



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

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JOHN VAN HECK ACCLAIMED CHAIR OF THE BOARD; MAT ROOP ELECTED VICE CHAIR, AS TWO NEW TRUSTEES ARE SWORN IN

Two new Trustees were sworn in as members of the St. Clair Catholic Board of Trustees for the 2018-2022 term at tonight's Inaugural Meeting of the Board.

Jennifer McCann was elected by the ratepayers of Sarnia and Point Edward in the October 22, 2018 municipal election. David Argenti was elected in Chatham. Returning to the Board are Trustees Carol Bryden, John Van Heck, Brenda Rumble, Mat Roop and Linda Ward.

The first order of business for the new Board was to select a Chair and Vice Chair to serve for 2019.

John Van Heck, who has been a Catholic Trustee since 2006, was acclaimed to the position of Chair of the Board, a post he has held for the previous three years. Trustee Mat Roop was elected to the position of Vice Chair. Mr. Roop served as a Catholic Trustee for the former Lambton County Roman Catholic Separate School Board from 1984 to 1986. He retired from the St. Clair Catholic District School Board after 22 years as a manager in Facility Services.

In accepting the position of Chair, Mr. Van Heck thanked his fellow Trustees for the confidence they have placed in him.

"We have a couple of very busy years ahead of us," says Mr. Van Heck. "With two new school builds approved in Chatham and one in Sarnia, it is an exciting time. I look forward to working with my fellow Trustees and senior administration as we move these projects forward."

"It is an honour to serve as your Vice Chair," Mr. Roop told his colleagues on the Board. "I want you to know that I believe whole-heartedly in servant leadership and I look forward to serving this Board lovingly and faithfully."

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 at the end of November 2019.

The evening began with Mass, which was celebrated in the Ursuline Boardroom of the Catholic Education Centre. Father Chris Gillespie, pastor of the Holy Redeemer Parish cluster was celebrant, with the ministry of music provided by music teachers Dan Sonier and Jen Brown-Nead.

Mass concluded with a blessing and commissioning of the members of the Board, as they dedicated themselves to their calling as Catholic Trustees