



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAROL BRYDEN ACCLAIMED CHAIR OF THE BOARD FOR 2013; JOHN VAN HECK ELECTED AS VICE CHAIR

The Initial Meeting of the Board of Trustees for the St. Clair Catholic District School Board was held tonight. Carol Bryden was acclaimed to her third term as Chair of the Board. Trustee John Van Heck was elected to fill the role of Vice Chair.

Mrs. Bryden was first elected as a Trustee in 2006. She is a retired principal of Catholic Curriculum Services with the St. Clair Catholic District School Board, having served as an educator for 32 years.

In accepting a third term, Mrs. Bryden thanked her fellow trustees for the privilege of serving as Chair. She noted that 2012 has been a year of surprises, with an announcement in the spring of possible school board amalgamations, followed by the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ontario government and the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association, the passage of Bill 115 in September and the recent unexpected resignation of the Premier.

"The only thing we can expect in the coming year is that there will be great change," says Mrs. Bryden. "More change is coming and we do not yet know what it will look like, but we must be prepared for the challenges it will present."

John Van Heck has been a Catholic trustee since 2006. In his remarks, Mr. Van Heck thanked his fellow trustees for the confidence they have placed in him.

"Our ability to work together as a team is enviable and is truly a blessing," says Mr. Van Heck. "I want to thank all employee groups – administrators, managers, principals, teachers, support workers, maintenance, secretarial, clerical and administrative assistants – each of these people makes a big difference in the lives of our students every day."

The evening began with Mass, which was celebrated in the chapel of the Catholic Education Centre. Father Greg Bonin, Episcopal Vicar for the Kent Deanery, was celebrant.

Elections for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair are held annually at the Board's Initial Meeting in December. Their term of office expires November 30, 2013.