



DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006

A MESSAGE FROM The Director

I am very pleased to present this report to our Board of Trustees, our schools, our parents and parish communities, and to the Ministry of Education. It is a review of the tremendous accomplishments at St. Clair Catholic during the 2005–2006 school year and an expression of the greatness we achieve, when we all work together as partners to support the mission of Catholic education.

I am proud of the solid record of student achievement in St. Clair Catholic. Our EQAO scores continue to improve, with numbers at or above the provincial average. Our Student Success initiatives are also showing results, as we work harder to help students make successful transitions from elementary to secondary school.

Our Board maintains a focus of building strong Professional Learning Communities and as a result our students continue to benefit from many new educational initiatives – made possible by St. Clair Catholic's sound fiscal management and planning.

I am also particularly pleased that St. Clair Catholic was among the first Boards in the province to reach agreements with all of its employee groups, both teaching and support staff. I look forward to continuing to build on the strong relationships which we have developed with our unions and associations.

As a Catholic school system, we must always work to strengthen the unique partnership of home, school and parish, which is the very foundation of Catholic education. I want to thank our families and parish partners for all that they do to promote our schools and proclaim our faith, as together

we guide our students on their journey of life-long learning and growing in the Catholic faith.

growing in the Catholic faith.

I now look forward to the 2006–2007 school year and the opportunities to work with all of our partners in Catholic education, as we continue to serve our students with the very best that Catholic education has to offer.

Sincerely,

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Paul Wubben
Director of Education



Board of Trustees

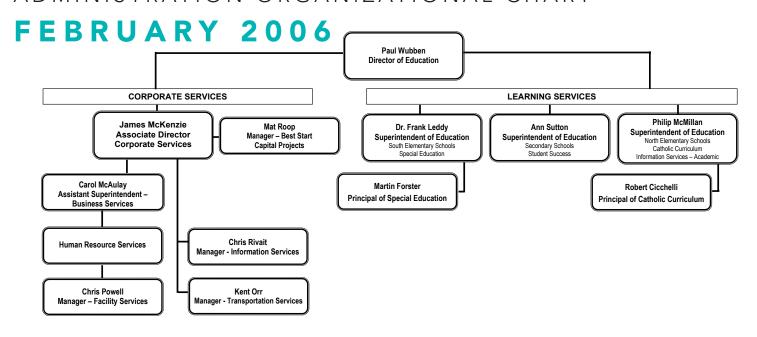
Seated: Father Andy Dwyer, Board Chaplain; Brenda Kormendy, Chair of the Board; and Linda Ward, Vice Chair of the Board Standing: Ross Daly, Marie Cadotte, Barbara Fisher, Anita Labadie and Mike Neuts



Student Representatives

Nicole Bilyea, Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School, representing secondary students in Chatham-Kent; and Casey Park, St. Patrick's Catholic High School, representing secondary students in Sarnia-Lambton

ST.CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD SENIOR ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



PROVIDING QUALITY CATHOLIC EDUCATI



Technology on the Move – This year a technology trailer has traveled to all Lambton County schools providing St. Clair students in grades seven and eight with a handson session using technology. The trailer will travel to all Chatham-Kent schools in the 2006-2007 school year. In addition to this practical approach to learning, our students have also been presented information on pathways to jobs in technology.

New Teacher Induction Program – New teachers will benefit from this program by exploring issues that concern them as they begin their careers. The program will incorporate teacher professional development and mentoring, which will lead to an effective transition into the classroom.

FSL / French Immersion – New resources for French instruction were purchased to enrich the French as a Second Language and French Immersion programs. These renewed resources were made possible by new funds from the Ministry of Education.

Health and Physical Education Itinerant Teachers – Ministry of Education funding for Quality Daily Activity programs has provided new resources to assist our team of three itinerant teachers to engage learners in fitness. Beginning in September 2006, the team will be expanded to eight. The role of the itinerant health and physical education teacher is to reinforce and complement the learning already taking place in the classroom.

