



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

## **MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Catholic Education Centre**  
420 Creek Street  
Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4C4  
Telephone: 519-627-6762  
Facsimile: 519-627-8230  
Website: [www.st-clair.net](http://www.st-clair.net)

*For further information regarding  
this release, please contact:*

**Director of Education**  
Deb Crawford  
519-627-6762, ext. 10241  
E-mail: [media@st-clair.net](mailto:media@st-clair.net)

**Chair of the Board**  
John Van Heck  
519-627-5746

**Supervisor –  
Communications and  
Community Relations**  
Todd Lozon  
519-627-6762 Ext. 10243  
E-mail:  
[todd.lozon@st-clair.net](mailto:todd.lozon@st-clair.net)

### ***GROUND BREAKING CELEBRATION PLANNED AT SITE OF NEW NORTH CHATHAM CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL***

Students and special guests will trade in their books and pencils for hard hats and shovels, as they help turn the sod at a special Ground Breaking Celebration at the site of the new north Chatham Catholic elementary school next week.

“This is an important milestone in our journey towards the opening of our new north Chatham Catholic elementary school,” says Deb Crawford. “The students are excited about being a part of this historic event!”

Invited guests include MPP Rick Nicholls, officials from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, members of the Ursuline Order and parish partners, neighbourhood residents, senior administration and trustees of the Board, and parents, students and staff from the three north Chatham schools who will come together to form the new school community.

“I want to thank Father Jim Higgins, who will once again lead our prayer celebration, as we give thanks to God for Catholic education and ask for His blessings as we prepare to begin construction,” says Mrs. Crawford.

The new north Chatham school will replace St. Vincent, St. Agnes and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic schools, while the Our Lady of Fatima site will be upgraded, refurbished and rebranded as the new home for French Immersion in Chatham, which is currently housed at Monsignor Uyen.

“There will be many celebrations throughout the months and weeks ahead,” says Laura Callaghan, Superintendent of Education and Chair of the North Chatham Catholic Elementary School Transition Committee.

“Our committee has already begun to look at ways to celebrate the future and honour the past as we bring these three Catholic elementary schools together. What an exciting time in our history!”

The Board continues to work with partners on securing suitable land as the site for the south Chatham elementary school.

***The Ground Breaking Celebration will be held on Monday, June 18, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the site of the new school, 801 McNaughton Avenue, W., Chatham. Members of the media are welcome.***