## ST. CLAIR COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

## MINUTES OF THE

## FULL BOARD MEETING of the BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Held virtually on October 24, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the President's Board Room #342, Windsor Campus.

## Present:

- Ms. R. Anguiano Hurst
- Mr. A. Barron
- Mr. W. Beck
- Ms. P. Corro-Battagello
- Mr. G. Fenn
- Ms. P. France, President
- Mr. C. Hotham
- Ms. B. Kressler
- Mr. J. Parent
- Ms. J. Piccinato, Chair
- Mr. A. Provost
- Mr. G. Rossi, Vice Chair
- Mr. S. Salmons
- Ms. S. Sasseville
- Mr. E. Sovran, Past Chair
- Mr. A. Teshuba
- Ms. M. Watters
- Ms. G. Wrye

# Also Present:

- Ms. K. Adams, Board Secretary
- Mr. E.P. Chant, Editor, SAINT, Student Newspaper

Mr. J. Fairley, Vice President, College Communications & Community Relations

Mr. B. Jones, Retirees' Observer

Mr. M. Jones, Vice President, Finance & Chief Financial Officer

Mr. R. Kobielski, Faculty Observer

Mr. M. Silvaggi, Vice President, Academic and Registrar

Mr. R. Nicoletti, Executive Director, President's Office, Corporate Secretary & Ministry Compliancy

Ms. K. Parrinello, Support Staff Observer

Mr. R. Peebles, Executive Director, SRC

Mr. R. Seguin, Vice President, International Relations, Training & Campus Development

Mr. J. Sirianni, Vice President, Human Resources, Safety & Facilities Management

Ms. N. Takach, President, SRC

Having a quorum of Governors in attendance either virtually or in person, the Notice of Meeting and the Agenda having been duly sent to all Board members, the meeting was declared regularly constituted. A copy of the Notice of Meeting/Agenda is attached as **Appendix 'A'**.

Ms. J. Piccinato chaired the meeting and Ms. Adams was the recording Board Secretary.

Ms. Piccinato thanked the Board members for adapting to the virtual meeting, as the agenda is short.

Ms. Piccinato noted that St. Clair College's Varsity program had a very successful weekend and shared the Board's congratulations for:

- Women's Softball on their 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive OCAA Gold medal.
- Men's Baseball on their 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive OCAA Gold medal.
- St. Clair College Football on their 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive OFC title.

## 1.0 Adoption of the Agenda and Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Hearing no declarations of conflict of interest and no changes to the agenda, it was

## **RESOLVED THAT** the Board

of Governors adopt the Full Board agenda as presented.

## 2.0 <u>Approval of the Minutes of the Full Board meeting held on Tuesday,</u> <u>September 26, 2023, in Windsor, ON.</u>

Hearing no amendments, errors or omissions to the minutes, it was

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Governors approve the Full Board minutes of the September 26, 2023 meeting.

#### 3.0 <u>Constituent Reports</u>

#### Support Staff

Ms. Parrinello noted that there was nothing to report on behalf of the Support Staff at this time.

#### Faculty

Mr. Kobielski reported the following initiatives and activities on behalf of the Faculty:

• As reported in September, graduates of the Fashion Design program have been attaining jobs in the automotive industry with soft touch finishing and interiors. Potential employers have visited the classrooms of the Fashion Design program to inspire students to consider this industry for potential avenues of employment.

• The second annual Pinning Ceremony for the Practical Nursing program was hosted at the St. Clair College Centre for the Arts. The event was marked with the attendance of 72 graduates who received their RPN pins from faculty.

Eighteen Student Choice awards were also selected and presented at the celebration by students. There were two Faculty Awards presented; the Faculty Choice Award for Excellence in Clinical Compassion, Care and Advocacy and the John Taouil Nursing Award, presented by his wife in his memory. Mr. Taouil was a faculty member of the Practical Nursing program who passed in 2022.

The Community Integration Through Cooperative Education (CICE) program is
organizing a Chili Fundraiser to be held on Halloween in the Student Life Centre (SLC).
The event is a collaboration between CICE students, who will cook the chili in their
culinary class and will then assist the Protection, Security and Investigation (PSI) and
Police Foundations programs to sell and serve.

The CICE program will be hosting an information session for those students interested in applying for Fall 2024 on November 16, 2023, as well as a transition fair for graduates scheduled on November 30, 2023.

• Students in the Police Foundations program have been asked to assist Windsor Police Services (WPS) in hosting the Ontario Gang Investigator Association's annual conference. The conference is well attended by the law enforcement community and provides the opportunity for the College to showcase our program. The students will be able to participate in workshops and acquire a better understanding of high-profile policing initiatives throughout the province and Canada.

Students in the Police Foundations program assisted with the Windsor and London Police Services Public Order Unit (POU) training exercise, which provided invaluable experience regarding maintaining public order and safety techniques, teamwork, discipline and the critical role law enforcement plays in society.

- Four students in the Honours Bachelor Business Administration (Information Communications Technology) degree program and two from the Data Analytics program will be attending the Celebration of Women in Computing conference in Toronto, October 27-28, 2023.
- The Community and Justice Services (CJS) program commenced their Fall 2023 placements and are representing the program in justice agencies in Windsor-Essex, Chatham-Kent and Elgin counties.

Students in the CJS program initiated a Toonies for Turkey Drive that supported 34 people through the Downtown Mission with a Thanksgiving meal and will also participate in the Halloween for Hunger Drive that supports the New Beginning Emergency Food Pantry.

## Student Representative Council (SRC)

Ms. Nour Takach reported the following initiatives and activities on behalf of the SRC:

- The SRC continues to offer both in-person and virtual activities and supports for Fall 2023.
- Ms. Takach outlined the changes to the SRC Board of Directors for 2023-2024:
  - Nour Takach, President
  - Rishi Vatish, Vice President, Windsor Campus
  - Khushi Patel, Vice President, Downtown Campus
  - Isabella Milner, Director
  - Rudri Ravi Pota, Director
  - Harnoor Kaur, Director
  - o Dan Bargo, Director
  - Keith Luize M. DeRamos, Director
- The SRC continues to distribute Transit Windsor bus passes to students and to advocate on behalf of the students to ensure their needs are met with the launch of some new routes.
- Upcoming and recurring events include:
  - Weekly yoga sessions.
  - Bi-weekly therapy dogs.
  - Bi-weekly Gaymes Nights.
- The SRC was invited to participate in the International Student Orientation sessions on October 12 and 13, 2023 and October 19 and 20, 2023. The sessions were designed to assist students with "Getting to Know Canada".
- The first Class Representative meeting was held on Friday, October 13, 2023, with over 100 students in attendance. The SRC thanked College Administration for participating in the meeting.
- All food services with the SRC have resumed regular hours, including Williams Fresh Café located at the Downtown Campus.
- The SRC has hired four additional staff as their operations continue to expand, as well as in preparation for upcoming retirements. An additional staff has been added at the Ace Acumen Campus to assist the Student Success Coordinator.
- Bird Scooters are now available for rent at the Windsor Campus.
- The on-campus Food Bank is available at the Windsor, Downtown and Ace Acumen campuses with more than 100 active applications.

- The SafeWalk program has resumed at the Windsor Campuses and the SRC has hired additional student leads for these roles. A Safe Walk program is also being considered for the Toronto campuses.
- The Sexual Violence Prevention (SVP) team continues to plan events and sessions for the Fall 2023 semester, including Sexy Bingo Lingo with Alishia Fisher and other consent topics.
- Esports has returned with some new recruits for the 2023-2024 season, as well as some veteran players. With the addition of the Esports Events and Marketing Manager, the SRC looks forward to an increased student life on campus.
- In collaboration with Student Services, Career Workshops continue to be offered to assist students with budgeting, resume writing and job ready interview skills.
- Student Club applications are currently open for the semester and ratification will close in the upcoming weeks. Club information sessions are being offered for current club executives, as well as those looking to start a club on campus.
- Campus Computer Labs are operating at full capacity.
- The SRC and TSI continue to meet bi-weekly with the Academic Integrity Facilitator and are collaborating with the Centre for Academic Excellence and Student Services to ensure communication of the importance of academic integrity.
- Ace Acumen liaisons are working on initiatives to develop more interactions with students, along with the Class Rep program.

#### Retirees' Association

Mr. Jones provided the following report on the initiatives and activities on behalf of the Retirees' Association:

- The Retirees' Association held their meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. Mr. Fairley provided the group with College updates.
- The Windsor Retirees' have scheduled monthly luncheons for those who are interested in joining. The first was held at Wolfhead Distilleries, with 55 in attendance. The group will also be participating in a tour and film at Willistead Manor.
- The Retirees' Christmas luncheons are scheduled for November 30, 2023, in Chatham at the Links of Kent Golf Club and December 16, 2023, in Windsor at the St. Clair College Centre for the Arts.

At this time, Mr. Fairley presented two videos in celebration of President France's Lifetime Achievement Award:

- Douglas Marketing Group (DMG), the College's marketing agency of record, created a video celebrating all that St. Clair College has become under the direction of President France.
- Mehari Hagos and the MH100 program, created a video thanking President France for what she and the College have done for the youth in the community and MH100.

## 4.0 <u>President's Report</u>

The Board Chair called on the President to provide her report to the Board.

Ms. France noted that the President's Report was included in the Full Board meeting documents, sent out via email and posted on the Board portal. She outlined the events and initiatives that have occurred since the last Board meeting:

- The Fall 2023 Academic Excellence Awards Banquet was held on Thursday, September 28, 2023. The awards recognize two outstanding graduates from each program; one for academic excellence and one for a remarkable blend of academics and leadership.
- As National Day for Truth and Reconciliation fell over a weekend, St. Clair College recognized the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on Friday, September 29, 2023, by wearing orange to recognize that every child matters.
- The College held an Open House for all staff on Monday, October 2, 2023, to congratulate Mr. Michael Silvaggi on his appointment as the seventh President of St. Clair College. The announcement was made on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, by Ms. Piccinato, Chair, Board of Governors. The announcement brought an outpouring of positive responses by both staff and the community.
- The Fall 2023 Convocation Sessions were held on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at the WFCU, Thursday, October 5, 2023 at the Capitol Theatre in Chatham and on October 11 and 12, 2023 at the Meridian Arts Centre in Toronto.
- President France was pleased to report that students studying in the Collaborative Nursing program at the Chatham Campus will no longer have to travel to Windsor for their third year, in order to complete their degree. This is the result of a revised agreement between St. Clair College and the University of Windsor, signed at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance on Thursday, October 5, 2023.
- St. Clair College Women's Softball team successfully defended their Canadian Collegiate Softball Association National Championship, with a 5-0 record on Thanksgiving weekend.

