



ST. CLAIR
COLLEGE

Classes of 2019-2020 Con-GRAD-ulations!

Published
by the



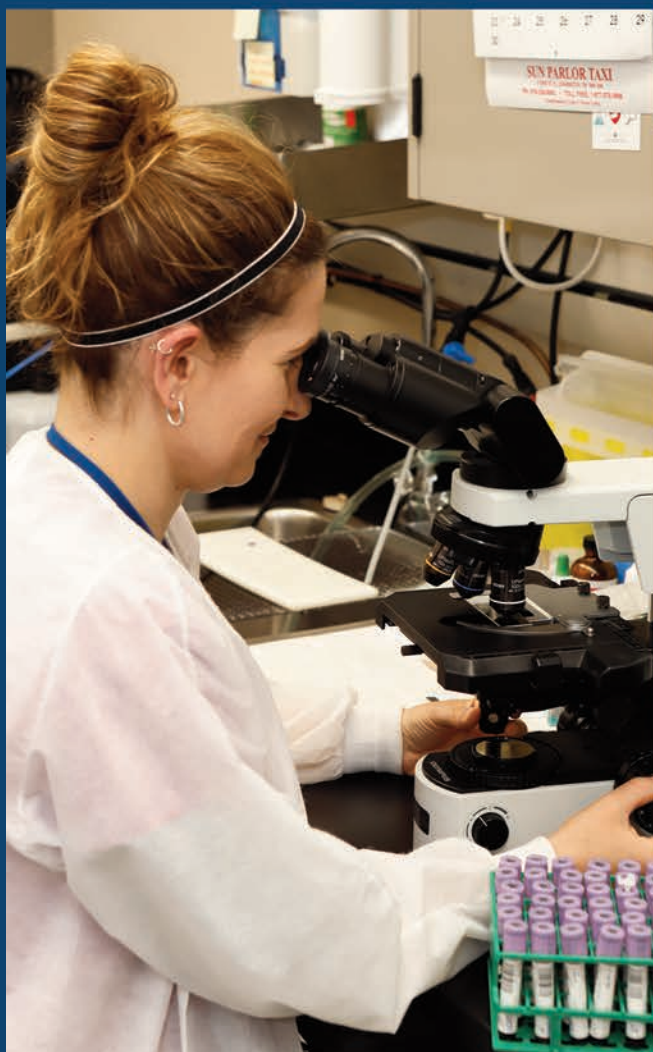
Student
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**& Year-in-Review
Material from
The Saint Scene**





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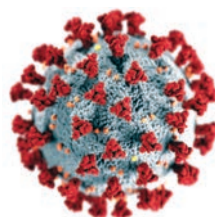
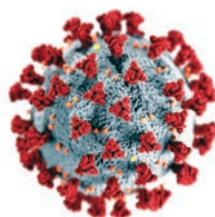
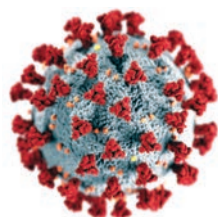
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Regrettably, this publication was not immune to the effects of the Coronavirus outbreak in the first quarter of 2020. The suspension of in-person classes that occurred in response to that crisis, and their replacement with on-line curriculum delivery, meant that a number of graduating classes did not have their group photos taken during March and April. We do apologize for those missing class photos – but we do congratulate those students who successfully completed their educations in the midst of what was both a local and global crisis.

Our most important resolution of the year



Dear Graduates of 2019-20,

On behalf of St. Clair's Board of Governors, it is a pleasure to congratulate you upon the successful conclusion of your educational journey.

The Board is often referred to as the college's "highest decision-making body", and accurately so. With research and recommendations provided by the school's administration, the Board does, indeed, ultimately make every significant decision at St. Clair: launching new programs, amending existing ones, setting the annual budget and supervising the subsequent financial ebb-and-flow, establishing and maintaining policies and procedures, and everything else associated with the college's current operation and long-term well-being.

And a couple times a year, prior to each Convocation, this motion – as a recommendation from the administration – pops up on the Board's agenda: "Be it resolved that the Board of Governors approves the conferring of diplomas, certificates and degrees at the impending Convocation session."

From the Board's perspective – and obviously from yours, too – that is the most important motion that we deal with as Governors. It is a black-and-white, moved-seconded-and-approved, signed-on-the-dotted-line confirmation that everyone has done their job, everyone has lived up to their part of the bargain that was struck on the first day of enrolment, and everything has been concluded in exemplary fashion. Your professors taught, you learned, the grading of tests and assignments verified the effectiveness of that partnership. And the Board of Governors gets to tie the bow on that completed package by inviting you to receive your diploma at Convocation.

But our approval signifies more than the wrap-up of the scholastic process. Because the majority of Governors are "external" – representing commercial, industrial and social-service/public-sector enterprises throughout Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent – we are asserting that you have done more than just excelled as scholars. Our endorsement denotes that you are eminently employable, and that you are now ready to jump into the community as participants, builders and leaders of all aspects of our collective civic experience.

The Board, therefore, is not just extending congratulations to you from the college; but, rather, on behalf of the entire community. We are welcoming you as the newest driving forces of the economic progress and social well-being of our cities, our province, our country. If we expect great things of you, it is only because the college has prepared you for great things.

We were honoured to have you as students. We are thrilled to have you as graduates. And we are looking forward to your conscientious and innovative contributions as community leaders. Congratulations and Best Wishes.

– **Nancy Jammu-Taylor,**

Chair, 2019-20 St. Clair College Board of Governors



The 2019-20 St. Clair College Board of Governors, left to right:

Seated: Michelle Watters, Teresa Bendo, Jorge Gutierrez Calzada, Maureen Wickham;
Standing: Vice-Chair Egidio Sovran, Renu Khosla, Kevin Beaudoin, Chair Nancy Jammu-Taylor, Tammy Wonsch, President Patti France, Melanie DeSchutter, Jean Piccinato, Robert Renaud, and Warren Beck.

Not “Goodbye”, just the fondest “Farewell”

Dear Treasured Graduates:

In addition to “Congratulations”, the most common word you will be hearing from college officials during your Convocation ceremony is “Farewell”.

And we mean that most sincerely and literally. We hope – and are confident – that you will fare very well throughout your personal and professional lives, your St. Clair credential in-hand, symbolizing all of the knowledge, skills and traits that we have instilled in you.

But we also say “Farewell” because we don’t wish to say “Goodbye”, given that word’s overtones of finality. “Farewell”, in contrast, emphasizes that we wish you all the best as you depart. And it carries the tone of a friend and mentor who hopes to hear from you and see you again in the future, to know how you are doing, to celebrate your future achievements, and to continue to be of service to you in any way we can.

For some of you, perhaps we will serve as an educational setting again. As knowledge expands and technology evolves, the needs of your profession may lead you – as a lifelong learner – back to our classrooms for some courses or skill-upgrading.

Or perhaps you’ll return as “recruitment ambassador” – when family members, friends or neighbours mention their post-secondary interests, and you accompany them on tours of the college.

Maybe you’ll be back as an employee. Many of our grads have been so successful in their careers that they’ve eventually returned to our classrooms, standing at lecterns as faculty members.

We certainly hope that all of you will be proud members of the 110,000-plus St. Clair Alumni Association family.

Please keep in touch with that organization about what is going on in your lives, utilize our post-graduation services, foster the college’s reputation in whatever manner you can, and visit us often. We wrapped up the construction of a beautiful new sports stadium while you were here. Come back to tour it and take in a game – there’s a good reason for your first of many return visits.

