



CARFLEO NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2004

Take a Spiritual Moment

For some, winter is a strange time to find God in nature. The often-violent storms can be cause for worry and distress, but look around you. The might of the Lord is never more apparent than in the majesty of snow capped mountains, and ragging swirls of snow that render us unable to see ahead. Rivers and lakes that once moved freely and sometimes with great violence now stand frozen before the might of the Lord. All of nature bows before the challenge that winter brings. Even the simple task of walking to the corner store can drain us of all our energy as we lean against freezing winds and shuffle through mounds of snow or over icy sidewalks. How humbling this force can be for us! And yet, with all its violent fury, how awesomely beautiful is winter; for under this gray-white reality lies the promise of new life, a cleansing and a rebirth. Winter is the manifestation of God's purifying love that came to use in the violent furry of God's son, Jesus the Christ.

CARFLEO Annual General Meeting

This year, as in the past, CARFLEO will hold its annual general meeting in conjunction with the 2004 NORE conference in Ottawa, April 29- May 2. The AGM will take place at 2 pm on April 29th, in the Crown Plaza Hotel in Ottawa. Since this is the last meeting for CRECO and the first official election for CARFLEO, we encourage all members to come and celebrate this historical moment together. If you plan to stay for the NORE conference, you will need to complete a registration form for both the CARFLEO annual general meeting and the NORE conference. NORE has graciously made all arrangements with the hotel and the only cost to our membership for annual general meeting, is the cost of the dinner. **A registration form and outline of the CARFLEO annual general meeting is attached to this newsletter.**

Election of the first CARFLEO Executive

Your interim executive has been working hard to bring the merger of CRECO and OCFLN to fruition. In the next few weeks, we will be completing work on the executive handbook and preparing for the first CARFLEO election. Attached to this newsletter you will find a nomination form. We encourage you to nominate interested CARFLEO members to serve on the executive. Nominees must be active members of CARFLEO who have written permission from their supervisors to serve on the executive, and are able to attend meetings at least 8 times a year. These meetings often take place at the Institute for Catholic Education in Toronto, so nominees must take into consideration the cost of transportation and time away from their position with the board. The Chair of CARFLEO, or one of the executive must also be willing to serve as representative on provincial committees such as the Curriculum Committee of ICE, the Religion/Family Life Subject Council, and various other short term committees that arise from

time to time. For this reason, it is important that you have the approval of a nominee prior to submitting their name. For more information on the make-up of the executive and its nature, consult the CARFLEO constitution on our website, www.carfleo.org.

The CRECO Award. The CRECO AWARD is given each year to a person in recognition of their contribution and dedication to Catholic Education.

This is the last year that CRECO will honour a consultant for outstanding contribution to Religious education. This award will be given for the last time at the 2004 annual general meeting in Ottawa. Attached to this newsletter you will find a nomination form. We encourage you to look around your community and find someone who is deserving of this award. A list of past award winners is provided below for your interest. Where more than one person is nominated for the award, the award goes to the person with the most nominations. At the A.G.M., we will be announcing a new award to replace the CRECO award in the spring of 2005.

Former CRECO AWARD recipients include:

1975 Sr. Sheila McAuliffe	1984 Sr. Norine Connely	1994 John Prokopitch
1976 Martin Jeffrey	1985 Sr. Elaine Dunn	1995 John Podgorski
1977 Sr. Catherine Fenn	1986 Ron and Mary Deleski	1996 Terri Kudirka
1978 Sr. St. Maurice	1987 Fr. Frank Ruetz	1997 Frances Kelly
1979 Sr. Mary Hamilton	1988 Muriel Loftus	1998 Jerry Creedon
1980 Margaret Walder	1989 Joanne Chafe	1999 Gerald Woodman
1981 Dr. Mary Malone	1990 Sr. Marie Taylor	2000 Margie Ann McKinnon
1982 Chris Asseff	1991 Walter Bildstein	2001 Heather Reid
1982 Rev. P.M. Horrigan	1992 Fr. Bill Russel	2002 Mary Ann Takacs
1983 Noel Cooper	1993 Sr. Joan Cronin	2003 Sharron McKeever

NORE conference: Embracing the Gospel, Engaging Our Culture.