- Trevor Jones, MPP, visited the Chatham Campus for a tour. While there, he visited with several faculty and learned about the programs that the College offers at the Chatham campus.
- On Wednesday, October 11, 1023, students and staff from the Protection, Security and Investigations (PSI) and Police Foundations programs, participated in a Fall 2023 street cleanup of Cabana Road. President France thanked all who participated as the College appreciates their efforts in keeping our community safe and clean.
- St. Clair College was a proud sponsor of the Windsor Symphony Orchestra's "WSO Rocks!, The Music of Fleetwood Mac" that was presented at the Chrysler Theatre on Friday, October 13, 2023.
- St. Clair College was a proud sponsor of the 2023 Chatham-Kent Crowfest, a celebration of all things "crow" in Chatham-Kent. The main events were held on October 13 and 14, 2023 in Downtown Chatham. The Crowfest Gala was held on Thursday, October 12, 2023.
- On Monday, October 16, 2023, the Honourable Jill Dunlop, Minister, Colleges and Universities sent a letter advising that the College's consent to offer an Honours Bachelor of Business Administration (Information Communication Technology) has been extended for two years.
- President France congratulated the Culinary Program on winning the "Best Pasta Dish" at The Pastabilities Luncheon at the Ciociaro Club on Tuesday, October 17, 2023. The luncheon was hosted by the Culinary Federation of Windsor in partnership with UHC – Hub of Opportunities and supports the Plentiful Harvest Food Rescue Program. St. Clair College and various local restaurants participated in the event, serving up delicious pasta dishes.
- President France expressed her appreciation for all those who attended the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Gala, where she received the Lifetime Achievement Award. As part of her acceptance of the award, she thanked the dedicated staff of St. Clair College, the Board of Governors and members of organizations in the community that she has had the opportunity to work with.
- The College Employer Council (CEC) and OPSEU/SEFPO CAAT part-time support staff have reached an agreement to increase wages for the 2021-2024 collective agreement. The two parties successfully negotiated a mutually agreed upon remedy based on the current status of Bill 124. Eligible part-time support staff will receive an additional 6.5% increase in addition to the 3% increase received under Bill 124, totaling 9.5% over the course of the collective agreement.
- President France congratulated the St. Clair College Men's Baseball, Women's Softball and Saints Football teams, who all won Ontario Championships on Saturday, October 21, 2023.

The President's report is attached to the minutes as Item #4.0.

The President also noted that the media report was sent out electronically and is attached for information.

## 5.0 <u>Consent Agenda</u>

The Board Chair noted the following items that have been provided on the Consent Agenda:

- 5.1 Increase Enrolment Maintain Domestic Enrolment.
- 5.2 Increase Corporate Training Enhance our Reputation as a Training Centre for the Workforce of our Community.
- 5.3 Brand Identification Continuation of New Brand "Rise Above the Ordinary" Initiatives.
- 5.4 Development of Human Resources Staff Wellness.
- 5.5 Apprenticeship Key Performance Indicators (KPI).

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Governors receive and approve the contents of the October 24, 2023 Consent Agenda, as presented.

#### 6.0 <u>Monitoring Reports</u>

6.1 <u>Financial Monitoring Update</u>

The Board Chair called upon Mr. M. Jones for this item. Mr. Jones reviewed the information contained in the Financial Monitoring Report for the six-months ended September 30, 2023.

Mr. Jones highlighted the following from the report:

• The net surplus at September 30, 2023 of \$18 million, represents an increase of \$4.1 million from the net surplus noted for the 2022 comparative period of \$13.9 million. This variance is primarily due to the following:

#### **Revenues**

- Total Tuition Revenue has increased \$8.9 million as a result of higher enrolment.
- An increase in Interest Income of \$3.1 million due to significant increases in the Bank of Canada's policy interest rate and higher cash holdings.

• An increase in PCPP Fee for Service of \$1 million, as a result of higher enrolment at Ace Acumen for the Spring and Fall semesters.

#### **Expenditures**

- Total Salaries and Benefits have increased over the comparative period by \$2.5 million primarily due to the retroactive and in-year payments related to the ruling of Bill 124 by the Ontario Superior Court.
- Total Non-Salary expenditures have increased over the 2022 comparative period by \$5.5 million. This can primarily be attributed to the following:
  - An increase in Contracted Educational Services as a result of higher enrolment from students attending the Toronto Campuses and flowing the applicable funds to Ace Acumen.
  - An increase in Contracted Services Other as a result of higher agent commissions to recruit the growth in international student enrolment.

#### Ancillary Operations

The Ancillary Operations surplus of \$97,000 and improved by \$334,000 over the 2022 comparative period. This can primarily be attributed to the St. Clair College Centre for the Arts take-out operation as a result of providing food services to New Canadians.

A Governor inquired what the year-to-date surplus currently is, as it is not included in the Financial Monitoring Update.

Mr. Jones responded that the Financial Monitoring Report outlines the budget as it relates to the Income Statement. The Balance Sheet forecast are brought forward at the Mid-Year Review in November and Budget presentation in March. At September 30, 2023, the College has attained a surplus of \$18 million, which is an increase of \$4.1 million in the 2022 comparative period. The 2022-2023 fiscal year ended with a \$37.9 million surplus and the forecast for this fiscal year will be brought forward at the November Board meeting.

After a brief discussion it was

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Governors receive the Financial Monitoring Update for the six months ended September 30, 2023, for Information.

## 7.0 By-law and Policy Review

## 7.1 By-law and Policy Review Schedule

The Board Chair spoke to this item noting that the review of Board By-laws and Policies has been suspended. A schedule is being developed that will include mandatory dates for review for all by-laws and policies and will be brought forward to the Board.

## 9.0 Date of the Next Meeting

9.1 The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 28, 2023.

The Full Board meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

#### MISSION STATEMENT

Transforming lives and strengthening communities through high quality and accessible educational experiences that support career-readiness, innovation, and life-long learning.

## ST. CLAIR COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

## 512th FULL BOARD MEETING

## <u>of the</u>

## **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

## **NOTICE OF MEETING**

- DATE: Tuesday, October 24, 2023
- <u>TIME</u>: 5:30 p.m.
- <u>NOTE</u>: This meeting will be held virtually with the meeting invitation forthcoming.

## **AGENDA**

- 1.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
- 2.0 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL BOARD MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 IN WINDSOR, ON
- 3.0 CONSTITUENT REPORTS
- 4.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Policy – Executive Limitations Communication & Counsel #2003-21)

**Information Item** – The President will provide her report to the Board apprising the Board of any new developments since the last meeting.

- 5.0 CONSENT AGENDA
  - 5.1 Increase Enrolment Maintain Domestic Enrolment

**Information Item** – Administration has provided a report on Strategic Direction #2 – Students (Retention, Graduation Rate and Success) – Maintain postsecondary full-time enrolment within existing corridor, attached as Item #5.1. 5.2 Increase Corporate Training – Enhance our Reputation as a Training Centre for the Workforce of our Community

**Information Item –** Administration has provided a report on Strategic Direction #3 – Community Engagement (Leadership, Communication and Partnership) – Excluding PCPP, increase entrepreneurial (non-public) revenue by 3% (15% over 5 years), attached as Item #5.2.

5.3 Brand Identification – Continuation of New Brand "Rise Above the Ordinary" Initiatives

**Information Item –** Administration has provided a report on Strategic Direction #3 – Community Engagement (Leadership, Communication and Partnership) – The number of actions taken to increase brand awareness, attached as Item #5.3.

5.4 Development of Human Resources – Staff Wellness

**Information Item –** Administration has provided a report on Strategic Direction #4 – Human Resources (Staff Development, Efficiency, Effectiveness and Wellness) – Continue to promote staff collaboration and engagement through monthly or quarterly activities, attached as Item #5.4.

5.5 Apprenticeship Key Performance Indicators (KPI)

**Information Item** – Administration has provided a report to the Board regarding the Apprenticeship Key Performance Indicators (KPI), attached as Item #5.5.

#### 6.0 MONITORING REPORTS

6.1 Financial Monitoring Update

**Information Item** – An update has been provided to the Board regarding Actual to Budget: April 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023, attached as Item #6.1.

#### 7.0 BY-LAW AND POLICY REVIEW

7.1 By-law and Policy Review Schedule

**Information Item** – An update will be provided to the Board regarding the schedule for By-law and Policy review.

- 8.0 NEW BUSINESS
- 9.0 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING
  - 9.1 The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at the Windsor Campus.



TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT

DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2023

## RE: STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS UPDATE: STUDENTS (RETENTION, GRADUATION RATE AND SUCCESS) – MAINTAIN DOMESTIC ENROLMENT

SECTOR: COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS JOHN FAIRLEY, VICE PRESIDENT

## <u>AIM:</u>

To provide the Board of Governors with an update on the Strategic Directions (2023-2024). This update pertains to Strategic Direction #2 Students (Retention, Graduation Rate and Success) – Increase Enrolment. Specific details include the following:

Goal	Objective	Measure	Target
Increase	Maintain domestic	Maintain post-secondary full-time	Annually
Enrolment	enrolment.	enrolment within the existing corridor.	Annually

## BACKGROUND:

Enrolment-based funding provides grants based on historical enrolments. It is intended to provide a level of stability and predictability that allows colleges to engage in multi-year planning. Colleges entered the corridor model for Enrolment-Based Funding for domestic students in 2019-2020. The Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) allocates the Core Operating Grant (Enrolment-Based Envelope) based on enrolment through the corridor mechanism.

A college's Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) enrolment is converted into Weighted Funding Units (WFU), which are established from the Ministry's evaluation of each academic program's duration, cost, and complexity of delivery. Colleges receive an unchanged share of funding provided their enrolment remains within a specific range (the corridor), represented by WFU and calculated on a three-year average, two-year slip.

The Ministry established each college's respective corridor mid-point. From the midpoint, the ceiling allows for a 3% increase (+3%) and a 7% decrease (-7%). St. Clair College's enrolment corridor details are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Ceiling +3%	Midpoint	Floor -7%	FTE Actual	WFU Actual	WFU Corridor
2016-17	-	-	-	8,105.69	10,350.83	10,522.75
2017-18	-	-	-	7,716.99	10,009.24	10,542.09
2018-19	-	-	-	7,502.19	9,813.22	10,471.31
2019-20	10,595.77	10,287.16	9,567.06	7,375.22	9,712.14	10,287.16
2020-21	10,595.77	10,287.16	9,567.06	6,932.67	9,019.61	10,057.76
2021-22	10,595.77	10,287.16	9,567.06	6,902.50	9,150.04	9,844.87
2022-23	10,595.77	10,287.16	9,567.06	6,799.52	8,989.91	9,514.99
2023-24	10,595.77	10,287.16	9,567.06	-	-	9,293.93

Based on the above results, a funding decrease of \$63,890 is anticipated for 2023-2024 as we have fallen below the corridor floor. An additional funding decrease of \$354,632 is anticipated in 2024-2025 due to the continued decline below the corridor floor.