At the very least, we hope that you will hang your framed credential in a prominent place in your home or office; and, gazing upon it, that you will frequently reflect upon your academic achievement with pride and your “St. Clair experience” with great fondness.

Perhaps you will hear the echo of these words during such remembrances: We were honoured to teach you. We are so proud of you. Congratulations, and Farewell.

– Patti France, M.Ad.Ed.
President,
St. Clair College



“Once A Saint, Always A Saint”



Dear Saints,

After striving to assist you with services and provide you with an enjoyable “college experience” during your time as St. Clair students, it is now my pleasure and honour – on behalf of your Student Representative Council – to congratulate you as you transform into graduates.

The yearbook that you hold, in fact, is the final service that the SRC will provide to you. Consider it our “parting gift” to you.

We’ll now leave you in the welcoming hands of the college’s Alumni Association. It is a wonderful organization that, like the SRC, provides many services and programs to the school’s graduates.

Do you see a pattern in all of that? Yes ... the gist of it is “Once A Saint, Always A Saint”.

Whether as a student or a grad, you’ve had – and will forever have – a connection to the college, to its reputation for academic excellence, to its atmosphere of camaraderie, and to its spirit of civic-mindedness.

That last quality, I think, dominated the college experience for many of you. During my time at St. Clair, I proudly witnessed so many of you making contributions to improve our local community and the world-at-large ... “Polar Plunging” to support the Special Olympics, “eco marches” to draw attention to climate change, participating in the Relay For Life and similar fundraisers for cancer research and treatment, mouth-swabbing to register as prospective bone-marrow/stem-cell donors, supporting a number of charities to combat hunger and homelessness. Your social conscience, your generosity and your humanity were remarkable. And I know these are traits that you will maintain and causes that will continue to motivate you as “movers and shakers” in the world beyond the confines of the campus ... because, even more than your academic achievement, it is that energy for positive change that has made you a Saint.

I’ve been so proud to know you during your time at St. Clair. And I know I will be prouder still as I keep track of your future accomplishments in the coming years.

Congratulations.

– Kiara Clement, 2019-20 President, Student Representative Council



The 2019-20 Student Representative Council Board of Directors, left to right:

Front row: Executive Director Don France, Student Affairs Vice-President Jorge Gutierrez Calzada, President Kiara Clement, Downtown Student Affairs Vice-President Ajeo Mathew Cherukathara Mathew, General Manager Ryan Peebles;

Back row: Directors Kabir Singh, Cephra Hasfal, Gilberto Hernandez, Valeria Escobar, Nikita Joella Muringa, Cassandra Mailloux, Aravind Premkumar, Jeremy Dean, Ujjwal Sharma, and Santokhsar Singh Saran.

Thanks for your involvement



Dear Graduates,

You've done it! Congratulations on achieving your education and graduating from St Clair College. You truly encompass what it means to be Saintsational!

To the students at the Chatham Campus, Thank You for being a part of our small, family-oriented community. This year has been amazing, to say the least. I am honoured to have met so many of you, and shared countless memories over the past year with you at the Chatham Campus. I am very grateful for the amount of involvement TSI enjoys from students at this campus. The passion and drive that students have demonstrated has been remarkable. On behalf of TSI, I'd like to thank each and every one of you who took the extra initiative to get involved and help make a difference on our campus.

Over the past year, we've accomplished so much as a college community: college events that involve food, fun, laughs ... making memories at pubs, sporting events, family parties, and community outreach. Thank you for being involved with the countless supportive events and

fundraisers that have benefited charities and organizations in our community, due to the donations made by clubs and programs.

The effort to keep our campus a safe, clean, and friendly place is one of the best things I love about the Chatham Campus! The constant support that students offer each other, via tutoring services and other on-campus jobs, is what makes our campus community strong! It is so important to truly invest yourself in your education, and your college experience. Your education is what you make of it – what you put in, you will take out. Never forget what you've learned both in and out of the college during your time here. Keep in touch with friends, come back to visit, and continue representing St. Clair College as alumni - you will always be a part of the St. Clair College Family!

On behalf of Thames Students Incorporated, its 2019-20 Board of Directors, Vice-President Kash Yeck, and myself, I wish you all the best in your future endeavours. Continue striving and moving forward, accomplish great things, and challenge yourself. Never forget to Rise Above The Ordinary in all that you do!

Congratulations, Graduates of 2019-2020!

All the best,

Maggie Kobrossy,

2019-20 President of Thames Students Inc.



Connect to a new Circle of Friends!



We'd love to see you back on campus for Family Day in August!

Graduates/New Alumni:

We are connected! With your accomplishment of receiving your diploma, we have a link together that can never be broken. You are part of the story of St. Clair College – and we are part of your story.

As you move on in your career, you will take with you the knowledge and experiences from your courses. But you will also take with you the relationships you've experienced with your teachers,

friends and teams during your time here. Those can be resources that will last a lifetime.

You are also an ambassador for St. Clair College, as you are involved in your career and your community in the future. You are the best examples of the value of a St. Clair education. We are proud of what you have accomplished and are pleased that you will be taking the St. Clair story with you as you move forward.

St. Clair is always going to be here for you in the future.

Let us help you with any further education that might enhance your skills or make you more competitive in the future. Through the Alumni Association, we connect you with the network of people who have been part of the St. Clair story like yourself. Let us know how you're doing and how we can help.

There are many benefits to being part of our Alumni family. Please take a moment to update us with your new email and mailing address so we can efficiently contact you with special incentives for alumni and alumni event information.

By keeping in touch with your college

and your Alumni Association, we will stay connected. The bonus is that you will be able to access the many benefits provided by the Association. Among those: diploma and lripipe framing, continued use of the college's athletic facilities (at discounted rates), ongoing borrowing privileges at the college's library, and other discounts for grads from our assorted local and national commercial partners (including Johnson Insurance, and shows at Caesars Windsor and the Chrysler Theatre). There are also special events and promotions throughout the year (like the Varsity Game Day, Watch-the-Spitfires in the Suite Night, Tigers Game, Family Fun Day, and the annual Alumni of Distinction Banquet).

For more information, phone the Alumni office at (519) 972-2727, extension 4567, or (toll-free) at 1-866-722-4723; or email us at alumni@stclaircollege.ca; or visit the Alumni website at www.stclairalumni.com; or "friend us" at www.facebook.com/stclairalumni.

One day, maybe your name will be here

St. Clair honoured its "brightest and best" during the annual Alumni Of Distinction awards banquet in early-April.

Every year since 1992, the college has solicited nominations from the community for this honour, seeking high-achieving past graduates from the Schools of Technology, Community Studies, Health Sciences, Business, and Creative Art and Design, and a Recent Graduate (within the past five years).

The honourees also serve as St. Clair's nominees for the province-wide Premier's Awards, recognizing the achievements and contributions of graduates from Ontario's college system.

The 2020 Alumni Of Distinction are:

- Recent Grad: Elizabeth Moses, CNC Precision Metal Cutting (2017) and Pre-Apprenticeship General Machinist (2019); now at Windsor Mold, and a role model for "Women In STEM" fields;
- Media, Arts and Design: Will Bigelow, Animation (2006); now a concept artist/jewellery designer for Baron Championship Rings;
- Community Studies: Lori Kempe, Sign Language Interpreting (1991); now Executive Director of Children First;
- Trades and Technology: Flora DiMenna, Interior Design (1980); now President of FDM Designs in Toronto;
- Health Sciences: Anita Ticcio-Spagnuolo, Personal Support Worker (1999); now Coordinator of Fund Development and Health Promotion with the Canadian Mental Health Association;
- Business and Information Technology: Dave Merjeje, Business-Marketing (2003); now a Juno Award-winning actor and comedian.



