

Living Waters Trustee Candidate - Tammy Kennedy

My name is Tammy Kennedy, wife of Paul Kennedy and mother of three children ages 18, 17, and 12. My husband Paul and I began our business, Kennedy Denture Clinic, in Mayerthorpe and Whitecourt in 1997 and by 1999 we expanded our practice to Edson. Our family moved from Whitecourt to Edson in 2006 to



operate our business in a convenient central location for our clientele. I have maintained my license as a Denturist working part time out of Kennedy Denture Clinic while educating our children through our local Catholic schools and Virtual Catholic schools available in our province. I am a very active parishioner of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Edson. I strive to put God first in my life through frequent reception of the sacraments and by maintaining an active prayer life. In raising our children our family has attended many of the annual Catholic retreats and events throughout the province to help sustain our faith and encourage our kids to learn and practice their faith throughout their lives by building friendships with other catholic kids and families.

My decision to put my name forward as a trustee for Living Waters Catholic Regional Division No 42 was made firm in the early part of September after much prayer and consultation with family and friends over the summer. I have spent the last 10 years focusing on teaching my children the Alberta Curriculum and their Catholic faith. They are now more independent with their education as my son is in grade seven at Holy Redeemer Catholic High School and my daughters are in grade eleven and University. I strongly believe my experience and knowledge over the past ten years would be a benefit to the Living Waters Board in making their decisions that support the students, parents and staff of the entire Division No 42. Quality Education while incorporating our Catholic faith has been my focus for my children and I want to help be part of a team that supports those values and works diligently to provide and protect those values for all children and their parents.

As a steward of the Catholic faith I will continue to attend Mass on Fridays with our teachers and students as an active participant, as a parishioner and community member that truly values and encourages their presence in our parish. I will be a member of the parent advisory committee of Holy Redeemer Catholic High School working as a team member that helps to provide support and encouragement to permeate the Catholic faith in all aspects of the school activities. Provincially I will work with the Government of Alberta to strongly advocate on behalf of the Catholic Church, Archbishop Richard Smith and Living Waters Catholic School Division to provide the highest quality, faith based education respecting tax payers' dollars and values.

The greatest challenge facing our provincial education system in the next four years is the threat of losing publicly funded Catholic education, diversity of education choice and parental rights with in education. Along with many people in Alberta, I believe very strongly that our high educational standards and academic achievement both nationally and internationally exists because of the diversity of education choice in Alberta. Publicly funded Catholic education in Alberta is the foundation for the vast diversity of choice in Alberta that promotes achievement in education. Providing diverse options for families according to their values, beliefs and lifestyles is what allows our province to excel in academic achievement. Currently, publicly funded Catholic education is being promoted as wasteful of tax payers' dollars. If this concept continues to be promoted without the involvement and input of people who value publicly funded Catholic education and education diversity, Alberta families and students will risk losing these rights in our province.