In the November newsletter, a draft outline of the NORE conference was provided for you. Since then, NORE has provided all boards with a flyer advertising the conference with instructions to boards to send for a copy of the complete brochure and registration forms. If you have not yet received this information, please contact Simonne Carr at the National Office of Religious Education (613-241-9461 ext. 153) and request your copy. As chair of CARFLEO, I am a member of the National Adult Catechetical Advisory Committee and have been a part of the planning team for the NORE conference. It is with great confidence in the quality and meaningful content of the conference that I recommend to boards that secondary teachers responsible religious education register, where possible.

Membership: Our membership drive has been very successful. Our thanks to all those who have supported us in CARFLEO'S first year. If your board has not yet registered, it is not too late. Board and individual memberships are always welcome. CARFLEO has a lot to offer teachers and associate members. This newsletter, which is designed to keep members up to date on resources and initiatives that are occurring across the province, is but one of the advantages. As your executive, we are one of the political voices of Catholic Religion teachers throughout the province. We represent your interests on various provincial and local committees: ICE curriculum committee, The National Adult Catechesis Advisory Committee of NORE, and the

Central Catholic Curriculum Consortium are a few examples. We serve you both as members and supporters of the annual WFMP conference and the Faith in Action Committee. At present CARFLEO is also represented on the ICE committee that is developing pastoral guidelines for same-sex students in Catholic schools and as writers of the new grade 12 religion program, *In Search of the Good: A Catholic understanding of Moral Living*. We also hope to be able to offer workshops to boards that live outside the greater Toronto area to assist them with implementation of new resources and the ever changing demands of education. As the vision of Catholic Education changes, CARFLEO will be an integral part of the dialogue, bringing your concerns to the table.

Sacramental Preparation for Special Needs Students

Your executive is in the process of developing a document to assist teachers in the Sacramental preparation of students with special needs. Mary Ann Takacs and Terri Kudirka will provide you with an overview to the new program at our annual general meeting. We hope to have the document ready for use in the coming school year.

CARFLEO Website: www.carfleo.org. Our website contains the course all profiles for Religion and Family Life, links to related educational sites, the newsletter, the history of CRECO and more. Take a few minutes to visit the site. Your recommendations are always welcome.

Update From Our Partners in Catholic Education

I.C.E.- The institute for Catholic Education is in the process of producing a document on **Pastoral Care of Same-sex Students in Catholic Schools**. The committee consists of representatives for the various partners in education, including CARFLEO. The resource will include: a letter from the Bishops of Ontario, a description of the purpose of the document, clarification on church teaching, guidelines for administrators, teachers, chaplains and parents, a list of resources and answers to some of the most frequently asked question around the issue. Every effort is being taken to ensure a balanced document that address both the need for compassion and the provision of a safe environment, and the need to guide our children toward a deeper relationship with God.

NORE - Grade 12 Religion Workshop, Secondary School Reform: this August the National Office of Religious Education will release the newly developed grade 12 religion program, *In Search of the Good: A Catholic Understanding of Moral Living*. Two chapters have already been piloted and two further chapters are scheduled for piloting in the second semester. Members of the writing team will provide a two-day workshop at this year's **Secondary Forum** in Waterloo. The workshop is designed to provide teachers with an overview of the moral theology/ethics content of the program, familiarization with the program, and an understanding of its catechetical process. We encourage all department heads and secondary teachers responsible for grade 12 religious education to attend.

Central Catholic Curriculum Consortium: The consortium has produced a truly Catholic Student Agenda designed for Catholic Students by the Catholic community. Many Boards have already purchased copies for all of their students for the 2004-5 school year. If your board has not yet taken advantage of this wonderful resource you may wish to consider it for the future.