Literacy and Numeracy – The District Literacy Team continues to travel to St. Clair Catholic schools providing support to teachers and principals through capacity building opportunities. Although balanced literacy has always been the team's primary focus, in the 2006-2007 school year we will also begin to concentrate more on balanced numeracy support and capacity building within our schools.

Education For All Projects

- Demonstration Classrooms Twelve primary classrooms, in which the classroom teacher and the program resource teacher share literacy instructional duties were established across the district. With the support of the district literacy team, the demonstration classrooms model a collegial teaching team which meets the learning needs of all students. A comparison of Diagnostic Reading Assessments for grade one students in the demonstration classrooms with previous assessments of grade one students, prior to this project, shows a marked increase in reading levels. The increase is illustrated in the accompanying graph.
- Assistive Technology Assistive technology provides necessary tools for learning for some students and at the same time benefits all students. Every program resource teacher and one junior division teacher from each elementary school have participated in a series of professional development

suite, which all students will be able to access at school and at home.

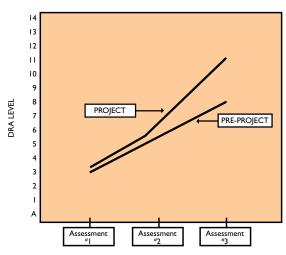
workshops on this topic. Teachers learned about an assistive technology

Gifted Programming – This year, about 2,500 students in grades 4 through 8 were tested for giftedness. More than 180 students met the criteria for eligibility for the gifted program. The gifted program will be provided by congregating students by division (grade 5/6 or grade 7/8) in both the north and the south. Secondary students will also be provided with enrichment opportunities.

Student Support Services Team – The system provides student services across the district according to four geographic regions. Each region has a social worker and 1.5 child and youth workers who provide direct service for a variety of issues. Their work is supported by a behavioural consultant and an itinerant behavioural teacher.

Speech-Language Services Review – This year, the Special Education Department completed a review of the Speech and Language services offered by the board. Input was sought through a series of focus groups involving our partners and stakeholders. Implementation of the recommendations resulting from the review.

Developmental Reading Assessment Scores Over Time for Grade 1



A comparison of Diagnostic Reading Assessments for grade one students in the demonstration classrooms with previous assessments of grade one students, prior to this project, shows a marked increase in reading levels.

stakeholders. Implementation of the recommendations resulting from the review will begin next year, with a focus on harmonizing the range of school-based services provided throughout the district.

TION ACROSS THE ST.CLAIR DISTRICT

Innovations for 2005-2006

Parent Handbook – The Special Education Advisory Committee revised the parent handbook guide to special education for the Board. It outlines the Identification Placement and Review Committee process and details concerning the Individual Education Plan. The document will be available in the schools in the fall of 2006.

"My Pathways" Website – A new on-line resource has been developed to assist students and parents with planning for secondary school and beyond. The site, mypathway.st-clair.net can be accessed directly, or from the Board homepage. Students can learn about their skills, interests and abilities and explore opportunities in all four destination pathways: apprenticeship, college, university or work. It has something for everyone – students, parents, employers and the community.

Credit Recovery – A pilot program was implemented in all three Catholic secondary schools to assist students with credit accumulation. Students who had previously failed one or more courses in grade 9 or 10 were able to take a Learning Strategies course, and to simultaneously work on successfully completing the failed course. Students were able to attain the Learning Strategies credit and one or two previously failed credits, getting them back on the road to graduation. The program has been successful and will be continued next year.

Student Success Teachers – A new teacher position has been added to each secondary school across the board, thanks to funding from the Ministry of Education. The Student Success Teachers work with students who may be having difficulty working towards their graduation requirements. They help the students with selecting the appropriate courses, accessing extra supports as needed, attendance issues and provide another contact for communication between school and home. This one-to-one contact is making a difference for many students.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT EQAO RESULTS

St. Clair Catholic students continue to show strong achievement on the provincial EQAO assessments. In the 2005–2006 Grade 10 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) 88 percent of St. Clair Catholic students who were eligible to write the test for the first time were successful – an increase of three percentage points from the previous year, and four percentage points above the provincial average.