At our Day 10 Ministry enrolment number in September, we had increased domestic enrolment year over year, by just over 2% (6,966 from 6,824), which was one of our goals and objectives established at the Winter retreat.

To increase our domestic enrolment in 2023-2024 and beyond, initiatives include the following:

- 1. Emphasizing College Branding: Promoting the College's brand in all local marketing efforts, sponsorships, events and community partnerships in Chatham-Kent and Windsor-Essex. We continue to build a strong and recognizable brand to attract more students.
- 2. K-12 Engagement: College recruiters schedule visits to local high schools throughout Windsor-Essex, Chatham-Kent and Lambton-Middlesex during the school year. The department and faculty provide tours and presentations at our campuses and at the schools specifically tailored to individual audiences (guidance counselors, faculty, administrators), with a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs. This will help create awareness about the programs the College offers and encourages them to recommend St. Clair to their students.

Students from grades seven and eight had the opportunity to experience the College's programs and facilities through College events, tours and other activities. To date, over 1,500 students from these grades have participated in at least one College activity.

We have conducted activities and tours for various schools for students in Grades 5-8:

- Grade 5 with 2 tours or activities with 85 attending
- Grade 6 with 3 tours or activities with 405 attending
- Grade 7 with 8 tours or activities with 669 attending
- Grade 8 with 9 tours or activities with 599 attending

- 3. Industry and Community Partnerships: Collaborating with industry and community partners for joint recruiting efforts is an excellent way to showcase the benefits of a St. Clair College education. These partnerships can provide insights, resources and connections to high school students, parents and influencers.
- 4. Data-Driven Marketing: Research data on programs and student demographics is essential to shaping targeted marketing campaigns in the region. This approach ensures that our efforts are aligned with the interests and needs of potential students.
- 5. Retention Analysis: Working with the Retention Committee to analyze and understand student retention rates is crucial. Identifying the factors contributing to retention and developing plans to improve it will help maintain enrolled students.
- 6. New Opportunities: The College Senior Operations Group and Administration work to identify new opportunities and programs to attract domestic students. Adapting to changing educational and market trends is key to sustained enrollment growth.
- 7. Community Engagement: The College has begun to engage local community groups that haven't traditionally prioritized a college education to identify and remove barriers. This summer and fall, we have hosted many tours and activity events for such groups that can raise awareness and make post-secondary education more accessible.

Community Outreach with WEST, MH100, Try-A-Trade Event, Multicultural Council and others:

- Elementary with 5 tours or activities with 179 attending.
- Secondary with 4 tours or activities with 124 attending.
- Adult with 21 tours or activities with 339 attending.
- 8. Entrance Scholarships: The College partners with community groups and associations to provide entrance scholarships and bursaries for high school students who participate in various events and competitions. Some of the annual opportunities for entrance scholarships are the First Robotics competition and the Special Olympics Polar Plunge.

The College's Marketing and Recruitment Department is taking a comprehensive approach to increase domestic enrollment, ranging from marketing and outreach to partnerships and datadriven decision-making. Success in these efforts and our adaptability will be key to achieving enrollment goals for the upcoming academic year.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Governors receive this update on Strategic Direction #2 Students (Retention, Graduation Rate and Success) as it pertains to increasing enrolment, for information.



TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT

DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2023

RE: STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS UPDATE – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (LEADERSHIP, COMMUNICATION AND PARTNERSHIP) – INCREASE CORPORATE TRAINING

SECTOR: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT AND STUDENT SERVICES - RON SEGUIN, VICE PRESIDENT

## <u>AIM:</u>

To provide the Board of Governors with an update on the Strategic Directions (2023–2024). This update pertains to Strategic Direction #3 – Community Engagement (Leadership, Communication and Partnership) – Increase Corporate Training, in an effort to enhance our reputation as a training centre for the workforce of our community. Specific details include the following:

Goal	Objective	Measure	Target
Increase Corporate Training.	Enhance our reputation as a training centre for the workforce of our community.	Excluding PCPP, increase entrepreneurial (non-public) revenue by 3% (15% over 5 years).	Annually

## BACKGROUND:

St. Clair College's Corporate and Professional Training division extends the College's programs and training services to business and industry. This division specializes in providing the kind of learning and training that is required by companies who view employee skill enhancement and education as a business tool to maintain their competitive edge in the global marketplace. St. Clair College's Corporate and Professional Training Programs are custom designed to fit industry's specific needs, delivering affordable, results-oriented training, both nationally and internationally.

Corporate Training revenue has increased 18.8 % during 2022-23 over the previous year and we continue to add clients/employers and new initiatives each year. St. Clair College was meeting its strategic objectives of increasing corporate training, averaging a 38% increase over the 2016-2020 years. The current year's revenue is projected to surpass the last 2 years and finish near the base year level (2015-16).

Year	Revenue	Increase
2015-2016	\$625,489	Base Year
2016-2017	\$840,458	34 % Increase from Base Year
2017-2018	\$950,260	52% Increase from Base Year
2018-2019	\$887,178	42% Increase from Base Year
2019-2020	\$775,913	24% Increase from Base Year
2020-2021	\$429,763	31% Decrease from Base Year
2021-2022	\$476,044	24% Decrease from Base Year
2022-2023	\$565,656	9.5% Decrease from Base Year
2023-2024	\$274,001	April 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023 (mid-year).

As businesses experience a post-pandemic recovery, the College continues to experience an increasing need for Corporate Training.

St. Clair College continues to deliver customized corporate and professional training for several key local and global businesses, including Next Star Energy, Windsor Salt, Can Art Aluminum, Stellantis, Windsor Regional Hospital, City of Windsor, Ford Motor Company, Hiram Walker, Greater Essex County District School Board, Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor (WEST), as well as a number of Tier 1 and 2 suppliers to Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs). Our advanced manufacturing knowledge and training programs afford us the ability to continually seek new opportunities.

While there have been several additional Corporate Training clients/employers, a new training project worth noting, is a partnership with Prosperity Roundtable to provide Handyperson Skills to disadvantaged youth in the Chatham-Kent area.

Apprenticeship Aptitude Testing services were provided for Ford Motor Company-Windsor plant as well as on-site service for the Oakville Assembly plant.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Governors receive this update on Strategic Direction #3 – Community Engagement (Leadership, Communication and Partnership) – Increase Corporate Training, in an effort to enhance our reputation as a training centre for the workforce of our community, for information.



- TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS
- FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT
- DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2023
- RE: STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS UPDATE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (LEADERSHIP, COMMUNICATION AND PARTNERSHIP) – BRAND IDENTIFICATION

SECTOR: COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS JOHN FAIRLEY, VICE PRESIDENT

## <u>AIM:</u>

To provide the Board of Governors with an update on the Strategic Directions (2023-2024). This update is related to Strategic Direction #3 – Community Engagement (Leadership, Communication and Partnership) regarding brand identification and the continuation of the new brand "Rise Above the Ordinary" initiatives. Specific details include the following:

Goal	Objective	Measure	Target
Brand Identification	Continuation of new brand "Rise Above the Ordinary" initiatives.	Number of actions taken to increase brand awareness.	Annually

## BACKGROUND:

St. Clair College's 2023-2024 Rise Above the Ordinary marketing and branding initiatives are focused on display and on-line advertising. The College continues its partnership with Douglas Marketing Group (DMG) as our agency of record.

Our long-standing taglines: "Start Here Go Anywhere", "Rise Above the Ordinary", "The World Needs You – See Beyond Today", "Take Flight", "Saints Nation" and "Saints Strong" continue. New for the Chatham campus and Chatham-Kent region "Get Further Closer to Home" promoting staying home for post-secondary with Chatham campus offerings.

# Saints Athletics Success

The investment in the St. Clair College Saints Varsity programs have boosted the brand of the College. The "Saints Nation" brand has been very popular and is being marketed by the College's student groups and promotion of varsity sports. Varsity sports draw the community to our campuses and gives them the opportunity to experience the campus beautification efforts and to view the College's state-of-the-art facilities. The recruiting effort of varsity athletes, both locally and provincially has been impactful for our overall domestic strategy.

The Saints Varsity teams have had a highly successful 2022-2023 season. The media coverage the College has received as a result of this success has certainly contributed to our brand and recruiting efforts. This past year, the Saints teams and athletes won two national medals, four provincial medals and a provincial championship for the St. Clair Saints Football team.

# 2023- 2024 Marketing Calendar

The following is a year at a glance of our marketing calendar with key dates of various campaigns.



# **Online Strategy**

For various campaigns, data is collected from online College recruitment and branding initiatives to gain insight into student preferences.

April 1, 2023 – October 13, 2023 (Globally)

Note: This reflects the two online campaign periods.

# Programmatic (program specific) and Behavioural (student experience):

- Delivered a total 3,375,485 impressions on ad sets.
- This equates to 9208 clicks to campaign related sites.
- Click through rate 2.01 %.

# Facebook/Instagram:

• Impressions (each time someone sees the ad): 722,612

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 • Clicks on the ad: 11,387

# Search Engine Marketing:

- Generated 18,974 impressions.
- Clicks on the ads: 2,233
- CTR 11.77%
- This tactic was added as a final push for the recruitment funnel July and proved to be highly effective with more than double the CTR benchmark achieved.

# Traditional Media

- 1. Radio
  - Bell Media: AM800, 93.9 FM, 88.7 FM commercials and sponsorships.
  - Blackburn Radio: commercials and sponsorships in Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent.
  - Wallaceburg 99.1 FM commercials and sponsorships.
  - Amherstburg 107.9 FM commercials and sponsorships.
- 2. Newspapers Community, National, Online and Trade Publications

Windsor Star, Chatham Daily News, Essex Free Press / The Drive / Biz X/ Windsor Life / Neighbours LaSalle / Southpoint Sun (Leamington)/ Wallaceburg Courier/ OSCA / Skills Ontario / WE Manufacture / Perspective (Globe and Mail) / Toronto Star / National Post / Harrow News (new this year) / Macleans

## 3. Billboard

• Year-round contracts were purchased, securing key locations throughout Windsor, Chatham and Wallaceburg.

# 4. Television

• CTV, CBC, YourTV (Cogeco Cable) commercials and sponsorships.

# Website Traffic

The Website traffic and number of sessions has continued to increase since the implementation of the digital recruitment strategy in 2019. Overall, there were 52,910 users on the site between April 1, 2023 – October 13, 2023.

- This reporting cycle is based on the new Google reporting platform which provides the data in new data points.
- The bounce rate of <u>discoverstclaricollege.ca</u> is at 65.75% (A *bounce* is a single-page session on your site. In Analytics, a bounce is calculated specifically when a user opens a single page on your site and then exits without triggering any other requests to the Analytics server during that session).

During the last fiscal year, the recruitment team, along with DMG have continued to grow the microsite with pages that are specific and targeted for future students. This was presented as a first phase to the recruitment strategy and has become the hub for all online advertising initiatives as well as virtual recruitment outreach.

