



Waterloo Catholic  
District School Board

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## News Release

June 24, 2015  
For Immediate Release

# Catholic Board Welcomes New Director of Education

## Loretta Notten becomes first woman to lead Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools

**Waterloo Region, ON** – The Waterloo Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce the appointment of **Loretta Notten** as the board's 11<sup>th</sup> Director of Education and Secretary of the Board – the first woman to lead Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools. She replaces interim Director **Michael Schmitt** who is retiring after a long and distinguished career in Catholic education. Her appointment is effective September 1, 2015.

Loretta joins the board from her current position as Superintendent of Governance, Policy and Strategic Planning with the **Toronto Catholic District School Board**.

### QuickFacts

- ✓ Loretta Notten holds B.A. and B. Ed. degrees from **York University** and an M. Ed. degree from the **University of Toronto (OISE)**. She completed the **Rotman Executive Superintendent Program** in 2013.
- ✓ From 1987 to 1999 Loretta served as an English teacher (YCDSB) and English Department Head (TCDSB). She became a Vice-principal with the TCDSB in 1999 and became a Principal in 2004. In 2005 she became Program Coordinator for Literacy and Library and in 2006 was appointed Superintendent of Learning.
- ✓ In addition to her current supervisory officer portfolio Loretta has also had responsibility for: Student Success, Continuing & Alternative Education and eLearning. She has also supervised four secondary and 21 elementary schools and co-chaired the TCDSB's Long Term Program Plan Committee.
- ✓ Loretta is the current president of the Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers Association – a position once held by former WCDSB Director Roger Lawler, current WCDSB Director Michael Schmitt and former WCDSB Superintendents Tony Truscello and Bruce Rodrigues. OCSOA is the professional organization of Catholic supervisory officers – the senior officials of Ontario's Catholic school boards. Its mandate is to promote and advance the cause of Catholic education across the province.
- ✓ Loretta and her husband Mark are the proud parents of two daughters, both graduates of publicly funded Catholic schools -- the youngest of whom is studying at St Jerome's University in Waterloo.

### Quotes

"We are very excited to have Loretta Notten as our new Director of Education. Her vast experience -- which touches on almost every aspect of school board leadership -- and her provincial perspective as the current president of the Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers Association is an excellent mix to help guide Waterloo Region's Catholic schools through this time of transition and into a bright future. The Board of Trustees is confident our schools are in very capable and caring hands! At the same time as we welcome Loretta to WCDSB I'd also like to thank Michael Schmitt for the outstanding job he did this year as our interim Director. We were very fortunate to have had one of Ontario's most respected Catholic educators leading our board this year and we wish Michael a long and happy retirement."

-- **Manuel da Silva, Chair of the Board**

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“It is with a great deal of excitement and anticipation that I embrace this new opportunity to lead the Waterloo Catholic District School Board. I have been most impressed by the board's legacy to date and I am thrilled to be journeying forward on this strong foundation to enhance our role as leaders in Catholic Education. I look forward to meeting, learning and working with all of the stakeholders of the Waterloo Catholic Community. It is a pleasure to be serving such a vibrant and well-respected board”.

~~ *Loretta Notten, Director of Education*

## Related Links

[Waterloo Catholic District School Board](#)

[Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers Association](#)

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board, representing more than 96,000 Catholic school supporters, operates 52 schools and four adult education facilities serving more than 40,000 elementary, secondary and continuing education students in Waterloo Region – continuing a 179-year tradition of quality, inclusive, faith-based education. Follow us on Twitter: [@WCDSBNewsWire](#) - [#WCDSBAwesome](#).

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