

# Programs of Study (Human Sexuality) Notice and Exemption

## NOTICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 11.1 OF THE ALBERTA HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

October 18, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

On July 1, 2015, Section 50.1 of the *School Act* replaced Section 11.1 of the Alberta *Human Rights Act*. The Calgary Board of Education is still required to provide parents with notice "where courses of study, educational programs or instructional materials, or instruction or exercises...include subject matter that deals **primarily and explicitly** with **religion and human sexuality**."

Upon written request from a parent or guardian, a teacher is required to exempt a student without academic penalty from an educational environment that deals primarily and explicitly with these subject matters.

All children will be taking Human Sexuality as part of the Health and Wellness courses at Bishop Pinkham over the next number of weeks. Topics to be dealt with include anatomy and physiology, puberty, reproduction, birth, birth control and sexually transmitted infections.

While the Calgary Board of Education assumes on the basis of your child's registration that you approve of this instruction, it hereby provides written notice to you of the instruction, use of materials, exercises or activities where the subject matter deals primarily and explicitly with human sexuality. Your son/daughter may withdraw from this unit if you choose. In the case where a request is made in writing by the parent to remove a student from this unit, the student will be excused without academic penalty and will be provided with an alternative assignment.

Any student whose parent has not completed the student exemption form or made this request otherwise in writing will continue to participate in this course, receive the instructional materials and participate in the exercises that have been set out by the teacher. Please see the back of this form.

If you would like additional information about the content of this notice, please contact your child's Phys Ed teacher, as they will be also teaching them this component of the Health class..

**IF YOU DO NOT WISH FOR YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS CURRICULUM.** Please fill out the form on the back of this letter and have the student return it to their Physical Education and Wellness Teacher by November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

We will be commencing Human Sexuality class in PE classes starting November 18th, 2024

**The Bishop Pinkham PE/ Health and Wellness Team**

# Student Exemption under Section 11.1 of the Alberta Human Rights Act

In response to the Notice provided to me regarding the instructional content in the Health program being delivered by Calgary Board of Education indicating the Program of Study in which my child is enrolled focuses on subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with human sexuality, the purpose of this letter is to determine whether or not you would like your child to participate in the Human Sexuality unit.

I understand that electing for my daughter/son to be exempted will necessarily mean she/he will be provided with an alternative unit of study. He/she will not suffer an academic penalty for withdrawing from this unit.

I confirm that I am the legal guardian of the student named **below**. I also confirm that it is my obligation to ensure that this form is returned to the school immediately.

**If you wish for your CHILD to NOT participate in the Human Sexuality unit, please complete the following:**

**NO** I do not wish for my child to participate in the Human Sexuality unit.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Parent/Legal Guardian Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Student Name