

## A vibrant collage featuring various individuals associated with St. Clair College. At the top center, the college's logo (a lion) is followed by "ST. CLAIR COLLEGE" and the year "2022-23". Below this, the title "Grad Classes and The Year-in-Review" is prominently displayed. Underneath the title, it says "Published by the SRC Student Representative Council", with the SRC logo (a circle containing "ST. CLAIR" above "SRC") to the left. The background is a large image of two graduates in black gowns with green and gold stoles; one is pinning a stole onto the other. Overlaid on this are several smaller photos: a female graduate with blonde hair looking surprised; a woman in a yellow "SAINTS ATHLETICS" t-shirt holding a child who also wears a similar shirt; a woman in a yellow dress and graduation cap wearing a green stole with "Be a Saint" written on it; a group of three women smiling; a woman in a hijab holding a bouquet of flowers; and a man in a graduation cap and gown smiling. In the bottom right corner, there is a small document titled "ST. CLAIR COLLEGE" with some text and a signature line.

ST. CLAIR  
COLLEGE

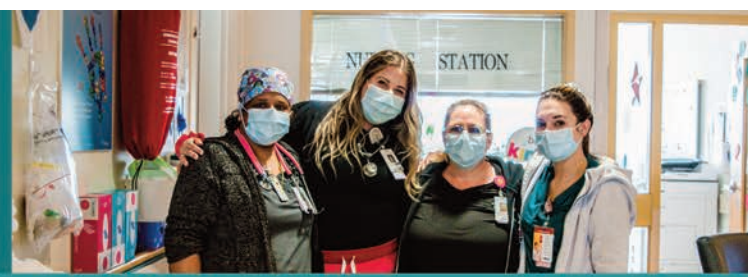
# 2022-23

Published by the



**Student  
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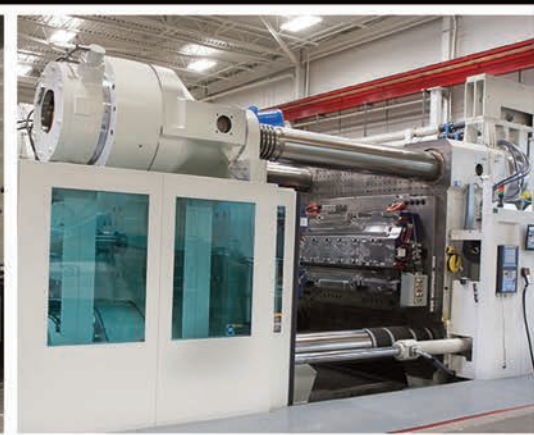
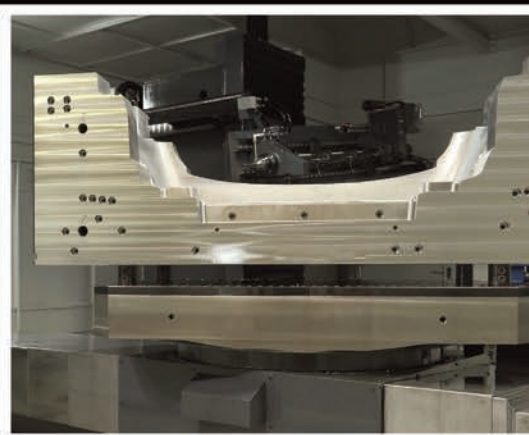
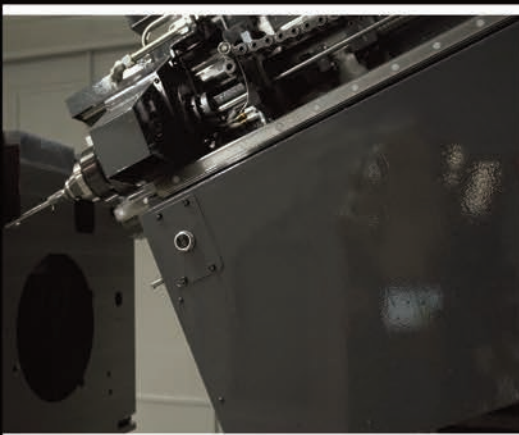
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## Congratulations 2023 Graduates!

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# ConGRADulations!

"Con-GRAD-ulations!" (2022-23) was produced by the Student Publications Division of the Student Representative Council Inc. of St. Clair College, under the Managing Editorship of E.P. Chant.

Year-In-Review material is from (among other sources) the online Saint Scene (including photographers Vijay Prakash Murugan, Morgan Matesic, Samuel Plante, Francis Dang and Dhruvik Gogna), from photographers Anna Miller-man and Mark Benoit, from the college's administration (Marketing Office), from the college's Athletic Department, and from the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association. Most Chatham Campus material furnished by Thames Students Incorporated, including class photos by Holly Nicholson.

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**Photos of graduating classes start on  
Page 71, after the Year-In-Review section**



# Your diploma is our letter of recommendation



**Dear Graduates,**

The document that you will hold in your hands upon your graduation – your diploma – bears ancient linguistic roots in terms of its derivation, but ones that are still applicable to the significance of this most important piece of paper.

In classical Greek, the most fundamental definition of the word “diploma” dealt with a “doubled” piece of paper – meaning folded in half. That suggested that it was a very precious document. It was a licence, a directive from a ruler, a map – something that one wanted to protect, opening it to exhibit one’s qualifications or the official permission to take charge of a situation.

The Romans adopted that gist of the word. In Latin, “diploma” refers to a letter or recommendation given by the government to a person who is traveling in the empire’s provinces, to both introduce them and to attest to their personal and professional qualities.

And your modern-day St. Clair diploma reflects all of those, centuries-old meanings. It has not, of course, been folded in half, but it is:

- A licence of sorts. In conjunction with the accreditations of professional and trade organizations that are associated with many of our programs, it asserts and assures your fitness to enter your chosen occupation;
- A directive from a ruler. In this instance, the “ruler” takes the form of your professors and the college itself. By bestowing the diploma, we’re directing you to go out into the world, to apply your skills and knowledge for the betterment of your community;
- A map. We contend that you should view your diploma as the starting point of your professional map, as you set off on an exciting and admirable journey of success; and, most of all,
- It is our letter of introduction and recommendation, to all of the employers and organizations that you will encounter in the future. The diploma serves as St. Clair’s sincere, black-and-white attestation – and our praise – of your intellect, your ability, your work ethic, and your dedication.

You have done much, so very much, to earn this life-changing document. It is the college’s honour to present it to you, and our pleasure to offer you our heartiest congratulations for your achievement.

– **Jean Piccinato, 2022-23 Chair, St. Clair College Board of Governors; and**  
**Patti France, M.Ad.Ed., LLD.h.c., President, St. Clair College**



The 2022-23 Board of Governors, left to right: **FRONT ROW:** Gay Wrye, Michelle Watters, Chair Jean Piccinato, Renu Khosla, Paula Corro-Battagello, Shannon Sasseville; **BACK ROW:** Robert Renaud, Vice-Chair Gary Rossi, John Parent, Al Provost, President Patti France, Art Barron, Kevin Beaudoin, Warren Beck, Egidio Sovran (ex officio); **SMALL PHOTOS** (absent for group photo): Michael Beale and Charlie Hotham.





# Enjoyment and fulfillment



**Dear Saints,**

Congratulations on the culmination of your academic journey!

There's a saying about making one's way through life: that true enjoyment and fulfillment are not necessarily found in arriving at one's destination; but, rather, in the experiences one encounters during the journey. I'm not sure about that. I think that both are true in this instance.

You will certainly find enjoyment and fulfillment now that you have your diploma in-hand. It will open doors for you in the employment marketplace, as you set off on what I know will be a rewarding and lucrative career.

But I hope it is also fair to say, as you look back upon it, that you enjoyed and were fulfilled by your "St. Clair Experience" during your time at the college.

And I hope that you might say, too, that we, your Student Representative Council, contributed to that sense of enjoyment and fulfillment.

For those of you who were with us during the isolated,

online-curriculum portion of the pandemic, we still strived to keep you involved, entertained and stress-relieved by numerous "virtual" events every week.

We were thrilled, as you were, to get back to our normal lives during the past year, with face-to-face classes and in-person, on-campus events and activities. As you flip through the "Year-In-Review" section of this publication, you'll no doubt reflect that 2022-23 was tremendously fun and action-packed ... and, as such, constituted an enjoyable and fulfillment-laden journey.

Even now, you haven't actually reached your final destination.

Your journey continues, now, as a St. Clair graduate, as the SRC "hands you over" to the college's Alumni Association – a wonderful organization that will continue to provide you with helpful services and a channel to easily stay connected with your alma mater. It's a situation of "Once a Saint, always a Saint".

Likewise, your graduation is just the first of dozens of achievements that I'm confident lie ahead of you, professionally and personally.

That sentiment is shared by all of my colleagues on your SRC Board of Directors. It has been our pleasure to have been of service to you during your time at St. Clair, and we wish you all the best in the future.

– Navjeet Singh, President,  
2022-23 Student Representative Council

*The 2022-23 Student Representative Council (SRC) Board of Directors was made up of, left to right:*

*Front row: Directors Keith Luize M. De Ramos, Muskan Shabbir Mala, Khushi Patel, Nour Takach;*

*Back row: General Manager Ryan Peebles, Vice-President of Student Affairs Jayanth Kaushik Jonnalagadda, Vice-President of Downtown Affairs Sagar Deepak Bhanushali, President Navjeet Singh, Directors Spencer Squires and Jay Kaushal Naik, and Board Manager/Corporate Secretary Sandy Taylor.*





# St. Clair's Alumni Association welcomes this year's grads to a huge new circle of friends



Upon your Convocation (Congratulations!), you just joined a new family of approximately 125,000 people – all of the graduates of the college during its half-century-plus of existence. That family takes the form of St. Clair's Alumni Association.

From the day you graduate, make sure to stay connected with us by checking out our webpage at [www.stclair-college.ca/alumni](http://www.stclair-college.ca/alumni), and our social media pages too.



Also on our webpage, you can update your contact info whenever you move, so we can make sure to stay in touch.

As an Alumni Association member, you'll enjoy a number of services: discounted rates for ongoing use of the college's athletic facilities, diploma framing, special rates with Johnson Insurance, ticket give-aways to community events, and "second generation" scholarship eligibility for your children.

And please join us for our many college-based activities: golf tournaments, Homecoming festivities, class reunions, trips to sporting events, the Alumni of Distinction Banquet, and the annual Family Fun Day.

Look for us, too, as we sponsor a host of community events throughout Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent.



The 2022-23 Alumni Association Board of Directors, top to bottom and left to right: President John Feldman, Executive Vice-President Belinda Bulhoes, Vice-President of Finance Fernando Brunone, Eddie Azar, John Fairley, Patti France, Adam Hoang, Adam Ibrahim, Lori Kempe, Sara LeBlance, Billy Panagiotopoulos, and Ryan Peebles .





## Meet TSI Board

Meet your 2022/2023 St. Clair Thomas Students Inc. Board of Directors



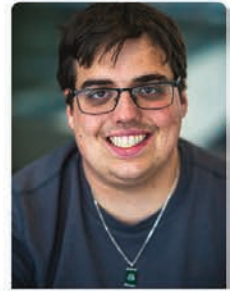
Lynnal Bruggeman  
President



Abby Bondy  
Vice-President



Andrea Franche  
Director



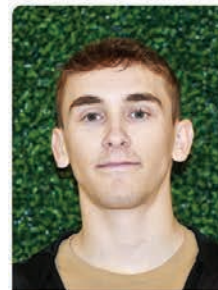
Tim Moroz  
Director



Brooke Lewis  
Director



Aidan Fitzmorris  
Director



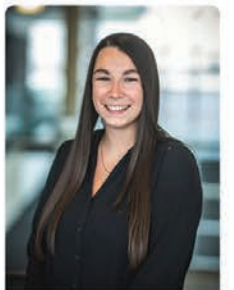
Zack St-Onge  
Director



Sarah Saunders  
Director



Gaganjet Kaur  
Director



Holly Nicholson  
Student Success Coordinator



# Prez plans to retire in 2024

## Contributed by the College's Administration

St. Clair College President informed the school's Board of Governors at a mid-August (2022) meeting that she will not be renewing her contract when it expires in August of 2024.

At that time, France will have worked at the college for over 30 years, including two terms as the President.

She prepared a personal video for staff to let them know directly of her decision, and emailed a message to students too.

In the video to staff, France said:

*During my Presidency, I've become pretty good at saying "Farewell", when sending graduates off into the world during their Convocation ceremonies, and extending best wishes to retiring employees.*

*But this is very different, and truly one of the most difficult things I've ever had to do. In this case, I'm the one who is preparing to say "Farewell", in connection with my own departure.*

*There is still quite a while before this actually takes effect, but I wanted to formally announce it now, before rumours started to leak out.*

*I have recently informed the Board of Governors that I will not seek a renewal of my contract as St. Clair's President when my current tenure expires in August of 2024.*

*Instead, I intend to retire from the college at that time, after more than 35 years of joyful employment at the college, including two terms as your President.*

*I am making this announcement now because the Board Chair has asked about my intention for renewal. Having given my answer, word would soon have leaked out as the Board plans its next steps to find my replacement, and it was important to me that my St. Clair family hear the message directly from me. I will, of course, provide the Board with any supports that it requests as it conducts that search, and happily give my successor any help required throughout a transitional period.*

*So, that is the "What" and the "When". Most of you are likely wondering about the "Why?".*

*Believe me, it has not been an easy decision. It has been the result of months of soul-searching and, yes, even some flip-flopping on occasion. But I have finally concluded that it is the right thing to do, and the right time to do it.*

*It is the right time not just for me but, also, for the college. All of the short- and long-term objectives and goals which I'd set for myself – and which the Board had set for me – during my two terms-in-office have now been achieved. So, it seems an ideal time for a new individual to step in to bring his or her talents to bear on maintaining the momentum that has been*

*established, and to take St. Clair in new and exciting directions.*

*During this past year, I had occasion to look back on the very first speech that I had delivered during my Presidency. It was made at the Athena Scholarship Luncheon in the fall of 2015, based on a theme requested by the organizers: "Finding A Balance Between Work And Self". In the early section of that speech, I said, "I'm here to tell you that we can, in fact, 'have it all'. There is obviously some juggling entailed, but it really hasn't been as difficult as I thought. You just have to get your assorted priorities straight in all facets of your life, and surround yourself with supportive people."*

*Seven years later, I am still, thankfully, surrounded by supportive people. But the juggling to keep my assorted priorities straight and in balance has been challenging at times.*

*In its President, St. Clair deserves a degree of single-minded supervision – and, during a crisis like the*

*COVID pandemic, it demands a level of obsessive commitment. I hope I've provided that degree of dedication to the institution – and to you – during my tenure. I will continue to do so for the remainder of my term. As of August of 2024, however, it will be time for someone else to take up that challenge.*

*Working with you, and leading you, has been the greatest honour of my life. Thank you for your dedication and passion to academic and service excellence, and for your demonstrated commitment to the college's Mission, Vision and Values. St. Clair's success is a direct result of our collaborative efforts. So, while I do feel that I will be leaving St. Clair in excellent shape, the fact remains that I will be leaving it – leaving you,*

*and that saddens me so very, very deeply.*

*A college? A school? A workplace?*

*Yes, it is all of those things. But none of those corporate, bricks-and-mortar, institutional words are what spring to mind when I think of St. Clair.*

*No, my mind, and my heart, dwell upon the people: upon the students, the faculty, the staff, the administration that have combined to form my vibrant community – my cherished second family – for the past 35 years.*

*Again, the retirement is occurring some time in the future, although it was necessary to make this preliminary announcement today. Now and at that final time of departure, I shall wish for you what I often say to graduates during my Convocation remarks: "Farewell", in the original, two-word meaning of the word ... That I wish for you and our St. Clair to continue to fare well now and in the future.*

*The Board of Governors will begin the process this fall for the recruitment of a new President of the college.*





# President becomes Dr. France



During the summer of 2022, St. Clair President Patti France was presented with an honorary doctorate by Assumption University – the predecessor institution of the University of Windsor (and still an affiliated college of the UofW).

The award pays tribute to France's three decades of promoting the value of postsecondary education in Windsor-Essex.





# Prez Patti's Promenade plaqued

## From The Saint Scene

St. Clair's President now has her inspiring reputation carved in stone – literally.

On August 31, the new entrance walkway to campus on Cabana Road was officially dedicated as the “Dr. Patti France Community Promenade”.

The college's Board of Governors had initially surprised France with the honour during its June 28th meeting.

In addition to recognizing her three-decades-long career at St. Clair, the past seven as its President, the naming celebrates the honorary doctorate that was awarded to France by Windsor's Assumption University in mid-June. That paid trib-

ute to her many contributions to postsecondary education in the community.

The walkway – part of the college's annually updated



beautification campaign – was designed by Chatham's ROA Studio (architects), and put together by Oldcastle's Oscar Construction. Among the notable suppliers and sub-contractors was Kingsville's Custom Metal Fabricating, which made (among other things) the decorative arch spanning the pillared entranceway to the promenade.

The gardens of the quarter-acre site are dominated by gold and green vegetation, reflecting the college's official colours.

