



Ontario Public Education Parent Consultation Process

Talking Points Quick Guide

Below you'll find instructions for engaging in the telephone town hall meetings, as well as a 350-word PEACE position summary you can use as part of your input in a town hall meeting, survey or open submission.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PHONE TOWN HALL

During the phone meeting there are 7 topics the moderator will guide through. Please be patient as each topic takes about 15 min. and sex education is number 5, so you can expect the process to take more than an hour.

These steps will guide you through the process:

- 1) 2 min. before the sex ed section starts the moderator will ask, "If you want to provide input into the sex ed curriculum please press 9 now." There will be many waiting so press 9 quickly.
- 2)) A person will ask for your name and your comments. Summarize your comments by saying, "I agree with the concerns expressed about the curriculum but we live in a pluralistic province and need choice so that all parents can choose what is best for their child."
- 3) When it is your turn to talk on the call try to cover the content in the "Sex Ed Position Summary": _____

PEACE SEX ED POSITION SUMMARY

KEY POINT - Choice in Sexual Health Education Is How We Respect All Families

"I agree with the concerns that have been expressed about the 2015 sex ed curriculum. But the reality is that we live in a province where families have different worldviews. And with these different worldviews, some will agree with the curriculum, some won't.

To settle the issue, we need to either:

- a) scrap sex ed in schools altogether and provide a mechanism for parents and other community organizations to meet the need by offering alternative programs, OR
- b) provide program choice within schools so that parents can choose a program that aligns with the teaching of the home.

There are 2 philosophical approaches to sexual health instruction accepted by public health:

- 1) **Comprehensive Sex Education** - a risk reduction approach, emphasizing contraceptives and affirming alternative ways of sexual expression which may be less risky. This is what the 2015 curriculum is based on.
- 2) **Sexual Risk Avoidance** - a well-designed abstinence sex education. It helps youth to identify their goals and values, and then builds understanding of the negative affects of teen sexual activity on achieving goals, educational achievement, earning potential; physical, emotional & mental health; etc. It then helps the students to develop the refusal skills.

International large-scale research proves that Comprehensive Sex Ed programs do NOT work to reduce teen pregnancy and STI rates. (1)(2) These international studies show that well designed Sexual Risk Avoidance programs have significantly better results. The reality, however is that in a pluralistic province like Ontario, if the Ministry of Education embraces only one of the curriculum approaches, a large group of families will be offended, rally, protest, and work toward getting a new government at the next election.

An effective education system would:

- a) provide choice in sexual health programs based on these public health approaches to sex education
- b) select tested and proven programs in each of the philosophical approaches
- c) allow parents to choose the program that fits their child's learning needs
- d) track the results, and learn from the results."

Sources

(1) CSE Research - USA: https://www.comprehensivesexualityeducation.org/wp-content/uploads/Reexamining_the_Evidence-CSE_in_USA_6-1-18FINAL.pdf

(2) CSE Research

International: https://www.comprehensivesexualityeducation.org/wp-content/uploads/Re-Examining_the_Evidence_for_CSE_in_Non-US_Settings5-31-18.pdf