



SCSBA



Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association

May 4, 2017

Dear friends of Catholic education

I am writing this letter to provide clarification related to the April 20, 2017 Theodore court case judgment.

On April 28, the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association (SCSBA) announced that an appeal of the recent decision in the Theodore court case will be filed on behalf of Christ the Teacher School Division. The decision to appeal has been unanimously endorsed by all eight Catholic school boards in the province.

“The legal team representing Christ the Teacher School Division in this case has carefully reviewed the trial judge’s lengthy decision, and we believe that there are several strong grounds for appeal,” said SCSBA spokesperson Tom Fortosky.

On May 1, Premier Brad Wall announced the Government of Saskatchewan will protect school choice in Saskatchewan by invoking the notwithstanding clause of *The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

In a news release, Premier Wall said. “We wanted to announce this now to provide clarity and provide parents with the assurance that they will be able to continue to choose the kind of school they want their children to attend.”

The government’s decision does not lessen the need for an appeal. A successful appeal would overturn the decision.

This is very good news for parents of children attending Catholic schools as it removes the uncertainty some of you were feeling after the April 20 ruling in the Theodore case. Know that things will continue as usual within our eight Catholic school divisions for the foreseeable future. Let me assure you that our Catholic school divisions will continue to provide the highest quality Catholic education in partnership with our families, church and community for anyone who chooses that for their children. We are proud of the education our Catholic schools provide, in this province and we believe Catholic education matters!

I remind you to let your elected officials (the Minister of Education Don Morgan, Premier Brad Wall, and Leader of the NDP Trent Wotherspoon) know you endorse the government's actions to support parental choice in education and encourage them to also appeal the ruling.

You can email a prepared letter at http://www.catholicspirit.ca/?page_id=30

[Read the Government of Saskatchewan’s news release](#)

[Read the SCSBA news release announcing the appeal.](#)

Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

In Christ,

Paula Scott

President, Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association (SCSBA)