Yet to be installed (because it is still being crafted) is a nine-foot-tall gold gryphon (the college's mythical mascot), that will crown the site's centre obelisk.

The promenade area is the starting point of a new pathway, funded by the college's Alumni Association. Saints Student Athletic Association President Christian Seguin observed that



“north meets south now” on campus, thanks to that walking trail’s route from the promenade to the Sports Park.

In addition to recognizing her years of service to the college and her doctorate honour, 2021-22 Board of Governors Chair Egidio Sovran said naming after France made senses because “it is the crowning piece” to the beautification program which she launched when she became President.

He added that, as a spot that will welcome the gathering of students, staff and members of the community, it reflects the sense of community that France has fostered throughout her career.

Student Representative Council (SRC) President Navjeet Singh observed, “Whether she had been presented with a doctorate or not, President France certainly deserves this special recognition. All the years of her Presidency have been extremely successful, but her leadership throughout the pandemic was truly exceptional. Her decisiveness and her courage during that crisis didn’t just impress the Board of Governors; it also encouraged all students, giving them the reassurance that their educations could continue.”

Singh also noted, “A week ago, the SRC dedicated The Don France Student Commons (in the expanded Student Centre). It is perfectly fitting that, today, President France is also honoured in a permanent manner on campus. Between the two of them, they have done so much for the college and its students – both academically, and in terms of the creation of helpful services and the development of wonderful facilities.”

City Councillor Fred Francis said that the promenade’s development had, in effect, created a new public park in the city. That reflects the relationship that he’s always experienced in his dealings with France, he added. “She’s always asking what the college can do for the city, for the South Windsor neighbourhood – not the other way around,” he said. “This (the promenade) has just added something positive again to South Windsor and greater Windsor.”

Leamington Mayor Hilda MacDonald expanded on Francis’s remarks – literally – saying that “Patti’s and St. Clair’s influence isn’t just felt in South Windsor or Windsor, but throughout the whole region ... this is the county’s school.” She termed France “an inspirational, welcoming leader – and a woman to boot.”

Accepting the naming honour, France said she was “over-

whelmed by the Board’s generosity and thoughtfulness.” She continued:

*The Board indicated that its decision involved its desire to recognize both my three decades of service to St. Clair, and my recent receipt of an honorary doctorate from Assumption University.*

*In my remarks to the audience at Assumption in mid-June, I reflected on that honour by quoting professional golfer Bubba Watson. When he was asked if he’d ever imagined what it would be like to win the Masters golf tournament, he answered by saying, “No. I never got that far in my dreams.”*

*That’s very much how I feel about my constantly rewarding career at St. Clair, my climb up its administrative ladder, my appointment to its Presidency, the awarding of the Assumption doctorate, and today’s honour. As a bright-eyed*

*and bushy-tailed St. Clair graduate and new employee in the 1990s – no, at that time, I certainly never got that far in my dreams.*

*Yet, here we are.*

*So, it is perfectly appropriate that this honour takes the form of the new gateway that welcomes the public – and prospective students – to the college. It truly symbolizes the pathway of all of my success, and the potential for success for everyone.*

*Here is an entrance to the world of higher education that can make all of our dreams come true: as individuals, for career fulfillment and personal well-being; and as a community, to create and enhance a strong economy, and provide caring social supports for ourselves and our neighbours.*

*Oh, and there’s one other appropriate element to this. The ancient root of the word “promenade” is the Latin verb “promener”, meaning “to lead or bring forward”. Is there a better description of what higher education – or what a St. Clair education – does? It leads its recipients forward, upward, to better careers and personal circumstances.*

*Whether it had my name on it or not, I had hoped that this gateway, this promenade, might bear that sort of message, as both a symbol of welcome and inspiration.*

*The fact that it does bear my name, well, I never got that far in my dreams. So, again, thank you to the Board for making this dream come true, and thank all of you, too, for your role in my journey.*

*I hope that hundreds of thousands of students cross this new threshold in the years to come, to find and enjoy the same life-changing rewards that I have.*





# College's towering achievement



## From The Saint Scene

The college was able to open and make use of portions of it during the 2021-22 academic year, but its newest teaching site wasn't officially opened until July 27, when the Academic Tower of the Zekelman Schools of Business and Information Technology was publicly unveiled.

And, as it turned out, the "tables were turned" – in a very good way – during that event.

The Grand Opening was meant to recognize the Schools' major benefactor, Barry Zekelman, the Windsor-born steel industrialist (and wife Stephanie, the Zekelman Foundation and Zekelman Industries).

In August of 2018, the Zekelmans had donated \$5 million to the college, to allow for the construction of the downtown Business and I.T. campus.

The branding of the Schools in their honour at that time saw the new Academic Tower also bear the Zekelman name when it opened this year.

The Zekelmans were further celebrated during the Grand Opening when St. Clair Board of Governors' Chair Egidio Sovran announced that the college had created a new scholarship for Business and I.T. students named after the Zekelmans.

But Barry Zekelman reversed the love-fest when he stepped to the podium during the July 27th event.

He told the audience that because the college had used the original \$5 million donation so constructively, "we're kicking in another one million dollars now".

"You thank me," he explained, "but I need you more than you need me ... I need your grads as the next generation of leaders and dreamers" in the business community.

In her remarks, St. Clair President Patti France observed:

*A couple of years ago, when we were cutting the ribbon on*

*the new Sports Park, I made reference to Kevin Costner's classic film, "Field Of Dreams", and its famous line: "If you build it, they will come".*

*As it turns out, that architectural prediction is true not just for athletic facilities, but also for academic ones.*

*When we started planning this academic tower for the Zekelman Schools of Business and Information Technology, we thought it would adequately accommodate the enrolment of that domain's dozen-and-a-half programs.*

*As it turns out, we underestimated our popularity.*

*Yes, while this gorgeous new building will be capable of housing many Business and I.T. programs and students, the Zekelman Schools must continue to have classroom space downtown too, because even though we built it, they are continuing to come in numbers that no one could have foreseen. Well over half of those prospective applicants seek to study in the fields of Business and I.T..*

*With this new building and our downtown facilities, St. Clair is fully capable of continuing to welcome both domestic and international students who seek to study in our Business and I.T. programs, and who aspire to contribute to the economic and technological advancements of the 21st century.*

*We're thrilled, as well, to have incorporated new study and lounge space within this addition for our students, plus an upgraded computer lab, and a state-of-the-art e-sports arena which should set the standard for all subsequently developed facilities of its sort in North America. The finishing touches are just being put on that facility now, and it will be the subject of a separate Grand Opening on August 24.*

*The entire construction project, of course, took place in the midst of the pandemic, so regulations, restrictions and material glitches created constant scheduling adventures. Special thanks are due, therefore, to Glos Architects; Oscar*



Construction; all of the subcontractors for their patience and persistence; and to the St. Clair College team of Waseem Habash (Senior Vice-President, Academics and Operation), Jim Marsh (Chair of the School of Business and I.T.), Rebecca Demchuk (Associate Vice-President of Safety, Security and Facilities Management) and the entire Facilities Management Department.

Thank you also goes to Zekelman Industries, the Zekelman family and its foundation as our benefactors, for spurring the expansion of this school both here and downtown.

Finally, this “Building Of Dreams” is just the latest example of the spirit of partnership – of family – which makes St. Clair College such a marvellous place. The largest lecture hall in the building was funded by our Alumni Association; and the entire project was jointly planned, designed and financed with the Student Representative Council. The college is indebted to these organizations for their commitment to stu-



dents – those who are here now and those who will follow in years to come.

From our founding over a half-century ago, to the present day, and looking forward to the future before us, St. Clair College’s mission has been, is now, and always will be, to deliver an excellent, affordable and accessible education to all who seek it. Originally, it was our limited mandate to serve the population of southwestern Ontario; now, it is both that, and to welcome the world to Canada.

This building, its amenities and the dedicated faculty and staff who work within it will allow us to continue all of that.

Student Representative Council President Navjeet Singh described the Academic Tower as “The latest chapter in a partnership which has seen – on repeated occasions during the past decade – the administration and the SRC unite to jointly pursue projects that ultimately benefit students, academically and in terms of services and amenities.”





# Re-opening of the Student Centre: France honoured, Nexus unveiled

## From The Saint Scene

The Don France Student Commons and the Nexus Esports Arena.

Those were the highlights of the Grand Opening of the “new and improved” Student Centre in late-August – part of the \$23 million, two-years-long construction project which also created the Academic Tower of the Zekelman Schools of Business and Information Technology.

In addition to the creation of those two upper floors of classrooms, the ground floor of the Student Centre was enlarged and enhanced during the construction project.

The Student Centre, first constructed in the mid-1990s, is owned and operated by the Student Representative Council (SRC).

The building now houses “Nexus”: the state-of-the-art arena and broadcasting facility of Saints Gaming, the college’s esports team, and the associated Esports Administration and Entrepreneurship academic program.

In 2016, St. Clair became one of the first Canadian post-secondary schools to introduce esports as both a varsity pursuit and a program-of-study.

In the half-decade since then, Saints Gaming teams have won numerous national and international tournaments and league titles, with their games regularly viewed by hundreds of thousands of esports spectators on streaming services.

Also during the Grand Opening, the SRC – with the endorsement of St. Clair’s Board of Governors – designated much of the Student Centre as The Don France Student Commons.

The naming pays tribute to the council’s General Manager/Executive Director, Don France, for his quarter-century of mentorship of student leaders and his advocacy on behalf of all students. France’s retirement party took place on same day as the Grand Opening.

In his remarks to the Grand Opening’s audience, SRC President Navjeet Singh said, “It is a fitting place for this



event. Don’s first full-time job with the SRC was as the Project Manager of the first phase of the Student Centre in the mid-1990s. He has supervised several St. Clair building projects since then. Today, he comes back to where he started, in this new and improved Student Centre.

“The Don France Student Commons pays tribute to his mentorship of scores of student leaders over the past 25 years, his creation of numerous helpful campus services, and his constant advocacy on behalf of all students.”

As for Nexus, Singh noted, “This isn’t something that’s new for just St. Clair or for Windsor. This is a revolutionary, state-of-the-art facility for Canada as a whole, maybe for North America.”

College President Patti France agreed, saying, “It is really the latest chapter in what has been an unbelievable adventure – and I use the word ‘unbelievable’ quite literally. When the SRC and (Esports Director) Shaun Byrne came to the administration eight or so years ago with the idea of launching a varsity team and an academic program in esports, we really couldn’t believe that they were serious. Computer gaming? As a varsity sport? As a course of study, much less as a career? Really?”

“It did not take us long, however, to verify everything that the SRC and Shaun were telling us about the inherent potential in all of this: that it is a multi-billion-dollar industry with





explosive growth, varied and vast career openings, the potential to attract enrolment, and global marketing opportunities for the college.

“For the past half-decade of excellence in representing St. Clair, and for today’s crowning achievement of opening Nexus, I extend my thanks and congratulations to the SRC, Saints Gaming, Shaun, the faculty of the academic esports program, and all of our e-athletes and coaches.”

Reflecting on the building-naming in honour of her husband, President France added: “Throughout my Vice-Presidencies and my Presidency, Don was for me what he was for decades of SRC members: he was the primary advocate of St. Clair’s students, the voice of what they wanted and needed and deserved, and the conscience of what was best for them. And as we come to the conclusion of that uniquely shared part of our life, I can say that it has been an honour working with you on behalf of all St. Clair College students.”

In his remarks, SRC General Manager Ryan Peebles thanked all of the SRC and college staff who had contributed their expertise to the Student Centre’s redesign. He also thanked Glos Architecture and Engineering, Oscar Construction (general contractor), and Waveform Entertainment (consultant for the Nexus portion of the project).

On the topic of the new esports forum, Peebles observed, “After the previous development of the SportsPlex and SportsPark and Zekelman Tennis Centre, and now this facility, I think it is fair to say that St. Clair’s athletes and e-athletes are housed in the best gyms, diamonds, pitches, courts, fields and arenas in all of Canada.”

As for Don France, Peebles – his successor – said:

“Friend, mentor, sounding board, advisor, idea-man, sometimes a father figure – or, at least, the equivalent of the weird, likeable uncle. He’s been all of that, and more, to 25 years of SRC board members. It’s a tribute to his impact upon their lives that many of those SRC alumni have returned to the college today to share this day with him.





“And to students in general since the mid-1990s: They may not have known Don in that very close fashion, but they’ve all benefited from his dedication – not just in terms of the facilities he has developed, but more importantly for the services and programs that he created to make their college experience easier and more enjoyable, and for the advocacy he demonstrated to protect their rights.

“In the mid-1990s, when he started his career as the Project Manager of the Student Centre’s original construction, the Mission Statement of the college was ‘Students are our prime focus’. Don liked that sentiment so much that he adopted it, and had it etched into the glass of the SRC’s main office. It is still there, if you care to look over the next time that you’re standing in the Tim Hortons line-up.

“It is still on that window, and it is still in Don’s heart. And for 25 years, Don instilled that philosophy in all SRC members and employees. My friend, we all hope that we’ve lived up to your expectations; and that we, too, will continue to demonstrate that ‘Students are our prime focus’. That is your legacy, and it is a perfect one.”

Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens attended the event to praise both the SRC for its first floor development, and the college for the creation of the two upper storeys of new classroom space.

He cited the double-purpose project as a perfect example of the Patti and Don France partnership on behalf of the college – “a husband and wife team rowing in the same direction”.

He also was fascinated by the Nexus development for a very personal reason: his son is an avid gamer who has travelled the world competing in esports.

Overall, Dilkens said, St. Clair has exhibited remarkable and exciting growth during the past several years, even in the midst of a pandemic. Windsor, he said, “is proud of Saints Nation.”

Esports Director Shaun Byrne described the Nexus Arena as a “world-class facility”. Even before its construction, he noted that the comparatively tiny “Nest” base of the esports program had been turning out grads and players who had acquired management, coaching, broadcasting and pro-player positions in the field. That sort of success will be multiplied exponentially thanks to the new facilities, he said.

He praised the college’s administration, the SRC, Don France, School of Business and I.T. Director Jim Marsh, and the Alumni Association for “sharing the vision of esports from the start”. St. Clair and its facilities are, now, “the gold standard for esports” among postsecondary schools.

A full-scale opening of Nexus, demonstrating all of its operational features, is slated to take place on October 1 – probably including a large esports tournament.

#### **AND SPECIAL HONOURS FOR PRESIDENT FRANCE**

Dilkens also used the occasion of his visit to proclaim one other honour.

In a preamble, he recognized President France and the college for volunteering the use of its SportsPlex as a field hos-



pital for COVID patients during the most severe phase of the pandemic, and for loaning much of the equipment and furnishings of its Health Sciences Centre to local hospitals during that time.

He also praised the college for remaining open and functional throughout the pandemic as an educational institution.

“You provided clarity and certainty to people during what were uncertain times,” the Mayor said.

With that, he surprised France by presenting her “with the highest award that I can honour”: a plaque presenting the President with “the keys to the city”.

A few weeks later, President France and the college’s contribution to the community’s effort to combat COVID were again recognized when local MP Chris Lewis visited campus to present the President with the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Medal.









# Campus becomes an art gallery



## From The Saint Scene

St. Clair's Main/South Campus has become the latest site of a campaign by Art Windsor-Essex (AWE) to bring art to the community – by putting it outside.

On October 21, the college unveiled its hosting of the AWE's "Look Again! Outside" exhibit.

Eleven paintings (reproductions) are now on display on walkways throughout the campus.

AWE's website explained that the project began in 2021. When introduced then, "Look Again! Outside features life-sized reproductions of nine artworks from AWE's collection installed throughout downtown Windsor. A network of reproductions link Art Windsor-Essex through locations including Riverside Drive, Maiden Lane, the Capitol Theatre, the Windsor Transit Terminal, and the Windsor Public Library Main Branch.

"Look Again! Outside in downtown Windsor is generously supported by the Stephanie and Barry Zekelman Foundation.

"In early 2022, AWE activated these reproductions of artworks through the digital treasure hunt Against the Current, created in partnership with Montreal-based interactive media studio Moment Factory. This digital experience is supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, Digital Strategy Fund; Ontario Tourism Innovation Lab; WETech Alliance; Tourism

Windsor Essex Pelee Island; the City of Windsor; the Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association; and the Government of Canada through the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario. This project has been financially assisted by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, administered by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund Corporation."

Subsequently, in mid-2022, Amherstburg became the second site of Look Again! Outside, when reproductions of the works of Canada's Group Of Seven painters were installed throughout that community's downtown.

In the unveiling ceremony at the college, Stephanie Zekelman said this newest version of the project "combines two family passions: art and education."

"Art inspires and connects," she added. "It opens the mind, and goes hand-in-hand with learning."

Zekelman hopes, also, that the project may expand at the college in the future, with the addition of more artworks.

AWE Executive Director Jennifer Matotek said Look Again! Outside has been instrumental in her institution's effort to make art more accessible to the public – by bringing it to them, rather than waiting for them to visit the gallery.

She described the artworks installed at the college as





“bold, abstract and thought-provoking ... they are treasures from our collection.”