The 2019-20 Alumni Association Board, left to right: President Andrew Rowberry, Executive Vice-President Alison Rusling-Bigelow, Vice-President of Finance Jennifer Forfitt, and Directors Eddie Azar, Carmen Brunone, Belinda Bulhoes, John Feldman, John Garton, Chase Stoyshin, and Ryan Peebles.

Here's what made you one of the most special grads in the college's history

When you are looking back through this keepsake publication in ten or twenty or fifty years, perhaps you will remember the global crisis which made the completion of your final year such a remarkable accomplishment: namely, the fact that it was almost derailed by the outbreak of the Coronavirus/COVID-19. Here is the letter distributed throughout the college by President Patti France at that time:

Dear Saints,

Over the past week or so, you've received a number of messages from me, filled with official information and instructions about the college's policies and plans to deal with the Coronavirus/COVID-19 outbreak.

But, today, I just want to speak to you person-to-person, from the heart.

St. Clair has always prided itself on delivering an exceptional "real world" educational experience to its students. And that's exactly what we were doing for the first three-quarters of this academic year.

During the past few weeks, however, the real world has become a surreal one – for all of us.

Believe me, I am just as astounded and taken aback by how rapidly and drastically this situation has evolved as you. Yes, the college had long-standing emergency plans in place for scenarios of this sort; and, yes, we've had to partially implement some elements of those plans. But those incidents pale in comparison to the unprecedented nature of this virus. Our role in responding to it has truly put us into uncharted territory. Almost hourly, the college is receiving new recommendations and directives from public health authorities, and the provincial and federal governments, as an attempt is made to stem the spread of this outbreak.

Throughout this process of crisis management, two considerations have dominated my thoughts:

First and foremost is the protection of the health and safety of St. Clair's treasured students and staff. Nothing, absolutely nothing, is more important than that; and

Secondarily, might it be possible to continue to deliver the education which our students deserve, and to complete the academic year in acceptable fashion?

In my mind, from the outset of this threat, the answer to that question had to be "Yes". We had to continue – one

way or another – to make good on our promise: if a student enrolls, we will strive to instill knowledge and skills, from the first day of classes to the last, from the first year to graduation.

Fortunately – but not surprisingly at all – the hundreds of faculty members, support staffers and administrators of St. Clair unreservedly shared my opinion that this must be our course of action. We should do it, and if we could do it, we would do it.

We had just five days during March Break to convert from in-class instruction to remote-access, video lecturing. My colleagues and their commitment to students have awed me every single day during my quarter-century-long career at the college, but never moreso than during this crisis.

Collectively, the family of St. Clair employees is re-

St. Clair's SportsPlex and HealthPlex were converted into field hospitals to add bed-capacity to the local health care system during the pandemic.



emphasized its dedication to you, the college's students, because we wished to impress upon you that your educational goals and your career dreams are still very much achievable. The on-line delivery method may not be familiar, it may not even be ideal, but it will provide you with the semester-concluding knowledge and skills that you require. Given your commitment, I am confident that you will adapt to the new format, and conscientiously put in the work entailed in successfully wrapping up your studies.

Although, as I mentioned before, we are in somewhat uncharted territory, we do have a route laid out for our voyage. The final destination – the conclusion of this academic year; and, for some of you, your graduation – is in sight and within reach.

Together, overcoming the detours and obstacles created by this crisis, we shall reach that destination.

And, together, we shall celebrate brighter and happier days.

– Patti France

New residence: It's Lego you can live in

Think of it as one of the largest Lego projects you've ever seen in your life.

That, in a way, will be the construction method – really, the assembly method – of St. Clair's new, 512-bed residence, unveiled during a press conference held in the lobby of the existing dorm building (Quittenton Hall) on February 28.

The new, five-storey tall building will be assembled, unit by unit, from pre-fabricated, steel-box structures during the next few months – and should be mostly completed by late fall, and ready for occupancy by the New Year.

The \$23 million project – like Quittenton Hall – is being developed by a private-sector company, which will recoup its investment by acting as the landlord/manager of the new residence.

The college's phenomenal enrolment growth during the past half-decade (chiefly in the form of international students), coupled with the local shortage of affordable rental housing, made the expansion of on-campus accommodations a necessity.

"This welcome wave of newcomers desperately needs a 'home away from home'," said college President Patti France. "This new residence project will provide just that: an on-campus atmosphere of comfort, convenience and camaraderie, where they can fully enjoy their time at St. Clair, in Windsor, and in Canada." (Although the global influx spurred the project, lodgings will certainly be available for domestic/Canadian students too.)



France also introduced the private-sector partners of the development:

"The college is so pleased that its partners in this development are long-standing corporate friends.

"The developer and manager of the new residence is the Global Education Mihome Corporation. Several of its principals also serve as the owners and directors of Toronto's Ace Acumen Academy, the private school with which St. Clair has had a 'sister school' relationship for over half-a-decade. GEM's experience with – and caring treatment of – international students is unparalleled, and it is ideally suited for this new role.

"The truly innovative, phase-by-phase construction of this facility involves the manufacturing expertise of the Z-Modular Corporation. That is a subsidiary of Zekelman Industries – which, of course, is owned by our corporate patrons, Barry and Stephanie Zekelman." (That couple's foundation donated money several years ago to allow the Business program to expand to its new downtown building – thus the re-christening of the School of Business and Information Technology with the Zekelman name. A Zekelman donation is also funding the construction of the indoor tennis facility in the college's new Sports Park.)

"There is really something to be said for on-campus housing, as opposed to off-campus renting," Student Representative Council President Kiara Clement said. "The atmosphere of living with one's fellow students, creating life-long friendships with them, and being in ultra-convenient proximity to all of the college's activities and services makes the residence experience an unmatched housing option."



We've got football: Saints and Fratmen team up



Contributed by the St. Clair SAA

St. Clair's Saints Student Athletic Association (SAA) Inc. made it official on February 21, announcing the purchase of the Fratmen Football organization at a press conference held at the college's SportsPlex.

"The Saints Student Athletic Association is happy to make this announcement, as we are always looking to expand our athletic portfolio. We think this is a great

opportunity to offer football enthusiasm to the student body on campus", said SAA President Kshitij Punj.

This innovative partnership between the Fratmen Football franchise and the college's SAA will be the first of its kind in Ontario. As of February 21, the SAA will assume ownership of the Fratmen Football team, taking responsibility for the business and game-day operations of the program.

Beginning with the 2020 season the team will play and practice at the soon-to-be-completed St. Clair Sports Park.

The SAA is thrilled to be partnered with the storied history and success of the Fratmen brand, which is the longest-running amateur sport organization in Canada, beginning in 1929, and winning three national titles during its existence.

The team will continue to play in the Ontario Football Conference, part of the Canadian Junior Football League, with a fall season stretching from August to November.

Rostered players on the football team who are enrolled full-time in the

fall semester at St. Clair College will continue to enjoy a \$1,250 scholarship, with access to several other bursaries and financial aid opportunities. However, student status at St. Clair College is not required for access to the playing roster.



Cooking and conversing with "Sexiest Reality Star"



Over 500 St. Clairians and guests from the community enjoyed "An Evening With Antoni Porowski" on November 20 – an event staged by the Student Representative Council in the college's Student Life Centre, as the major event of its Pride Week celebration.

