



## No Change in Board of Trustees Leadership; Chair and Vice Chair Acclaimed for 2022 Term

**December 7, 2021**

There will be no change in the leadership of the Board of Trustees for St. Clair Catholic. At this evening's Initial Board meeting, John Van Heck was acclaimed to the position of Chair of the Board and Mat Roop was acclaimed Vice Chair. Mr. Van Heck, who was first elected to the Board in 2006, has held the position of Chair since the 2016 term; Mr. Roop has been Vice Chair since 2019 and has been a Catholic Trustee since 2014.

In accepting their positions, both Mr. Van Heck and Mr. Roop expressed their appreciation to their fellow Trustees for their continued support. They also thanked the Board's senior administration and all staff across the system for their tremendous work in support of the Catholic students and families in Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton.

"God holds us in His hands and has gifted us with an exceptionally faith-filled and talented senior leadership team," says Mr. Van Heck. "Please extend to our staff across the district our appreciation for all that they do to support our students and families."

"Thank you to my colleagues for the privilege of serving as the Vice Chair of the Board for another term," says Mr. Roop. "I want to assure you that I will be here to serve all of you in any way possible, in support of our students and our vision of *Catholic Education – Future Ready*."

Elections for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair are held annually at the Board's December meeting. The term of office for both positions expires in November 2022.

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## Trustee Linda Ward Recognized for 30 Years of Dedicated Service as a Catholic Trustee

**December 7, 2021**

Trustee Linda Ward has been recognized by her colleagues at St. Clair Catholic and across the province, as she reaches the milestone of 30 years as a Catholic Trustee.

Mrs. Ward was first elected to the former Lambton County Roman Catholic Separate School Board in 1991. Since that time, she has served as Vice Chair of the Board and as a Regional Director with the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) since 2007. In that capacity, she served on a number of provincial OCSTA committees, including Labour Relations and Legislation and Finance. She has also served on the Minister's Advisory Committee for Special Education. Her community involvement includes active participation in her parish and 10 years with the Sarnia-Lambton United Way, serving as its President for three years.

"For 30 years, you have worked tirelessly in the best interest of the students of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board and faithfully lived your school system's mission of *Learning together today, transforming tomorrow*," says Patrick Daly, President of the OCSTA in a congratulatory letter to Mrs. Ward.

Bishop Ronald Fabbro of the Diocese of London also forwarded an expression of his appreciation.

"Your years of dedicated and faithful stewardship of Catholic Education, serving the students and families, is truly a reflection of your love for God," says Bishop Fabbro.

The framed letter from the OCSTA and expression of appreciation from Bishop Fabbro were presented to Mrs. Ward in a brief ceremony this evening, following the Initial Board Meeting.

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