In her remarks to the unveiling of St. Clair as the campaign’s third site, college President Patti France said:

*On behalf of the family of St. Clair staff and students, it is a pleasure to welcome you to campus; and to thank Art Windsor-Essex and Stephanie Zekelman for, today, making our campus more beautiful, more inspiring and more thought-provoking.*

*Over the years, I’ve occasionally reminded people of the first descriptive term in the college’s official name – that we are St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology. Let me emphasize: “Arts” comes first in that title.*

*Yes, we are concerned about business and industry, and technology and trades, and health-care in this region, and training people to staff enterprises in those fields; but not to the exclusion of education in the arts. We always have been involved in that field, we always will be involved in that field, because it is essential to the well-being – to the collective human soul – of the communities that we serve.*

*While we may not be involved in “fine arts” per se, the students and faculty of our applied arts programs do display unrivalled creativity and imagination: our story-tellers, photographers and videographers in Journalism; our cartoonists in Animation; our creators of posters and publications in Graphic Design; our clothing trendsetters in Fashion Design; those who lay out homes and offices in Interior Design; our singers and dancers in Music Theatre Performance; the young chefs who make food as appetizing to the eyes as it is to the taste-buds in our Culinary programs.*

*Even many of our highly technical programs demand and incorporate a significant degree of artistic temperament: in Automotive Product Design, in Architectural Technology, in Landscape Horticulture, in Woodworking and Carpentry, to name just a few.*

*And if you have the chance to walk around the interior of*

*our buildings, you will see art-work everywhere, from the main lobby through most of our hallways. Some of it has been student-created, other items were donated or acquired by the college over the years. Indeed, one of the chief functions of our Retirees Association is the administration of the college’s collection of paintings, prints and sculptures, to ensure that its items are catalogued and stored properly, and regularly rotated for widespread display.*

*So, the presence of art is not new to St. Clair. But today’s present of art is.*

*I know our students and staff are tremendously proud to be hosting this unique exhibit. And I hope that the many citizens of South Windsor and other areas of our community who regularly visit the campus as a site for walking and exercise will also enjoy this chance to “Look Again! Outside”.*

*St. Clair, as most of you know, has been the beneficiary of the Zekelman family’s generosity for the past several years: as a partner, donor and participant in such projects as the development of the downtown campus of the Schools of Business and I.T.; and the construction of the academic tower for those schools here at main campus, the new GEM Residence, and the Tennis Centre in the Sports Park. Thank you, Barry and Stephanie, for all of that – and, now, for this art installation.*

*I suppose we can say that, thanks to Arts Windsor-Essex and the Zekelmans, we now have visual expression covered “from A to Z”.*



*Look Again! Outside makes use of the AWE’s Against the Current technology. That, according to its website, “is an outdoor, web-based experience accessible through participants’ portable devices. The interactive activities are free to enjoy ... Mini-games at each stop reveal the stories of these artists – their passion, imagination, and acts of rebellion.”*

*That component of the display at the college will be functional once QR codes are added to the placards on the easel-posts.*

*Faculty and students of St. Clair’s Architectural Technology program assisted with this project by designing and installing the frames and support posts accommodating the artworks.*







# Now it's (Fire)Fight Like Mason

**Contributed by the  
College's Administration**

Chantelle Bacon believes her son, Mason, would be proud of her for choosing to go back to St. Clair College and train to become a firefighter.

In 2014, Bacon graduated from the college's Hairstylist program.

Her life took a dramatic turn when two-year-old son Mason was diagnosed with a rare form of childhood cancer called rhabdomyosarcoma.

After 14 months of treatment, Mason, unfortunately, passed away at the young age of four.

As a tribute to their son, Chantelle and her husband, Iain, started the Fight Like Mason Foundation. They began engaging with the community by launching fundraising events and public appearances at hospitals dressed as superheroes.

With generous support from the community, the Fight Like Mason Foundation began donating superhero-themed IV poles and pediatric wheelchairs with Mason's superhero logo to Windsor Regional Hospital.

In the past five years, the Fight Like Mason Foundation has donated 370 IV-poles to 14 hospitals in Ontario, and raised over \$1.8 million to support research for childhood cancer.

St. Clair recognized Bacon as one of the Alumni of

Distinction honourees in 2019 for her dedicated work as the co-founder of the Fight Like Mason Foundation.

At age 32, Chantelle said it was an easy decision to return to the college to enroll in the Pre-Service Firefighter program, and to embrace the challenge of pursuing a new career.

"My Mom was a paramedic, so I have always been around first responders. I have always loved that line of work, but never knew if I could do it," she said. "With everything that went on with Mason, and how amazing the fire community was and still is to this day, it was a no-brainer for me to want to be part of this team."

Chantelle admits there is a significant physical component to the Pre-Service Firefighter program. "It's tough physically. I thought I was in the best shape, but you get humbled very quickly. There are a lot of different muscles that you use in the fire service. Physically, I have been able to do things I never thought I'd be able to do."

Chantelle believes Mason would be proud of her for pursuing a career as a firefighter. "I hope he would be proud of me. His biggest thing in life was to be a firefighter – that was his number one thing. He showed me what I could do, and what I was able to do. I know he is with me every day, and I hope he is proud of me."

For more information about the Fight Like Mason Foundation, visit [www.fightlikemason.org](http://www.fightlikemason.org).







## THE GREAT OUTDOORS MAKES A GREAT ECE LAB

In mid-October, Early Childhood Education Professor Brenda Huff of the Chatham Campus opened her new outdoor lab, welcoming local families to come out to experience the new facility. The “Loose Parts” event is part of a research and development project – and a change in the ECE curriculum, having introduced an outdoor education course as part of the program. The outdoor lab is located behind the Mary Uniac Health Sciences Building at the Chatham campus.









# Power company's donation empowers CICE students



## From The Saint Scene

One of the technologically coolest, academically constructive, and socially beneficial projects at St. Clair has now become the subject of generous corporate support.

On May 25, St. Clair received a donation of \$20,000 from Atura Power, operators of Windsor's Brighton Beach electrical generation plant, which will be used to buy two new robots for the school's Community Integration Through Cooperative Education (CICE) program.

That program provides educational and job-training opportunities to developmentally disabled adults, to help them integrate both into the full life of community and the local employment marketplace.

The robots assist the students to overcome some of the impairments that can restrict their experience at the college.

St. Clair College President Patti France's speech at the May 25th donation ceremony explained the importance of the program and the role played by the robots:

*The phrase "life-changing" can be a bit over-used when it comes to how technical innovations and inventions have the potential to affect our lives.*

*But not in this case. "Life-changing" is the perfectly accurate adjective to describe how this donation will benefit our CICE students.*

*The contribution will allow the college to expand a project that we launched last year – a partnership between our on-campus ENACTUS organization, Telus and Temi Canada – by purchasing two additional Temi robots for use by CICE students.*

*These devices open up the whole world of postsecondary education – and the college experience – to developmentally disabled individuals, by removing a host of barriers that had previously confronted them.*

*Chair (of Community Studies) Stephanie DeFrancheschi tells me, for instance, that the robots guide mobility impaired students to their classes, read out presentations for students*





*who have speech impediments or who are non-verbal, and they vocalize assignments and test questions for those with poor vision or reading difficulties.*

Also, in partnership with volunteer students from ENACTUS and our Mobile Applications Development program, the CICE students help to program the robots from the outset – which is an educational process in itself.

In addition to all of those academic benefits, the use of the Temi robots helps to break down the social hurdles that can exist between the developmentally disabled and our students-at-large. Having the robots rolling down the hallways and through the cafeteria is a conversation-starter that has established countless connections between our CICE students and new-found friends from other programs.

As I said, it's life-changing ... And it's also heart-warming

... And it's also extremely fitting that this donation originates from this corporate citizen from the field of power generation. In this instance, you're giving this unique and previously under-served group of students the power to pursue their educations, and to fully join in both the life of our college and our community, and to gain skills for the post-graduation employment marketplace.

Thank you to everyone at Atura Power. You have the admiration and gratitude of St. Clair College, especially all of the current and future students of the Community Integration Through Cooperative Education program.

"Atura Power is very proud to support the communities where we live, work and learn," said Geoff Saunders, plant manager of the Brighton Beach power plant. "Our donation to the CICE program is an example of Atura acting on a core value of being inclusive, as it's helped the college buy two Temi robots which will support students in overcoming some of the obstacles in their way to becoming productive and valued members of our community."

The cheque presentation was followed by an exhibit of the robots' dozens of functions, controlled by three of the CICE programs 2021-22 grads.





# Food, wine and a new hospital



## From The Saint Scene

St. Clair's annual Food and Wine Gala is back in business, with the construction of the new regional hospital benefitting from its fundraising – to the tune of \$1.1 million dollars.

This year's Gala – the first to be staged in two years due to the COVID pandemic – took place at the St. Clair Centre for the Arts on September 23.

As usual, the event featured locally sourced food and locally produced wines, prepared and served by St. Clair Culinary and Hospitality program students and staff.

Also showcased during the evening were the creativity of St. Clair Tourism-Travel and Fashion Design students.

In her welcoming remarks, college President Patti France said:

*Thank you so much for joining us as St. Clair – after a gap of several years – stages its 28th annual Food and Wine Gala.*

*This year, we recognize the first-responder heroes in our community. They are represented this evening by Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services Chief Bruce Krauter, Windsor Police Acting Chief Jason Bellaire, and Windsor Fire and Rescue Services Chief Stephen Laforet. We're pleased to be joined, also, by many of their colleagues from throughout the city and county, as we honour the local officers and members of all of these brave and caring profes-*



sions.

*There is a college connection to all of this too, of course: namely, that St. Clair has historically trained a significant portion of the workforce of these departments, via our Protection, Security and Investigation, Police Foundations, Pre-Service Firefighter Education and Training, and Paramedic programs.*

*We've also had numerous non-academic connections to all of these emergency services: for instance, St. Clair's annual hosting of the Polar Plunge fundraiser as the highlight of our long-standing partnership with the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, and our recent sponsorship of the Can-Am Police and Fire Games, and the frequent simulation exercises staged on campus where EMS members oversee our Paramedic students as they respond to mock accidents and disasters.*

*Tonight's tribute, however, doesn't just involve the links between the college and these services.*

*No, above and beyond that, we wish – not as educators, but as citizens – to recognize all first-responders for their selfless service, their bravery, and their caring attitude, as they carry out the most challenging duties imaginable on a day-in/day-out basis. You probably don't hear expressions of our gratitude as often as you should, but please know that the*





community is thankful beyond measure for your dedication as you serve and protect us. You are, truly, the heroes in our midst.

The second purpose of this evening's event is to fundraise some of the local share of the cost of constructing our region's new acute care hospital. That project will be the beneficiary of this gala's proceeds.

There's a college connection to that too. The facilities of a new-and-improved local health-care system mean bigger-and-better opportunities for our graduates. Our alumni from Nursing and Practical Nursing, Cardiovascular Technology, Respiratory Therapy, Personal Support Worker, Paramedicine, Medical Laboratory Technology and Science, Dental Assisting and Hygiene, Office Administration for Health Services, Developmental Services Worker,

Occupational and Physio Therapy Assistant, Diagnostic Medical and Cardiac Sonography, Biomedical Engineering Technology, Gerontology, Pharmacy Technician, and Medical Esthetics already make up a huge percentage of the local workforce in the health-care sector. And we expect that those employment opportunities will be enhanced when the new hospital is up and running within the next decade.

So, this event is also a tribute to our decades upon decades of alumni who have been serving us as our health-care heroes, and a celebration of the many opportunities that will await our future grads as enlarged and enhanced facilities are developed.

There will no doubt also be employment opportunities in non-health-care-related fields too: in the business, facilities management and information technology infrastructures of the new facilities, not to mention the planning and construction jobs involved when the hospital is actually under development.

I believe it is fitting is it that we've resurrected our Wine Gala on behalf of the new hospital project, because don't we often raise a goblet of wine as we toast to the good health of our friends and loved ones?

That is certainly our sentiment this evening: to raise some funds, yes; but also to raise our spirits, our expectations, and our hopes as we all look forward to the improvement of our local health-care system, as we strive to ensure the long-term well-being of ourselves, our families and our community.















## POWERLINE STUDENTS LIGHT UP CROW FEST

In addition to the college and its Alumni Association acting as sponsors of Chatham's Crow Fest in mid-October, the school's Powerline Technician students strung the city with special lighting for the weekend-long celebration of the black birds. Photos by Mark Benoit.





# We are the champions

## Contributed by the College's Administration

On December 12, St. Clair College and the St. Clair College Alumni Association were recognized by the City of Windsor for being 2022 "Community Champions".

College President Patti France was joined by Alumni Association President John Feldman at City Hall as Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens publicly thanked each President for their community involvement and leadership in the city.

Dilkens cited the many ways the college and Alumni Association supported the city's efforts this past year.:

- The college and Alumni Association were presenting sponsors of this summer's Can-Am Police-Fire Games' opening ceremonies and the "Taste of Carrousel", featuring eight cultural cuisine specialty offerings to the audience of 3,000 people.

- During these games, the Alumni Association was the presenting sponsor for the "FireFit Challenge Competition", which attracted firefighters across North America to the games. Since 2019, the Alumni Association has sponsored the Can-Am Police-Fire Golf Series leading up to the 2022 games.

- In 2018, the college partnered with the Friends of the Court to establish the McKenzie Hall Landscape Student Sponsorship Program. St. Clair students have worked each summer since, maintaining the grounds of historic McKenzie Hall in west Windsor.

- This September, the college again sponsored Open Streets. It provided an interactive visit for participants on the route outside our MediaPlex at the corner of University and Victoria avenues.

- The college and alumni association continue their sponsorship of Windsor's Bright Lights in Jackson Park. The college sponsors Santa's Sleigh, and the Alumni Association sponsors the photogenic holiday wreath in the park.

The Mayor presented both Presidents France and Feldman with a plaque on behalf of city council and the residents of the City of Windsor for being valued Community Champions.





# Costumed college during Hallowe'en









# Colourful and dance-filled Holi



## From The Saint Scene

Needless to say, the Holi festivities on March 8 proved to be the most colourful event staged on campus this year. From the outdoor coloured-powder explosions to the indoor dance party, approximately 800 Saints celebrated the special occasion at South Campus.

... and ...

Holi was (somewhat belatedly) celebrated by the St. Clair students of the Ace Acumen Academy at the Brampton campus with a Headphone Dance party on March 10.







# Journalists take to the air

## From The Saint Scene

Look, up in the sky ... It's a bird ... It's a plane ... No, it's Super St. Clair Journalism Student!

Beginning this fall, the college's Journalism, Media Convergence and Public Relations students will have an unusual new class added to their curriculum: Drone Technology and Media Production.

The aerial devices are now very commonly used by media photographers and videographers to obtain "bird's eye view" shots of news-event scenes.

The new course and its drones were unveiled during a news conference at the Acumen Stadium of the college's Sports Park on June 21.

Journalism and Media Convergence Coordinator Veronique Mandal and Public Relations Coordinator Rebecca Wright said this course will give students in those programs another skill to market when seeking employment.

"Media graduates today have to be able to take a diverse skill set with them when they graduate and look for work in a competitive field," said Mandal. "We see the addition of Drone Technology to the curriculum giving them an edge and making them even more marketable. Many of our graduates find unique jobs in non-traditional media, and we want to provide them with every opportunity to be successful."

One of those non-traditional media careers is in the real estate field, in which grads work to visually market proper-



ties. During the news conference, Damon Winney of Jump Realty Inc. Brokerage announced new internship opportunities for MediaPlex students, donated two drones to the programs, and pledged a scholarship for students in the media programs.

The new course will be taught by technology experts and a licensed pilot.

"Our curriculum is reviewed and updated on a frequent basis, and we are always keeping an eye on innovations we know will benefit our students," said Jimmy Parsons, Chair of the School of Media Art and Design. "This new Drone Technology course will certainly bring excitement into the programs, but I think it will also be a tremendous asset to our students when they graduate."





# St. Clair shows off its skills



## From The Saint Scene

St. Clair is chiefly regulated and funded by the provincial Ministry of Colleges and Universities, but it also has significant dealings with the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development – and, on March 9, it was visited by that agency's head.

Conservative Minister Monte McNaughton – also the MPP for Lambton-Kent-Middlesex – spent 90 minutes at Windsor's South Campus during a half-day visit to the city.

Also in the entourage was Windsor-Tecumseh MPP Andrew Dowie and Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens.

One of McNaughton's and his ministry's chief focuses during the past several years has been "closing the skills gap": striving to attract more young people to enter the educational and apprenticeship pathways to careers in the skilled trades.

St. Clair used his visit to highlight some of its efforts in that regard.

Coincidentally, an Employment Ontario information session and jobs fair was being held at the college on the 9th, to encourage the college's electrical program students to explore apprenticeship opportunities in that field. McNaughton briefly dropped into that meeting to speak with the assembled students.

Subsequently, he saw some of the college's hands-on skilled trades offerings, and spoke to students and faculty, during a tour of the Ford Centre for Excellence in Manufacturing.



The minister's visit was capped by a luncheon hosted by St. Clair President Patti France. (The final photo in the accompanying series depicts, left to right: Dowie, McNaughton, France and Dilkens.)













