

## Canadian Anthem Policy

### Policy Overview

This policy outlines the Halifax Regional School Board's commitment to play the Canadian National Anthem in its schools every day.

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### Policy and Procedure History

- Policy approved – September 23, 2009
- Policy revised – March 25, 2015
- Procedures approved – September 23, 2009
- Procedures revised – March 25, 2015

### 1.0 Legislative Context

- 1.1 A motion was approved by the House of Commons that made O Canada the National Anthem of Canada, 1965.

### 2.0 Principles

- 2.1 The Canadian Anthem is a symbol of honour and pride and shall be played and/or sung in all HRSB schools each school day.

**3.0 Authorization**

- 3.1 The Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement procedures in support of this policy.

**4.0 Policy Review**

- 4.1 This policy will be reviewed every five (5) years or on an as needed basis.

## **Canadian Anthem Procedures**

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#### **1.0 Responsibilities**

#### **Appendix A – National Anthem O Canada Lyrics**

#### **1.0 Responsibilities**

- 1.1 School Administrators are responsible for:
  - 1.1.1 Ensuring the national anthem, O Canada, is played and/or sung in school each day;
  - 1.1.2 Exempting students from patriotic exercises where there is a parental/guardian request in writing.
- 1.2 Teachers are responsible for:
  - 1.2.1 Providing students with the official lyrics of O Canada;
  - 1.2.2 Instructing students, with the exception of those who are exempt from participating, to stand for the playing/ singing of the national anthem in school each day;
  - 1.2.3 Respecting the dignity of those who are exempt from participating in patriotic exercises;
  - 1.2.4 Providing an environment that demonstrates respect for those students who are exempt from participating in patriotic exercises.
- 1.3 Students are responsible for:
  - 1.3.1 Demonstrating respect during the playing of the national anthem;
  - 1.3.2 Standing for the playing and/ or singing of the national anthem, unless they are exempt from doing so.

## **Appendix A**

### **National Anthem O Canada Lyrics**

#### **English Version:**

O Canada! Our home and native land!  
True patriot love in all thy sons command. With  
glowing hearts we see thee rise,  
The True North strong and free! From  
far and wide, O Canada, We stand on  
guard for thee.  
God keep our land glorious and free!  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee. O  
Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

#### **French Version:**

O Canada, terre de nos aïeux,  
Ton front est ceint de fleurons glorieux. Car  
ton bras sait porter l'épée,  
Il sait porter la croix.  
Ton histoire est une épopée, Des  
plus brillants exploits. Et ta  
valeur, de foi trempée,  
Protégera nos foyers et nos droits.  
Protégera nos foyers et nos droit