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The Division adheres to the principle that parents are the primary educators of their children and thus complements their role in promoting the values and traditions of the Catholic faith. A basic value in the Catholic tradition is that all persons are made in the image of God and therefore all are worthy of dignity. Life is a sacred gift and all students will be supported with compassion, consideration and respect.

Sensitive issues may arise when working with students in any subject area. Because the concept of permeation recognizes that Catholic identity finds expression in every dimension of a Catholic school, all day-to-day activities are experienced as authentically Catholic. Sensitive issues are addressed in the context of healthy lifestyle choices that represent Catholic Church teachings. Teachers are responsible for witnessing to their faith in all areas of school life including those dealing with sensitive issues.

### **Definition**

Third-party presenter means any external individual or organization involved in delivering content related to human sexuality, gender identity, or sexual orientation, who is not a student, a student organization, or an employee of the Division.

### **Procedures**

1. The Division expects that all teachers, alongside parents in their role as primary educators, present with clarity the teachings of the Catholic Church when addressing any sensitive issues.
2. Principals will provide opportunities for parents to review all resources and to access information on the human sexuality component of the program. The source material and resources for human sexuality education are approved by the Catholic Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories for use in Catholic schools. Other resources should not be used in the classroom for lesson delivery.
3. There may be instances where a school wishes to use the services of a third-party presenter. The following process must be followed prior to confirming the speaking engagement:
  - 3.1. All third-party presenters and any associated presentation materials must be approved by both the Minister and the Division prior to any being considered for use as part of any curricular or extra-curricular activities.
  - 3.2. Request for Division and Ministerial approval shall be sent to the Assistant Superintendent of Faith and Educational Services and the Principal shall provide all required information as outlined in Administrative Procedure 225 – Appendix. If the Principal is aware of previous Ministerial approval of the third-party-presenter and any resource materials to be used as part of the presentation, the Principal shall provide any relevant information in this regard including written evidence of the same.

- 3.3. In the event that the third-party presenter is not able to provide evidence of prior Ministerial approval as a presenter and in relation to any resource materials to be utilized as part of the presentation, the Superintendent, and the Assistant Superintendent of Faith and Educational Services may:
  - 3.3.1. seek Ministerial approval of the third-party presenter and any resource materials to be used as part of the presentation; or,
  - 3.3.2. advise the Principal that the third-party presenter's services shall not be used by the school.
- 3.4. The Superintendent in conjunction with the Assistant Superintendent of Faith and Educational Services shall consider approval of the third-party presenter and the resource material for the presentation on behalf of the Division.
- 3.5. All third-party presentations and resources must be developmentally and educationally appropriate, and reflective of the teachings of the Catholic Church.

4. When presentations are made, each teacher must remain with their class and will undertake suitable follow-up in topics addressed by the community resource presenter when necessary.

Adopted: December 2025

Reference:      Section 1, 2, 16, 18, 18.1, 32, 43, 51, 52, 53, 54, 58.1, 196, 197, 222 Education Act  
Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms  
Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12  
The Directory of Catechesis  
AP205 – Edmonton Catholic Schools

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The Assistant Superintendent of Faith and Educational Services in discussion with the Superintendent will approve all outside presenters as well as all printed and multi-media material on sensitive issues. No one will be included as a resource person and no resources will be utilized that contravene the teachings of the Catholic Church. When presentations are made, each teacher will remain with their class and will undertake suitable follow-up in areas where this is necessary.

## Procedures

Please provide the following information. Submissions must be made before the speaker is booked.

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Person submitting the request: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name of Speaker and Presentation. Outline the rationale for presentation, curriculum connections and benefits to the audience. Attach any materials that will be shared and include links to any multi-media that will be viewed.

2. Provide relevant information concerning presentation content and speaker/group biography and reputation for their compatibility with Catholic teachings to avoid contradiction and confusion. Include speaker contact information and website.

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3. If applicable, what Diocese is the Speaker from? Contact information for the Diocese?

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4. Obtain testimonials, recommendations, and evaluations in writing from previous event sponsors (Catholic ones if available) who have personally been exposed to the presentation and speaker/group.

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Please note that when the proposed speaker is a Catholic priest or religious, it is always necessary to have the approval of the Archbishop. For this purpose, provide the Office of the Chancellor with a completed Appendix 905A Speaker Preliminary Invitation Form.

As per the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton's [Policy 905 for Invitations to Speakers](#), where our preliminary process raises any doubt as to the ability of a proposed speaker to present in a manner that is true to the Catholic faith, authorization to proceed is required for the Archbishop.

Please submit to the Assistant Superintendent of Faith and Educational Services.

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Approval (please circle): Yes    No    forward to the Archdiocese

Rationale:

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Assistant Superintendent of Faith and Educational Services: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted: December 2025