DMG is currently working with the College's recruitment team to refresh discoverstclaircollege.ca to reflect the evolving media behaviours and optimize the user experience for mobile over desktop. This will include an improved Virtual Tour walk through with featured highlights called out as well as a shortened and concise messaging on school specific pages, a guidance counsellor page with downloadable resources, student experience/day in the lifestyle-blog approach to maintain fresh consistent content.

**Discoverstclaircollege.com** and **st.claircollege.com** work in tandem and pull relevant information from each other based on the users' stage of decision making. This is possible with tagging at key access points and buttons within the website. The following charts outline the total visits from the <u>discoverstclaircollege.com</u> site and the form completions on the site that are used by the recruitment team for follow up and ongoing communications.

Top 5 Pages on Discover St. Clair College Microsite	Views	Event Count
/ (Home)	33,320	98,629
/why-choose-st-clair/	20,042	56,032
/chatham-campus/	8,560	23,133
/take-a-virtual-tour/	7,212	71,508
admissions-handbook/	4,744	16,174

This represents traffic from April 1, 2023- October 13, 2023

Total Users = 52,910 (unique counts) Form submissions = 808

The new Google analytics platform has provided significant learnings that can support the advancement of campaign recommendations.

Numbers By Engagement:

Engagement Type	Number of Actions
Page Views	91,323
Video Starts	14,055
Video Completes	10,647
Virtual Tour Starts	11,627

The data above supports:

- Video continues to be the best way to showcase the College and its assets.
- Virtual tours are high on the engagement rate and are a go-to for prospective students year-over-year

Data shows an interesting shift in metrics on the site with more audience coming to **<u>discoverstclaircollege.ca</u>** from the Toronto area than other cities. The below snapshot

is for the from April 1, 2023 – October 2023, however in reviewing the larger picture for the full year, the Toronto metrics are higher.

<u>Note</u>: "Not Set" is due to privacy filters of the data that is brought through the browsers.

Based on these findings, further discussion around greater opportunities for potential catchment areas for key programs is recommended.

City	<u>Users</u>
Windsor	11231
Toronto	9133
(not set)	4886
Chatham	1626
London	1169
Columbus	935
Kingsville	914
Montreal	827
Brampton	718
Mumbai	552
Quebec City	555
Ahmedabad	511
Ludhiana	470
Mississauga	453

Of the traffic coming to our site, below is the devices which are used:

- Mobile: 54.1%
- Desktop: 38.8%
- Tablet: 7.8%

With close to 60% market share coming from mobile devices in this period, it is paramount that all efforts for this promotional website be mobile-first approach. Desktop is tailing off year-over-year and will continue to do so as the presentation medium for mobile continues to advance.

# Search Engine Optimization and Search Engine Marketing for Website and Social Media Platforms Analytics

- The College has engaged a community partner to provide Search Engine optimization (SEO) and Search Engine Marketing (SEM) work.
- SEO is the process of improving the quality and quantity of website traffic to a website or a web page from search engines. Specifically, unpaid traffic rather than direct traffic or paid traffic.
- SEM is a form of Internet marketing that involves the promotion of websites by increasing their visibility in search engine results pages, primarily through paid advertising.

# Non-Traditional Marketing

Other branding initiatives this year:

- Ongoing campus beautification initiatives.
- Replacement of College banners on campuses and on downtown streets.
- Increased student space at the Downtown Windsor campus at 333 Riverside Drive.
- Social Media use of hashtags #saintsnation #stclaircollege, #riseabovetheordinary #saintsnation #saintsstrong.
- Increasing engagement on all social platforms.
- Working with the Alumni Association to use funding to support cross promotion and community presence at local events.
- Branding in Alumni Association, SRC, SSAA and TSI social media platforms of Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
- Community engagement with Saints Athletics in partnerships and hosting of tournaments and games at the Sports Park and SportsPlex.
- Event Partnerships and Sponsorships (Ruthven Apple Festival, Chatham Crowfest, Esports Varsity Team, Windsor International Film Festival, Art in the Park, Fight Like Mason Foundation, First Robotics, Canadian Mental Health Association, Impact Wrestling and Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards (BEA) sponsorships in both Windsor and Chatham).
- Partnerships with our student groups SSAA, SRC and TSI.
- Partnerships with Windsor Tennis Management and local charity groups at the Zekelman Tennis Centre.
- Partnership with Art Gallery of Windsor and Zekelman Foundation for outdoor art displays on our Windsor campus.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Governors receive this update on Strategic Direction #3 – Community Engagement (Leadership, Communication and Partnership) regarding brand identification and the continuation of the new brand "Rise Above the Ordinary" initiatives, for information.



- TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS
- FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT
- DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2023
- RE: STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS UPDATE HUMAN RESOURCES (STAFF DEVELOPMENT, EFFICIENCY, EFFECTIVENESS AND WELLNESS) – DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES – STAFF WELLNESS
- SECTOR: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT AND STUDENT SERVICES – RON SEGUIN, VICE PRESIDENT HUMAN RESOURCES, SAFETY, SECURITY AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT – JOE SIRIANNI, VICE PRESIDENT

## <u>AIM</u>:

To provide the Board of Governors with an update on the Strategic Directions (2023–2024). This update is related to Strategic Direction #4 – Human Resources (Staff Development, Efficiency, Effectiveness and Wellness) regarding the commitment to promote staff collaboration and engagement through monthly or quarterly activities.

Goal	Objective	Measure	Target
Development of Human Resources	Staff wellness.	Continue to promote staff collaboration and engagement through monthly or quarterly activities.	Annually

## BACKGROUND:

The College, recognizing that staff wellness and staff appreciation is critical to the wellbeing of employees created both the Staff Engagement and Staff Wellness Committees. In 2022, the Staff Engagement Committee was merged into the Staff Wellness Committee to ensure effective communication and delivery of events and activities. The Staff Wellness Committee is comprised of representatives from faculty, support staff and administration.

The Staff Wellness Committee's mandate is to foster staff relationships, facilitate networking, recognition, engagement and to promote a work environment that encourages healthy lifestyle choices, decreases the risk of illness and disease, addresses our employees' physical and mental health and general well-being among St. Clair College staff.

# Staff Appreciation

2023-2024 Staff Appreciation initiatives include:

- 2023 Staff Appreciation Day was held on June 13, 2023, in the Classic Gym. Brunch was provided while the College welcomed new employees, celebrated 25-year award recipients, provided best wishes to our retirees and announced the Staff Excellence Award recipients.
- The Welcome Back BBQ was held on August 28, 2023.
- St. Clair College Staff Cares Welcome back to campus initiative during the week of September 5, 2023. This included the following:
  - Tuesday, September 5, 2023 Staff were welcomed back to campus. Assorted k-cups of coffees, teas, latte, hot chocolate and apple cider were provided. K-cups and supplies were refreshed all week. St. Clair College Staff Cares (SCCSC) poster containing note: "Sip, sip, Hooray, Thanks a 'latte' for all you do!"
  - Wednesday, September 6, 2023 "Extra" brand gum packs. SCCSC poster containing note: "Thanks for your involvement, commitment, encouragement and employment."
  - Thursday, September 7, 2023 Mini chocolate bars. SCCSC poster containing note: "Let's 'Choco' about how amazing St. Clair College is for the role you play every day"
  - Friday, September 8, 2023 Small candy treat packs. SCCSC poster containing note: "It's such a treat to have great staff like you, here's to a sweet start".
  - St. Clair College will host its annual Holiday Brunch for all staff and retirees on December 19, 2023. In appreciation of the year and as a holiday gift, full-time staff will receive a gift certificate to the College's on-line merchandise store.

# Staff Wellness Committee

The Staff Wellness Committee initiates staff collaboration and engagement activities.

The Staff Wellness Committee developed monthly themes emphasizing wellness. Each month, for eight months, emails were circulated with information to create awareness and promote the monthly theme. In addition, activities throughout the month were structured for continued promotion. These monthly themes included:

- Emotional Wellness.
- Intellectual Wellness.
- Environmental Wellness.
- Spiritual Wellness.
- Physical Wellness.
- Social Wellness.
- Financial Wellness.
- Occupational Wellness.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023

# Initiatives included:

- Virtual yoga (monthly).
- Chair Yoga and Guided Meditation sessions (monthly).
- Staff Trivia Night in October 2023 To be determined.
- Staff beach volleyball was offered during the summer months.
- An indoor walking path/map as part of the iMove initiative.
- Choose to Improve Program lead by the health centre, an 8-week program of healthy living.
- Bike Workshop: Bike Safety in Windsor and on Campus by Bike Windsor-Essex.
- Herb Gray Parkway Walk/Run Group.
- Outdoor group fitness with Pete Soulliere; Staff badminton, basketball, volleyball and pickleball
- Staff fitness activities are offered year-round, aqua fitness will start in mid-October.
- Wellness SCC Strong Survey.
- Monthly Wellness email distribution on the 8 Dimensions of Wellness.
- Bell "Let's Talk" video promotion on mental health and mental health resources.
- April 22, 2023 Earth Day communication and resources.
- Downtown Core Partnership initiatives with community partners.
- 2022 Healthy Workplace Awards (Platinum) for Organizational Social Responsibility, Health and Safety and Mental Health Promotion.
- 30-day Meal Prep Challenge through Family Services Employee Assistance Program (FSEAP).
- Lunch and learns on various health topics offered through FSEAP.
- Staff Golf Tournament at Woodland Hills June 15, 2023
- The Wellness Committee sponsored 4, \$25-dollar gift cards to Booster Juice for golf tournament awards.

The Committee continues to meet and develop new ideas to promote employee wellness and positive collaboration. Based on the results of the SCC Strong Wellness Survey, SCC staff have really enjoyed physical fitness activities and would like us to continue with these offerings.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Governors receive this update on Strategic Direction #4 – Human Resources (Staff Development, Efficiency, Effectiveness and Wellness) regarding the commitment to promote staff collaboration and engagement through monthly or quarterly activities, for information.



- TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS
- FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT
- DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2023
- RE: 2022-2023 APPRENTICESHIP KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR (KPI) RESULTS
- SECTOR: FINANCE MARC JONES, VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

#### ACADEMIC MICHAEL SILVAGGI, VICE PRESIDENT AND REGISTRAR

## <u>AIM:</u>

To provide the Board with an update regarding the College's Apprenticeship KPI Survey.

## **BACKGROUND:**

From the 2013-2014 to 2017-2018 academic years, the Apprenticeship KPI survey ran alongside the similarly mandated post-secondary Student Satisfaction KPI survey. In 2018-2019, the Apprenticeship KPI survey was conducted, however, results were not released by the Ministry due to a change in policy that made the survey non-mandatory. The College's internal administration of the survey was pre-empted in 2019-2020 and interrupted in 2020-2021 by COVID-19 complications. St. Clair College proceeded to conduct the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 surveys as designed and intended.