# Walk of awareness and remembrance



## From The Saint Scene

St. Clair again hosted the annual Suicide Awareness Walk staged by the regional chapter of the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) on the Sunday morning of September 25 – and again donated several thousand dollars to that organization to combat the crisis of mental illness and self-harm.

The college, the Student Representative Council, the Saints Student Athletic Association and the Alumni Association presented a cheque for \$5,000 to the CMHA.

In her remarks at the event, St. Clair President Patti France said:

*It has been the school's great honour to have played host to this walk for many years, as the community gathers to both raise awareness of suicide and critical mental illnesses, and to share our collective sympathy and support with those who have lost loved ones to self-harm.*

*The CMHA extended its invitation for me to speak today in late-August.*

*On that day, a news-story popped up on the internet regarding a former American college basketball star – and, subsequently, a popular TV news anchor in Wisconsin – who took her own life at 27 years of age.*

*The stunned remarks of her sister are worth quoting at length. She said: "My sister was by far the happiest person I thought I knew. She was engaged to be married, and was loved by everybody. Sometimes you just don't know what people are going*

*through, no matter how much you think you know someone. My sister had access to every resource you could imagine. She just radiated love and positivity. She just cared so much about other people, and always put other people first. I think she did that at the expense of not caring about herself."*

*Within those painful and perhaps familiar words are lessons for us all – individually, and as a community – as we try to reduce the emotional despair that leads to suicide. Those phrases of regretful hindsight call upon us to strive to deepen our relationships with our loved ones, friends and neighbours. Perhaps the single most heartbreaking sentence spoken by the sister was "Sometimes you just don't know what people are going through, no matter how much you think you know someone".*

*Can we try to know those in our lives better, more fully,*





more deeply? Can we expand upon the superficial chit-chat of daily life and events, to really explore the status of well-being of our family and friends – and our co-workers and, in the college's case, our students? Can we use a really sincere tone of voice when we ask "How are you? How are you doing? How are you feeling?" And to keep pushing and prodding if we're getting a response that seems evasive or somehow less than forthright. Can we strive to convince family, friends and acquaintances that we do, in fact, want to know what they're going through, so that we can help them, or seek help for them and with them?

Maybe that's a resolution to consider during today's walk. While I'm not suggesting that a determined and deliberate effort to develop deeper relationships will eliminate the

These alarming emotional conditions are especially prevalent among teenagers and young adults, among my college peers.

So, St. Clair and our student council have developed a number of resources to cope with the occurrence of suicidal behaviour. We've arranged for 24-hour hot-lines and on-line counselling, and a system of referrals to community-based agencies and medical personnel. Our counselling office and health centre also benefit from a new staffing support partnership with the CMHA.

Every year, also, dozens of front-line college staff – those who deal face-to-face with students every day – undergo training to help them to identify, respond to and assist individuals who are in the early or advanced stages of emotional dis-

tress. Student council members have been included in this instruction under the SafeTalk and the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training programs, to designate us as Suicide Alert Helpers and Suicide First Aid Caregivers.

I had the opportunity to use my training this past summer.

One day, a red flag was raised for me when I saw a student's comments on the SnapChat app, stating that "I don't feel like part of this world. I feel like giving up."

I connected with that student immediately, and quickly got the person into the counselling centre.

As it turned out, that wasn't enough. The student then tried to overdose on

some medication; but I became aware of that too, and made the 911 call in that instance.

Thankfully, the student is now in therapy and is recovering.

That's how we combat this crisis in a practical, day-to-day fashion: by being attentive to family, friends and acquaintances, by responding quickly and forcefully when we feel that a red flag has popped up, and by taking people by the hand – and I mean that literally – to lead them to experts who can help.

But events such as today's walk are just as important. This effort to create widespread awareness, and to raise funds for what are truly life-saving counselling services, is invaluable.

By your presence here today, you are providing essential support and encouragement to all of our students. On their behalf, I thank you, and I look forward to walking with you today.



Today, may we find strength, comfort and peace in one another ... as we create awareness, understanding and hope in our community.

St. Clair Student Representative Council (SRC) President Navjeet Singh, meanwhile, shared a very personal story of his experience with suicide – and suicide prevention – in his remarks:



# Powwow celebrates Indigenous culture

## From The Saint Scene

For a couple of days in June 2022, St. Clair's SportsPlex swapped athletics in favour of multiculturalism, to play host to the first (annual) Student and Alumni Powwow, sponsored by the college, the University of Windsor and approximately 20 other organizations and institutions.

The two days celebrated Canada's indigenous cultures with drum circles, dance, song, story-telling, food, arts and crafts.

St. Clair President Patti France noted, "Our involvement certainly reflects the college's long-standing support of indigenous education. In addition to our services to First Nations, Metis and Inuit students at our Windsor and Chatham campuses, we've also – for many years – been a provider of curriculum and credentials for Native programming at the Anishinabek Educational Institute, on behalf of the Munsee-Delaware First Nation.



"Throughout its history, the college – in its relationship with indigenous communities – has attempted to exemplify the motto of this weekend's event: Honouring The Past, Celebrating The Future. I think all nationalities and cultures are of the opinion that the pursuit

and achievement of education is what makes for a future worth celebrating. So, that definitely explains why the college, the university and school boards eagerly lent their support to this undertaking.

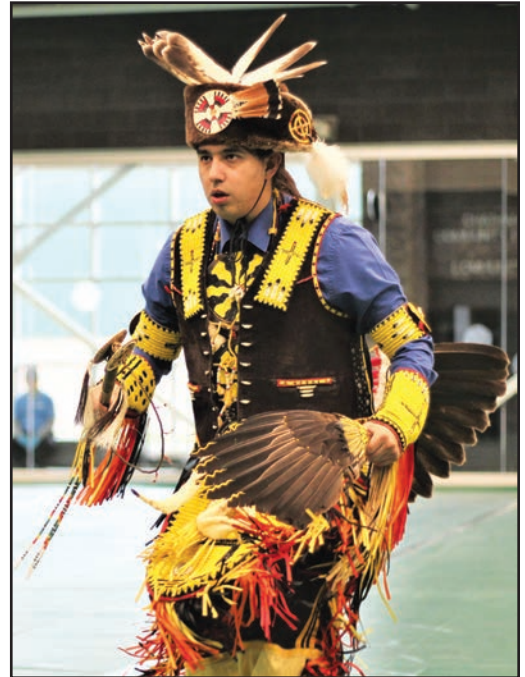
"Our administration, Indigenous Student Services Office, Alumni Association, Student Representative Council, Saints Student Athletic Association and Athletics and Recreation Department are thrilled to be partnered with the 20 other organizations that have come together to stage this weekend, as both a cultural exposition and a fabulous and fun event for the community. I'm hopeful that it may become the major annual event that kicks off summertime activities in our community."

Photos by Francis Dang and Anna Millerman.





## And a Powwow at Chatham campus in November





# Plunge previewed by sliders



## From The Saint Scene

Appropriately, during the first significant blizzard of the year on January 25, a hundred or so law enforcement and emergency services program students – and some of their professors – helped to kick off the annual local staging of the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics by participating in a frigid "slip 'n' slide" on the softball diamond at main campus.

The frigid festivities previewed the actual Plunge (jumping into an icy pool) that will take place at the downtown Aquatic Centre on the evening of February 24.

St. Clair – a long-time partner with local law enforcement agencies in the staging of the Polar Plunge – also kicked off the fundraising for this year's event. The Student Representative Council and Saints Student Athletic Association each announced donations of \$2,500 to the charity, while the Alumni Association contributed \$10,000.

In the nine years that St. Clair has been partnering with police forces to stage the event, the local Plunge has raised over a quarter-million dollars for Special Olympics. This year's fundraising goal is \$50,000.

As it turned out, that goal was far exceeded. The 2023 Plunge collected \$92,000 in funding for the Special Olympics.









# Christmas generosity galore



## THE THANK YOU EXTENDED TO THE COLLEGE BY THE SRC IN DECEMBER

Dear Saints (Students and Staff),

The Student Representative Council was truly blessed this year by the wide-ranging and enthusiastic support of its annual Food and Toy Drive, that strives to ensure that all needy students – especially student-parents with children – have a healthy and enjoyable holiday season.

During the past month, a number of campus groups and agencies made special efforts to fundraise for the Food and Toy Drive, and/or to collect goods for donation to us. Those groups included:

- The college's administration and Alumni Association, each of which donated \$5,000 to kick off the campaign;
- The college's Library, that substituted food donations for late-return fines;
- The Retirees Association which, as is its tradition, collected food donations during its members' Christmas luncheon;
- The Esthetics and Advanced Medical Esthetics programs, which raised approximately \$3,400 in cash in client fees from its recent "spa days";
- The Paramedic Club and program, which literally "filled an ambulance" with food by parking it and spreading the word at a Tecumseh shopping centre;
- The Music Theatre Performance Club and program,

which featured a food collection during the recent Christmas show at the Chrysler Theatre;

- A number of college departments (the Library, the Centre for Academic Excellence, Student Services, Human Resources, the Schools of Business and I.T., the Employment Centre, the School of Health Sciences in both Windsor and Chatham, the Registrar's Office, the I.T. Department, "Room 7", the Community Integration Through Cooperative Education program, the Schools of Nursing in both Windsor and Chatham) challenged one another to collect canned goods and other non-perishables for the Drive. They gathered over 6,300 items!

This year's fantastic effort accomplished two things:

- The SRC was able to provide food parcels – including grocery store vouchers for meats, dairy and other perishables – and toys (and wrapping paper too) to 105 students and 85 of their children; and
- Because your generosity was so overwhelming, we had sufficient "left-overs" to substantially re-stock the shelves of our year-round Food Bank.

The SRC is deeply grateful for the support it received this year. Yet again, your actions exemplified the caring, family-like nature of everyone who attends and works at St. Clair College.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



# Marketers capture three bronzes



## Contributed by the School of Business

In late-November, St. Clair's Marketing and Advertising students competed in the 2022 Ontario Colleges' Marketing Competition (OCMC).

Twenty-one St. Clair students from the Business-Marketing and Advertising and Marketing Communications Management programs travelled to Toronto to compete in 12 events, against 11 other Ontario colleges, over the two-day competition.

The Integrated Marketing Communications (IMC) team – Evelyn Recinos, Nuray Ilter and their coach, Stephen McEachern – took third place.

The Advanced Marketing Strategy team – Mackenzie

Leszczynski, Alyssa Postma and their coach, Stephen McEachern – also won third place.

The Prospect Pitch team – Bobby Bloomfield and Maria Aguila – won third place with help from their coach, Gino Bordignon.

Melissa Rodrigues won fifth place for Sales Presentations with help from her coach, Darren Grey.

Other participants were: Amol Sandhu and Mackenzie Lomax, Marketing; Blake Paterson and Bobby Bloomfield, Marketing Research; Kara Dearsley and Emma Papa, Retail; Joshua Schneider and Riley Schiller, Entrepreneurship; Andrea Ramos and Belal Hussein, Direct Marketing; Eva Qoja and Gavin Rugama, International Marketing; Safa Yaqoob, Job Interview; and Amol Sandhu, Mackenzie Lomax, Melissa Rodrigues, Taha Lababidi and Evelyn Recinos, Quiz Bowl.

Coaching and support team: Barry Rivard, David Garant, Gino Bordignon, Stephen McEachern, Justina Ciarlariello, Jeff Kess, Darren Grey, Melissa Simas.

And Professors Nicole Rourke volunteered her time to be an OCMC Quiz Bowl judge for the event.

A big thank you to SRC and the St. Clair College Alumni Association for sponsoring the 2022 team.

OCMC is a student-focused learning experience that provides participants with the ability to demonstrate their essential, vocational, and employability skills before industry professionals. OCMC serves as a stepping-stone from academia to industry by creating real-world experiences and networking opportunities.

## GREAT RESULTS FOR GOODFELLOWS

### Contributed by Justice Programs Faculty



For two days in early December, staff and students from the Protection, Security and Investigation, Police Foundations, Border Services, and Community and Justice Services programs collected donations for the Goodfellows Paper Drive at the South and Downtown Campuses and on surrounding roadways.

Our goal this year was to surpass our previous record collection, set in 2021, of \$14,345.

It is my great pleasure to announce that we successfully accomplished our goal, collecting \$17,041.40 – matched by the college's administration for a total donation of over \$34,000.

Thank you to all students, friends, family members, staff, chairs, and administrators who donated time to collect donations. And a special thank you to our student organizing committees for the weeks of preparation and long days organizing volunteers, counting donations, and problem solving.



# Students offer “Season’s Greetings”



Contributed by the College's  
Administration

## On-Stage Photos by Mark Benoit

The Music Theatre Performance program has bounced back from the pandemic with a brand new original Christmas show, “Season’s Greetings”, taking place in a postwar 1940s nightclub, and featuring a variety of songs and dance styles.

Choreographer Kristyn Wiklanski teases an exciting number from the show: “My favorite piece to choreograph was Jingle Jangle. We have cowboys and tap-dancing horses. The horse has a head person and a bottom person, and their feet have to coordinate in opposition. It was fun trying to create a realistic horse, but also a cartoon version of it that can tap dance.”

This will be the first time the program will present a show without any restrictions since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. Third-year student Cassidy Funk is looking forward to the post-pandemic experience. “This is the first time that I’ve been here that we’ve done a show without any masks. We don’t have to worry about spacing in our choreography and we don’t have to separate the classes into cohorts anymore, we can actually integrate all the years together.”









# Saints and S'Aints fight hunger



## From The Saint Scene

The S'Aints will come marchin' in to The Colosseum at Caesars Windsor again this year, as the band resumes its traditional fundraising Christmas concert in-person after two years of pandemic-caused virtual staging.

This year's "Sleighbing Hunger" concert takes place on December 23 at 8 p.m.. (Subsequently postponed until the 29th due to a snowstorm.)

As is customary, the event will be accompanied by a newly released CD of holiday music, this year entitled "Imagine No Hunger" (available, too, via digital download – <https://www.sleighbinghunger.com>).

The beneficiaries of this year's fundraiser are 16 local food banks, represented by the Windsor-Essex Food Bank Association and Chatham Outreach for Hunger.

In 2021, the Windsor-Essex food banks provided service to nearly 128,000 people in need. The food banks include those of the Downtown Mission, Drouillard Place, Community Food Pantry Lakeshore, three Salvation Army locations, the Unemployed Help Centre, The Well-Come Centre and Windsor Homes Coalition. The Chatham organization assisted over 3,800 families last year.

The S'Aints previewed and promoted the concert during a press conference on November 23 at Caesars.

In her remarks during that event, St. Clair President Patti France said:

*The old saying goes that "It is better to give than to receive."*

*And while that is true, I'm pleased to say that this community-based project has, for the past 11 years, not required that "either/or" choice. In our scenario, giving equals receiving.*

*Purchasing a ticket to The S'Aints concert and/or buying one of the CDs means that you're giving generously to the food banks in Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent that so desperately need our help.*

*And, as a grateful reward for that generosity, you'll be receiving the chance to enjoy what has truly become a Christmas tradition in our community: The annual Sleighbing Hunger concert.*

*Jody (Raffoul), Jeff (Burrows) and the rest of The S'Aints will remember that this all started a dozen years ago in the home-basement studio of their producer, when the band unveiled the "Time For Joy" CD. As the sponsor of that album-release – and there was no concert during that first year in 2011 – the college thought it might just be a one-time project.*

*But the music, the idea and the cause were quickly adopted and adored by the public.*

*Adding a concert to the annual CD release soon turned this from a one-time project to a treasured tradition that will certainly have St. Clair's backing for years to come.*

*With a number of sponsoring partners and at a number of venues over the years, The S'Aints annual Sleighbing Hunger concert has become one of the area's most anticipated and popular events of the Christmas season.*

*Between it and the associated CD sales, the Sleighbing*





*Hunger campaign has raised over \$340,000 for food banks and other social service agencies during the past decade.*

*During the past two pandemic years, the concert has been staged in virtual fashion – and it was still enjoyed by a large on-line audience, but I'm sure that The S'Aints are thrilled to be back "live and in-person" with their many fans.*

*And St. Clair is thrilled, too, to be partnering again with Caesars Windsor Cares, Devonshire Mall and AM-800, as we again welcome the community to both support the food bank beneficiaries and to enjoy this spectacular entertainment event.*

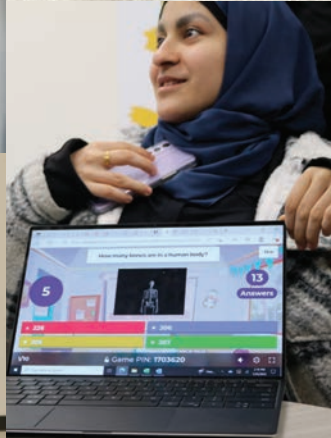
*This year's concert and music sales raised a record \$102,000.*













# Students head to Germany to design international garden

**Contributed by the  
College's Administration**

A pair of St. Clair College Landscape Horticulture students travelled to Mannheim, Germany during the summer of 2022 for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Natalie Petrovski and Sydney Bachmeier were selected to represent the City of Windsor, St. Clair College and Canada as part of an international group building a garden for the German National Garden Show – or BUGA '23 – in Mannheim during mid-July.

