



CANADIAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES COMMISSAIRES D'ÉCOLES CATHOLIQUES

Catholic Education Centre, 570 West Hunt Club Road, Nepean, Ontario K2G 3R4
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October 25, 2023

Garrick Tiplady
Vice President and Country Director
Facebook Canada Ltd.
661 University Avenue
Suite 1201, 12th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 1M1

Dear Mr. Tiplady:

The Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association (CCSTA) is a national organization promoting excellence in Catholic education across Canada.

CCSTA represents seven provincial and territorial Catholic school trustees' associations in Canada. In turn, these associations represent over 90 school boards that educate more than 850,000 students in approximately 2,000 schools.

At our 2023 AGM held this past June, the membership unanimously passed a resolution that directed CCSTA to "engage and lobby social media platforms to actively and effectively remove inappropriate, harmful, and addictive social media content, including school challenges that cause harm and damage."

While the use of electronic communication and social media creates new opportunities for extending and enhancing education, there are also widely reported associated risks to our students. We are aware of a growing number of students participating in social media dares and challenges. These include but are not limited to "slap the teacher," "fake sexual assault", and vandalism of washroom facilities.

A dangerous dare or challenge posted on a platform and not censored could lead to lasting harm and negatively impact a student's health and well-being. As such, CCSTA strongly believes that, as a significant and influential public-facing corporation, you have the responsibility to set and maintain standards that ensure the safety of all children using your platform. We encourage you to continue to strengthen existing community safety guidelines and introduce new ones where appropriate and necessary. CCSTA is prepared to offer assistance and support to social media platforms to bring about the necessary changes and safety measures.

We look forward to receiving a response at your earliest convenience. Please contact our office if you would like to further discuss this important matter.

Sincerely,

Teresita Chiarella
President

Enlivened by the Word of God and our tradition, we promote and protect the right to Catholic education in Canada.

We speak as one.

Animés par la Parole de Dieu et notre tradition, nous assurons la protection et la promotion du droit à une éducation catholique au Canada. Nous parlons d'une même voix.