



*Office of the Director of Education
Office of the Chair of the Board*

January 12, 2021

I want to assure students, their families and staff, that the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) is committed to supporting the mental health and well-being of 2SLGBTQ+ youth in our school communities.

The TCDSB also takes seriously our responsibility of ensuring student safety online, particularly as it relates to resources made available through the Board's own website. As such, online content deemed inappropriate for school-aged children available through third-party resources from the YouthLine website resulted in the temporary removal of the link from the TCDSB Mental Health Resource page pending engagement with YouthLine staff.

We recognize and appreciate the peer support services YouthLine provides to 2SLGBTQ+ youth 29 and under, and our Board bears a responsibility to students and their families to ensure students receive age-appropriate content and resources.

We remain committed to working with YouthLine to better understand their resource and content strategies to determine how we can best serve the needs of TCDSB's 2SLGBTQ+ youth while maintaining our commitments to age-appropriate learning and online safety.

Creating inclusive learning environments and school communities that are safe and welcoming places remains at the forefront of our priorities. We continue to strive to create equitable and inclusive learning environments and communities founded on Catholic principles of respect, inclusion, fairness, equity, and social justice, in which every person is valued as a child of God.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brendan Browne".

Dr. Brendan Browne
Director of Education

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Martino".

Joseph Martino
Chair of the Board

cc. All Trustees
Associate Directors, Superintendents