Petrovski and Bachmeier will be Canada's representatives among multiple groups of international participants from Sister Cities of Mannheim, two from each around the world. These groups will work together to build an approximately 800-square-metre area to become "The Garden of Twin Cities" in Luisenpark, a 41-hectare municipal park on a bank in the Neckar River in Mannheim.

Petrovski grew up in Tecumseh and graduated from Landscape Horticulture with the Class of 2022. She said she is excited about the opportunity to meet other horticulture students from around the world, and observe the different practices of everyone involved in this unique international garden-building environment.

"We will be staying in hostels, and during the day we will be working on the garden; but when we are not working, they will be taking us to some restaurants and sightseeing around the town," Petrovski said. "The skillsets of everyone won't be too different around the world, so as long as you are there and are willing to get your hands in the dirt and do something to help out. Tshat's all that matters."

Bachmeier completed her first year studying Landscape Horticulture, and



believes this international garden-building experience will allow her to learn much more than she ever considered possible before starting at the college.

"My first year has been a lot to take in, but absolutely amazing in terms of all the experience I've gained. The program is a hybrid of landscaping and horticulture industry knowledge and practices," she said. "Personally, I enjoy the installation process of a new garden, so I am very excited to see everything come together collaboratively in Mannheim. I want to learn as much as I can from everyone in the group, as everyone is bringing their own different experiences to the mix. I also can't wait to see the different plant materials in the city when we go sightseeing, both to appreciate it and to compare it to home."

Program Coordinator Sandy MacDonald believes this is a once-in-a-

lifetime opportunity for Sydney and Natalie to join with other young horticulturists from around the world for this important event. "I'm very sure that Team Canada will use the skills they have developed in the St. Clair College Landscape-Horticulture program to add a Canadian touch to this international garden," he said. "We are proud to have them participate in this event, being great representatives of our country, city and campus. Our thanks, too, for the assistance of the City of Windsor, the Parks and Forestry Department in particular, in passing along this opportunity for them to take on this project with our sister city/twin city of Mannheim, Germany."

The completed garden will be a key component of the BUGA '23 Garden event (launching in spring of 2023), and will remain a legacy of international horticultural cooperative efforts.





## CHALK ART PROMOTES VACCINES

Contributed by the  
Genesis Entrepreneurship Centre

In the fall, students from St. Clair College and University of Windsor partnered to create awareness for boosting vaccine confidence as part of a WE-Spark Health Institute initiative.



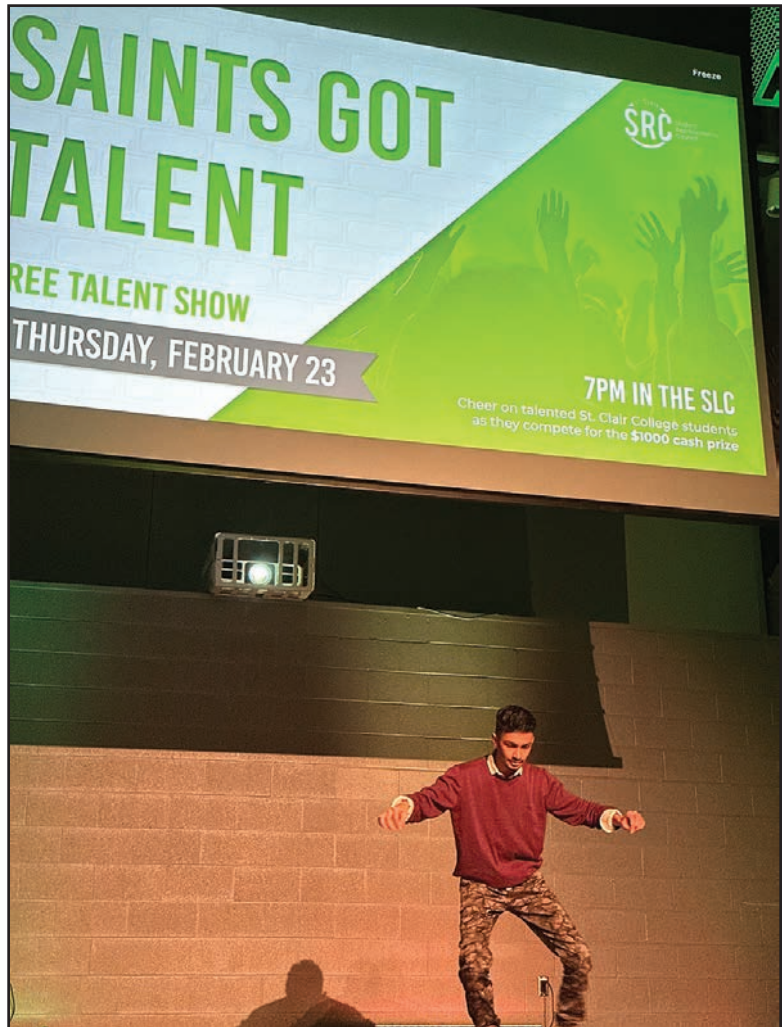
Students from both schools worked together to create this sidewalk chalk drawing at the front entrance of the college's South Campus.

WE-Spark is a collaboration between St. Clair College, the University of Windsor, Windsor Regional Hospital and Hotel Dieu Grace Hospital.





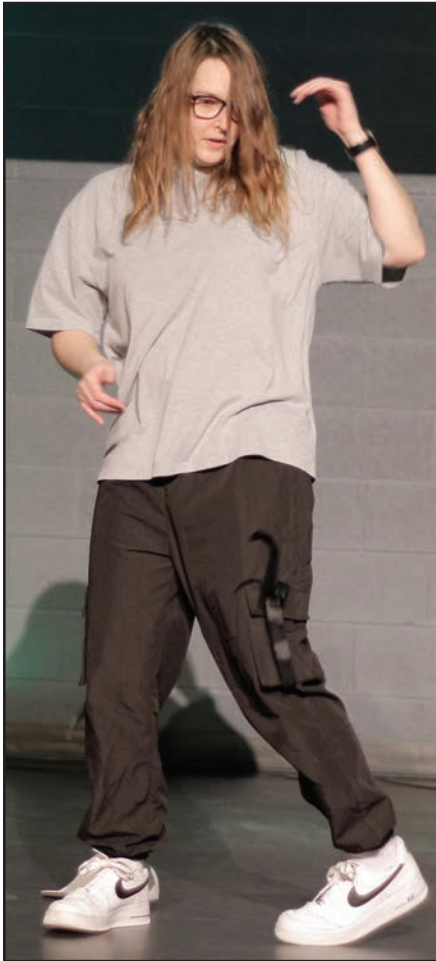
# Show proves that Saints Got Talent



## From The Saint Scene

Dancers, singers, guitarists, rappers ... the name of the evening staged in the Student Life Centre by the Student Representative Council on February 23rd couldn't have been more accurate: "Saints Got Talent".







# WEST women wow campus visitors



## WEST Contributed by the College's Administration

Participants of the first Electrical Pre-Apprenticeships Program for Women were celebrated in mid-2022 at St. Clair for achieving their training goals.

The Electrical Pre-Apprenticeship Program for Women is led by Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor, Inc. (WEST), in partnership with St. Clair College.

This program provides free tuition and paid placements to help women develop technical skills and gain employment in the skilled trades sector.

Students acquire skills and tools to learn the use of machinery essential to their ten-week work placement and

long-term career aspirations to become electrical apprentices.

St. Clair College President Dr. Patti France, Unifor Local 444 President Dave Cassidy, WEST Executive Director Rose Anguiano Hurst and WEST Board President Nadine Manroe Wakerell were all in attendance to congratulate the participants of the program.

This intake of students included newcomers and racialized and LGBTQ women, who were applauded for taking steps to explore careers in the skilled trades to meet the evolving labour market's needs and skills shortage.

"Few of our partnerships and experiences with students have been as inspiring as our long-standing involvement with





WEST,” said France. “There are many positive elements to our relationship with the organization and these students: women in non-traditional STEM fields, their post-graduation success in the employment market, and the life-changing difference their educations have made for them and their families.”

The Electrical Pre-Apprenticeship Program for Women is funded by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development under the Skills Development Fund. A six-session series of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) training is also provided to employers and journeypersons to create more inclusive workplace settings and better future retention of women in a traditionally male-dominated workforce.

Monte McNaughton, the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training, and Skills Development, sent a congratulatory message to the participants, and spoke highly of their completed training. “When you are an electrician, you have an in-demand job for life,” he wrote. “This great program is opening doors for women, helping them begin rewarding careers in the skilled trades so they can earn bigger pay cheques for themselves and their families.”

Since 1987, WEST has provided 50,000 women in Windsor-Essex with support and programs to aid them in securing employment and enhancing their skills, along with providing newcomer and immigrant women with services designed to help them adapt and integrate into Canadian culture and their new community.

To learn more about its programs, services or future workshops and events, visit [www.westofwindsor.com](http://www.westofwindsor.com).

#### AND ...

Also in mid-2022, two Members of Parliament recently



paid a visit to students of the first Electrical Pre-Apprenticeship program for Women.

Ahmed Hussein, federal Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Youth of Canada, as well as Irek Kusmierczyk, Member of Parliament for Windsor-Tecumseh and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Employment, Workplace Development and Disability Inclusion visited the college.

They toured the campus and finished their visit at the Centre for Construction Innovation and Production to congratulate and celebrate with participants of the program.

Earlier in the day, Hussein and Kusmierczyk had announced a \$90 million contribution from the federal government towards a \$170 million investment to repair 4,700 community homes in Windsor-Essex.

Hussein said that a program such as WEST’s Electrical Pre-Apprenticeship for Women is “extremely important” toward filling jobs in the significant skilled labour shortage in Canada in order to carry out housing projects of this nature. “We need more people to join the skilled trades, particularly

under-represented groups,” he said, noting the 1.03 million unfulfilled skilled trade jobs in Canada. “There is such a high demand for new people to join the skilled trades, and programs like WEST’s are crucial for us to be able to build more housing and infrastructure in Canada. We have a target of doubling the number of new homes built in Canada in the next ten years, but we can’t do that without having more people in the skilled trades and building trades.”





# Nursing retains link with UofW

## From The Saint Scene

St. Clair will remain partnered with the University of Windsor to train nurses, and Chatham-based Nursing students will be able to remain in that community throughout their four-years-long program.

A report from President Patti France and Senior Vice-President Waseem Habash explained the situation to the college's Board of Governors during its May 2022 meeting:

(For many years, the report explained) St. Clair College, (Sarnia's) Lambton College and the University of Windsor have had a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the delivery of a four-year Bachelor of Science Degree, Nursing (BScN).

Students may attend St. Clair College in the first two years (four semesters) of the program, and then transfer to the University of Windsor for the subsequent three semesters. In semester eight, students have the option of returning to the college or remaining at the University of Windsor to complete their studies.

Currently, St. Clair accepts 200 students in the first year of the BScN program, including 140 students at the Windsor Campus and 60 students at the Chatham Campus.

In 2020, the Ministry of Colleges and Universities announced that all 24 publicly funded colleges in Ontario may develop and deliver their own Nursing degree (rather than the collaborative pairings with universities) ... The objective of the decision is to allow students who live in remote parts of the province the opportunity to complete all four years of study at their home institution and potentially remain in their hometown for employment in response to the shortage of nurses outside of large urban areas.

In 2021, Lambton College opted to withdraw from the collaborative partnership with University of Windsor and St. Clair College, to offer their own four-year degree. This opportunity would allow their students to stay in the Sarnia region for years three and four and, potentially, remain in the region for employment upon graduation.

St. Clair College opted to continue the collaboration with University of Windsor, and worked towards finding opportunities for students enrolled at the Chatham campus: to have the option of staying in Chatham for years three and four of their studies. The College administration felt this was a better option for the Windsor-Essex community, while also supporting students enrolled at the Chatham Campus.

In lieu of developing (its own, stand-alone) four-year BScN degree, the college administration reached out to colleagues at the University of Windsor to explore the opportunity to deliver all four years of the university credential at the Chatham Campus. The University of Windsor agreed that the potential to deliver the program at the Chatham Campus is a viable option to maintain the existing partnership, and to support students' need to not travel.

Both schools' teams have agreed to a pilot program to commence in Fall 2022, that would allow students enrolled at the Chatham Campus to choose to complete the lab and clinical program components in Chatham. Theory courses will be delivered by University of Windsor faculty via hy-flex (in-person with live-stream option) where possible.

Long-term, the plan is to conduct third- and fourth-year labs in Chatham, and offer all theory courses via hy-flex delivery. The objective is to reach 50 percent of courses by 2023, and the remaining 50 percent by 2024.



## HISTORIC MEETING

The May 24, 2022 meeting of the college's Board of Governors was something of a milestone. For those keeping track (and the Board's secretaries have been, since the college's founding in 1967), this was the 500th official meeting of the Governors in St. Clair's half-century-long history.

This special event was marked with a cake for the Governors and other meeting-goers ... but no one was asked to blow out 500 candles.



# Robotics lab enlarged and enhanced

**Contributed by the  
College's Administration**

A \$2.2 million expansion of St. Clair's robotics lab coincided with adding an extra year of study for Electromechanical Engineering Technology - Robotics students in the fall semester of 2022.

Lido Zuccato, Dean of the School of Engineering, Apprenticeship and Skilled Trades, said that after multiple years of planning, the college had expanded its robotics lab, increasing its square footage by over 30 percent.

"This expansion increases the number of students we can teach, and it also increases what we can teach them," Zuccato said. "We weren't teaching welding before, but now that we've made this investment, we can teach it. That's some-

"The interest in the program and the excitement of where this industry is heading with automation, automobility, electrification has contributed to this expansion. Enrolment is strong, the need is there, and industry is in demand, so we're trying to supply education to support the industry," Zuccato said. "From a robotics standpoint, I think we will have the best program in Ontario. I don't think there is any other facility that is going to have what we have. Other colleges have robotics, but when you come through the Ford Centre for Excellence in Manufacturing, you're in an industrial environment. It replicates what's out in the industry. I think it will attract a lot of students."

With the addition of the third year of study in the Electromechanical Engineering Technology - Robotics pro-



thing that we didn't have before, and it's a humungous need in the industry right now."

Zuccato said the expansion began in 2021 when the college added four new Vision Robots - designed to explore and understand work autonomously in complex environments - to give the St. Clair robotics lab a total of 12. The college also added six ABB robot stations to the lab to increase their capacity to 12, while installing 12 new welding cells and revamping the existing welding cells as part of the multi-million-dollar expansion.

Zuccato said the increased interest in the Robotics program and the direction of industry towards vehicle electrification had fueled the need to expand the lab. He believes this \$2.2 million expansion will set St. Clair's Robotics program on a level unmatched by other colleges in Ontario.

gram, students will now be able to earn an Advanced Diploma from the college, which Zuccato believes will give them an advantage over other candidates when securing a job.

"It will give our students a leg-up on the competition. They are learning another full discipline - they're learning how to weld. They're going to be coming out of school with that knowledge. They will know the basics, understand where to start, and be miles ahead of anybody else," Zuccato said. "This is something we have been dreaming of for a long time. For as long as I've been here, we've been talking about expanding the lab, implementing the third year, and implementing the welding. It's just now coming to fruition. It's unbelievable: investing this much money into a single program is a huge project, but it is a program of strength for the college."



# Research grants for social issues



## Contributed from the College's Administration

In November, St. Clair College received \$720,000 in social innovation research grants to tackle youth homelessness and school nutrition in Windsor-Essex.

The first two projects focus on youth experiencing homelessness, partnering with Family Services Windsor-Essex (FSWE).

Lead Researcher Dr. Kyle Jackson, Professor in the college's Honours Bachelor of Applied Arts in Social Justice and Legal Studies program, explained that the research will develop better methods to make contact with and estimate this hard-to-reach population. It will also conduct in-depth interviews with youth experiencing homelessness, aimed at better understanding their lived experiences. "Ultimately, this will enable us to develop unique programming to prevent homelessness before it begins in the first place," said Jackson.

College faculty and student researchers are utilizing a new sampling method and interviews to gather data on youth experiencing homelessness to assist FSWE in improving and developing local preventative programming that will impact our community.

The agency says that providing evidence-based research is critical in ensuring their agency offers impactful programming. "Our agency is excited to partner with St. Clair College on this research, and to involve student researchers in this work," said FSWE Executive Director Joyce Zuk.

The research team includes Dr. Kyle Jackson, Elizabeth

Strutt-MacLeod (Coordinator of the Social Justice and Legal Studies degree at St. Clair College), and Colleen Mitchell.

The second project, focusing on school nutrition, involves three partners: the Ontario Student Nutrition Program Southwest Region (locally run by the Victoria Order of Nurses); AgScape, which provides food literacy programs and resources to students; and ProsperUs.

The project will see researchers co-develop and evaluate the impact of a universal school nutrition program in target neighbourhoods.

"We see this project as part of a bigger initiative happening across the province that promotes health and a universal program across Canada. We are seeking to capitalize on the excellent work already being done in our area, and the agriculture resources that we have to offer, to really make our area a model for other communities," said the project's Lead Researcher, Dr. Kathryn Markham-Petro.