On the grade three and six assessments for Reading, Writing and Mathematics, student results were also impressive. Of eight EQAO indicators, St. Clair Catholic students achieved above the provincial average in seven. They also posted tremendous gains in year over year results.

Grade 10 OSSLT

	St. Clair	Province
First Time Eligible	88%	84%

Grade 3 and 6 Achievement

	Reading		Writing		Mathematics	
	St. Clair	Province	St. Clair	Province	St. Clair	Province
Grade 3	64%	59%	63%	61%	73%	66%
Grade 6	65%	63%	60%	59%	64%	60%

Grade 9 Mathematics

	St. Clair	Province
Academic	67%	68%
Applied	28%	27%

CELEBRATIN Partnerships

St. Clair Catholic Partners with Municipal, Provincial and Federal Governments to Provide Best Start Program – Best Start is a comprehensive early learning and child care initiative designed to give children the best possible start in life and greater opportunities for success at school. It is built on a partnership that brings school boards together with municipalities and the provincial and federal governments.

St. Clair Catholic is proud to announce the opening of 17 "Wrap-Around" programs for September, which offer alternate day child care for junior and senior kindergarten students. The program integrates quality education and child care programs so that students have a Best Start learning experience five days a week. In addition, three "Hubs" will open in mid-December. The hubs offer a full range of services for children from birth to age six. The Board recognizes that child care in the school setting assists parents by providing a supportive and secure environment for their children. It also promotes a continuum of quality care and learning between the child care centre and the school.

TD Friends of the Environment and Toyota Evergreen Foundation Support St. Benedict Catholic School "Green Project" - Twenty-five trees were planted in the yard at St. Benedict Catholic School, thanks to two generous grants from environmental foundations. The school applied for and received grants of \$2,000 from the Toyota Evergreen Foundation, \$1,000 from the TD Friends of the Environment and \$200 from the TD Canada Trust Branch on London Road. The money was used to purchase trees from a local nursery.

Ursuline College Receives \$5,000 from Shell Environmental Fund – Ursuline College Catholic Secondary School received \$5,000 from the Shell Environmental Fund, to assist with a student led recycling program. Equipped with masks, aprons, gloves and tongs, students in two biology classes examined 20 bags of garbage, and determined that just over 60 percent of the waste produced at UCC can be recycled.



Internet Safety

Monsignor Uyen Catholic School Students Help Chatham Goodfellows with Annual Toy Drive - Twenty-six grade six and seven students from Monsignor Uyen Catholic School assisted the Chatham Goodfellows with unpacking and sorting donated Christmas toys for children. The students unpacked skids of toys that were donated by factories, corporations and individuals all across Chatham-Kent.



Students and Community Benefit from Mobile Skilled Trades Lab Thanks to New Partnership -A unique mobile trailer filled with technology equipment to teach students in grades 7 and 8 about careers in the skilled trades began visiting St. Clair Catholic schools this year. The trailer is the result of a new partnership among St. Clair Catholic, Lambton College, the Sarnia Lambton Training Board and Canadian Tire. The 53-foot trailer, outfitted with ten work stations, provides students with hands-on experience with tools used in carpentry, electrical manufacturing, plumbing and welding. Canadian Tire donated a number of the tools. An official ribbon cutting was held in January.

Shell Canada Community Service Fund Benefits Two St. Clair Catholic Schools – Two St. Clair Catholic schools have received \$1,000 each from the Shell Canada Community Service Fund. St. Anne Catholic School in Sarnia used the funds to purchase DVD players for each classroom, and at St. Philip Catholic

School in Petrolia, the money was spent on books for the school library. The donations recognize and support the work of Victor Matias and

Charles Lassaline, both Shell Canada employees and volunteers at the schools.