Emceed by 93.9-The River's Dan MacDonald, the evening featured a cooking demonstration, conversation and Q&A with the Canadian actor/chef and food-and-wine expert of the Netflix series "Queer Eye" – oh, and "The Sexiest Reality Star", according to "People" magazine's annual list.

Audience members were also able to purchase Porowski's first cookbook, "Antoni In The Kitchen".



Saints + Goodfellows = winning combination



The community-minded hard work of students, coupled with the generosity of the college's administration, has led to a huge St. Clair donation to the city's Goodfellows Christmas charity.

The unprecedented success of students who volunteered for the organization's annual fundraising newspaper sale led the college to match their donations.

During a cheque presentation on December 10, St. Clair President Patti France that the achievement "really shouldn't be much of a surprise. After all, when you combine two groups



named the Goodfellows and the Saints, you know that something extremely beneficial will be the result.

"The students of our Protection, Security and Investigation, Police Foundations and Border Services programs have been acting as Goodfellows newspaper salespeople for the past several years," she continued. "They raised a record \$7,500 in 2018, and set an even more ambitious target – \$10,000 – during the campaign a couple of weeks ago.

"Evidently, they miscalculated their sales ability – and the generosity of donors – because they ended up raising almost double what they did last year: \$14,300."

The school matched that figure, bringing St. Clair's total contribution

to \$28,600.

PSI/PF Society President Chelsea Derenoski thanked the administration for its matching donation, and the community for its donations – especially the many St. Clair students and staff who doled out change through their car windows when newspapers were being distributed at the college's entrances.

Goodfellows President Gilbert Barichello noted that the 109-years-old organization does more than just provide meals to the underprivileged during the Christmas season. It also now maintains a year-round food bank, operates a breakfast program at local elementary schools, and furnishes children's footwear to low-income families.



Saints & S'aints continue to sleigh hunger



St. Clair's Saints and The S'aints teamed up once again this year to Sleigh Hunger in the community.

The college acted as the chief sponsor of an annual Christmas concert at Casino Windsor's Colosseum Theatre on December 20 – which, over the past decade, has raised over a quarter-million dollars for local food banks and other charitable causes.

The concert – and an associated CD – features The S'aints. That band is made up of lead vocalist Jody Raffoul, Tea Party drummer Jeff Burrows, Wes Buckley, Kelly “Mr. Chill” Hoppe, David Cyrenne, Kelly Authier, Marty Bak, Liz Robinson and Stephanie Baker.

“The success of this concert is truly a community effort,” said Burrows. “For every seat we fill in The Colosseum, we know it means more people are being fed and shelves are being filled. This is a collective effort, and one that is very close to our hearts.”

The S'aints previewed the December event with a mini-concert at Casino Windsor's Cosmos Lounge on November 13 – and announced that the proceeds from this year's show would support 16 food banks in Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent.

The band also unveiled the ninth annual holiday-music CD, “Strike Hunger”.

St. Clair President Patti France reflected on the college's involvement in the project:

“We are thrilled to celebrate our continued involvement with Sleighing Hunger, as one of the founding partners of this community project. First with the annual CD release, and then with the concerts, our Saints have been involved with The S'aints for almost a decade now.

“This year, in addition to selling tickets and CDs on campus, we're excited that another college element has been added to the partnership. The cover of this year's CD was designed by one of our third-year Graphic Design students, as part of a class project. Congratulations to Megan Saxton – and thanks to Jeff Burrows for coming up with the idea



to tap into the creativity of our students.

“We're proud of that new role in this project, but prouder still of the overall contribution

made by this annual event to the less fortunate in our community. Over its history, Sleighing Hunger has raised over \$270,000 for food banks, homeless shelters and social service agencies in southwestern Ontario – while, simultaneously, creating an extremely popular Christmas tradition on the local entertainment scene.

“As I said last year – and the year before that, and the year before that – as long as The S'aints keep recording CDs and performing concerts, St. Clair College will be committed to Sleighing Hunger.

“St. Clair extends its heartfelt thanks to the band, to our partners – AM800, Devonshire Mall, The Windsor Star, and Caesars Windsor – and to the audience members who fill this venue every year and, by doing so, provide essential support to these dedicated charities and the thousands of people they help.”

(This year's concert ended up making \$75,267 – the largest amount raised to date.)



Tri-partnership helps Kindergartners

A \$20,000 donation by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent has allowed St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology and the Lambton Kent District School Board to create a unique partnership involving students in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) program and Kindergartners at Winston Churchill Public School.

A classroom was donated by the school board to be used as an early learning lab and the municipal funds were used by the college to furnish the room.

The program focuses on building positive relationships between the children and the college students. Up to 15 kindergarten pupils are brought into the ECE classroom with their educators to interact with the college students.

The scenario is then rotated, and the college students head over to the kindergarten classrooms to work with the children.

Brenda Huff, the ECE coordinator at St. Clair College's Chatham campus, said building relationships is a big part of the work that's done by Early Childhood Educators. "You have relationships with children. You have relationships with teachers. If you're in a school setting, you have relationships with the

principal and other personnel in the school. So they're just getting to practice that relationship-based part of our profession. And that's not minor in our work."

St. Clair College President Patti France praised the program as one that will benefit students of all ages. "The school children will enjoy enhanced services to foster their

intellectual, emotional and social development, while the College's ECE students will obtain the workplace experience and professional mentorship that is so essential to their education. We thank Chatham-Kent's municipal government and the Lambton-Kent District School Board for including us in this innovative new partnership."

Mark Benoit, Chair, School of Academic Studies Chatham-Kent, said he is proud of the leadership shown by those behind this initiative. "I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact the new ECE learn-

ing lab has had on the elementary students and the college students.

"The partnership is setting an example for the province by providing an innovative approach to educating ECE students," he added.



When you can't go to the college, the college comes to you

St. Clair College will be delivering a customized training program to train new employees at AarKel Tool and Die Inc. in Wallaceburg.

St. Clair College instructors will teach the new hires in precision metal cutting/CNC machining at the company's Elm Drive location to supply local skilled labour for its Wallaceburg facilities.

This initiative will provide AarKel with the ability to retain workers and continue to grow its local operations. "These additional employees who will be trained and hired are an important milestone in our strategic plan for our Wallaceburg facilities," said AarKel President Larry Delaey. "Given the

skilled trades shortage in the area, not only will this address those concerns, but this will also be a testament to the commitment to our industry and our area. We are building for the future!"

"St. Clair is committed to delivering high quality, accessible education and training to meet the needs of learners and the labour market of

southwestern Ontario. We continue to build upon our reputation as a strong community resource by listening and responding to local industry needs," said college President Patti France.

"We know that Ontario is facing a looming problem: a shortage of skilled workers," said Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development Monte McNaughton. "Seeing these investments in training the workers of tomorrow is fantastic news. We must continue to break the stigma that exists and show people that jobs in the skilled trades are meaningful, challenging and good paying."



Heavy medal haul for Marketers



Five third-year marketing students brought home medals from the recent Ontario Colleges Marketing Competition, besting hundreds of students from much larger institutions.

"We like to call it the Marketing Olympics for Colleges," said Nicole Rourke, a marketing professor and long-time coach for the students who participate in the annual competition.

The event was held in Niagara Falls Nov. 21 and 22, with more than 250 students from 12 Ontario Colleges participating in the two-day event. The 10-member team from St. Clair College was comprised of seven third-year marketing students and three from second year. But they were competing against schools with teams double and triple the size, Rourke said.