According to Danielle Findlay, Supervisor of Community Relations with the Ontario Student Nutrition Program (OSNP), "It's fantastic timing for this project. The federal government has just launched consultations on a pan-Canadian school food policy, and we hope to have an opportunity to showcase this model. We are excited to be a part of this multi-sectoral collaboration, and we look forward to the positive outcomes the integration of food literacy and increased local product will bring to existing programming."

The research team includes Dr. Kathryn Markham-Petro,



Alexandra Frabotta, and Annamaria Lopez.

“We are all so excited about these projects for many reasons. These grants will involve several student researchers throughout the project lifecycles - predominately those from St. Clair College’s School of Community Studies - getting them involved with our community and giving them invaluable, practical experience. Plus, these projects are going to have real, tangible benefits that will directly impact the health and well-being of our most vulnerable,” said St. Clair Manager of Research and Innovation Beckie Berlasty.

School of Community Studies Chair Dr. Stephanie DeFranceschi shared this excitement: “Just as our School name indicates, we are all about serving the needs of our community, especially the vulnerable sector. With the School of Community Studies at the research table, this allows us to continue to follow St. Clair College’s mission of transforming lives and strengthening our community.”

“One of the unique qualities of these Research and Innovation projects is the partnerships involved. In combination with St. Clair College, local agencies tackle community-level challenges head-on. One of those integral partnerships is with the WE-SPARK Health Institute. Grants such as these have opened doors for student-conferencing opportunities, and we’ve leveraged a number of WE-SPARK grants to pursue national funding. It is amazing to see what our community can achieve when working in unison,” said Berlasty.

“Institutionally, research and development often involve engineering and manufacturing advancements, and that’s exciting. But work in the social sciences – on matters that truly affect the quality of life of members of our community – may be the most important and rewarding work done by our faculty and students,” said St. Clair College President Patti France. “If this research can help alleviate these youth-related issues, it will be a tribute to both our work and to WE-SPARK’s foresight.”

The two research grants were awarded \$360,000 each over three years, and funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada’s College and Community Social Innovation Fund.

#### **PARTNERS**

Family Services Windsor-Essex (FSWE) is a multi-service, not-for-profit, charitable community agency, providing services throughout Windsor and Essex County. The agency’s mandate includes basic needs and overall wellness. FSWE is the lead agency responding to homelessness in Windsor-Essex. The agency’s program includes homelessness outreach, housing acquisition, and ongoing support to maintain housing. The organization offers mental health counselling, and financial management supports to help people build

resiliency.

The Ontario Student Nutrition Program – Southwest Region (OSNP-SW) administers funding and provides program support to over 480 schools across Southwestern Ontario. 95 of the schools supported by OSNP are in Windsor and Essex County. OSNP-Southwest is a program housed within the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON), Windsor-Essex site. VON is one of 14 Lead Agencies, part of the provincial Student Nutrition Ontario (SNO) that administers provincial grant funds to support the development and implementation of healthy breakfasts, snacks, and, at times, lunch programs across the province. OSNP invests in evidence-based research on health and academic outcomes associated with programs, builds and cultivates strong relationships between school programs and community partners, and supports local food procurement strategies.

ProsperUs is a collective impact partnership comprised of non-profit, government, health-care, education, labour, business, and inspired community members, including parents



and youth. These partners have a shared vision of a prosperous Windsor-Essex County where all children and youth have the support they need to succeed – from Cradle to Career. The Cradle to Career approach is a proven strategy that focuses on systems change to ensure young people have wrap-around support from birth until they enter the workforce. The work is focused on priority neighbourhoods in Windsor and Essex County, where data suggest that young people face the greatest barriers to long-term success, including Downtown Windsor, West Windsor and Leamington. United Way/Centraide Windsor-Essex County is the backbone organization for ProsperUs, guiding the work of convening, facilitating, and supporting community partners to drive results.

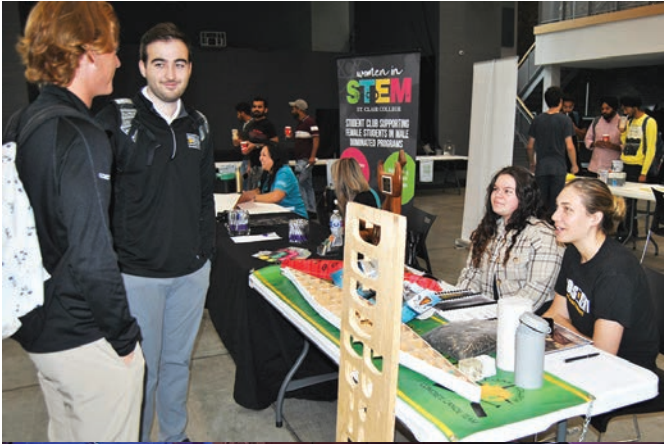
AgScape is a charitable organization focused on bringing agriculture and food education to Ontario educators and students. AgScape’s engaging programs and resources expand students’ understanding of the modern food system to help them make informed decisions about the foods they eat, their choices, and the vast career opportunities available to them.

WE-SPARK Health Institute is a partnership supported by Erie Shores HealthCare, Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, St. Clair College, the University of Windsor and Windsor Regional Hospital. It is designed to take healthcare to the next level through research.











# High schoolers get a jump on ArchTech education

**Contributed by the College's Administration and the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board**

Catholic high school students interested in pursuing careers related to the fascinating field of technical design will have greater access to postsecondary opportunities well before they graduate, now that a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed with St. Clair College.

The three-year MOU, signed by the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board (WECDSB) and the Architectural Technology program at the college in mid-October, strengthens the partnership between the two institutions and ensures that they will participate in:

- Mentoring of students interested in the field of Architectural Technology;
- Exchange of faculty and scholars as guest speakers;
- Exchange of materials, publications, and information;
- Joint organization of seminars, workshops, studios, and conferences;
- Development of opportunities for student growth and participation in joint educational field trips and or projects.

The MOU was signed at St. Joseph Catholic High School by Emelda Byrne, Director of Education for the WECDSB, and Michael Silvaggi, Vice President, Academic and Registrar of the college.

Although the MOU is focused on architectural design, the experiential learning it will provide for WECDSB students will give them valuable experience and insight into other

design-related careers, including everything from graphic design, construction, engineering, manufacturing and computer-aided design.

"This partnership will broaden horizons by providing some wonderful new opportunities for our students," said Byrne. "It will help them explore a variety of potential career pathways by meeting faculty members, postsecondary students currently studying design, and by visiting potential employers in the field."

Silvaggi said:

"Off the top of my head, I can't think of a St. Clair program that more fully combines artistic sensibility with practical skill than Architectural Technology. Those studying and working in this field really must have a vision – and I mean that literally: from the outset, they must have a snapshot in their mind of the structure and beauty of a project. And they must be able to couple that with the ability to translate that vision, step by step and phase by phase, into bricks-and-mortar reality by actually overseeing its assembly."

"As students explore this field in general, they'll also have the chance to learn about the special and specific disciplines and academic programs that may lead them into careers that they hadn't considered before: construction or civil engineering, building project management, interior design, CAD/CAM; and maybe even the hands-on, nuts-and-bolts of creating a building in the form of the skilled trades of carpentry and framing, electrical system installation, heating and ventilation, and plumbing.

"So, it is not sufficient to suggest that this is solely a Memorandum of Understanding to develop a partnership between the school board and St. Clair's Architectural Technology program. From our perspective, we fully expect to show participating students a range of educational and career opportunities in dozens of fields – all of them rewarding, lucrative and in-demand, involving opportunities that that will benefit our community for decades to come, as we build housing, factories, businesses, hospitals and public amenities, and maybe new schools and college facilities too."







## POLE PEOPLE

Photos by Mark Benoit

The most photogenic (and acrophobic) event every spring at the Chatham campus: the skill-testing Rodeo for Powerline Technician students.





# “Tooth talk” with federal NDP leader



## From The Saint Scene

Federal NDP leader Jagmeet Singh – who spent part of his childhood in Windsor, including bike-riding and tobogganing at St. Clair's hilly amphitheatre (now the site of the school's Quittenton Hall residence) – returned to the city on April 11th to discuss the new dental care program for low-income Canadians.

Appropriately, he spent a portion of that visit at St. Clair, meeting with college officials and touring the dental clinic of the Toldo Centre for Applied Health Sciences.

Singh also held an extensive discussion with Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene faculty and students, because the new federal program relies upon the work of such professionals, to foster preventative oral care.

Given the minority status of the Liberal government, it was the NDP that spurred the initiative to launch the dental care program.

Joining Singh during his visit to campus were local NDP MP Brian Masse and NDP MPP Lisa Gretzky (who, coincidentally, graduated from St. Clair's dental program).

For more information about the new federal dental care plan, see <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2022/09/making-dental-care-more-affordable-the-canada-dental-benefit.html>







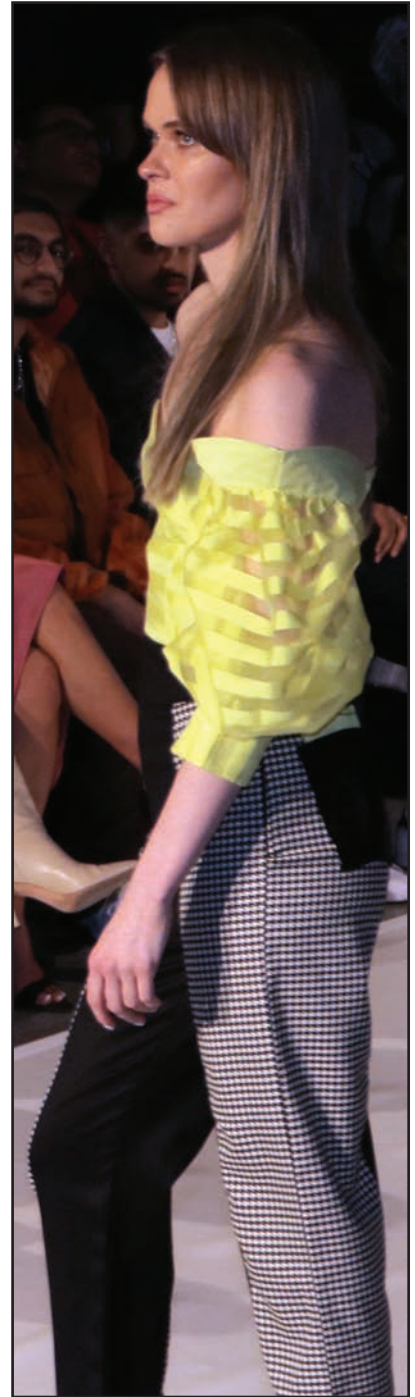
## FORMAL FUN

One of the most popular events of the entire year was one that the Student Representative Council had never staged before – a formal dinner party and dance, entitled the Moulin Rouge Prom Rewind. Several hundred appreciative students turned out to the Centre for the Arts on April 6 for the event, enjoying a great meal, photo booths, DJ-ed music for dancing, and a special drag queen guest appearance.





# Passion for Fashion in Atelier Show



The Student Life Centre took on the appearance and function of a Paris showroom on the evening of April 22nd, as the college's Fashion Design Technician program staged its annual year-end runway exhibition, featuring the astounding creativity of both first-year and graduating-year students.











2022-23

GRADS

CLASSES

ST. CLAIR  
COLLEGE

# What it all means

There is absolutely no truth to the rumour that St. Clair is the patron saint of “people standing in long lines, for long durations, waiting to pay for books that half of them will never read”.

Instead, a booklet published in 1992-93 to mark the campus’ 25th anniversary provides an accurate explanation of the college’s name and its symbol, the mythological Griffin:

Our story begins with the Norman invasion of England in 1066. The St. Claire family of Normandy was part of the offensive of William the Conqueror. For their victorious service, the St. Claires were given land in Scotland, and the Chief of the Clan was named the Earl of Caithness. As the years passed, the family name eventually evolved into “Sinclair”. The shield of the clan still bears the rampant Griffin that rode into England almost a thousand years ago.

Moving on to slightly more recent history, we find ourselves on the deck of a sailing ship owned by the Sieur de La Salle. This is the first ship to ply the Great Lakes above Niagara Falls.

The date is August 12, 1679. The ship breaks out of the Detroit River into a magnificent lake. The warm waters of the lake had never witnessed such a sight as this ship, with its mighty carved figurehead of a Griffin on the prow. The expedition’s spiritual leader, Father Hennepin, names this new lake “St. Claire”, as today is the feast-day of the 13th century St. Claire of Assisi ...

... When the Lord Lyon King of Arms, the arbiter of Scottish heraldry, was asked in 1968 to design a crest and armorial bearings for the fledgling college, he settled naturally on the Griffin as the centrepiece of the crest.

The green, white and gold herald features a rose flanked by two cog-wheels at the top, a snarling Griffin, and the Latin motto “Optimum Elige” - “Choose the best”.

The rose refers to Windsor’s title as “The Rose City”, while the cog-wheels represent the area’s industrial nature.

The Liripipe that you receive at Convocation - the shoulder-draping, scarf-like thing that makes it all official - also has a bunch of symbolic overtones.

It is presented to signify acceptance into the community of St. Clair graduates.

The Liripipe is a band of green velvet, edged with gold braid, with four tassels representing the four major areas in the St. Clair community: Essex and Kent Counties, and the Cities of Windsor and Chatham.

The Liripipe, a modification of the university hood, originated in 15th century Europe in the age of the great artists, scholars and explorers of the Renaissance.

Today, it symbolizes recognition of an individual who has prepared him/herself to assume a responsible and creative role in the community ... That’s you.





**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Just because students are depicted here does not mean that they actually and ultimately graduated. Class photos were taken throughout the year because this publication had to be assembled before the official conclusion of the 2022-23 academic year – before formal eligibility to graduate was actually confirmed by the students' final grades (as allocated by faculty, and confirmed by the Registrar's Office).

There are a number of reasons for why certain programs/classes might be absent, among them: (a) the students were on year-long work/clinical placements and (thus) were not available, and (b) faculty members did not respond to the monthly invitations which were extended to them to arrange for a photo session with their class.

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# Architectural Technology



# Autism and Behavioural Science





# Biomedical Engineering Technology – Equipment and Devices



## Border Services





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# Business – Marketing





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## Business Administration – Information Communication Technology (Honours Bachelor)





# Business Administration – Marketing



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# Cardiovascular Technology



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# Chemical Laboratory Technology



## Child and Youth Care





# Civil Engineering Technology





# Community Integration Through Cooperative Education





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# Early Childhood Education – Concurrent (with UofW B.A./B.Ed.)





# Educational Support



# Electrical Techniques





# Electromechanical Engineering Technology – Robotics



## Esports Administration and Entrepreneurship





# Esthetician



# Event Management





# Fashion Design Technician



# Fitness and Health Promotion





# Graphic Design





# Hairstyling



# Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Technician





# Hospitality – Hotel and Restaurant



## Human Resources Management





# Interior Design

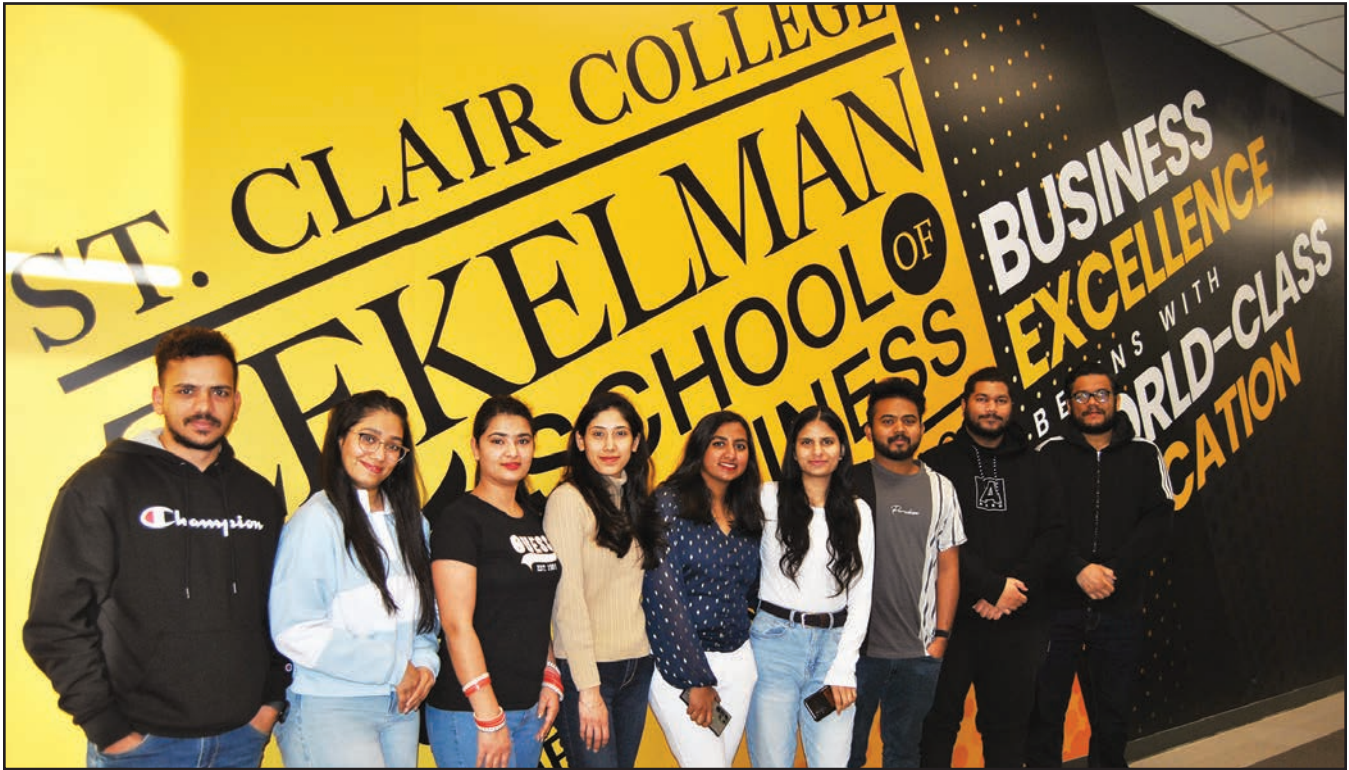


# International Business Management – Logistic Systems





# International Business Management – Logistic Systems





# International Business Management – Logistic Systems





# Journalism



# Landscape Horticulture





# Liberal Arts



# Mechanical Engineering Technician– Industrial





# Mechanical Engineering Technician– Industrial





# Mechanical Engineering Technology – Automotive Product Design



## Mechanical Technician – CAD/CAM





# Media Convergence



## Medical Laboratory Science





# Medical Laboratory Technician



# Mobile Applications Development





# Motive Power Technician



A flyer for SyBridge Technologies. At the top left is the SyBridge Technologies logo, which includes a stylized bridge icon and the company name. To the right of the logo is a circular inset image showing a man working on a piece of electronic equipment. Below the logo, the text "CAREER OPPORTUNITIES" is written in large, bold, capital letters. Underneath that, in smaller text, it says "Bridging Design, Manufacturing &amp; Technology". On the right side, there is a list of career opportunities, each preceded by a checkmark icon: Apprenticeships, Engineering, Machinists, 3D Printing, and Injection Molding. At the bottom right, the text "APPLY TODAY" is written in bold. Below that, there are two lines of contact information: a website URL "sybridgetech.com/careers" and an email address "careers@sybridgetech.com". On the bottom left, there is another circular inset image showing a man working at a computer.



