

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Catholic Education Centre

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES TENDER FOR UPGRADE AND RENOVATIONS AT SITE OF NEW ST. PATRICK'S

A Forest, Ontario firm has been awarded the contract for renovations and an addition to the site of the new St. Patrick's Catholic High School, which is scheduled to open in September 2014.

The \$14.6 million project includes renovations throughout the building and a 60,000 square foot addition. A new cafeteria and dramatic arts theatre are also highlights of the facility at the current site of St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School on the Rapids Parkway.

Final written approval from the Ministry of Education will be forthcoming, with the Trustees' vote tonight to approve the tender award.

There were five submissions for tender with the low bid of \$12,677,847 being offered by Wellington Builders Inc. of Forest, Ont. Including contingency and professional fees, permits, furniture, equipment and HST, the project comes in at \$14,649,115.

"We are pleased to reach this important new stage in the building of our new consolidated high school in Sarnia," says Paul Wubben, Director of Education. "I want to thank Associate Director Jim McKenzie and his staff on achieving project approval from the Ministry of Education and for the successful awarding of the contract."

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board approved consolidation of Sarnia's two Catholic secondary schools in November 2009, following recommendations of the Accommodation Review Committee and the Board's senior administration.

The St. Christopher campus will close at the end of June 2013 for construction; and all Catholic secondary school students will attend St. Patrick's Catholic High School at the East Street site for the 2013-2014 transitional year.

The new St. Patrick's Catholic High School on the Rapids Parkway will be open and ready for students in September 2014.