

# Director's Monthly Report



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## Highlights:

- The CEC Staff Have Left the Building
- Quirks and Quarks Host Comes to Kenora
- PJPII School Takes Action Against Poverty
- Rocks and Rings

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We are a Roman Catholic school system dedicated to excellence in education, the Christian formation of youth, and meaningful partnerships with family, community and the Church.

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*Kenora Catholic District School Board (807) 468-9851*

## The CEC Staff Have Left the Building

On April 13<sup>th</sup> the Catholic Education Center made the arduous journey from the former facility located on 200 First Street North to the new Catholic Education center at 1292 Heenan Place. The move was a culminating moment for the board as it's been a long-time dream to have the Catholic Education Center located on the Catholic Campus to provide more of a centralized service to families, students and schools. The center was open for business again on Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> in the new facility.

The board took the former St. Thomas Aquinas High School Annex and completely renovated the inside to create an open-concept office environment. The new facility has two meeting rooms, a chapel, a board room with new audio visual equipment and a very spacious training room. "Increased meeting space was very important to us as we were lacking that in the old facility", says Phyllis Eikre, Director of Education.

At the Board meeting of April 19, 2011 Phyllis Eikre stated that the board owes a huge thank you to the Catholic Education Center Staff, the Maintenance Staff and the Custodians for all of their efforts in moving to the new location. Eikre also made a special note of thanking Andrew Poirier, Operations Manager for coordinating and organizing the entire renovation project and the move.



"On the moving day I witnessed over 20 CEC staff pitching in to help move the center. Everyone was carrying something and the entire move went off very smoothly", says Poirier. Poirier shared that the team had been packing for weeks leading up to the move and even had a committee in charge of developing a plan for the move. It was a tremendous team effort and we are excited to be in the new facility. The new facility is a very nice place to come to work every day. Poirier thanked the trustees for their support in providing the board with a new Catholic Education Center.



## Quirks and Quarks Host Comes to STA

Kenora's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Environmental Film Festival took place on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> in Pope John Paul II School's gymnasium.

Guest Speaker Bob McDonald, Host of CBC's Quirks and Quarks provided the students with an educational talk about the advantages of preserving the natural landscape and incorporating traditional knowledge with science and technology.

"Preserving and protecting the environment is near and dear to my heart. I am very proud to be able to have our students learn from Bob McDonald about the environmental issues affecting our earth today and the things we can do about it", says Murray Delorme, Assistant to the Director.

Bob McDonald is one of Canada's best-known science journalists. He is host of Quirks and Quarks, the award-winning CBC radio science program, is science correspondent for CBC's The National CBC News Network as well as host and writer of Gemini winning children's series Heads Up.



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## PJP II SCHOOL TAKES ACTION AGAINST POVERTY



On February 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> the students in Grade 4B at Pope John Paul II School participated in a fundraiser for Kenora's Week of Action Against Poverty. This class worked in partnership with the Log Cabin Tavern and the Cornerstone Restaurant to decorate and package over 700 cupcakes. Students decorated hundreds of cupcakes at the Log Cabin Tavern and subsequently sold them at Pope John Paul II School and the Cornerstone Restaurant. All proceeds were donated to the Kenora Fellowship Center. The sales from the school alone amounted to \$288, which was a complete sell-out. Thank you Pope John Paul II School.

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## ROCKS AND RINGS

Students at Pope John Paul II School were all smiles as they participated in Rocks and Rings! This one day event, sponsored by Capital One, allowed students from grades 2-5 to learn some introductory curling moves. Head instructor Brigitte Dorge travelled from Winnipeg on February 4<sup>th</sup> to offer students a fun and physical way to learn curling in their very own gym. Pope John Paul II is the first school in the Kenora area to have had the opportunity to participate in this exciting activity. Rocks and Rings was a great way for our students to learn about Canada's 'other' winter sport! A special thank you to Mr. Long for organizing and facilitating this event.