St. Clair Catholic Partners with Chatham-Kent Police Services to Provide Cyber-Bullying Program -The St. Clair Catholic District School Board and Chatham-Kent Police Services hosted a workshop on cyber-bullying for grade 7 teachers. The workshop focused on a number of internet safety issues. Teachers were also given lesson plans to include in the Healthy Living, Personal Safety and Injury Prevention





St. Clair Catholic High School Students Collect \$17,267.93 **During Annual Lenten Fundraiser** – Students from all three Catholic high schools in the St. Clair district raised more than \$17,000 for the Canadian Catholic Organization for

Development and Peace in the annual Share Lent Challenge. Each year, the schools compete in a friendly wager, to see which will raise the most money per student. St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School won the competition this year, raising \$8.08 per student.

Newfoundland Partnership – "Helping Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ" – Over the past year-and-a-half, St. Clair Catholic has established a partnership with the Catholic schools of Newfoundland. In recent years, Catholics in Newfoundland have lost the right to publicly funded faith-based education. At one time, there were Catholic schools in cities, towns and rural communities across the province. Now, Catholic education exists in only three small private schools.

The Newfoundland Partnership exists to provide prayer support to these struggling Catholic schools and, whenever possible, assists with donations of surplus textbooks, furniture or computers that have been replaced, but which are still useable. During a conference of the Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association in St. John's last June, St. Clair Catholic Trustees along with Director of Education Paul Wubben, delivered a shipment of supplies to the staff of St. Bonaventure College.



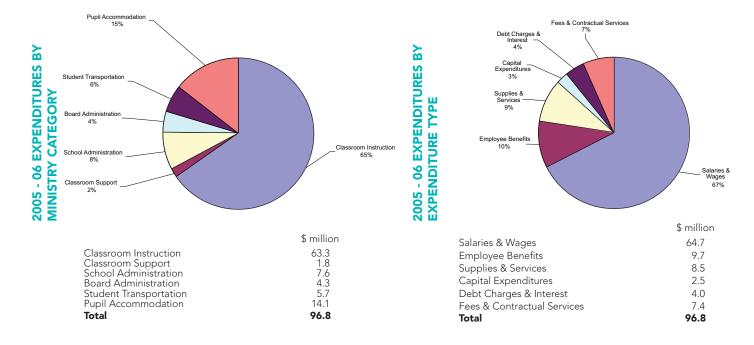
REINVESTING IN Catholic Education Improvements and Upgrades for 2005-2006

- HVAC and electrical upgrade, Georges P. Vanier Catholic School, Chatham \$525,000
- HVAC and electrical upgrade, Holy Family Catholic School, Wallaceburg \$850,000
- New windows, Monsignor Uyen Catholic School, Chatham \$75,000
- HVAC and electrical upgrade, St. John Fisher Catholic School, Forest \$600,000
- Plumbing upgrade, St. Therese Catholic School, Sarnia \$225,000
- New windows, St. Ursula Catholic School, Chatham \$125,000
- Electrical and fire alarm upgrade, Ursuline College, Chatham \$350,000

2005-2006 ET

In August, 2005 the Board of Trustees passed a balanced budget which was in compliance with all Ministry of Education legislative requirements.

Declining enrolment continues to be a challenge for our Board, with a projected decline over the next ten years from 10,655 students in 2005-06 to 8,628 students in 2015-16. While declining enrolment is a provincial issue and the Ministry of Education continues to address its effects through the funding model, lower revenue to support a declining student population is a reality, and one that must be planned for. The annual budget development process ensures proposed spending is aligned with the Board's strategic plan and priorities.



CELEBRATING TOGETHER AS A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ... Events & Milestones

System-wide Masses – Two system-wide Masses were held this year. In September, members of the St. Clair Catholic community gathered from across the district to celebrate the beginning of another school year. The Liturgical Dance Teams from Christ The King Catholic School and Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School participated in the celebration. In January, the St. Clair Catholic family came together once more, for a Mass and luncheon to honour the retirement of Director of Education Margaret Nelson, after 43 years of devoted service to Catholic education.

