



EMAILED

Chair

Mary Martin

July 25, 2012

Vice-Chair

Margaret Belcourt

Ruth Dell

Keri Davis

Juliet Guichon

Heather Meyer

Lois Burke-Gaffney

Cory Miller

Email: CalgaryHPV@gmail.com

Rosemarie Goerlitz

Dear Members of HPV Calgary

Serafino Scarpino

We are in receipt of your letter dated July 4, 2012. In response to your concerns, please be advised that the current Board of Trustees supports the decision made by the Board of Trustees in 2008 specific to Gardasil administration in our Catholic schools.

Linda Wellman

Cathie Williams

In 2008, the Bishops of Alberta issued a directive to Alberta's school jurisdictions regarding the HPV vaccine, Gardasil. Recognizing parents as the first and best educators of their children, as well as the fact that all aspects of life within Catholic schools must be permeated with our faith, Catholic school districts were directed to find alternative mechanisms for distribution of this vaccine off site.

Many Catholic jurisdictions within Alberta support this direction and have created opportunities for parents who choose to access Gardasil for their child. Calgary Catholic is one of them. As a board, we recognize the responsibility we have to provide the most authentic, faith filled Catholic learning environment for our students. This does not allow us to be selective in our interpretation. We recognize and support the position of Alberta's Bishops in stating that all aspects of life within our schools must be presented in a holistic manner, and through the lens of our faith. This includes the discussion and delivery of vaccines.

(2)

In preparation for this coming school year, as in the past, Calgary Catholic will be providing to the parents of each eligible student the following:

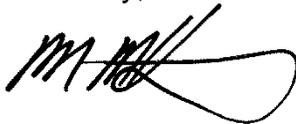
- The HPV information pamphlet by the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada (SOGC),
- The letter regarding Gardasil from the Alberta Bishops,
- A letter outlining the Board's decision to have the vaccine administered off site to eligible students, and
- Information from Alberta Health Services on how and where to access the Gardasil free of charge to eligible students.

Additionally, the information from Alberta Health Services is made available in a variety of languages in an effort to ensure that families of English language learners have the same access to information.

In recognizing the role of Alberta's Bishops in directing Catholic jurisdictions in areas of moral and spiritual thought, as well as the rights of parents, in partnership with Alberta Health Services, we have provided information to parents as to the availability of this vaccine free of charge for their child.

We continue to dialogue with the Bishop and to review current information on Gardasil in an effort to find the best faith filled opportunities for our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Martin', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Mary Martin
Chair, Board of Trustees

cc: Board of Trustees
Gary Strother, Chief Superintendent