"We are one of the smaller teams. We have 35 students in our third-year program and some of the other schools we compete against have 200," Rourke said.

Third-year marketing student Ben Curtis received a bronze medal in the Quiz Bowl, which used buzzers and a moderator, similar to the game show Jeopardy. Curtis was part of a team of four students from randomly selected colleges, who were asked a series of consumer and pricing related questions taken from a variety of textbooks and magazines. He was coached by Rourke and another instructor, Veronica Barris.

Third-year marketing student Caitlyn Cave won a silver medal in the job interview competition. The Job Interview challenges students to successfully interview for an entry-

level position in marketing with a panel of three to five judges. She was coached by Rourke and Anthony Mancini, the Chair of the Zekelman School of Business.

Michael Hickmott and Brett Harrison, both in their third year of marketing, received a silver medal in the Retail Case competition, involving Boathouse, a Canadian clothing retailer that markets to a younger demographic. The students had 30 minutes to find a solution to a customer relationship management issue presented by the retailer. This team was coached by Barry Rivard and Garry Glatter.

Third-year marketing student Maria Juliana Carneiro De Brito, coached by Veronica Barris, won bronze in the Sales Presentation competition. She went up against her cohorts from each of the 12 participating schools. She was given a scenario in advance and was given 15 minutes to make a pitch to the judges in an effort to convince them to buy her products, Brand Boulevard promotional items.

Rourke said the competition prepares students to think on their feet and present themselves in a professional manner. "It gives them a competitive edge, which is what you need in the business world."

Rourke was also honoured during the two-day competition with the Ontario Colleges Marketing Competition Award of Excellence, which is presented in recognition of a history of selfless contribution to the continuance and success of the OCMC and for consistently demonstrating an overall care of students' needs with regard to the OCMC event.

Fostering mental wellness and suicide prevention are priorities for the college



Every year, recognizing the alarmingly large number of college-aged young adults suffering from depression and other serious mental health conditions, the college's administration and student organizations concentrate on delivering suicide awareness and prevention programs.

During the past several Septembers, St. Clair has also become the local focus of a community-wide consciousness about that issue. It has served as the starting point of an annual Suicide Awareness Walk, staged by the regional chapter of the Canadian Mental Health Association.

Again last year (2019), the school's administration, Student Representative Council, Student Athletic Association and Alumni Association used the event to make a major financial donation of the Mental Health Association.

St. Clair President Patti France made these remarks at that September ceremony:

You know what strikes me as most unusual – and frustrating – about this most dire aspect of the mental health crisis? It's the fact that it is occurring in this

era when the ability to communicate dominates our society, like no other time in all of human history. We are so very, very connected to one another through cell-phones, texting and social media that it seems that we know what family members and friends – and even casual acquaintances – are doing 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

And perhaps we do know what they are doing. But do we really know how they are doing? How they are feeling? How they are coping?

Maybe the sheer volume of our modern-day ability to communicate has overwhelmed us. Maybe by being over-connected in mass fashion, we've become under-connected in individual fashion, so that a signal or cry for help from one person can be drowned out by the collective noise generated by many.

That's why this event, and this very special month, is so very important. It reminds us all that communication and awareness within our circle of family and friends must be practiced actively and deliberately, personally, deeply, with intense interest and attention.

Forget, for the time-being, your several hundred Facebook friends. Instead, con-

centrate on making face-to-face connections with your real-life friends.

And, in making those connections, don't ask "What are you doing?"; but, rather, "How are you doing? How have you been? How is your life? How can I help? How can I demonstrate that you are extremely important to me, and that I am here for you whenever you need me?"

What I'm saying is not to confuse your capacity to communicate effectively among a great quantity of humans with your ability to communicate with a great quality of humaneness on a one-on-one basis. Don't fixate on being in touch, on a superficial level, with scores of people. Instead, make an effort to touch those few people who are dearest to you by showing them how deeply you care for them.

A great many programs in this field use the slogan "Let's Talk", to foster dialogue and destigmatize mental health conditions. I agree with that wholeheartedly. But I'm expanding on it: "Let's Talk, And Let's Really Listen". Mass communication is so very easy today; but truly personal, individual communication requires dedicated effort and maximum concentration on the receiving end of the channel.

R&D comes front and centre at St. Clair



St. Clair is occasionally acronymed as “SCCAAT”: St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology. Judging by revelations during the past several days, that can now be expanded to “SCCAATRD”: St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology, and Research and Development.

On March 9, during a media conference at The Windsor Club, the college was unveiled as one of four founding partners in a new, local health-and-wellness research institute.

Joining St. Clair in the WE-SPARK Health Institute is the University of Windsor, Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, and Windsor Regional Hospital.

Those institutions will collaboratively conduct research on such matters as cancer, brain health and neuroscience, mental health and addiction, sexual health, rehabilitation and public health.

In her remarks at the media conference, St. Clair President Patti France reminded the audience of the college’s extensive health-care offerings, and its potential role in a wide range of research topics:

“St. Clair has, for the past decade, been one of the largest suppliers of employees to the health-care system – not just locally, but in all of Ontario. In addition to the Bachelor of Science-Nursing program operated in collaboration with the University of Windsor, our Anthony Toldo Centre for Applied Health Sciences turns out graduates in Dental Assisting and Hygiene, Cardiovascular Technology, Respiratory Therapy, Paramedic, Medical Laboratory Technician and Science, Sonography, Medical Esthetics, Personal Support Worker, Practical Nursing, and Pharmacy Technician. Our Chatham campus houses a few of those programs, and our Occupational-Physiotherapy Assistant. In a related field, our School of Community Studies provides specialized training in Gerontology for Social Service Workers. And our

School of Engineering Technology offers a program in Biomedical Engineering Technology–Equipment and Devices.

“For the purpose of our students’ work-experience placements, we’ve also had decades-long partnerships with all of the local hospitals, clinics, health-care agencies, seniors-care facilities, and individual medical practitioners.

“The opportunity, now, to foster health and wellness as a community-wide priority, to enable our faculty and staff to bring their expertise to bear on health and wellness issues, and to open up fascinating new topics of study and career-paths to our students will lead us to establish WE-SPARK connections in as many parts of our operation and our curriculum as possible.”

GEE, GEE, GEE, GEE, GEE

Several days prior to the WE-SPARK announcement, the college unveiled another advancement in its technology and R&D role, by becoming the second postsecondary school in Canada to obtain 5-G-ready hardware.

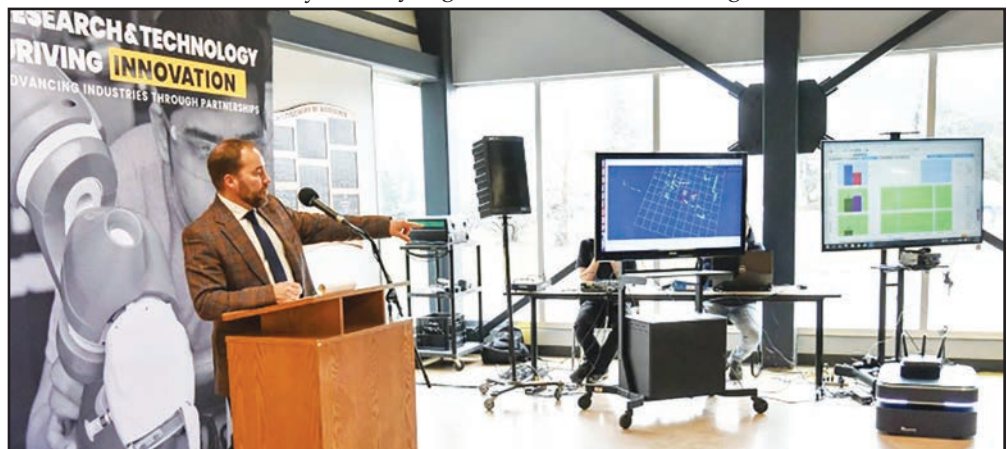
A press release by the college’s administration explained:

St. Clair College’s Department of Applied Research and Development unveiled its emerging 5G technology at a gathering of industry partners and the media on March 6.