# Music Theatre Performance





# Office Administration – Executive





# Office Administration – General





# Office Administration – Health Services





# Paralegal



## Paralegal – Accelerated





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# Pharmacy Technician

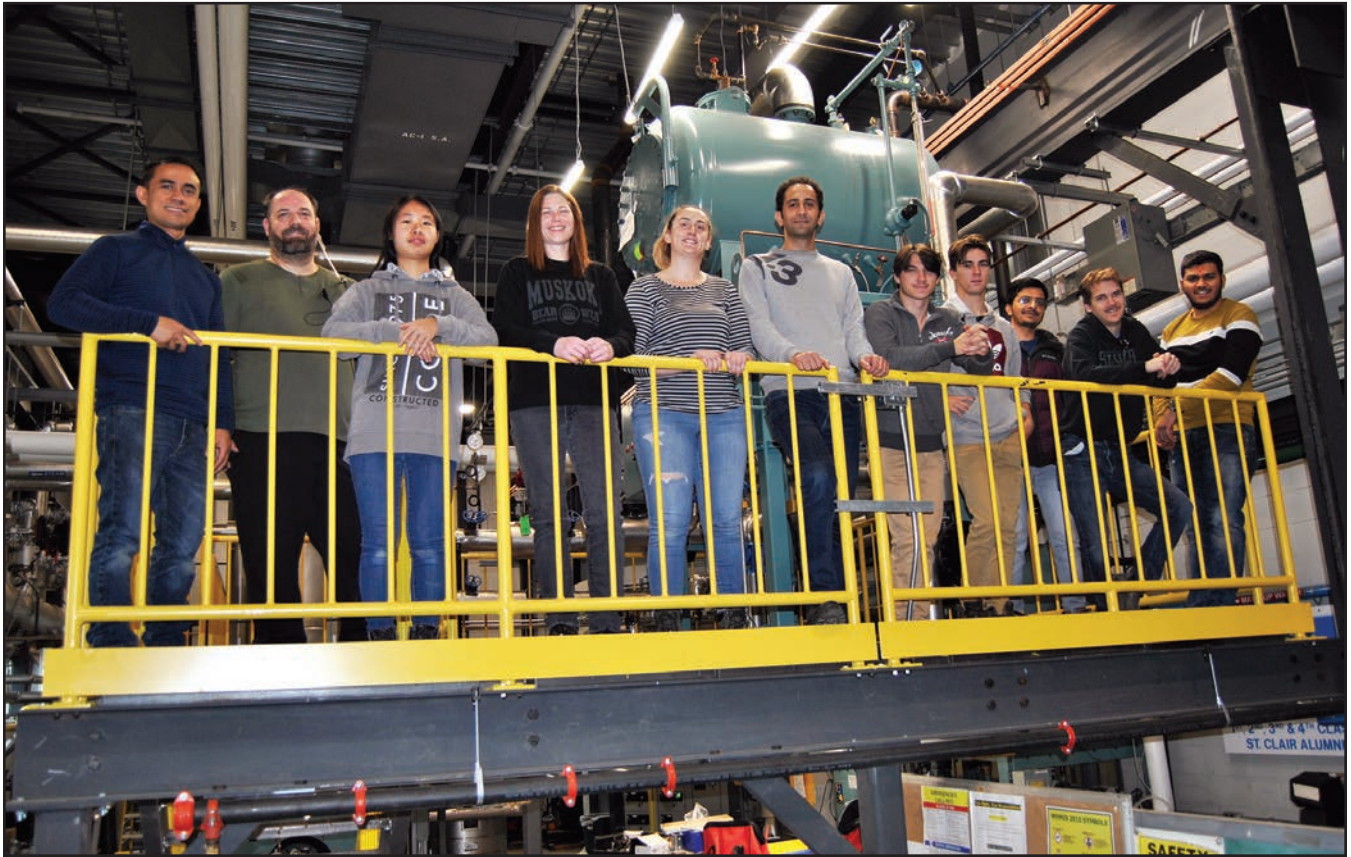


# Police Foundations





# Power Engineering Technician



# Power Engineering Technology





# Practical Nursing



# Pre-Service Firefighter Education and Training





# Protection, Security and Investigation



## Public Relations





# Social Justice and Legal Studies (Honours Bachelor of Applied Arts)



## Social Service Worker – Gerontology





# Sport and Recreation Management



## Tourism – Travel





# Veterinary Technician



# Web Development and Internet Applications





# Web Development and Internet Applications



# Woodworking Technician





# Chatham: Border Services



# Chatham: Business





# Chatham: Business – Accounting



# Chatham: Child and Youth Care





# Chatham: Developmental Services Worker



# Chatham: Early Childhood Education





# Chatham: Electrical Engineering Technician



## Chatham: Electrical Techniques





# Chatham: Occupational Therapist Assistant/Physiotherapist Assistant



## Chatham: Office Administration – Health Services





# Chatham: Paramedic



# Chatham: Personal Support Worker

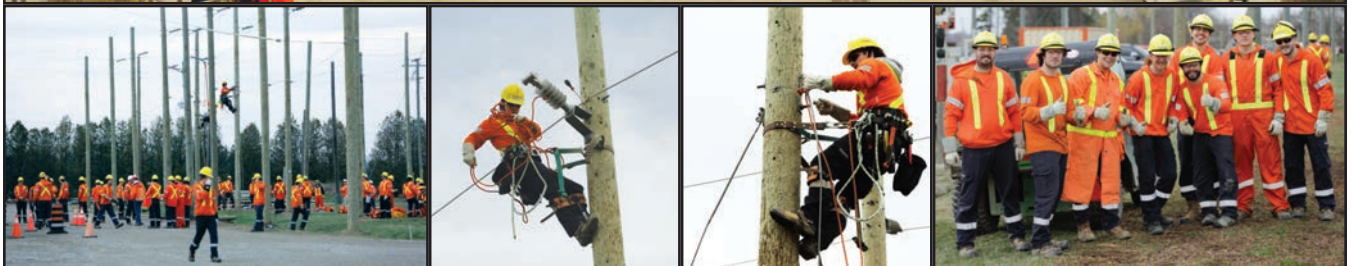




# Chatham: Police Foundations



# Chatham: Powerline Technician





# Chatham: Practical Nursing



# Ace Acumen Academy: Computer Systems Technician – Networking





# Ace Acumen Academy: Data Analytics for Business





# Ace Acumen Academy: International Business Management – Logistic Systems





# Ace Acumen Academy: Office Administration – Health Services



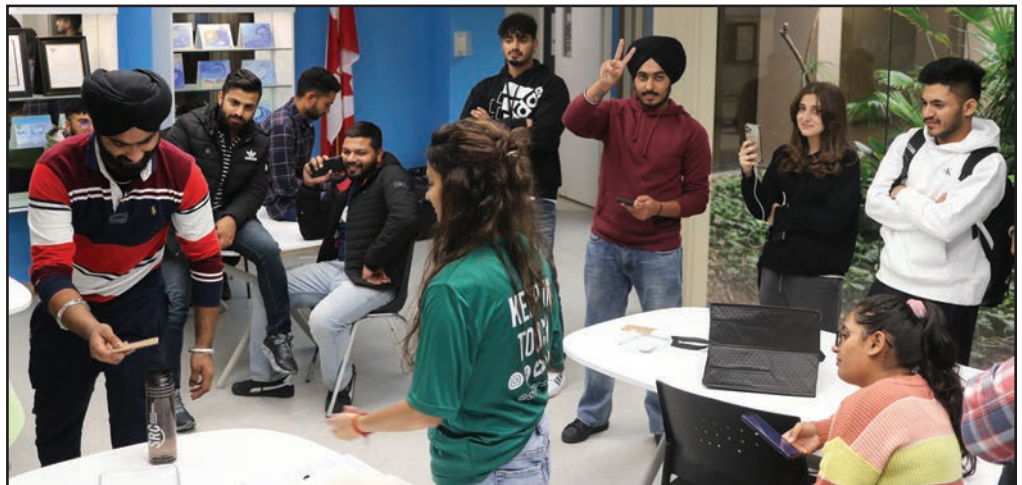


# Ace Acumen Academy: Office Administration – Health Services





# Ace Acumen Academy: Social Service Worker – Gerontology







# Varsity teams

## Cross-country Running





# Golf



## Cricket

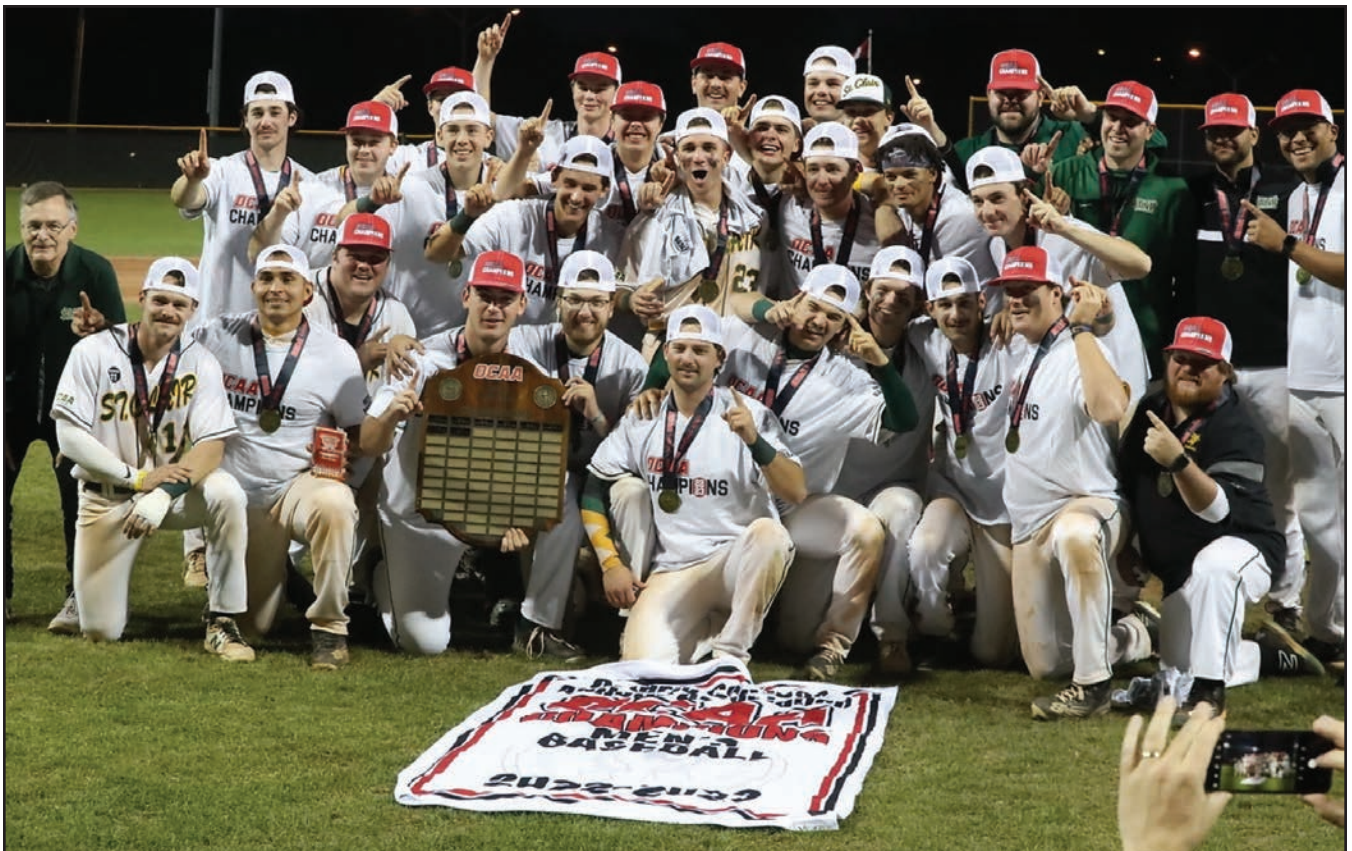




# Football

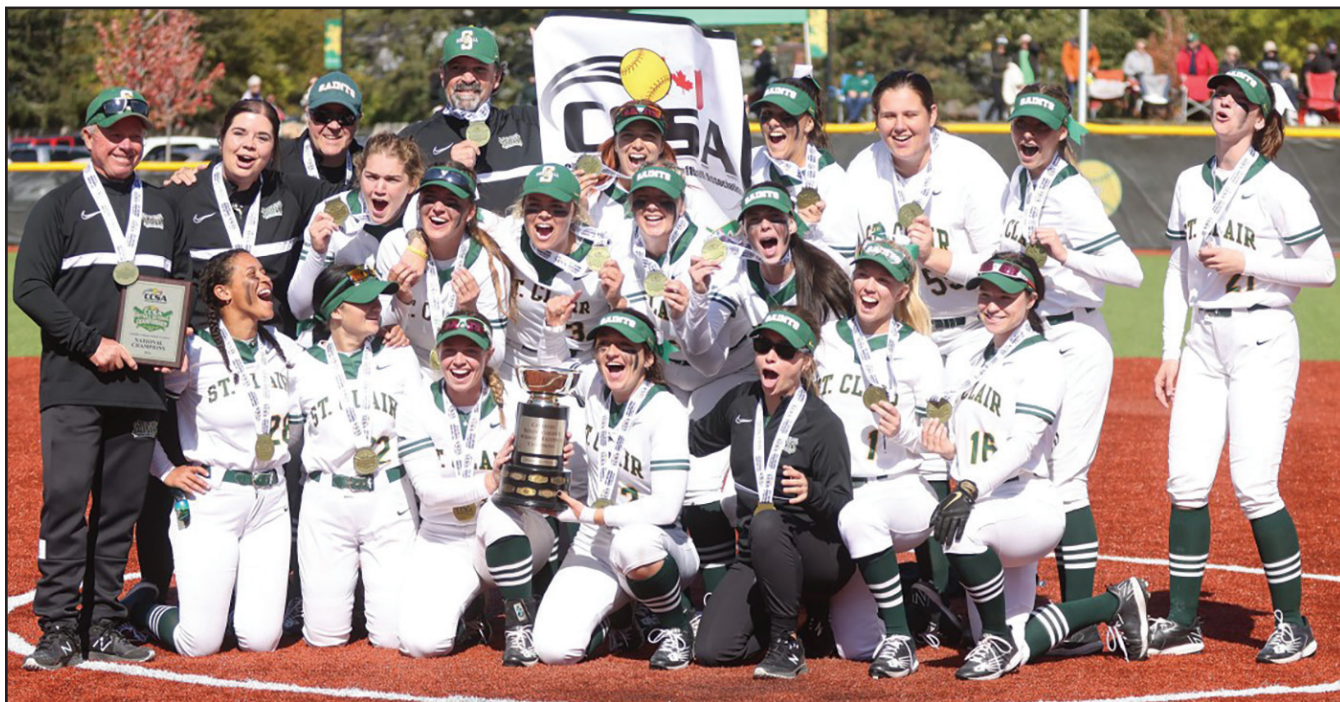


# Baseball





# Softball





# Men's Soccer



# Women's Soccer





# Men's Basketball



# Women's Basketball





# Women's Volleyball



# Men's Volleyball





# Men's Indoor Soccer



# Women's Indoor Soccer





# Saints Student Athletic Association Board of Directors





# A triple-golden day of sports

**Contributed by the College's Administration**

Saturday, October 22 was a golden day in St. Clair history, when three provincial athletic championships were captured.

