



APPLICANT DECLARATION FOR NON-CATHOLICS

The primary goal of the Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese is to provide a *Catholic* education. In concert with the efforts of families and parishes, we evangelize our students while forming their minds and characters according to the Catholic understanding of God and the human person. “By evangelization, catechesis and works of service, the Catholic schools build up both the family of faith and the human community.” (*Philosophy of Education for Catholic Schools in the Province of BC*, 2005).

The CISVA Pastoral Letter on Catholic Schools states that the goal of CISVA is to develop Christian leaders, responsible citizens, and life-long learners. In particular, it describes the role of the Catholic school to:

provide religious and moral reference points to help students critically evaluate culture in the light of the Gospel and help build a social order enlightened by the truth of Christ’s teaching. This light is directed not only to the individual, but also to the community: the work of evangelization addresses persons, families, and cultures.

Because “the Catholic school depends upon [teachers and staff] almost entirely for the accomplishment of its goals” (*Gravissimum Educationis*, n. 8), all educators and staff employed in the CISVA must be fully committed to these goals. Those CISVA educators and staff who themselves are Catholics will have the further responsibility of modelling mature Catholic discipleship for students “by bearing transparent witness to Christ and to the beauty of the Gospel.” (Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB, *The Holy See’s Teaching on Catholic Schools*, 2006). Any CISVA educator or staff member who is non-Catholic must also conduct themselves in a manner that is fully supportive of the aims of Catholic education, outlined above.

Non-Catholics employed by the CISVA acknowledge the following conditions of employment:

In General:

- a. demonstrate at all times a respectful and sympathetic sensitivity to the aims and mission of the school and its Catholic teaching and practices;
- b. act and model behaviour that supports the aims and mission of the school and its Catholic teaching;
- c. make a positive contribution to the development of a genuine spirit of Christian community within the school and the parish connected to the school (example: attend school/parish functions);
- d. avoid any form of grave public scandal (conduct that can reasonably be foreseen to be a serious counter-witness to students and others of the primary goal of Catholic schools). Such conduct cannot be simply summed up in a limited list of behaviours. In all cases, it is ultimately up to the Archbishop of Vancouver to decide whether a specific behaviour does cause grave, public scandal.

In addition, if Christian:

- e. be committed to a personal relationship with Jesus;
- f. lead students to a greater relationship with Jesus; and
- g. be registered in a faith community and be an active, supportive member, participating in the life of the faith community (example: attend church services weekly).

Applicant Name: _____
(please print)

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____