



News Release - June 2008

At the regular June 2008 meeting of the Canadian Educational Standards Institute, the Board of Directors accepted the recommendation of the Evaluation Council to accredit the following school:

Saltus Grammar School, is a co-educational, independent day school located in Hamilton, Bermuda. Founded in 1888 as a boys' grammar school, it became fully co-educational in 1991, a change matched by extensive building renovation. Nearly 1,100 students are educated in three constituent schools: Lower Primary (Foundation Year, Saltus 1 & 2), which has its own separate campus, Upper Primary (Saltus 3, 4, 5 & 6) and the Secondary Department (Saltus 7 – 11) which also includes the Saltus Graduate Years (Saltus 12 & 13). Both Upper Primary and the Secondary Department share the main campus on the northwestern outskirts of Hamilton. Its current Headmaster, Nigel J. G. Kermode, a 30-year veteran teacher at the School, assumed his post in June 1999.

George Rutherford, Head of Holy Trinity School, along with a Visiting Committee of 12 members, visited the school in February. The following comments are made in the Report:

“Saltus Grammar School is a remarkable place. In the past two decades, the school has transformed itself from “the elite, white boys’ school on the hill”, to a vibrant, racially and culturally diverse co-educational institution that states boldly and accurately that it believes that “every student is an individual with unique needs, capabilities, and desires.”

Saltus is clearly dedicated to meeting the varied needs of the students within its care. It is committed to increasing and supporting the diversity of its student population, while still maintaining a focus on academic achievement and “traditional grammar school values”. Members of the Saltus community are rightly proud of both their rich history and tradition, and the innovative academic programmes that characterize the contemporary school.”

The CESI Board of Directors offered congratulations to Saltus for meeting the standards and committing to school improvement and excellence.



The CESI Board of Directors also approved the Candidate Application of three new schools:

Athol Murray College of Notre Dame, is a co-educational, Catholic, boarding high school for students in Grades 9-12. Located in the Village of Wilcox, Saskatchewan, the College campus boasts two fully-equipped science labs; three computer labs; a library resource centre; an indoor, Olympic-size ice rink; gymnasium; a state-of-the-art training and sports therapy centre; an in-house Frappier Acceleration program; various sports fields; music, choral, art and drama facilities; five residential complexes; an Archives/Museum, cafeteria and campus store. St. Augustine's church is situated at the heart of the campus, serving students, staff and the community. The Notre Dame Hounds are known internationally for their achievements, with 90% of graduates pursuing post-secondary education.

Kim Gordon, Head of The Bishop Strachan School and a CESI Board Member, and Bob Snowden, Head of St. Michaels University School, reviewed the documentation and visited the school in May. They recommended that the school would be ready to successfully complete the accreditation process within three years.

The Lycée Louis Pasteur, is an international French co-educational day school for students ages 3-14. Opened in Calgary in 1966 to meet the needs of expatriate French nationals, the school was originally reserved only for their children. Subsequently, as the school's reputation for quality academic schooling grew, it was decided to open the school to children of all nationalities. The Lycée Louis Pasteur was incorporated under the Societies Act of Alberta in August of 1982, and is recognized by Alberta Learning as a "Category One Private School." In 2000, the Lycée Louis Pasteur purchased the property where it is currently located from Canada Lands, and renovated what was previously a church and community building into two school buildings. Its curriculum is essentially that of the public schools of France and its teachers are accredited by both the Government of France and the Province of Alberta.

Claire Sumerlus, Head of Balmoral Hall School in Winnipeg, MB and a CESI Board member, and Jean Brugnau, Head of Toronto French School, reviewed the school and have recommended that the school would be ready to successfully complete the accreditation process within three years.



Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School was founded in 1909 as a school for girls in Montreal. It is an English-language day school for girls from kindergarten to grade 11. The mission of ECS is to: provide girls with a superior university-preparatory education; balance academic excellence with positive learning opportunities in athletics, the arts, and community service; develop critical thinkers and independent life-long learners; encourage individual leadership and character development within its spirited, community-based environment; and develop self-confident, responsible individuals with respect for themselves, others, and the world.

Claire Sumerlus, Head of Balmoral Hall School in Winnipeg, MB and a CESI Board member, and Sheila Goldbloom, former CESI Board member and life-long supporter of independent schools in Montreal, visited the school and recommended that the school would be ready to successfully complete the accreditation process within three years.

NAIS Accreditation

CESI is preparing for a review of its own Standards and processes by the **National Association of Independent Schools Commission on Accreditation** in the fall of 2008. NAIS will send representatives to observe the reviews at MacLachlan College in Oakville in October and Crescent School in November, and they will attend the CESI Board meeting and complete an office visit in December.

Standards Council

The Standards Council, chaired by Peter Sturup, has identified five areas of focus for the year. They will complete an update of three Standards: Human Resources, Governance, and Finance. Risk management will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that CESI is continually identifying effective practice. Finally, the Council agreed to focus on examining how CESI is challenging schools to consider international education throughout the Standards.

A **Think Tank on International Education** has been formed, and this group has three main objectives:

1. to review the *Accreditation Guidelines* through the lens of international education and update Indicators of Effective Practice and Guiding Questions
2. to host a discussion forum on Thursday, October 30th. Ridley College has generously invited Pat Bassett to present that evening before the panel. (The Save the Date poster is sent as a separate attachment – please print and share with your Faculty and Board.)
3. to establish Focus Group questions, similar to the Differentiated Learning discussions.

Enjoy your summer!