage;*

**Whereas** on December 20, 2022 the new Board of Trustees also unanimously approved a follow-up letter to the Minister asking for a request for an investigation;

**Whereas** in its April 3, 2023 letter the Minister of Education stated that he and his Ministry and Government will always condemn inappropriate, prejudicial and racist language, and shares the concern of the community who has expressed concern with comments made by a YCDSB Trustee;

**Whereas** the Minister originally proposed engaging the Board's Human Rights and Equity Advisor and, through subsequent discussions between the YCDSB Director of Education and the Ministry of Education, proposed instead that the Board engage a legal professional external to the YCDSB to investigate the matter to ensure that Ontario School Boards comply with Human Rights obligations;

### LET IT BE RESOLVED

The YCDSB engage an external legal professional, who has had no prior or current professional connections with the YCDSB, to investigate the complaints expressed by the previously sitting Trustees of Italian Heritage.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Iafrate  
Trustee, Richmond Hill

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