The college has been working with Telus to equip the Ford Centre for Excellence in Manufacturing (FCEM) with the hardware that will eventually support a 5G network when it becomes available in Canada. The first example of such hardware is “Boxer”, a 5-G-controlled robotic vehicle, capable of transporting and lifting items weighing up to 200 kilograms.

St. Clair is just the second Canadian postsecondary institution to have 5G-ready technology.

Ben Cowan, Operations Manager for Telus’ Wireless Access Engineering team, believes students at the college can help fill the need for people who are familiar with 5G, so they can support and leverage its capabilities. “The future leaders are working on tomorrow’s technology today, right here at St. Clair College,” said Cowan.



College hosts announcement of feds' international education program

International education has been a big – and financially beneficial – topic at St. Clair for the last half-decade, as the school's enrolment has skyrocketed as thousands of global scholars have found their way to the college during that period.

On August 22, the “geographical reverse” of that trend was spotlighted on campus, when the federal government used the Student Life Centre for a public announcement of a new program to encourage Canadian students to study abroad.

Announcing the preliminary details of the Outbound Student Mobility program was Omar Alghabra, Liberal MP for Mississauga Centre, and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Trade Diversification.



St. Clair President Patti France noted that the college's international enrolment has multiplied ten-fold during the past half-decade – to the point that, this fall, approximately 4,000 students from over 60 nations will account for about one-third of the school's total population.

On the flip-side of that coin, however, she noted that only a couple dozen Canadian/domestic St. Clair students/grads per year (maximum) seem to take advantage of study-abroad opportunities, including credit-transfer agreements that the college has negotiated with colleges and universities in the United States, Ireland and Australia.

That scenario is not unique to St. Clair, noted Alghabra. Nation-wide, he said, only about 11 percent of Canadian students ever pursue postsecondary opportunities in other countries.

That is one of the lowest “academic migration” rates among developed countries, he added. Several European nations see almost 30 percent of their postsecondary students enrolled in other countries' colleges and universities. Almost 20 percent of Australians study abroad, and 16 per-

cent of American students head overseas at some point in their educational careers.

To remedy Canada's low participation rate in “educational globe-trotting”, the federal government is developing the four-year-long Outbound Student Mobility program.

It will commit \$95 million to bankroll study/work-abroad opportunities for 11,000 Canadian students – which translates into grants of approximately \$8,600 each (on average), to offset tuition, lodging and travel costs.

This is part of the federal budget's allocation of \$148 million to foster international education in general – “incoming” and “outgoing” – as part of the so-called “Building on Success: International Education Strategy, 2019-24”.

Although open to all, the new program will concentrate on providing such opportunities to students of under-represented educational sectors, including the disabled, indigineous, and first-generation postsecondary enrollees.

The precise details and procedures entailed in the program have not yet been determined, Alghabra noted. The government is still work-

ing with various stakeholders, including college and university administrations, to hammer out details. Ultimately, he said, applications for the Outbound Student Mobility program would flow through federal employment and labour offices.

So, why was the announcement coming from the Ministry of International Trade Diversification? That doesn't sound like a governmental agency that has much to do with education.

Education, Alghabra emphasized, plays a role in international trade because it is both a commodity and a tool.

It is a commodity because students spend money in, and contribute to the economy of, their host-countries.

And it is a tool because internationally trained students acquire unique knowledge, skills, perspectives, experiences, and connections and contacts that qualify them to bolster Canada's role in the global economy.

“One in six (Canadian) jobs are related to trade,” he noted. So, trade – and international education as a component of trade – are “tied to Canada's prosperity and its social fabric.”



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.

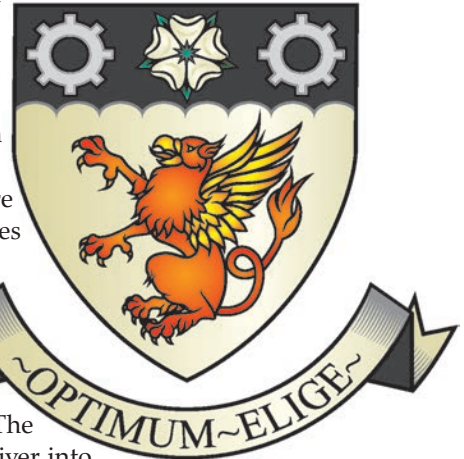
The Liripipe that you receive at Convocation - the shoulder-draping, scarf-like thing that makes it all official - also has a bunch of symbolic overtones.

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

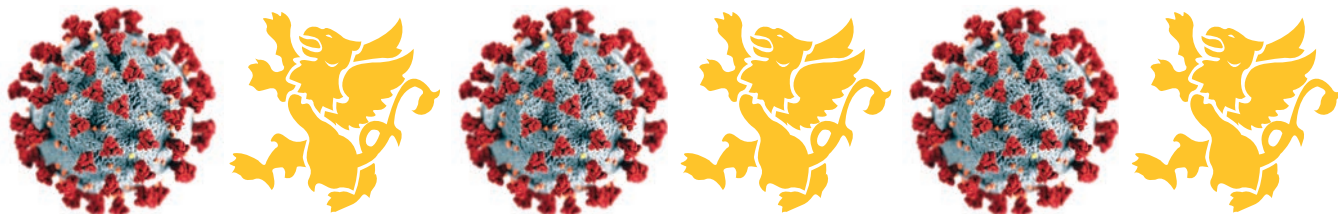
The Liripipe is a band of green velvet, edged with gold braid, with four tassels representing the four major areas in the St. Clair community: Essex and Kent Counties, and the Cities of Windsor and Chatham.

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.



Regrettably, this publication was not immune to the effects of the Coronavirus outbreak in the first quarter of 2020. The suspension of in-person classes that occurred in response to that crisis, and their replacement with on-line curriculum delivery, meant that a number of graduating classes did not have their group photos taken during March and April. We do apologize for those missing class photos – but we do congratulate those students who successfully completed their educations in the midst of what was both a local and global crisis.



