

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Catholic Education † Future Ready

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LONDON BRIDGE SELECTED AS CHILD CARE PROVIDER FOR NEW GREGORY A. HOGAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce that London Bridge has been selected as the child care provider for the new Gregory A. Hogan Catholic School, which will be built in Sarnia.

"We have a tremendous partnership with London Bridge and the County of Lambton," says Deb Crawford, Director of Education. "We look forward expanding our relationship to include the new Gregory A. Hogan Catholic School, as together we work to provide excellent quality child care for the families we serve."

"We are pleased to partner with the St. Clair Catholic District School Board and the County of Lambton on this joint venture" said Angela Woodburn, Co-Executive Director of London Bridge Child Care Services. "This centre will provide an opportunity to build strong connections between the early years and school. We look forward to establishing strong relationships with the children and families in this community for many years to come."

In January 2018, the Ontario government announced \$14,371,913 in funding for a new Catholic elementary school in Sarnia, with a further \$2,672,104 for a child care facility, with 88 child care spaces.

The new school will accommodate the ever-growing population currently housed at Gregory A. Hogan. With the transition of French Immersion students to the new school, the Sacred Heart population will relocate to the current Hogan facility.

"I want to again express my appreciation to the Ministry of Education for this funding," says John Van Heck, Chair of the Board. "This is tremendous news for both the Gregory A. Hogan and Sacred Heart communities."

"We are responding to the needs of hardworking parents in Sarnia and across the province who depend upon safe, affordable, high-quality child care for their children," says Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education. "By building a new Gregory A. Hogan Catholic School that will include a child care facility, our government is delivering real support to Sarnia families and a strong start for local children."

"The creation of these new child care spaces, as well as the partnership with London Bridge, is very welcome news," says Bob Bailey, MPP for Sarnia-Lambton. "The need for quality child care in our community continues to grow every year, so I am very grateful that the Province of Ontario is supporting both the new Catholic elementary school and its much-needed child care facility."

Last October, the Ontario government announced a further \$4.6 million for an eight acre parcel of land on The Rapids Parkway, which will be the location of the new school.