

## **CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION**

### **Background**

Education about citizenship is about rights and responsibilities – one's own and others' – as well as how society works and how everyone can play an active role. Citizenship education helps people to:

- recognize their worth as individuals, knowing that they are unique
- understand that we are all different in many ways
- see things from other people's point of view
- recognize right from wrong and to have the confidence to choose right
- understand that they have rights and responsibilities
- understand the democratic process

Pride in our country is to stem from the values and qualities we hold as Canadian citizens and as a nation and from the place we hold as a respected nation in the international community.

### **Procedures**

1. Participation in and exposure to patriotic exercises is important in the development of positive attitudes towards our country as well as contributing to the development of good citizenship. A form of patriotic exercise may be included as part of opening exercises in the classroom.
2. The flag of Canada shall be prominently displayed inside and outside the school building.

#### **2.1. Outdoor School Flag Display**

- 2.1.1. Every school is required to display both the Canadian flag and the Saskatchewan flag. These flags should be flown on an outdoor flagpole location at the school's main entrance. In cases where there are two flagpoles, the Canadian flag should be positioned on the left side, as seen by people looking at the flags. If there is only one flagpole available, the Canadian flag must be placed above the Saskatchewan flag.
- 2.1.2. If a school needs more flagpoles to fly other flags deemed suitable by the School Division, the School Community Council (SCC), and the school staff, should submit their requests to the Facilities Department.

#### **2.2. Indoor School Flag Display**

- 2.2.1. Every school is required to display four flags: The Canadian flag, the Saskatchewan flag, the Treaty Four flag, and the Metis flag.

### 3. Occasions and Provisions

- 3.1. Principals, in consultation with the School Community Council, shall determine the occasions on which the national anthem will be sung.
- 3.2. The Director may direct schools to lower flags.
- 3.3. After taking the rights of religious minorities into account, principals shall make provisions for instruction in aspects of Canadian citizenship, and for participation in patriotic observances and exercises as considered appropriate by the School Division and the staff of the school.
- 3.4. Opportunities shall be found in the appropriate provincial curriculum areas to develop, in our students, knowledge of and a sense of pride in our country and in patriotic activities.

Reference: Section 175, 184, Education Act

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