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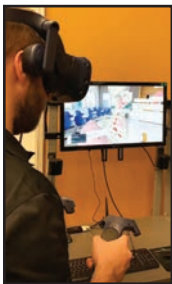
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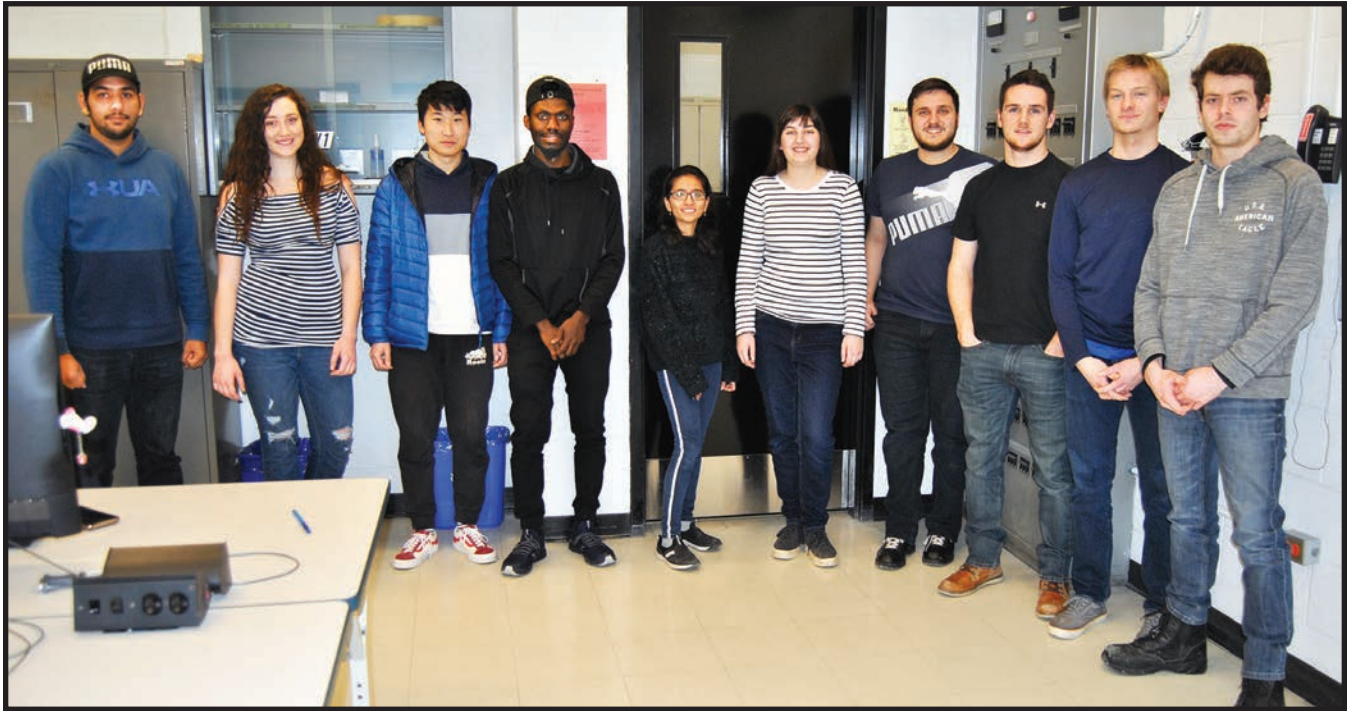
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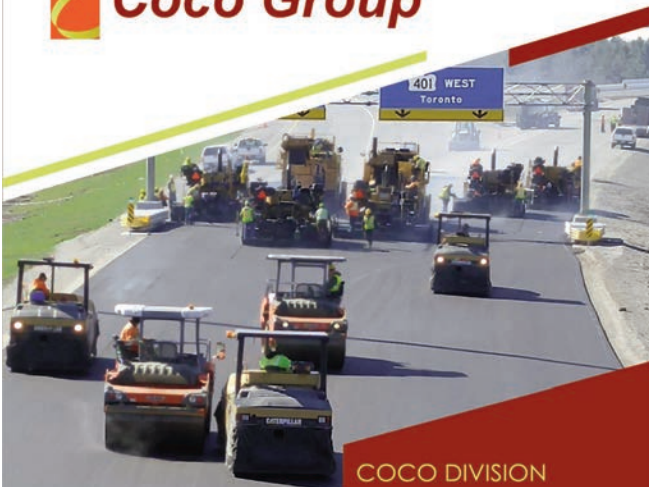
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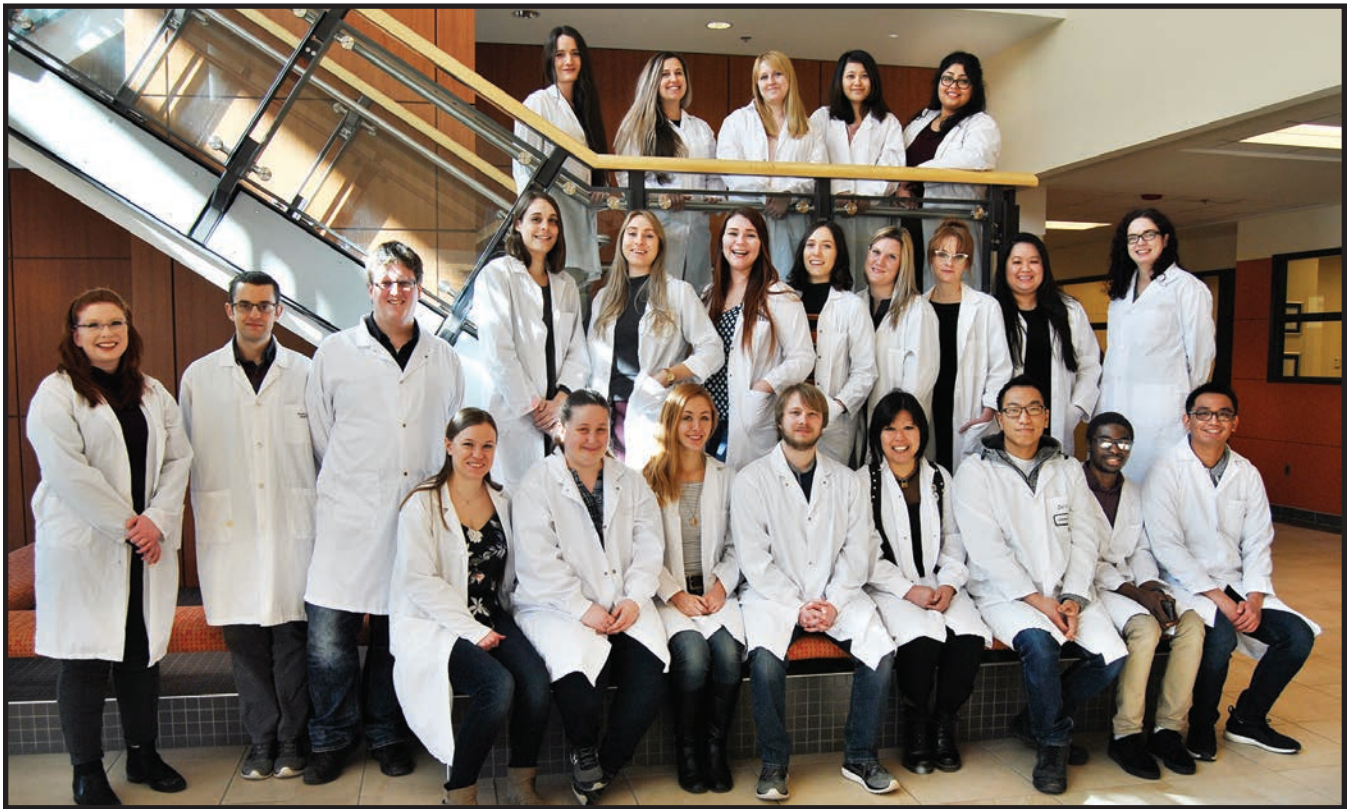
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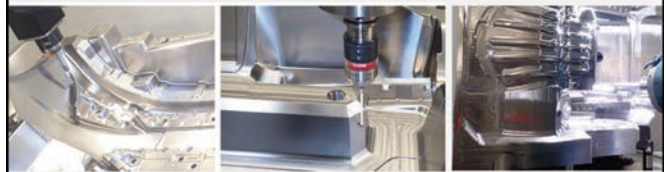
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“Field Of Dreams” now a reality



Among the topics of discussion and administration-authored reports during the September 24th meeting of the college's Board of Governors (BoG) ...