## RESULTS:

The satisfaction rates for the capstone questions of the Apprenticeship KPI survey yielded comparable results. A year-over-year comparison is provided below. As the survey was conducted internally, we cannot benchmark the College's performance against Provincial results, as results are not shared and most institutions are no longer conducting the survey. The results are compiled based upon receipt of 151 responses, a response ratio of 38.92%.

	2021-2022	2022-2023
Knowledge and Skills	80%	69%
Learning Experiences	75%	60%
Services	56%	55%
Facilities	61%	69%
Overall	68%	63%

# ACTION PLAN:

An analysis of the College's 2022-2023 Apprenticeship KPI Survey results provides administration an opportunity to reflect upon the effectiveness of the data compiled through the survey, as well as review our delivery of the Ministry of Labour Training and Skills Development (MLTSD) apprenticeship curriculum.

KPI Survey participation rates reflect only a small percentage of registered apprentices. To improve participation and acquire an accurate representation of student experience, surveys were offered online and time was allotted within scheduled classes.

In general, the use of scheduled class time to complete surveys was not well received despite encouragement and intention. To streamline student feedback and communication, the Apprenticeship KPI surveys will no longer be utilized by the College. Administration will continue to leverage our student organizations: Student Representative Council (SRC); Thames Students Incorporated (TSI); and Saints Students Athletic Association (SSAA) as a mechanism for acquiring student feedback through open and transparent discussion at scheduled monthly meetings. The continued use of established monthly meetings ensures registered apprentices have a conduit to express questions and concerns on an ongoing basis.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Governors receive this update regarding the College's Apprenticeship KPI Survey, for information.



TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT

DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2023

RE: FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

SECTOR: FINANCE MARC JONES, VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

## <u>AIM:</u>

To provide the Board with a report on the financial results for the six months ended September 30, 2023.

## BACKGROUND:

It is the practice of St. Clair College to review its expenditure and revenue patterns to ensure that the financial plan is being achieved. Administration continues to enhance its reporting on these patterns. To this end, Administration communicated to the Board of Governors that regular financial reports would be provided.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Board of Governors receive the Financial Monitoring Report for the six months ended September 30, 2023, as information.

# SUMMARY OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES (Schedule 1)

The net surplus at September 30, 2023 of \$18,070,481 is an increase of \$4,100,861 from the net surplus noted for the 2022 comparative period of \$13,969,620. The variance is primarily due to Tuition Revenue, Interest Income, and PCPP Fee-for-Service. The College is forecasted to significantly exceed our \$37,924,022 budget surplus.

# **REVENUE (Schedule 2)**

The following highlights the major changes in revenue compared to the original budget projections and the 2022 comparative period:

• MCU Operating Grants are trending below the original budget projection at 49% and have decreased over the 2022 comparative period by \$548,762 or 3%. The decrease is due to the International Student Recovery Program where MCU reduces the College's operating funding due to higher international student enrolment.

SMA3 Performance based funding was implemented in 2020-21. The College's proportion of Enrolment Envelope to Differentiation Envelope funding has shifted from a notional 55% and 45% (2022-23) to 45% and 55% (2023-24) respectively. However, beginning in 2023-24, within the total 55% Differentiation Envelope, MCU linked a proportion of 10% to metric performance (at risk funding), and will flow the remaining 45% on the basis of data collection, evaluation and publication of results.

 Contract Income is trending above the original budget projection at 55% and has decreased over the 2022 comparative period by \$1,577,651 or 27%. The decrease is due to the wind-down of the Employment Ontario programs which is partially offset by additional Apprenticeship training funding and wrap-up funding related to the accelerated Personal Support Worker program.

Contract Income is established based on agreements with the Ministry and other partners.

- Total Tuition revenue is trending above the original budget projection at 44% and has increased over the 2022 comparative period by \$8,897,395 or 13% due to higher enrolment for the Spring and Fall semesters:
  - Increase in Domestic Tuition revenue of \$885,565.
  - o Increase in International Tuition revenue of \$5,646,457.
  - Increase in PCPP Tuition revenue of \$2,001,065.
- Total "Other" income is trending above the original budget projection at 61% and has increased over the 2022 comparative period by \$4,961,349 or 15% due to the following:

• Increase in Interest Income of \$3,137,348 due to significant increases in the Bank of Canada's policy interest rate and higher cash holdings.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 • Increase in PCPP Fee-for-Service of \$1,070,150 due to higher enrolment at Ace Acumen for the Spring and Fall semesters.

## EXPENDITURES (Schedule 3)

The following highlights the major changes in expenditures compared to the original budget projections and the 2022 comparative period:

- Total Salaries & Benefits are trending above the original budget projection at 51% and have increased over the 2022 comparative period by \$2,502,138 or 5%. The increase is primarily due to the retroactive and in-year payments related to the Bill 124 November 2022 ruling by the Ontario Superior Court. An increase to the Salaries & Benefits budget at the Mid-Year Budget will be required.
- Total Non-Salary expenditures are trending above the original budget projection at 48% and have increased over the 2022 comparative period by \$5,463,684 or 8%. The increase is due to the following:
  - Increase in Contracted Educational Services as a result of higher enrolment from students attending the Toronto Campuses, and flowing the applicable funds to Ace Acumen.
  - Increase in Contracted Services Other as a result of higher agent commissions to recruit the growth in international student enrolment.
  - Increase in Instructional Supplies as a result of supports required to meet academic teaching and laboratory requirements and inflationary pressures.
  - Increase in Insurance due to higher international student enrolment and the College's corporate insurance premiums increasing because of the hardened insurance market.
  - o Increase in Premise Rental due to additional space at 333 Riverside Drive.
  - Decrease in Stipends & Allowances due to the wind-down of the Employment Ontario programs.
  - Increase on Other expenditures due to building repair and maintenance requirements that are not capital in nature and interest payments towards the College's loan for the Zekelman Centre.
  - Increase in Amortization due to the College's ongoing significant investment in its capital infrastructure.

Many expenditures are cyclical and follow the timing associated with the academic year.

Full Administration is managing Non-Salary expenditures through ongoing Senjorpendix A October 24, 2023 21 of 28 Operating Group (SOG) review to ensure the overall expenditures budget is met.

# ANCILLARY OPERATIONS (Schedule 4 & 4B)

- The Ancillary Operations surplus of \$97,874 is trending above the original budget projection of \$544,938 and has improved by \$334,352 over the 2022 comparative period. This is due to the following:
  - St. Clair College Centre for the Arts take out operation as a result of providing food services to New Canadians.
  - Increased Varsity Sports deficit due to the travel requirements related to the success of the varsity teams and a budget re-alignment related to scholarships.

#### ST. CLAIR COLLEGE SUMMARY OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

		Α	В	A - B
	MCU		ACTUAL	
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	PRIOR YEAR	VARIANCE
	<u>(12 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>
<u>REVENUE</u>				
MCU Operating Grants	41,744,021	20,552,437	21,101,199	(548,762)
Contract Income	7,848,953	4,342,533	5,920,184	(1,577,651)
Tuition	176,005,698	77,288,345	68,390,950	8,897,395
Other	64,460,876	39,175,834	34,214,485	4,961,349
Total Operating	290,059,548	141,359,149	129,626,818	11,732,331
Total Ancillary	11,956,273	5,840,434	4,644,408	1,196,026
TOTAL REVENUE	302,015,821	147,199,583	134,271,226	12,928,357
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>				
Salary & Benefits	96,954,094	49,471,460	46,969,322	2,502,138
Non-Salary	155,726,371	73,915,082	68,451,398	5,463,684
Ancillary	11,411,335	5,742,560	4,880,886	861,674
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	264,091,799	129,129,102	120,301,606	8,827,496
Total Net Surplus / (Deficit)	\$37,924,022	\$18,070,481	\$13,969,620	\$4,100,861

#### ST. CLAIR COLLEGE REVENUES FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Α		В	B A - B	
	MCU		ACTUAL		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	PRIOR YEAR	VARIANCE	
	<u>(12 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>	
<u>REVENUE</u>					
Enrolment Based Envelope: see note 1	19,937,255	7,409,886	10,471,813	(3,061,927)	
Differentiation Envelope: see note 2	24,696,435	15,063,323	11,979,491	3,083,832	
Special Purpose / Other Grants: see note 3	(2,889,669)	(1,920,772)	(1,350,105)	(570,667)	
Total MCU Operating Grants	41,744,021	20,552,437	21,101,199	(548,762)	
Apprenticeship	4,110,920	2,117,650	1,685,909	431,741	
Canada Ontario Jobs Grant	-	-	93,781	(93,781)	
Employment Ontario	-	-	1,528,398	(1,528,398)	
Youth Job Connection	-	-	601,580	(601,580)	
Literacy & Basic Skills	1,376,172	690,078	693,078	(3,000)	
School College Work Initiative	1,713,876	574,823	493,049	81,774	
Other: see note 4	647,986	959,982	824,389	135,593	
Total Contract Income	7,848,953	4,342,533	5,920,184	(1,577,651)	
Post Secondary - Domestic	22,627,719	7,397,488	6,511,923	885,565	
Post Secondary - International	82,322,062	33,931,535	28,285,078	5,646,457	
Post Secondary - PCPP	69,674,417	34,517,981	32,516,916	2,001,065	
Continuing Education	1,381,500	1,441,341	1,077,033	1,077,033	
Total Tuition	176,005,698	77,288,345	68,390,950	8,897,395	
Interest Income	13,217,400	6,608,712	3,471,364	3,137,348	
Contract Training	493,783	273,298	290,743	(17,445)	
International Projects	210,000	162,539	81,110	81,429	
PCPP Fee-for-Service	23,868,110	16,870,707	15,800,557	1,070,150	
Other: see note 5	2,982,013	2,314,530	2,197,446	117,084	
Divisional Income	17,432,736	9,902,169	9,542,138	360,031	
Amortization DCC	6,256,833	3,043,879	2,831,127	212,752	
Total Other	64,460,876	39,175,834	34,214,485	4,961,349	
Total Revenue Before Ancillary	290,059,548	141,359,149	129,626,818	11,732,331	
Ancillary Revenue (Schedule 4)	11,956,273	5,840,434	4,644,408	1,196,026	
Total Revenues	\$302,015,821	\$147,199,583	\$134,271,226	\$12,928,357	