The cost of the agenda books is very competitive. We highly recommend this resource.

Resource information: Many schools may have already purchased a resource that was suggested as a resource within the ICE course profiles; *Welcome to the Catholic Church*. It has come to our attention that although many articles are in keeping with the Catholic understand of the human, some of the articles on this CD may be offensive. In particular the article entitled, *Question 20: What should a woman do about the possibility of being raped?* This resource suggests that women are often partially to blame for this crime of violence against them. We advise all teachers to carefully review articles from this CD before using them in their classroom.

C.R.E.C.O. AWARD Nomination Form

I, _____ wish to nominate _____

for the 2004 C.R.E.C.O. Award.

Rationale for Nomination:

Please complete a brief summary of the candidate's contribution to Catholic Education and a description of their dedication to their work.

{Use reverse side for further information}

Nominee Information:

Name: _____

Position: _____

Work Address: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Nominator Information

Name: _____

Position: _____

Work Address: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Return this form to:

Sherry Chapman, Religion and Family Life Consultant, Secretary of CARFLEO

Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board

FAX 705 726 7903

E-mail schapman@smcdsb.on.ca

Nomination and Election of C.A.R.F.L.E.O. Executive.

Voting is conducted by secret ballot. All voters must be present at the AGM. Nominees, not present at the meeting must indicate their acceptance in writing prior to the annual meeting. **The nominee and their supervisory officer must sign the nomination.** The term of office is two years. The next term begins September 2004. Nominees must be active members of CARFLEO.

The executive consists of:

Chair	Treasurer
Secretary	Past Chair

Please consider nominating yourself or if you are nominating another member, please ask this members permission before sending in the nomination.

Nomination of C.A.R.F.L.E.O. Executive

I, _____ nominate _____

for the position of _____

Yes _____ I have asked permission of the member.
(If this nomination is other then yourself.

Yes _____ this candidate has the written permission of their supervisor to accept this position.

The Candidate will ___ will not ___ attend the AGM.

Signature – Supervisory Office _____

Signature of Nominee _____

Please send this nomination to:

Sherry Chapman
Consultant for Religious and Family Life Education
Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board.

FAX 705 726 7903

E-mail schapman@smcdsb.on.ca

Agenda and Registration Form
CARFLEO Annual General Meeting and Dinner
Crown Plaza Hotel – Panorama Room
Ottawa
April 29, 2004

Registration Information

School Board Address

Contact Address (if different from board address)

Name:

Phone:

E-mail:

Cheque attached in the amount of \$55.00
(Price includes refreshments and Dinner)

Yes _____ To Come _____

Please forward your registration forms by Fax or E-mail to:
Peter Crane, Treasurer
Peterborough Victoria Northumberland & Clarington Board
1355 Lansdowne St. West, Peterborough, ON.
K9J 7M3

FAX 705-748-5187

E-mail pcrane@pvnccdsb.on.ca

The Annual General Meeting And Dinner
The Catholic Association of Religion and Family Life Educators of Ontario

April 29th, 2004 Agenda
2pm - 6pm

2 pm	Opening Prayer	Les Miller
2:10	Business Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval of the Agenda• Approval of the Minuets – 2003 AGM• Treasurer's Report• Report from the Chair	
2:30	Presentation: In Search of the Good: A Catholic Understanding of Moral Living	NORE
3:15	Presentation: Sacramental Preparation for Special Needs Students	Mary Ann Takacs Terri Kudirka
3:30	Coffee Break	
3:45	Presentation: CARFLEO website	Les Miller
4:00	Information Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pastoral Care of Same-sex Students• Religion and Family Life Subject Council• ICE Guidelines for Religious Education• Religious Education as a Teachable	
4:10	Election of the Executive	
5:00	Inaugural Dinner & CRECO Award	