



#### 4. Teacher Feedback

Participating teachers have observed that student discussions are deeper and more meaningful as a result of participation in the Ethics Bowl. Many report that other teachers in their schools have also been inspired to integrate critical thinking and collaboration skills, creating a school-wide approach to discussing challenging ethical issues.

*“The Ethics Bowl is an excellent opportunity for students to think critically about the issues facing society in a collaborative setting. It brings together so many different skills such as teamwork, literacy, analysis, and communication that are essential for success in the 21st century.” – Kara*

*“The Ethics Bowl has become part of our school culture... We have more and more students involved each year... Other teachers in our school use ethics as a teaching tool in their classrooms now.” – Caroline*

#### 5. MARL

Formed in 1978, *The Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties* is a non-profit, non-governmental, human rights and civil liberties organization. MARL envisions a world where people’s diversity is valued, liberties are respected, and rights are lived. We take action for social justice, human rights, and civil liberties in Manitoba through education and advocacy.

*Find out more, contact & sign up.  
We’ll help you all along the way to set up your regional tournaments and build teams.*

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Creating  
Community  
through  
Critical  
Conversations



Spring 2019

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## ? 1. Why an Ethics Bowl?

Our world is changing, and Canadians need skills to deal with the ethical challenges we are facing. The High School Ethics Bowl is a new opportunity for students to learn and practice the skills they need as global citizens.

The unique, collegial dynamic of an Ethics Bowl encourages students to teach and learn from one another as they take part in courageous conversations about ethical issues. This process emphasizes the skills of communication and collaboration: critical thinking, active listening, articulation and expression, open-mindedness, and respectful dialogue and disagreement. Students engage actively with peers as they share diverse views, challenge ideas and assumptions, and deepen understandings.

Ultimately, an Ethics Bowl empowers students and shapes their identity as community members who are able and inspired to contribute to a society where everyone can thrive.

## 🐦 2. What is an Ethics Bowl ?

An Ethics Bowl is both a collaborative and competitive event, where teams of students analyze and discuss ethical dilemmas. They imagine,

criticize, and compare bold strategies, and may even amend their original positions when faced with convincing arguments. Students have opportunities to pose and respond to probing questions, which results in a deepening awareness of the stakes and principles that animate the discussion.

Teams from public schools are eligible to participate, and each school team comprises five students from Grades 9 to 12. In advance of the Bowl, schools receive cases that focus on current ethical issues – social, political, economic, scientific, cultural, or beyond. Students research and develop the cases, and arrive at the Bowl prepared to present their ideas and to listen to other perspectives. All teams participate in a round robin style competition. In each round, two teams discuss two cases, and winning teams proceed to the semi-final and final competitions.

Students are evaluated on the following skills:

- Communication
- Use of relevant information
- Critical thinking
- Original thinking
- Intellectual improvisation
- Collaboration

The first regional High School Ethics Bowl was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba in 2014. Regional Ethics Bowls will take place all over Canada during Fall 2018. Winning teams will meet at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg to compete for the national title during Spring 2019.



## 💬 3. Student Feedback

The Ethics Bowl has had a great impact on participating students, and on their school community:

*“Discussing ethics is discussing the future of the world.” – Hannah*

*“It really makes you see things from a different perspective.” – Karina*

*“The cure to ignorance is discussion.” – Teegan*

*“You will walk away a different person.” – Nikki*

*“I’ve learned how to approach social issues through education rather than anger.” – Stephanie*

*“Now I’m going to look at all the different sides of a subject and what people it could effect.” – Bailey*

*“I definitely want to share my lessons I’ve learned with people around the world.” – Vicky*

*“It helped me be more open-minded and a more well-rounded citizen.” – Kirsten*