



# Annual Report

October  
2019



[wrcsf.ca](http://wrcsf.ca)

## Chair's Message...

On behalf of the Foundation's board of directors, I am honoured to share with you the success of the Waterloo Region Catholic Schools Foundation in supporting identified needs in our Catholic schools over the past school year.

The board of directors is a volunteer community-based board, working in cooperation with the school district, the corporate sector, like-minded community not-for-profit organizations and dedicated volunteers.

Our motive is simple... to support our school board in ensuring that all students in our Catholic schools have the opportunity for a comprehensive and equitable education experience.

Thank you for taking the time to review our activities in the past year. We look forward to continuing in our efforts and to the community's continuing support.

**Chris Gehan, Chair**

## 2018-2019 Board of Directors Membership...

Chris Gehan Chair

Colin Kirvan, Past-chair

Marty Ignor, Secretary-Treasurer

Gai Brown

Maria Cantalini-Williams

John Klein

Thomas Mandich

Loretta Notten

Samantha Santos

Paul Smith

Vic Degutis, President



## About Us..

The Waterloo Region Catholic Schools Foundation (Foundation) was established in 1994 by Dr. Bill Brown, Director of Education and School Board Chair, Dorothy Angel. The original intent was to manage funds donated to Waterloo Catholic District Schools. Building on this original mandate, the Foundation expanded activity in 2002, establishing a community-based board of directors, a vision, bylaws and an initial strategic plan. The board of directors included leaders from the Catholic community, the business sector and a limited number of educators.

Since 2002, the board of directors has included many board members, many with children or grandchildren within our schools and others were Catholic educators dedicated to supporting students equitably. Still others were members of the local business community who see the Foundation as an important support strategy to ensure equitable support to ensure a well-rounded community, with principled leaders and a skilled workforce.

The initial chair of the board of directors of this organization was Tom Hunter, LLP and the president was Vic Degutis. Over the years, the important chair position has also been held by Mark Shoemaker, LLP, Colin Kirvan, and currently, by Chris Gehan.





**In 2019,  
The Waterloo Region Catholic Schools Foundation  
Funded The Following Important Projects & Programs  
In Our Schools...**

Saint Anne CES, Cambridge—Outdoor Soccer Nets

Monsignor Doyle CSS, Cambridge—Wrestling Mats

Saint John CES, Kitchener—School Musical Production

Holy Rosary CES, Waterloo—School Theatre Production

Sir Edgar Bauer CES, Waterloo—School Athletic Uniforms

Saint Luke CES, Waterloo—Contribute to School PAL Program Resources

Saint David CSS, Waterloo—ESL Resources

Saint David CSS, Waterloo—Curling Club Safety Helmets

Saint Clement CES, St. Clements—Innovation Program Resources

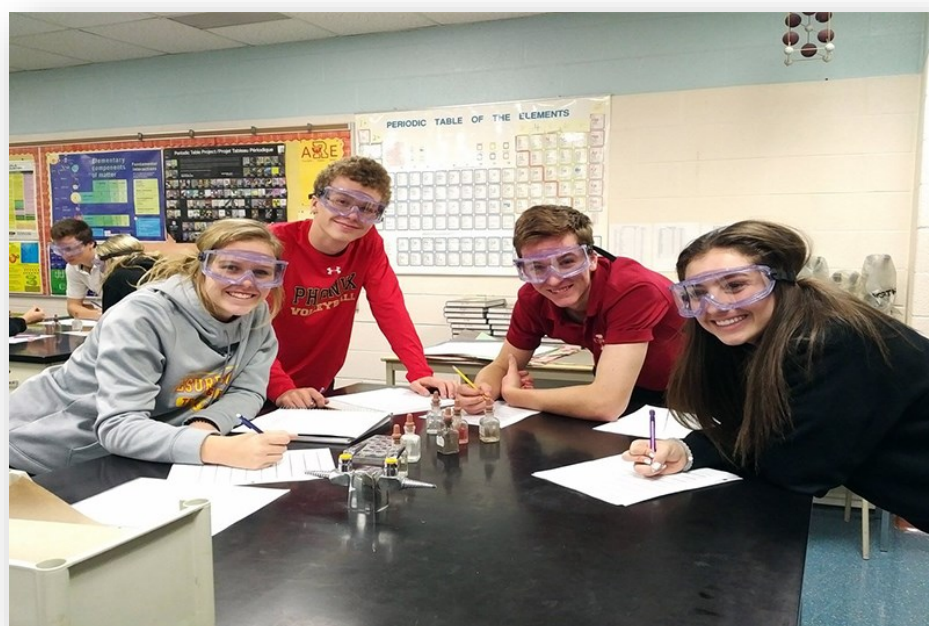
Saint Joseph CES, Cambridge—Junior & Intermediate Home Reading Resources