#### ST. CLAIR COLLEGE EXPENDITURES FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	MCU BUDGET	A	B ACTUAL PRIOR YEAR	A - B VARIANCE
CALADY & DENEETC	<u>(12 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>
SALARY & BENEFITS	0 (10 405	4 4 (2 010	4 456 150	7 750
Administrative : Full-Time	8,618,405	4,463,910	4,456,158	7,752
Administrative : Part-Time	2,597,587	1,446,573	1,299,863	146,710
Faculty: Full-Time	34,227,675	17,861,503	16,359,015	1,502,488
Faculty : Part-Time	13,799,549	5,982,466	5,975,118	7,348
Support : Full-Time	15,272,530	7,553,271	7,531,293	21,978
Support : Part-Time	5,413,874	3,010,111	2,465,501	544,610
Fringe Benefits	17,024,475	9,153,626	8,882,374	271,252
Total Salary & Benefits	96,954,094	49,471,460	46,969,322	2,502,138
NON-SALARY				
Advertising	2,885,989	1,699,565	2,040,970	(341,405
Contracted Cleaning Services	3,655,136	1,914,640	1,754,000	160,640
Contracted Educational Services	73,620,296	35,209,118	33,631,571	1,577,547
Contracted Services Other	19,464,644	7,026,029	5,193,476	1,832,553
Equipment Maintenance & Repairs	4,474,848	1,763,810	1,948,751	(184,941
Equipment Rentals	2,971,236	2,038,509	1,746,416	292,093
Instructional Supplies	5,763,425	3,776,787	3,064,841	711,946
Insurance	6,517,536	3,842,786	3,537,466	305,320
Janitorial & Maintenance Supplies	613,100	339,449	401,247	(61,798
Memberships & Dues	771,901	394,943	419,484	(24,541
Municipal Taxes	705,804	652,760	627,879	24,881
Office Supplies	703,648	419,012	261,282	157,730
Premise Rental	2,713,562	1,511,847	1,269,806	242,041
Professional Development	577,700	228,465	172,828	55,637
Security Services	2,711,500	1,162,508	1,028,248	134,260
Stipends & Allowances	475,000	248,490	763,837	(515,347
Student Assistance 30% Tuition	1,750,000	395,754	465,303	(69,549
Travel	1,026,820	392,985	248,088	144,897
Utilities	4,546,500	1,830,503	1,884,581	(54,078
Other: see note 6	6,309,277	2,483,168	2,029,568	453,600
Amortization	13,468,449	6,583,954	5,961,756	622,198
Total Non-Salary	155,726,371	73,915,082	68,451,398	5,463,684
i otai 1001-Salai y	155,720,571	75,715,062	00,451,570	5,705,007
Total Operating Expenses	252,680,465	123,386,542	115,420,720	7,965,822
Ancillary Expenses (Schedule 4)	11,411,335	5,742,560	4,880,886	861,674
Total Expenditures	\$264,091,799	\$129,129,102	\$120,301,606	\$8,827,496

#### ST. CLAIR COLLEGE ANCILLARY OPERATIONS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

		Α	В	A - B
	MCU		ACTUAL	
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	PRIOR YEAR	VARIANCE
	<u>(12 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>	<u>(6 months)</u>
Revenue				
Beverage & Cafeteria	62,000	34,259	11,989	22,270
Bookstore - Windsor & Chatham	190,000	19,127	34,668	(15,541)
IRCDSS Special Events & Projects	144,000	98,958	45,229	53,729
Lockers Administration	34,700	40,965	32,295	8,670
Parking Lots	1,600,000	610,616	499,505	111,111
Residence - Windsor	3,568,908	1,091,291	783,641	307,650
St Clair College Centre for the Arts	4,086,665	2,856,906	2,031,189	825,717
Varsity Sports	1,645,000	640,901	726,960	(86,059)
Sports Park	200,000	-	100,000	(100,000)
Woodland Hills Golf Course	425,000	447,411	378,932	68,479
-	11,956,273	5,840,434	4,644,408	1,196,026
<u>Expenditures</u>				
IRCDSS Special Events & Projects	125,000	27,781	73,802	(46,021)
Lockers Administration	3,741	6,518	3,542	2,976
Parking Lots	1,779,316	630,626	588,306	42,320
Residence - Windsor	2,411,897	1,051,623	1,012,826	38,797
Residence - Chatham	132,695	65,211	25,990	39,221
Residence - GEM	-	8,978	-	8,978
St Clair College Centre for the Arts	4,039,327	2,350,107	2,020,811	329,296
Varsity Sports	2,356,360	1,118,348	731,352	386,996
Sports Park	200,000	138,483	71,874	66,609
Woodland Hills Golf Course	363,000	344,885	352,383	(7,498)
-	11,411,335	5,742,560	4,880,886	861,674
Total Net Surplus / (Deficit)	\$544,938	\$97,874	(\$236,478)	\$334,352

## ST. CLAIR COLLEGE ANCILLARY OPERATIONS: SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	MCU BUDGET <u>(12 months)</u>	ACTUAL <u>(6 months)</u>	ACTUAL PRIOR YEAR <u>(6 months)</u>
Beverage & Cafeteria: Revenue	62,000	34,259	11,989
Bookstore - Windsor & Chatham: Revenue	190,000	19,127	34,668
Lockers Administration: Revenue Lockers Administration: Expenditures	34,700 3,741 30,959	40,965 6,518 34,447	32,295 3,542 28,753
IRCDSS Special Events & Projects: Revenue IRCDSS Special Events & Projects: Expenditures	144,000 125,000 19,000	98,958 27,781 71,177	45,229 73,802 (28,573)
Parking Lots: Revenue Parking Lots: Expenditures	1,600,000 1,779,316 (179,316)	610,616 630,626 (20,010)	499,505 588,306 (88,801)
Residence - Windsor: Revenue Residence - Windsor: Expenditures	3,568,908 2,411,897 1,157,011	1,091,291 1,051,623 39,668	783,641 1,012,826 (229,185)
Residence - Chatham: Expenditures	132,695	65,211	25,990
Residence - GEM: Expenditures	-	8,978	<u> </u>
St. Clair College Centre for the Arts: Revenue St. Clair College Centre for the Arts: Expenditures	4,086,665 4,039,327 47,338	2,856,906 2,350,107 506,799	2,031,189 2,020,811 10,378
Varsity Sports: Revenue Varsity Sports: Expenditures	1,645,000 2,356,360 (711,360)	640,901 1,118,348 (477,447)	726,960 731,352 (4,392)
Sports Park: Revenue Sports Park: Expenditures	200,000 200,000	138,483 (138,483)	100,000 71,874 28,126
Woodland Hills Golf Course: Revenue Woodland Hills Golf Course: Expenditures	425,000 363,000 62,000	447,411 344,885 102,526	378,932 352,383 26,549
Total Revenue Total Expenditures	11,956,273 11,411,335	5,840,434 5,742,560	4,644,408 4,880,886
Total Net Surplus / (Deficit)	\$544,938	\$97,874	(\$236,478)

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023

## Notes: Revenues & Expenditures

- Note 1 <u>REVENUE: Enrolment Based Envelope</u> Core Operating Grant
- Note 2 <u>REVENUE: Differentiation Envelope</u> Performance Funding

#### Note 3 <u>REVENUE: Other MCU Grants</u> Accessibility Funding Child and Youth Mental Health Clinical Education / Nursing Expansion Collaborative Nursing International Student Recovery Mental Health Worker and Services Municipal Taxes

## Note 4 REVENUE: Other

Access and Inclusion Campus Safety Indigenous Student Success Fund Personal Support Worker - Accelerated Second Career WSIB

### Note 5 <u>REVENUE: Other</u>

Administration Fees Apprenticeship Classroom Fees Credit Transfer Fees In-Service Teacher Training Gain/Loss on Sale of Assets Graduation Fees Miscellaneous Income Termination Gratuities Unrestricted Donations

### Note 6 EXPENDITURES: Other

Audit Fees Bad Debt **Bank Charges Building Repairs & Maintenance** Capital Non-Depreciable College Employer Council Field Studies Food Service **Grounds Maintenance** Learning Resource Material Long-Term Debt Interest Postage **Professional Fees** Staff Employment Student Scholarships Other Telephone Vehicle Expenses



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Meeting of the Board of Governors Full Board – October 24, 2023

## 1. Fall 2023 Academic Excellence Awards Banquet

On Thursday, September 28, 2023, the College honoured many of our exceptional Saints at the Fall Academic Excellence Awards. These awards recognize two outstanding graduates from each program: one for academic excellence and one for a remarkable blend of academics and leadership. On behalf of the entire President France congratulated all of our award winners and wished them success and happiness in the years to come.







Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023

Item #4.0 1 of 12

## 2. National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

With the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation falling on the weekend, St. Clair College recognized the day on Friday, September 29, 2023 by wearing orange to recognize that every child matters. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, originally and still colloquially known as Orange Shirt Day - is a Canadian holiday to recognize the legacy of the Canadian Indian residential school system. Orange Shirt Day was first established as an observance in 2013, as part of an effort to promote awareness and education of the residential school system and its impact on Indigenous communities for over a century. The impact of the residential school system has been recognized as a cultural genocide and continues to this day. The use of an orange shirt as a symbol was inspired by the accounts of Phyllis Jack Webstad, whose personal clothing—including a new orange shirt—was taken from her during her first day of residential schooling and never returned. The orange shirt is thus used as a symbol of the forced assimilation of Indigenous children that the residential school system enforced.





Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Item #4.0 2 of 12

## 3. Staff Open House for Incoming President

The College held an Open House for all staff on Monday, October 2, 2023 in Eatery 101 at the Windsor Campus to congratulate Michael Silvaggi, the recently announced Incoming President. The announcement made by Board Chair, Jean Piccinato, on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, advising that the 7<sup>th</sup> President of St. Clair College would be Michael Silvaggi resulted in an outpouring of positive response by both staff and community members alike. The excitement of staff was also evident by the large turnout at the Open House. The receiving line of staff wanting to congratulate Michael seemed to be never-ending! Congratulations, Michael...the entire College community looks forward to welcoming you as our new President next June.





Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Item #4.0 3 of 12

## 4. Fall 2023 Convocation Sessions

The 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation ceremonies took place in Windsor at the WFCU Centre on Tuesday, October 3, 2023 (2 sessions), in Chatham at the Capitol Theatre on Thursday, October 5, 2023 and in Toronto at the Meridian Arts Centre on Wednesday, October 11 and Thursday, October 12, 2023 (3 sessions). It is an honour to celebrate our students who have successfully completed their programs. We wish all of our new graduates the best in their future endeavours. Congratulations, Class of 2023!



Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023

## 5. Collaborative Nursing Program MOU

Nursing students studying in Chatham will no longer have to travel down Highway 401 to complete their degree thanks to a revised agreement between St. Clair College and the University of Windsor. Leadership from both institutions signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance on Thursday, October 5, 2023, ushering in a new era for nursing in Chatham-Kent.

"This MOU between the University and St. Clair College exemplifies our commitment to being a driving force for positive change in this region and putting student experience at the forefront of program delivery," said University of Windsor President Robert Gordon. "By offering the complete Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at St. Clair College's Chatham campus, we are not only enhancing educational accessibility but also fortifying our role as a regional catalyst for progress. Together, we bring global perspectives, emerging knowledge, and leadership to the table as we address regional challenges."