## MEN'S BASEBALL

St. Clair came away with an improbable OCAA Men's Baseball Championship gold medal at Tecumseh's Lacasse Park, when they won three games on the final day. With a loss on their record in the double-knockout format, the Saints needed to work themselves back into the gold medal round by knocking off Fanshawe College (London). They won 10-9, which handed the Falcons a bronze medal. Humber College (Etobicoke) was undefeated and awaited St. Clair in the afternoon, who would have to beat Humber twice for the Saints to keep the title for a second year. The Saints did just that, with an 11-6 win, before completing their championship run with a 10-4 victory.

This is St. Clair's seventh gold medal in the nine-year existence of OCAA baseball. The Saints retained the championship plaque after winning gold in 2021.

## WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

The women's softball team finished the 2022 season with a perfect record, and won the OCAA gold medal by a score of 4-0 over Durham College (Oshawa) at the provincial championship tournament hosted at Fanshawe College in London. The team became only the fourth Saints

varsity team to achieve an undefeated campaign, amassing a 34-0 record that includes exhibition play along with provincial and national playoff contests. Previously, St. Clair's

men's hockey (1975-76), men's baseball (2015) and men's cross-country (2018) teams had achieved unbeaten regular seasons through a playoff championship run.

## FOOTBALL

The St. Clair Saints were awarded the Teddy Morris Trophy for winning the Ontario Football Conference Championship. A convincing 38-7 win over rival London Beefeaters will lead the Saints to take on the Okanagan Sun in the CJFL Semi-Final.

On a historic day for St. Clair Athletics, the football program was the last piece of the puzzle for Saints Nation. In front of a capacity crowd at Acumen Stadium, the Saints got the ball rolling early with a long drive, capped off by a quarterback sneak for a touchdown by Andrew Brush, giving the Saints the early 7-0 lead. The defence strung another dominant performance, holding the Beefeaters under 200 yards for the game. The Saints were led by linebacker Nikolas Mahlman, who registered six solo

tackles and a sack. The Saints rushing performance was one to remember, as the team compiled 400 yards rushing on 45 carries. As the clock went to zero, the scoreboard read 38-7, crowning the Saints the OFC Champions.





# Athletic Awards went to ...

**MASON MACDONALD MALE AND FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR:** The athlete of the year is awarded to the graduating male and female student-athletes who have displayed outstanding athletic abilities while maintaining exemplary academic performance and school involvement during their years at St. Clair. The trophy was donated by and named for Mason MacDonald, former Athletic Director of the Western Ontario Institute of Technology, the predecessor of St. Clair College.

Female Winner: Chantal DeVlugt, volleyball; Male Winner: Jalen Harmon, basketball

**AL HOFFMAN ATHLETE OF THE YEAR FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:** This award recognizes intercollegiate athletes who perform at a high level of athletic excellence combined with sound scholastic achievement; who have excelled in athletic competition at the college, regional, provincial and/or national levels; whose efforts have contributed to the success, competitiveness, enhancement and overall quality of their respective sport. This award is named after former Athletic Director Al Hoffman who was inducted into the OCAA, CCAA and Windsor Essex County Sports Halls of Fame.

Female Winner: Bryanna Kressler, softball and basketball; Male Winner: Shakael Pryce, basketball

**INTER-COLLEGIATE COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD:** The Inter-Collegiate Coach of the Year Award is presented to the St. Clair varsity head coach whose teams exemplify a high level of performance, sportsmanship, dedication and leadership. This coach will stress the values of athletic participation in an educational setting, and will assist in the improvement of athletic skills as well as life skills. This coach will provide leadership as a role model to their team members and St. Clair College. This award is named after former hockey coach Gerald Serviss, who

led his teams to three provincial championships and one national championship in seven seasons. He was inducted into the OCAA Hall of Fame in 2005.

Winner: Doug Wiseman, women's softball (also OCAA Coach of the Year, across all provincial sports)

**JOHN ALBERT STRASSER COACHES AWARD:** Awarded annually to the varsity coach whose team achieves success athletically while making significant contributions to the community.

Winner: Kevin Corriveau, golf

**EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARD (IN HONOUR OF JACK COSTELLO):** Introduced in 2005-2006, the Exceptional Service Award is presented to an individual for his/her outstanding dedication and commitment to the Department of Athletics and Recreation. This award recognizes those who have gone above and beyond his/her regular duties over the past season. This award is named in honour of former hockey coach, Athletic Director and OCAA Hall of Fame Member Jack Costello.

Winner: Stephen Carter

**FAIR PLAY AND SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD (IN HONOUR OF BOB WEEPERS):** Introduced in 1995-96, this award recognizes student-athletes who reflect the true spirit of sport through their exemplary commitment to sportsmanship, fair play and teamwork. This award is named in honour of Bob Weepers, long-time Athletic Coordinator, for his commitment and contributions to the athletic programs of St. Clair.

Female Winner: Mya Palumbo, cross-country running; Male Winner: Jared Hayes-Williams, football

**ST. CLAIR TEAM ACADEMIC AWARDS:** Established in 2004, this award recognizes St. Clair varsity teams for academic achievement. It is awarded to teams who attain the highest Grade Point Average among all team members in the fall semester. This award is

named in honour of Don Hogan, former St. Clair faculty member and Coordinator of the General Arts and Science program.

Winner: Women's Volleyball, team 3.43 GPA

**CCAA ACADEMIC ALL-CANADIAN AWARD:** The CCAA Academic All-Canadian award is the CCAA's most prestigious student-athlete honour, epitomizing commitment to academic success and athletic achievement.

Recipients: Athena Dimario Done, Alec Habash, Jaclyn French (women's soccer); Kiana Huggins, Chantal DeVlugt (women's volleyball); Alyssa Lucier, Shae-Lyn Murphy (women's basketball); Mya Palumbo, Rick Nepomuceno (cross-country running); Shakael Pryce (men's basketball)

**OCAA ACADEMIC AND ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE AWARD:** The OCAA Academic and Athletic Excellence Award is a very prestigious honour given to student-athletes in a non-CCAA sport which combines scholastic and provincial conference accolades. Recipients must have been awarded an OCAA First or Second Team All-Star, Player of the Year, Championship All-Star or Championship MVP, while combining academic honours level standards at their college in the semester of participation.

Recipients: Judy Lafleur, Shae-Lyn Murphy, Bryanna Kressler (women's softball); Henry Real, Evan Ferguson (men's baseball)

**ROY WASHINGTON SUPER FAN AWARD:** This award is presented to individuals who exhibit dedication in support of St. Clair varsity teams while encouraging them in a positive manner. By virtue of their presence at Saints varsity events, the program is elevated, and this pride in St. Clair College should be celebrated. This award is dedicated to the memory of Roy Washington who was a long-time supporter of the Saints Varsity teams.

Winner: Sean Guenette



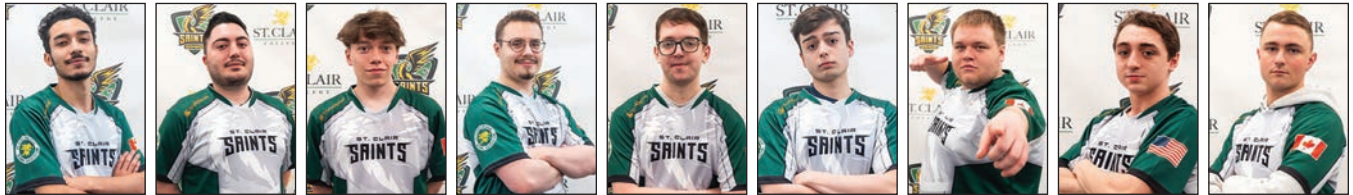


# 2022-23 Esports Teams

## Call Of Duty



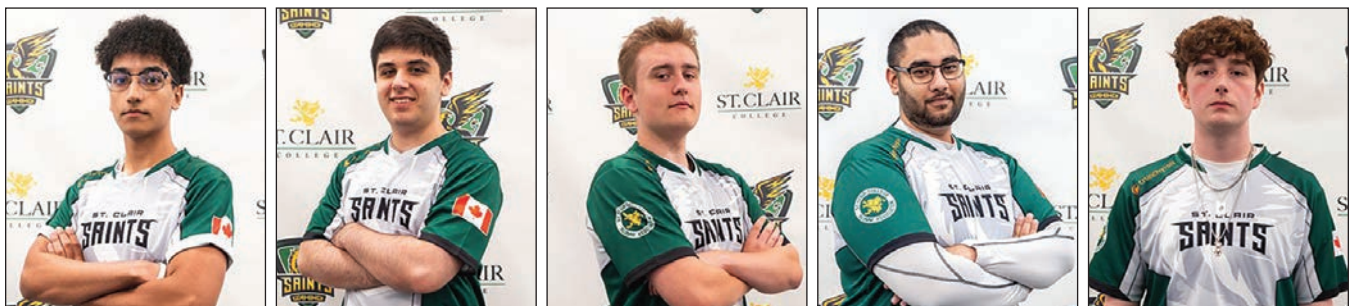
## League Of Legends



## Overwatch



## Rocket League



## Valorant





# E-Athletes are Commonwealth competitors



## Contributed by the Esports Program

St. Clair College's Rocket League team is going international as it will be heading to Birmingham, England in August (2022) to represent Canada in the first-ever Commonwealth Esports Championships (CEC) as part of the Commonwealth Games.

The Saints qualified to represent Team Canada in the Open Division after finishing as the top Canadian team in The Gaming Stadium's Rocket League Open event held in April.

"The opportunity to be representing Canada at the Commonwealth Games is amazing and is something I never thought I would be able to do. To play for Canada is a dream I've always had," said Josh "Comp" Byrne. "We've put in a lot of hard work as a team and individually. I've been determined and constantly working towards improvement, for both my life and career, over the past seven years, and I'm glad to finally see it pay off."

The Saints will face off against seven other countries in the CEC, with teams representing England, Kenya, India, Jamaica, Wales, Australia and South Africa.

"I'm proud of my players. Seeing all of our hard work produce results like this is incredible," said Saints Rocket League Head Coach Mike LePine. "Representing Canada is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for us, and we're going to continue to put the work in, that's for sure."

The chance to represent Canada on the global stage caps off a tremendous year for the Saints Rocket League team. In

June, it traveled to Dallas for the first-ever Collegiate Rocket League World Championship as part of Dreamhack Dallas. There, it finished tied for third place in an event that featured 16 of the best college programs from across North America and Europe.

"The effort and hard work that the team has put into the game is truly commendable," added Assistant Coach Ajay Singh. "I am grateful to be coaching such a talented set of individuals. These opportunities only happen once in a lifetime and we are all happy to be experiencing it."

The Saints Rocket League /CEC team is made up of: Ben "Spoons" Talbot, Windsor, Computer Systems Technology – Networking; Josh "Jay" Podruzny, Grande Prairie, Alberta, Computer Systems Technology – Networking; Josh "Comp" Byrne, Edmonton, Alberta, Business Administration – Marketing; and Bailey "Nitryx" Lamont, Windsor, Esports Administration and Entrepreneurship.

## NACE IS NICE TO ST. CLAIR

During the summer of 2022, St. Clair College Esports took home 14 awards at the National Association of Collegiate Esports (NACE) Annual Awards held in Kansas City, Missouri as part of the NACE Annual Convention.

Major awards for the Saints included Dawson Lovell being named Call of Duty Coach of the Year, Josh Podruzny being awarded Rocket League Player of the Year, and the program winning Production of the Year (beating out two-time winner



Boise State University of Idaho).

"I want to thank the fans and the people that tune in to our broadcasts to watch their friends, family members and classmates compete," said Dan Banner, Esports Broadcast Manager. "The best part for us, though, with the new esports facility, my students and I will have even more equipment to bring our broadcasts to the next level. What we've done so far

Coach of the Year for Rocket League (Mike LePine) and League of Legends (Yuri Custodio), and Social Media Producer of the Year (Trent Sovran).

Additionally, Esports Director Shaun Byrne was re-elected to the NACE Board of Directors for his second three-year term as part of the annual convention. "I am very honoured and happy to know that NACE membership sees value in my contribution over the last three years. Looking forward to giving it my all for another three," said Byrne.

#### **AWARD WINNERS**

(Video/Broadcasting) Production of the Year: St. Clair College

Player of the Year, Rocket League: Josh Podruzny, Computer System Technology – Networking

Coach of the Year, Call of Duty: Dawson Lovell - Business Administration Marketing

All-NACE, Call of Duty: Brandon Last, Computer System Technology – Networking

All-NACE, Rocket League: Ben Talbot, Computer System Technology – Networking; Josh Byrne, Business Administration – Marketing

All-NACE, Overwatch: Arjun Khela, Pre-Health Sciences

All-NACE, League of Legends: Eric Moffitt, Welding Techniques; Felix Blais, Business Administration – Marketing; Donghyun Choi, Esports Administration and Entrepreneurship

Play of the Year, Call of Duty: Brandon Last, Computer System Technology – Networking

Play of the Year, Rocket League: Ben Talbot, Computer System Technology – Networking

Play of the Year, Overwatch: Patrick Hubler, Electromechanical Engineering Technology

Play of the Year, League of Legends: Eric Moffitt, Welding Techniques

#### **FINALIST NOMINEES**

Program of the Year

Director of the Year: Shaun Byrne

Coach of the Year, Rocket League: Mike LePine

Coach of the Year, League of Legends: Yuri Custodio

Social Media Producer of the Year: Trent Sovran, Advertising & Marketing Communications Management

Broadcast Producer of the Year: Caleigh Jappy, Esports Administration and Entrepreneurship

Shoutcaster of the Year: Daniel Jobin, Esports Administration and Entrepreneurship

Broadcaster of the Year: John Zuidema

Rocket League Player of the Year: Josh Byrne, Business Administration Marketing



is only the beginning. But with all of our work, we will continue to aim to be the best production team in the collegiate esports space."

The 14 awards, and an additional nine finalist nominations, signified the end of an extremely successful season for Saints Esports' players, staff and student volunteers. The awards were voted on by over 170 NACE member programs in Canada and the United States.

"Everyone in the program stepped up this year, and I'm grateful to see many of them were recognized for it by our peers," said Chris Funston, Assistant Esports Director. "We've seen overwhelming success competitively, but that's all a by-product of the culture we've created around student success and opportunities."

The Saints were also finalists in categories including Program of the Year, Director of the Year (Shaun Byrne),



# Three Canadian titles captured



In late November, the St. Clair Saints esports program took home three championships as part of the inaugural Canadian Esports Nationals.

Each of St. Clair's five esports teams made it through the Nationals Group Stage to qualify for playoffs.

The Saints' Call of Duty, Overwatch and Rocket League teams went on to capture championship victories, solidifying St. Clair College as the top esports program in the country.

The Call of Duty team took down Queen's University and the University of Toronto in the Group Stage. It went on in the playoffs to defeat Fanshawe College, Ontario Tech University, and Brock University in the Grand Finals.

"We're thrilled to be the first team to secure a Canadian Esports Nationals title," said Call of Duty Head Coach Zarin Bartholomew. "We've set the standard for Canadian Call of Duty, and we will continue to raise that bar next semester."

The Overwatch squad dominated Brock University and Simon Fraser University to advance to the playoffs. There, it continued its winning ways over the University of Calgary and the University of Ottawa, before dispatching Ontario Tech University to claim the Grand Finals victory.

"The team has been working hard since the start of the

semester, having some good results and close games in big tournaments. It was about time we brought home a championship," said Overwatch Head Coach and Flex Support Arjun Khela.

Finally, the Rocket League team faced tough tests against the University of Ottawa and Georgian College, but came away with both victories in the Group Stage. In the playoffs, it battled past Carleton University and Toronto Metropolitan, before taking down Université de Montréal to take home the National Championship.

"The win was a testament to our growth as a roster overall, and I think it is only the beginning of our success as a team," said Rocket League Head Coach and player Ben Talbot.

St. Clair's League of Legends team finished tied for third in the country after losing to the University of Waterloo in the semifinals.

The Valorant team was runner-up in the Nationals Grand Finals, losing to Wilfrid Laurier.

The Canadian Esports Nationals tournament was the first of its kind, designed to showcase Canadian esports and crown the top teams in the nation. The event saw 37 schools and 93 teams compete from across Canada.





# Nexus packed with Christmas gamers

NexOne of the campus' biggest annual events was back on the schedule this year after two years of pandemic-caused cancellation ... and, this year, it had a new venue. The Christmas LAN Party – a marathon of computer gaming – was staged in the Nexus esports arena on December 15-16.







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