Saint Benedict CSS, Cambridge—Math Enrichment Program Resources

Saint Benedict CSS, Cambridge—Robotics Team Resources

Saint Benedict CSS, Cambridge—CWOSSA Girl Hockey Tournament

Saint Benedict CSS, Cambridge—Marching Band Uniforms





Saint Kateri Tekakwitha CES, Kitchener—Athletic Uniforms

Saint Mary's HS, Kitchener—Innovation Week Funding

Saint Mary's HS, Kitchener—Faith Formation World Religions Program

Saint Mary's HS, Kitchener—Athletic Department Technology Resources

Saint Mary's HS, Kitchener—3D Printing Technology

Saint Mary's HS, Kitchener—Faith Formation CYO Chastity Program

Saint Mary's HS, Kitchener—Blended Bicycle Program Resources

Saint Bernadette CES, Kitchener—Equity Inclusion Program



Saint Anne CES, Kitchener—3D Printing Technology

Saint Aloysius CES, Kitchener—Musical Instruments Replacement & Repair

Saint Aloysius CES, Kitchener—Coding Robot Resources

Saint Louis Adult Learning Esthetician Program—Barber Chairs

System Deaf and Hard of Hearing Outreach Celebration

System Gifted Program—Elementary Film Festival

Mount Mary Retreat—Resources

## Saint Aloysius CES, Kitchener—Musical Instruments Replacement & Repair

Saint Aloysius CES, Kitchener—Coding Robot Resources

## Saint Louis Adult Learning Esthetician Program—Barber Chairs

## System Deaf and Hard of Hearing Outreach Celebration

System Gifted Program—Elementary Film Festival

## Mount Mary Retreat—Resources



## Making A Difference Since 2002...

### The Foundation has come a long way in 16 years:

- ◆ **\$1,000,000** fund comprised of endowments, scholarships, bursaries and awards
- ◆ **\$800,000** has been distributed to schools through an annual granting process with funds generated annually through board of director initiatives
- ◆ **\$25,000** has also been distributed to graduate students through Awards of Distinction
- ◆ **\$120,000** has also been available to support student leadership and grade 8 retreat programs
- ◆ Over **\$1,500,000** has been distributed to our schools through our Foundation from our various community partners
- ◆ **\$100,000** in support of the Mo Targosz Legacy Sports Field—Resurrection CSS

### The Foundation has also funded:

- ◆ Sacramental programs, Catholic youth leadership
- ◆ system-wide musical productions at the Centre In The Square and annual Elementary school productions at the Registry Theatre
- ◆ sports teams uniforms and equipment
- ◆ technology to support communication programs
- ◆ ballroom dancing classes
- ◆ provincial rugby and hockey tournaments for the young men and women in Secondary schools
- ◆ unique individual student needs – eye glasses, hearing aids, wigs, motorized wheelchairs and lifts.

## Our Role Within The Catholic Community...

The Foundation's role is broader than just raising funds. The board of directors sees a responsibility to support the diocese and the school system in engaging and connecting our broad Catholic community network through annual events. The annual **Bishop's Banquet**, the **Links fore Learning Golf Classic**, and the **Catholic Education in Cambridge** event, all bring together community from all sectors. The Foundation financially supports the WCDSB Commissioning Evening, an annual event which brings together the School Council leaders from across the school district.

## Memorial Funds...

Over the years, the Foundation has worked with the Catholic school community to establish memorial funds to remember special people and to finance projects for our schools.

**To donate to specific current funds, visit the Foundation's website:**

**<https://www.wrcsf.ca/funds/>.**

- ◆ John Sweeney Endowment
- ◆ Mirko Hroch Legacy —Resurrection Catholic Secondary School
- ◆ Monsignor Doyle Catholic Secondary School Fund
- ◆ St. Jerome's High School Memorial Fund
- ◆ Cathy Moloney Newcomer Fund
- ◆ Clarke Young Legacy Fund
- ◆ France-Anne Sweeny "Make A Difference"
- ◆ Grand River Chinese School Parent Association Fund
- ◆ Mike Bergauer Performing Arts Legacy
- ◆ Bill Klos Performing Arts Legacy
- ◆ SJH Legacy... good friends, greater deeds



## One such fund is the Clarke Young Legacy established in 2009....

*"Sadly, and unexpectedly, 11-year-old Clarke Young passed away on August 22, 2008. Clarke was a natural leader, conscientious humanitarian and exceptional athlete. He had a profound influence on the people he touched each day of his short life. In Clarke's memory, a legacy fund was established by his family and friends, through the Waterloo Region Catholic Schools Foundation.*