Initially, students enrolled in the program completed their first two years at the college's Chatham campus, followed by the third year at the University of Windsor and culminating with fourth-year clinical placements. However, with the signing of the new MOU, the entire four-year BScN program will now be available at the Chatham campus, eliminating the need for students to travel to Windsor for their third year.

"Historically, the vast majority of Chatham-based nursing students actually end up working in that community upon graduation," said President Patti France. "To develop their familiarity with the various facets of the Chatham-Kent health-care system, it makes sense to keep them in that area throughout their educations - and especially in their clinical placements." "We're grateful for the University of Windsor's cooperation in making that happen and to clinical placement agencies for welcoming our students."



# RISE ABOVE THE ORDINARY

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023

## 6. <u>St. Clair Women's Softball are Back-to-Back National Champions</u>

The St. Clair College Women's Softball team successfully defended their Canadian Collegiate Softball Association National Championship during Thanksgiving Day weekend with a perfect 5-0 record that was capped by a 9-2 win over Durham College (Oshawa) on Sunday, October 8, 2023 in Victoria, BC. *Way to go Saints...you make us proud!* 



## 7. MPP Trevor Jones Visit

Staff at the Chatham Campus were pleased to host MPP Trevor Jones on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 for a tour of the campus. MPP Jones was able to visit with several faculty members and learn about the programs that we offer in Chatham.



## 8. PSI/Police Foundations Society Street Cleanup Fall 2023

On Wednesday, October 11, 2023, more than two (2) dozen PSI and Police Foundations students and staff participated in a Fall 2023 street cleanup of Cabana Road. A few years back, the PSI/Police Foundations Society adopted Cabana Road between Northway Avenue and Dougall Avenue. Several times per year, Society members collect trash and recycling along this route. The College is appreciative of the Society's efforts in keeping our community safe and clean. Our thanks go out to all who participated!



## 9. WSO Rocks Event

St. Clair College was a proud sponsor of the Windsor Symphony Orchestra's "WSO Rocks! The Music of Fleetwood Mac" concert that took place in our Chrysler Theatre on Friday, October 13, 2023.





Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023

Item #4.0 7 of 12

## 10. Crowfest 2023

St. Clair College was, once again, a proud sponsor of the 2023 Chatham-Kent Crowfest. Crowfest is a celebration of all things "crow" in Chatham-Kent. While crows are in Chatham-Kent year-round, they are very noticeable in the month of October. There were daily activities for Crowfest in Downtown Chatham starting on Wednesday, October 11, leading up to the main events on Friday, October 13 and Saturday, October 14. The Crowfest Gala was held on Thursday, October 12, 2023.



## 11. BAICT Degree Renewal

On Monday, October 16, 2023, the Honourable Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities, sent a letter advising that the College's consent to offer an Honours Bachelor of Business Administration (Information Communication Technology) has been extended by two (2) years until March 27, 2027. The renewal application will be due to the Ministry by March 27, 2026.



## 12. Pastabilities Luncheon

Congratulations to our Culinary Program on winning the "Best Pasta Dish" at The Pastabilities Luncheon which took place at the Ciociaro Club on Tuesday, October 17, 2023. St. Clair College, along with various local restaurants, participated in the event serving up delicious pasta dishes. The luncheon, which was put on by The Culinary Federation of Windsor in partnership with UHC – Hub of Opportunities, supports the Plentiful Harvest Food Rescue Program, which has rescued over 30 million pounds of produce, helping those in need in Windsor-Essex County.





Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Item #4.0 9 of 12

## 13. Lifetime Achievement Award

President France truly appreciated everyone coming out on Thursday, October 19, 2023, as she received the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Award. She took the opportunity, as she accepted the award, to thank the dedicated staff of St. Clair College, the Board of Governors and others in organizations that she has served with over the years as a volunteer or as a board member.





Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Item #4.0 10 of 12

## 14. Ontario Public Colleges Increase Part-Time Support Staff Wages

The College Employer Council (CEC) and OPSEU/SEFPO CAAT part-time support staff have reached an agreement to increase wages for the 2021-2024 collective agreement. The parties met on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, to successfully negotiate a mutually agreed upon remedy based on the current status of Bill 124. Eligible part-time support staff will receive an additional 6.5% increase on top of the 3% increase they received under Bill 124, now totaling 9.5% overall throughout the course of the collective agreement.

The wage increases were mutually agreed upon as follows:

- Effective February 1, 2021 eligible employees who are employed as of this date will have their hourly wage rate increased from 1% to 3%.
- Effective February 1, 2022 eligible employees who are employed as of this date will have their hourly wage increased from 1% to 3%.
- Effective February 1, 2023 eligible employees who are employed as of this date will have their hourly wage increased from 1% to 3.5%.

All current bargaining unit employees will receive their retroactive payments by December 31, 2023. Noncurrent part-time employees will receive their retroactive payments by June 30, 2024.

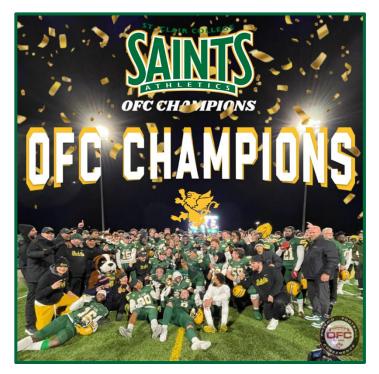
The current collective agreement expires in January 2024. Bargaining between the parties is anticipated to start next month.

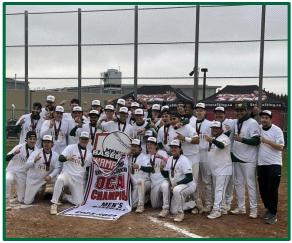


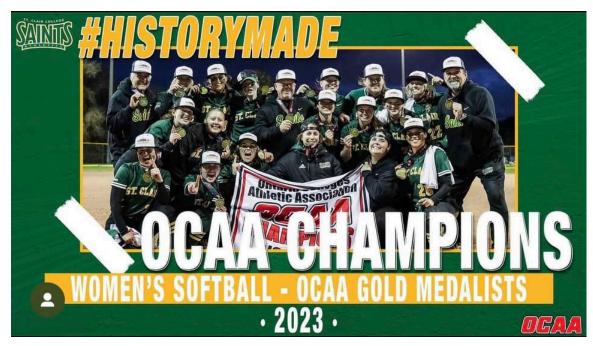
## 15. OFC Champions

Congratulations to our St. Clair College Men's Baseball, Women's Softball and Saints Football teams...who all won Ontario Championships on Saturday, October 21, 2023.

The St. Clair Saints Football Team successfully defended their Ontario Football Conference (OFC) title at home, defeating the London Beefeaters 32-31. They will now advance and travel to the Canadian Junior Football League (CJFL) national semi-final on Sunday, October 29, 2023 where they will face the Prairie Conference Champions for a chance to play in the CJFL Canadian Bowl.







Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023

## St. Clair College In The News Table of Contents:

Page	1 – 2	PHOTOS: Eighth Annual Suicide Awareness Month Community Walk WindsoriteDOTca - Sunday September 24th, 2023
	3	Hundreds participate in walk for suicide awareness and prevention CTV Windsor News Reporter- Sunday, September 24th 2023
	4	New St. Clair College President Named windsoriteDOTca News Staff - Tuesday September 26th, 2023
	5	St. Clair College names Michael Silvaggi as 7th President AM800 CKLW – September 27, 2023
	6	St. Clair College names its 7th president CTV Windsor Web Writer - Sept. 27, 2023
	7	St. Clair College announces new president Blackburn News - September 27, 2023
	8	St. Clair College names new president Windsor Star - Sep 27, 2023
	9	St. Clair College enrolment hits record high AM800 CKLW / CTV Windsor - September 29, 2023
	10 – 11	Family connection not a factor in new college president's promotion — board chair Windsor Star - Sep 29, 2023
	12 – 13	Crowfest Chatham-Kent ready to take flight Oct. 11-14 Chatham Daily News - Oct 02, 2023
	14 – 15	Local roundup: Saints' football close in on unbeaten season with 51-1 road win over Hurricanes Windsor Star - Oct 02, 2023
	16	Retirement homes seeking volunteers to serve as companions for residents CTV News Windsor- Oct. 3, 2023
	17	Golf notes: Windsor Star - Oct 04, 2023
	18 – 19	New St. Clair College, UWindsor nursing agreement benefits students, CKHA Blackburn News - October 5, 2023
	20 – 21	College, university to offer full four-year nursing program in Chatham Chatham Daily News Postmedia- Oct 06, 2023
	22 – 23	St. Clair College and University of Windsor usher in new era of nursing in Chatham-Kent AM800 CKLW - Saturday, October 7th, 2023
	24	St. Clair Saints golf coach names OCAA 'Golf Coach of the Year' AM800 CKLW - Saturday, October 7th, 2023
	25	New Agreement To Benefit Nursing Students In CK CKXS - October 10, 2023

26	Nursing agreement good news for C-K Peterborough Examiner / Hamilton Spectator / Chatham Voice - Tuesday, October 10, 2023
27	OPINION: Thumbs up for nursing, inclusivity The Chatham Voice - October 11, 2023
28	Nursing agreement good news for C-K The Chatham Voice - October 11, 2023
29	'We should all be appalled': Local leaders push for nation-wide student breakfast program CTV Windsor News - Oct. 12, 2023
30	St. Clair College women's and men's golf teams take part in CCAA Golf National Championships AM800 CKLW – October 17, 2023
31 – 34	These Windsorites are excited for their sports to be showcased at future Olympics CBC News $\cdot$ Oct 17, 2023
35 – 36	Career expo draws thousands of students Chatham Daily News - Oct 19, 2023

## **PHOTOS: Eighth Annual Suicide Awareness Month Community Walk**

WindsoriteDOTca - Sunday September 24th, 2023



The eighth annual Suicide Awareness Month Community Walk took place on the St. Clair College campus today, starting off at the Sportsplex for opening remarks.

The walk aims to show participants and locals that they are not alone, and highlight suicide awareness and prevention. Donations and proceeds go towards programming at CMHA Windsor-Essex in order to support education, training and awareness for suicide prevention.





October 24, 2023

Media Report 1 of 36







Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Media Report 2 of 36

# Hundreds participate in walk for suicide awareness and prevention

CTV Windsor News Reporter- Sunday, September 24th 2023



Hundreds laced up for the eighth annual Suicide Awareness Walk in Windsor, Ont. at St. Clair College on Sept. 24, 2023. (Rich Garton/CTV News Windsor)

Windsorites walked for a good cause on Sunday for the annual Suicide Awareness Walk.

Hundreds of people turned up to St. Clair College Sunday morning for the eighth annual Suicide Awareness Walk.

It's an event for participants to honour those close to them who were lost to suicide, as well as people currently struggling with those thoughts.

According to the Canadian Mental Health Association, one in 20 people has suicidal thoughts at some point in their lives.

