

A city first: Two priests voted trustees

By JOHN WYLIE
Journal Reporter

Two Catholic priests head a list of six new trustees elected to the 16-member Ottawa separate school board.

Rev. Dale Crampton, 38-year-old parish priest at St. Elizabeth's Church in Ottawa's West End and Rev. Ken Keeler, 36, a priest at St. Bridget's Church in Lower Town, finished one-two in the voting.

Father Crampton polled 10,556 votes; Father Keeler, 10,073 votes.

It's the first time Catholic priests have been elected to the board.

Father Crampton said he couldn't explain his success at leading the polls.

"I really don't know — maybe it was the novelty of having priests running for the board," he said.

He added although it is new here, it is common in other areas of the province.

The final results tabulated early this morning showed three members of the present board going down to defeat. Three members of the current board didn't seek re-election.

Two of the defeated trustees — Peter Phelan and Jack MacKinnon — have been board members since 1969. William McCloskey was elected in the 1972 elections.

Among the new trustees elected is Horace Dubois, an Ottawa separate school board superintendent who retired earlier this year.

Also elected were Roberta Anderson, a 35-year-old psychometrician who missed getting a seat in the last election; Kathleen Andrews, a teacher at St. Pius X high school; and Dr. Mark Patry, a medical doctor.

Incumbents elected were Jacques Beauchamp, O. L. Boudreau, Edgar Charron, Florian Carriere, Lucien Dagenais, Frank Gilhooly, Nancy McGee and Paul Kelly. Gisèle Lalonde and Leopold Bériault were returned by Vanier voters.

In previous years there had been slates proposed by English-speaking and French-speaking organizations. This year, with the exception of one small group naming a slate, there was no organized backing for trustees.

The results this year are about the same as they were in the 1972 campaign when both language groups backed candidates.

Trustees representing Ottawa and Rockcliffe separate

school ratepayers for the next two years will be about evenly split, English and French, as they have been for the past two years.

The new board could have some major problems on its hands when it takes office Jan. 1.

The magnitude of the problems will depend on whether present trustees are able to reach a contract settlement with the board's 1,200 teachers and its maintenance workers before the end of the year.

The teachers are threatening to resign effective Jan. 1 if they are not satisfied with contract talks.

Another problem facing the new board could be in the area of hiring teachers — particularly French-language instructors.

In the past year there has been a general shortage in the province of qualified French-language teachers. The situation isn't expected to improve.

A third problem is the perennial one of getting enough funds through taxes and grants to cover the necessary programs.

When the present term comes to an end Dec. 31 it will be the wind-up of long careers on the board for trustees Rita Desjardins, Jean-Paul Latrendresse and Aime Arvisais.

Standings

OTTAWA

(14 to be elected)

DALE CRAMPTON	10,556
KEN KEELER	10,073
xLUCIEN DAGENAIS	8,377
xNANCY MCGEE	8,228
xFRANK GILHOOLY	8,149
xEDGAR CHARRON	7,162
KATHLEEN ANDREWS	7,159
O. L. BOUDREAU	7,145
xJACQUES BEAUCHAMP	7,051

MARK PATRY	6,985
xPAUL KELLY	6,908
HORACE DUBOIS	6,908
ROBERTA ANDERSON	6,681
xFLORIAN CARRIERE	6,522
xWILLIAM MCCLOSKEY	6,222
Real L. Auclair	6,138
xJack MacKinnon	5,761
xP. P. Phelan	5,597
Jack Baizma	5,176
Ronald Lincoln	4,631
Joan Botting	4,248

VANIER

(2 to be elected)

xGISELE LALONDE	3,579
xLEOPOLD BERIAULT	2,631
Arthur Belair	1,364
Douglas P. Birt	844