



Please reply to
HPVCalgary@gmail.com
October 28, 2012

Board of Trustees
Calgary Catholic School District
1000 - 5 Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 4T9

Dear Members of the Board of Trustees of the Calgary Catholic School District,

Thank you very much for the Board's announcement Wednesday evening that you will reconsider the HPV vaccine ban.

We are very surprised by the process the Board proposes in considering opening the school doors to the HPV vaccine. As we understand it, the proposed process is to consult only a subset of voters – some parents whose children are currently enrolled in the district schools.

Parents already have central decision-making power in that they choose to sign or not to sign the consent form for their child's vaccination. The HPV vaccine is part of routine immunization. Everyone ought to make it easy for the parents who choose routine immunization to have their child vaccinated. Public health specialists have strongly recommended that this public health program take place in publicly funded schools. Given that there are no side effects that would trigger moral or religious concerns, the program should proceed immediately especially given that the vaccine requires a three-dose schedule (0, 2 and 6 months) and two months of the school year have already been lost.

Nevertheless, we appreciate that the Board's recent statement represented a significant change in addressing the HPV vaccine issue and we are grateful for the change. We would like to work with the Board and Administration to ensure that the parent meetings that the Board proposes are informed.

Therefore, we write to request information about the process: How many meetings will there be? When and where will they take place? We would like to supply you with volunteer medical professionals who would be willing to address parent concerns about vaccine safety and efficacy. If you would kindly provide us the details of the process, then we can call for the volunteers among physicians and vaccine scientists.

Thank you very much for your courtesy and promptness in dealing with all our past correspondence. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Juliet Guichon, Bruno Masquillier, Ruth Dell, Carla Davidson, A. Mark Joffe

For HPV Calgary