*The fund assists children/students in the Kitchener-Waterloo region with financial support to pursue their dreams in athletics. The fund helps children/students and their parents with equipment, fees and expenses related to participating in sports. Every child/student deserves the opportunity to succeed. Participating in athletics allows them an outlet to strive for their personal best. Financial restraints should never be a reason to not participate. How better to honour and keep alive the spirit of Clarke Young than to better the lives of others."*

*Pam Garbutt, Retired Elementary School Principal & Family Friend*





#### Testimonials:

"I applied for funds from the Clarke Young Legacy Fund in 2010 for a Grade 8 boy at one of my previous schools. This boy came from a very disadvantaged background, but he had so much potential, and we were trying to engage him in positive activities. He had expressed an interest in boxing. I believed this activity would be a great outlet for him, providing the discipline, structure and exercise that he needed. Mom was a single parent and unemployed so, while she supported her son's involvement in this activity, she was unable to afford to get her children involved in anything outside of school. We investigated the cost for boxing classes by his home and for

hand wraps and gloves. A total of **\$264.00** from the Clarke Young Legacy Fund was generously granted to help get this young man involved in something positive and productive."

**Kendra Duench, Principal, St. Luke Catholic Elementary School**

"I have accessed the Clarke Young Legacy Fund several times over the past 9 years to support students participation in sports. In every case the families of these students could not manage the costs for a variety of reasons. Being involved in a sport activity helped these students connect socially with others in a team environment, develop a routine to support physical health and provide an alternative to unhealthy habits /hobbies.

The response to my requests were timely and always positive. I always made sure the families understood where the money came from and the philosophy behind the fund."

**Sincerely, Lori Tait, Principal, Holy Rosary Catholic School**

**Young Family:** Heartfelt thanks to the annual donors for remembering our Clarke through support of this Legacy Fund,

*Rob, Denise, Caroline and Matt*

## Operation:

100% of the funds that are generated through donors or the efforts of the Foundation's board of directors are directed to the efforts of the Foundation. All administrative costs are covered by the WCDSB Research & Development Office, in cooperation with the WCDSB Business & Finance Division.

The Foundation finances are audited annually and formally reported to the Ontario Ministry of Consumer Affairs.

Services to Schools and Funders:

- ♦ Management of School-level and Donor Agreements
  - Investment
  - Banking
  - Charitable Receipting
  - Consulting
- ♦ Sponsorship and Management of 3<sup>rd</sup> Party School & System Department Community Foundation Applications and Grants



# Why Should You Support The Foundation's Efforts?...

## We Are Glad That You Asked...

All students and parents in Ontario are fortunate to have the provincial funding of public education. Catholic school supporters are even more privileged to have opportunities to send their children and grandchildren to schools based on a foundation and philosophy of our Catholic Faith.

**The Honorable Bishop Crosby refers to the schools as “our modern day church” where the Faith community is nurtured and encouraged.** Having said that, it is fair and reasonable to assume that it is the responsibility of our Catholic community to fund the Faith-based component of this education and the programs impacted by this allocation of funds.

School board trustees and administration recognize this responsibility and ensure that significant funds are allocated for this purpose. Unfortunately, this means that other program areas - athletics, arts, technology - receive less funding support.

The Foundation also believes in the principle of equity for all learners, the commitment to give a “hand up” to schools, students and even families when required.

## How You Can Support The Foundation...

You can make a difference and support our students and schools in many ways:

- ♦ donate to the general fund which seeks to create the balance in support for all programs
- ♦ direct your donations to very specific programs within the school system or within specific schools
- ♦ establish scholarship or bursaries or awards through a contractual agreement
- ♦ include the Foundation in your estate planning or will to leave a legacy
- ♦ attend or sponsor Foundation events
- ♦ volunteer your time and energy on committees or even on the board of directors
- ♦ be an advocate and champion for our Catholic schools and for the efforts of the Foundation.

### JOIN US...

- ♦ **15th Annual Bishop's Banquet**  
May 2020
- ♦ **19th Links fore Learning Golf Classic**  
August 2020

To assist with our efforts or for more info,  
visit our website: [wrcsf.ca](http://wrcsf.ca)  
or contact Vic Degutis, President  
[vic.degutis@wcdsb.ca](mailto:vic.degutis@wcdsb.ca)





Supporting the  
**Mind • Body • Soul**  
of Students in Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools



[wrcsf.ca](http://wrcsf.ca)