Annual Living Faith Award – The St. Clair Catholic District School Board honoured 38 recipients with the annual *Living Faith Award of Distinction* in October. The award is presented annually to staff, parents, students, volunteers, administrators and parish members who, in an exemplary way, support the mission of Catholic education. Each elementary school community nominates one person, secondary schools nominate two, and there is one system-wide nomination representing administration and maintenance.



Opening and Blessing of Good Shepherd Catholic School – The Most Reverend Ronald Fabbro, Bishop of London, celebrated the official opening and blessing of Good Shepherd Catholic School in November. The celebration was an opportunity for the Good Shepherd Catholic School community to gather and give thanks to God for the gift of Catholic education, and for this beautiful new facility. Construction of the \$3.3 million project began in the Spring of 2005. Improvements include a new gymnasium, general purpose room, kitchen area, new resource centre and chapel space, two new classrooms and redesigned administrative office space.

Two St. Clair Catholic School Communities Celebrate Anniversary Milestones – St. Michael Catholic School in Ridgetown celebrated its 50th anniversary this year, while Christ The King Catholic School

in Wallaceburg marked its 40 year milestone. Both schools planned prayer celebrations, open houses and barbeques to commemorate the occasions.

St. Clair Catholic Students are Published Authors! – Students from St. Michael Catholic School in Bright's Grove and St. John Fisher Catholic School in Forest will have their stories published in an anthology of collected writings from students across Canada. The students participated in the Canadian School Creative Writing Contest.

Opening and Blessing of Holy Rosary Catholic School Habitat – The entire Holy Rosary Catholic School community was invited to celebrate the official opening and blessing of the school's native habitat, at a special ceremony in May. The natural garden is home to plant species that are native to the Carolinian forest eco-system, some of which are rare. Students, teachers, parents, members of the parish and the wider community all helped with the work, or made donations to the garden. It was officially opened during Catholic Education Week by Custodian Marvin McGill, Teacher Luana Sfalcin and Director of Education Paul Wubben.



St. Michael Catholic School (Turnerville) Wins Communities in Bloom Award – St. Michael Catholic School was named a recipient of the *Communities in Bloom* award in recognition of the school's outstanding Peace Garden. The school's dedication to tidiness, environmental awareness, community involvement, schoolyard gardening and curriculum integration of outdoor spaces were also factors considered in the award. The school received a \$2,000 gift certificate from Heritage Gardens, a Chatham nursery.



Margaret Nelson Award for Leadership – This year, the Board of Trustees announced the Margaret Nelson Leadership Award, which is to be presented annually to a graduating student from each of the Board's three Catholic high schools. The

awards, in the amount of \$5,000 each, are to be bestowed upon students, who have demonstrated those qualities of excellence in leadership, which Mrs. Nelson had so clearly shown during her time as Director of Education. The winners for 2006 were David George, St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School; Casey Park, St. Patrick's Catholic High School; and Victoria Weaver, Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School.