... The college's new Sports Park will add its softball diamond much sooner than expected.

It had been slated for development in the "second phase" of the construction project, several years down the road.

But a new commitment of \$1 million in funding from the Student Athletic Association will see the diamond added to the project immediately – probably to be operational by next spring.

AND ... The new soccer pitch will also be usable as a football field ... So, the college is making overtures to develop a partnership with Windsor's AKO Fratmen team of the Canadian Junior Football League.

In addition to seeing the Sports Park serve as the home-field of the Fratmen, it is hoped that such a partnership might bolster student recruitment – if football-playing high schoolers could transition on to the Fratmen when they enrolled at the college.

This would expand upon a 2014 agreement between the college and Fratmen, making the team's players eligible for St. Clair varsity athletic scholarships when they enrol at the college.

Other Sports Park update info provided to the BoG by the administration included:

Construction of the Sports Park was initiated in April

2019, and considerable progress has occurred as of September 2019. The college continues to work in collaboration with the Student Representative Council (SRC) and the Student Athletic Association (SAA) as it relates to construction, funding and operational planning for the Sports Park.

Three major donors have been secured:

- Zekelman Industries (\$2,500,000 cash),
- Domino's Pizza Canada (\$1,000,000 cash),
- Windsor Family Credit Union (\$1,000,000 – cash donation plus interest relief).

The college has funded and successfully completed two new parking lots in the Sports Park in time for fall start-up.

Significant construction has taken place on the soccer stadium, press box and the jumbo scoreboard. The footings for the tennis centre are complete, and steel erection will take place in late September.

A redesigned softball diamond has been included in the project as of September 2, 2019 due to increased fundraising from stadium seat sponsorships and an additional \$1 million commitment from the Student Athletic Association.

At this time, park amenities may include:

- West parking lot;
- East parking lot;
- New roadway on east side of the parking lot;
- Walking track from west parking lot to the sand volleyball complex;



- Beacon entrance;
- Outdoor sand volleyball complex that is fully lit, with snack bar/restaurant;

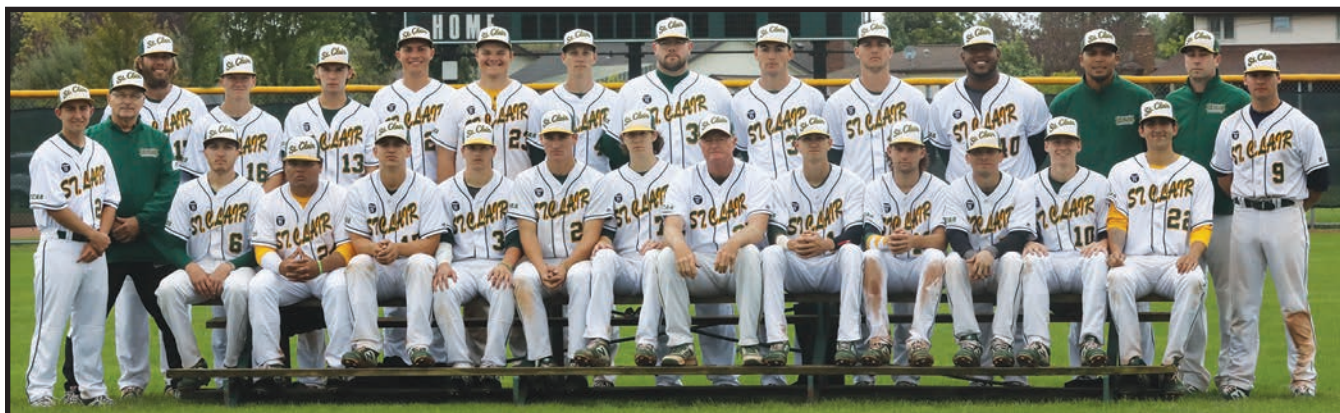
- Zekelman indoor tennis courts – four indoor courts, pro shop and dressing rooms;
- Soccer stadium with artificial turf – fully lit with seating capacity for 1,500;
- Press box;
- Ladies softball diamond with artificial turf – fully lit with spectator bleachers for 300 (new cost of \$2,952,346 plus \$100,000 architect fees).

The Student Athletic Association has approved an annual budget allocation of \$200,000 to ensure the successful operation of the Sports Park.

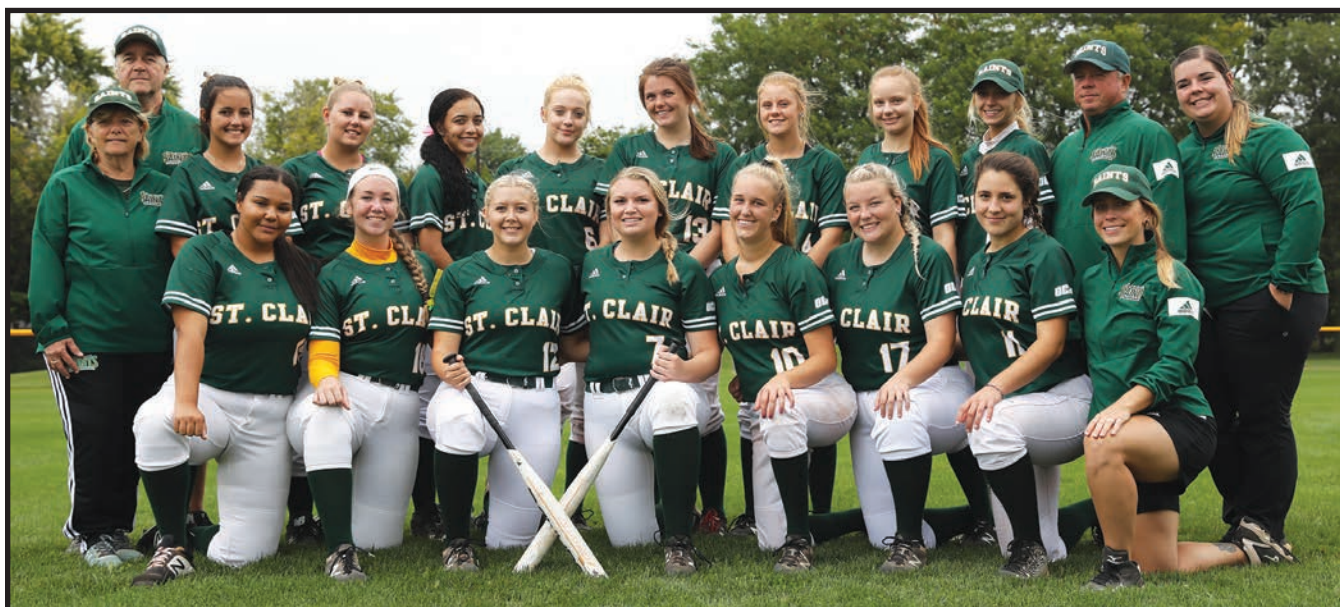
College management, the Student Athletic Association and the Student Representative Council will collaborate closely to ensure a well-rounded mix of varsity sports, intramural sports and student activities occur in the new facility.



Men's Baseball



Women's Softball



Cricket



Women's Soccer



Men's Soccer



Cross-country Running



Men's Basketball



Women's Basketball



Golf



Women's Volleyball



Men's Volleyball



Men's Indoor Soccer



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