

## **NEWS RELEASE**

NCDSB Welcomes New Bishop to the Diocese of Timmins Timmins, November 12, 2012:

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board would like to welcome Bishop-elect Msgr. Serge Poitras to the Diocese of Timmins.

Glenn Sheculski, Director of Education, commented "We all welcome this announcement by Pope Benedict XVI. As our spiritual leader at the Diocesan level, it is important that we all work together and support Bishop-elect Poitras. We look forward to meeting with him and showcasing our excellent schools where Catholic Education is alive and thriving."



Bishop-elect Poitras was born on May 27, 1949, in Jonquière, Quebec. After studies in Chicoutimi and Quebec City, he was ordained to the priesthood on May 27, 1973, for the Diocese of Chicoutimi. He holds a Master's degree in theology from Laval University, Quebec City, and a doctorate in theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome.

During his ministry as a priest, Msgr. Poitras served the Cathedral parish of Chicoutimi as assistant pastor, the Chicoutimi minor seminary as a professor, and the diocesan centre where he was responsible for pastoral ministry with students. From 1990 to 2000, he taught at the Grand Séminaire of Montreal, where he was a member of the

formation team, as well as director of studies from 1998 to 2000. During this time, he also provided pastoral assistance in a number of Montreal parishes.

On August 21, 2000, he was appointed French-language secretary at the Apostolic Nunciature to Canada. The Holy Father subsequently named him Adjunct Under Secretary of the Congregation for Bishops on December 29, 2010.

## For more information, please contact:

Andrew Marks, Community Relations Officer (705) 268-7443 ext. 3213