SCHOOL DIRECTORY 2006 – 2007

CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC SCHOOL 227 Thomas Avenue, Wallaceburg N8A 2B9 Principal – Adrien Gagnier	519-627-6745	ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL 535 Birchbank Drive, Corunna N0N 1G0 Principal – William Nelson	519-862-1479
GEORGES P. VANIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL 20 Cecile Avenue, Chatham N7M 2C3 Principal – Carol Ann Bélanger	519-354-6550	ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL Box 368, 43 St. Clair Street, Tilbury N0P 2L0 Principal – Gerri Brown	519-682-2790
GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL Box 250, 4 Edith Street, Thamesville NOP 2K0 Principal – Lynn Moir	519-692-3644	ST. MARGARET CATHOLIC SCHOOL 720 Devine Street, Sarnia N7T 1X2 Principal – Elena Pagotto	519-336-6511
GREGORY A. HOGAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL 1825 Hogan Drive, Sarnia N7S 6G9 Principal – John Girard	519-542-8190	ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL 94 George Street, Blenheim N0P 1A0 Principal – Donna Krete	519-676-5491
HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL 649 Murray Street, Wallaceburg N8A 1W1 Principal – Doreen Edwards	519-627-6003	ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL Box 580, 1930 Wildwood Drive, Bright's Grove N0N 1C0 Principal – Debbie DeLaroche	519-869-4204
HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL Box 190, 715 London Street, Wyoming N0N 1T0 Principal – Paul Doyle	519-845-3471	ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL Box 640, 25 Maple Street S., Ridgetown N0P 2C0 Principal – Nicole Stevens	519-674-3475
MONSIGNOR UYEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL 255 Lark Street, Chatham N7L 1G9 Principal – Carmen Gagnier	519-352-1880	ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL RR 6, 10923 Countryview Line, Dresden N0P 1M0 Principal – Maureen Cecile	519-683-2738
OUR LADY OF FATIMA CATHOLIC SCHOOL 545 Baldoon Road, Chatham N7L 5A9 Principal – Patrick Weiler	519-351-4040	ST. PETER CANISIUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL 424 Victoria Street, Watford N0M 2S0 Principal – Kenneth Maczko	519-876-3018
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL Box 70, 434 John Street, Port Lambton N0P 2B0 Principal – Thomas Baker	519-677-5391	ST. PETER CATHOLIC SCHOOL 696 Oxford Street, Sarnia N7T 6Z8 Principal – Anna Giuliani	519-344-4433
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL 1411 Lecaron Avenue, Sarnia N7V 3J1 Principal – Cindy Allaer	519-344-1601	ST. PHILIP CATHOLIC SCHOOL Box 490, 420 Queen Street, Petrolia N0N 1R0 Principal – Jean Mantha	519-882-1520
ST. AGNES CATHOLIC SCHOOL 55 Croydon Street, Chatham N7L 1L5 Principal – Johanna Cox	519-354-0530	ST. THERESE CATHOLIC SCHOOL 559 Bright Street, Sarnia N7T 4G7 Principal – William Bishop	519-332-4300
ST. ANNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL Box 2038, 183 Snow Avenue, Blenheim N0P 1A0 Principal – Randy Van Kessel	519-676-7352	ST. URSULA CATHOLIC SCHOOL 426 Lacroix Street, Chatham N7M 2W3 Principal – Shawn Moynihan	519-352-3620
ST. ANNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL 1000 The Rapids Parkway, Sarnia N7S 6K3 Principal – Stephen Gelinas	519-542-2710	ST. VINCENT CATHOLIC SCHOOL RR 1, 9399 McNaughton Line E., Chatham N7M 5J1 Principal – Nancy Bourdeau	519-354-4066
ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC SCHOOL 975 Oak Avenue, Sarnia N7S 1J4 Principal – Kevin Cannon	519-344-2110	ST. CHRISTOPHER CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL 1001 The Rapids Parkway, Sarnia N7S 6K2 Principal – Robert McKinley	519-541-1811
ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC SCHOOL 1350 Bertha Street, Wallaceburg N8A 3K4 Principal – Sandra Vozza	519-627-6331	ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL 281 East Street N., Sarnia N7T 6X8 Principal – Bernadette Gray	519-332-3976
ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC SCHOOL Box 520, 44 Main Street N., Forest N0N 1J0 Principal – Jane McLaughlin	519-786-5201	URSULINE COLLEGE CHATHAM CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL 85 Grand Avenue W., Chatham N7L 1B6 Principal – Daniel Tighe	519-351-2987
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL 25 Raleigh Street, Chatham N7M 2M6 Principal – Richard Baggio	519-354-4642		

Serving Catholics in Lambton County and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent within the Diocese of London

Enrolment (FTE October 31, 2005)
Elementary 7,280.50
Secondary 3,375.25
Total 10,655.75

Enrolment (FTE March 31, 2006)
Elementary 7,262.50
Secondary 3,226.00
Total 10,488.50

Staff (FTE October 31, 2005)
Teaching 624
Non-Teaching 411
Total 1,035

Schools (June, 2006)
Elementary 30
Secondary 3
Total 33



420 Creek Street, Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4C4 Telephone: (519) 627-6762

www.st-clair.net

(866) 336-6139 Facsimilie: (519) 627-8230