

April 28, 2017

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

Recently, the Government of Alberta introduced Bill 1, which is an Act to reduce school fees. This Act provided funding to replace the fees parents were previously required to pay.

CTR Catholic is pleased to announce that the funding provided by the Ministry enables the Board to eliminate ALL school fees commonly assessed at the start of each year. At a recent Board meeting, trustees applauded the Ministry's funding announcement and were supportive of administration's suggestion that a host of common fees can be eliminated.

The fees that no longer exist in CTR Catholic due to the provincial funding provided include the following:

- ECS Registration Fee: \$50
- General School Fee: gr. 1-6 - \$50; gr. 7-9 - \$55; and gr. 10-12 - \$60
- Student Agendas: \$10
- Co-Curricular Fee: gr. 1-6 - \$10; gr. 7-9 - \$30; and gr. 10-12 - \$50
- Most secondary school complementary course fees for program such as Foods, Construction, New Media, and Art.

CTR Catholic will continue to charge fees for field trips (eg. museum trips), value added co-curricular experiences (eg. band trips or swimming programs), and all extra-curricular programs (eg. basketball team expenses).

On a related note, part of Bill 1 also stated that Boards cannot charge additional transportation fees for "eligible students, traveling more than 2.4 km, to their designated school". Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools has never charged additional fees for these services, so there is no impact for any of our parent community with this decision. CTR Catholic will continue to offer transportation for students who live closer to the school than the government's 2.4 km limit, and we will continue to charge the "in-town" busing fee to recover the cost of the additional expense, which is not provided for by government funding. Thus, the in-town busing fee will remain at approximately \$250.

As we analyze the total compensation provided by the Ministry and all of our expenses, CTR Catholic will endeavor to determine if there are any other opportunities to reduce the remaining nominal school fees that might be charged throughout the year. It is important to note that the elimination of these fees is only possible because of the provincial funding provided, and this can only be sustained with continued provincial funding in the future.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at mkilcommons@redeemer.ab.ca.

Sincerely,
Michael Kilcommons
Associate Superintendent of Corporate Services