Funds raised during the walk go towards programming at the local chapter of the Canadian Mental Health Association, including the Youth Wellness Hub.

"There's a lot of stigma and taboo surrounding suicide. So coming together and walking and hearing stories of hope and resilience lets people know that they can reach out for help and they're not alone with those thoughts," explained Jenny-Lee Almeida, a bilingual mental health educator.

# New St. Clair College President Named

windsoriteDOTca News Staff - Tuesday September 26th, 2023



The next president at St. Clair College has been named.

Michael Silvaggi will officially assume his new role as the college's 7th President on June 1st, 2024.

Silvaggi started as an Accounts Payable Department Clerk in November 2000. Over the years, he has held pivotal positions within the College, including Associate Registrar and Associate Vice President, Student Services and Registrar. In April 2022, Michael was appointed Vice President, Academic and Registrar, a role in which he excelled.

He holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours Business Administration) from the University of Windsor and a Master of Adult Education from St. Francis Xavier University.

"Michael Silvaggi embodies the core values of St. Clair College – 'excellence in all he does' and 'transforming lives and strengthening communities'," said Jean Piccinato, Chair of the St. Clair College Board of Governors. "His leadership is expected to usher in a new era of prosperity for the College and the broader community."

## St. Clair College names Michael Silvaggi as 7th President

AM800 CKLW – September 27, 2023



St. Clair College names Michael Silvaggi as 7th President. Sept. 26, 2023 (

The St. Clair College Board of Governors has chosen a new President.

The board has unanimously approved Michael Silvaggi as its 7th President and he will officially assume his new role on June 1, 2024.

He started as a Clerk in the Accounts Payable Department in November 2000, and progressed through various roles.

Over the years, he has held positions within the College, including Associate Registrar and Associate Vice President, Student Services and Registrar.

In April 2022, Silvaggi was appointed Vice President of Academic and Registrar.

He firmly believes in community engagement and has actively supported local elementary and secondary schools through leadership and service. Currently he is serving as a Board of Governor member at Assumption University and a member of the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board's Parent Involvement Committee.

Silvaggi will be *taking over the role from current President, Patti France*, who announced in August 2022 that she would not be renewing her contract with the school when it expires in August 2024.

St. Clair College educates over 16,000 full-time students on Windsor, Chatham, and the GTA campuses, with over 130,000 alumni.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023

Media Report 5 of 36

# St. Clair College names its 7th president



Michael Silvaggi has been appointed St. Clair College's new president. (Source: St. Clair College)

CTV Windsor Web Writer - Sept. 27, 2023

The St. Clair College Board of Governors has unanimously approved a new president for the college.

Michael Silvaggi has been appointed the college's seventh president following an extensive nationwide search.

"Michael Silvaggi embodies the core values of St. Clair College – 'excellence in all he does' and 'transforming lives and strengthening communities'," Jean Piccinato, chair of the St. Clair College Board of Governors, said in a news release. "His leadership is expected to usher in a new era of prosperity for the College and the broader community."

Silvaggi's journey at St. Clair College is a "testament to his dedication and commitment to the institution," officials say. He started as a clerk in the accounts payable department in 2000 and swift progressed through various roles, demonstrating leadership and management skills.

Throughout his 23 years with the college, Silvaggi has held positions in leadership including associate registrar and associate vice president, student services and registrar. In April 2022, he was appointed vice president, academic and registrar, a role in which he excelled, officials say.

Silvaggi holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours Business Administration) from the University of Windsor and a Master of Adult Education from St. Francis Xavier University.

"A staunch advocate of St. Clair College's role in the community, Michael is deeply committed to nurturing students' minds and vocational competencies to help them succeed in society," the release said. "He firmly believes in community engagement and has actively supported local elementary and secondary schools through leadership and service."

Silvaggi also serves as a board of governor member at Assumption University and member of the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board's Parent Involvement Committee, demonstrating his dedication to all levels of education.

He will officially resume his role on June 1, 2024.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Media Report 6 of 36



Michael Silvaggio (Photo courtesy of St. Clair College)

## St. Clair College announces new president

Blackburn News - September 27, 2023

Following an extensive nationwide search by Odgers Berndtson, the Board of Governors at St. Clair College has appointed a new president.

Michael Silvaggio takes over from Patti France and becomes the college's seventh president when he assumes his new duties on June 1, 2024.

Silvaggio started his career at St. Clair College in 2000 as a clerk in the accounts payable department. Since then, he's been the associate registrar, associate vice president of student services, and registrar. In April 2022, he was appointed vice-president, academic and registrar.

"Michael Silvaggio embodies the core values of St. Clair College," said Board of Governors Chair Jean Piccinato. "His leadership is expected to usher in a new era of prosperity for the college and the broader community."

The college has over 16,000 full-time students at campuses in Windsor, Chatham, and the Greater Toronto Area. It offers more than 120 advanced diplomas, diplomas, degrees, and graduate certificates in health, technology, business, media arts, and social services.

# St. Clair College names new president

Windsor Star - Sep 27, 2023



Following a nationwide search by the board of governors, Michael Silvaggi will become the seventh president of St. Clair College on June 1, 2024. He will replace current president Patti France. jpg

St. Clair College has appointed a new president to replace the outgoing Patti France.

Michael Silvaggi will officially become the college's seventh president on June 1, 2024.

"Michael Silvaggi embodies the core values of St. Clair College – 'excellence in all he does' and 'transforming lives and strengthening communities'," said Jean Piccinato, Chair of the St. Clair College Board of Governors. "His leadership is expected to usher in a new era of prosperity for the College and the broader community."

The college said Silvaggi's appointment follows a nationwide search for candidates.

He has worked for St. Clair College since starting in the accounts payable department in November 2000. The college said he "swiftly" moved up the ranks, taking on positions include associate registrar and associate vice-president, Student Services and Registrar. In April 2022, Silvaggi was became vice-president, Academic and Registrar.

Silvaggi holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours Business Administration) from the University of Windsor and a Master of Adult Education from St. Francis Xavier University.

The college said he is a "has demonstrated his dedication to education at all levels."

Silvaggi is also a member of Assumption University's board of governors and a member of the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board's Parent Involvement Committee,

"A staunch advocate of St. Clair College's role in the community, Michael is deeply committed to nurturing students' minds and vocational competencies to help them succeed in society," the college said in a media release. "He firmly believes in community engagement and has actively supported local elementary and secondary schools through leadership and service."

Silvaggi will take over from France, who has been college president since 2015. She will retire from the position when her contract expires in August 2024 after more than 35 years at the college, including two terms as president.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Media Report 8 of 36

# St. Clair College enrolment hits record high

AM800 CKLW / CTV Windsor - September 29, 2023



St. Clair College in Windsor, Ont., on Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2023. (Melanie Borrelli/CTV News Windsor)

St. Clair College is reporting another year of record enrolment.

The college is reporting what's referred to as 'Day 10 numbers'.

That's the total enrolment after the first 10 days on campus.

The college is reporting 16,138 students. Among those numbers, there are 5,269 international students.

The numbers include students at the Windsor, Chatham and Toronto Campuses.

Patti France, St. Clair College President, says it's very busy.

"We're really excited. It's busy, this year, halls are booming, classrooms are busy and we just added additional space and capacity."

France says there's a nice mix of domestic and international students and at this point the college isn't really looking for additional growth.

"At this point, we're pretty much at a very comfortable spot when it comes to enrolment. So now it's about sustainability. It's about quality education, quality service, academic excellence. And just continuing the great work that our staff are doing."

Classes at St. Clair College began on September 5.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023

# Family connection not a factor in new college president's promotion — board chair

Windsor Star - Sep 29, 2023



WINDSOR, ONT: SEPTEMBER 27, 2023.

Michael Silvaggi will officially become St. Clair College's seventh president on June 1, 2024. Silvaggi is shown at the St. Clair College Centre for the Arts in downtown Windsor on Wednesday, September 27, 2023.

The head of St. Clair College's board of governors said Friday the suggestion new president Michael Silvaggi was appointed because of family ties is an insult to him and the people who hired him.

Silvaggi will officially assume the role of the college's seventh president on June 1, 2024. He will take over from retiring president Patti France, his wife's sister.

"I guess every decision somebody makes gets questioned in one way or another," board chair Jean Piccinato told the Star.

"It's disappointing, and it's not nice that somebody would think that we would just hand somebody a job based on Patti and Michael's relationship. But we believe he was the best candidate.

"It's an insult to him. He's worked hard in his career. The board supports that, and we see that in him."

After publishing a story about Silvaggi's appointment this week, the Star received several messages suggesting nepotism.

"He is related to the current President," one person wrote. "Nepotism at its finest."

France, set to retire in August 2024, did not respond to a request for comment.

Silvaggi told the Star he went through a lengthy application process that included an interview and psychological testing, followed by a "rigorous face-to-face meeting over a few hours" with the hiring committee.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Media Report 10 of 36 "It was a national search conducted by a professional human resources firm out of Toronto," said Silvaggi, 49. "The process was handled by a committee which our current president does not partake in. It consisted of past board members as well as community members."

Piccinato also said France had no role in choosing her successor.

"The president of the college actually is an employee of the board," said Piccinato. "So Patti was excluded from the process and had absolutely no input into the process, the decision, the discussion — any of that piece."

The board hired the firm Odgers Berndtson to find candidates, she said. After consultations with college and community representatives, the company posted national and international job advertisements.

Piccinato said Odgers Berndtson interviewed applicants, then gave the selection committee a list of 16 people from across Canada and the U.S.

She said the committee interviewed seven of them. From that, they whittled it down to three finalists who were interviewed again. She said all of the finalists underwent the assessment of a corporate psychologist.

Citing a "need to respect people's confidentiality," Piccinato would not say how many other internal candidates there were or if any made the short list.

She said the hiring committee was aware Silvaggi and France are related, calling it a "well-known fact within the college." The potential perception of nepotism was discussed before Silvaggi was hired, she said.

"We absolutely looked at that, we talked about that," said Piccinato. "We wanted to ensure that we were hiring the best candidate for the best reasons, with the best qualifications and the best fit. So, yes, we absolutely took that into consideration."

Silvaggi has worked at St. Clair since Nov. 2000 — long before France took over as president — starting out in the accounts payable department. The college stated in a media release announcing Silvaggi's appointment as president that he "swiftly progressed through various roles, demonstrating his exceptional leadership and management skills."

Silvaggi said he was promoted twice during France's tenure as president, first to associate vice-president, Student Services and Registrar. In April 2022, Silvaggi became vice-president, Academic and Registrar.

"I believe that most of my merit and the feedback that I have received on an ongoing basis has been based on that, based on the hard work," said Silvaggi.

His appointment was also unanimously approved by the Board of Governors, the college said.

"Maybe people don't even realize there was a process," said Piccinato. "Although the board tries to be as transparent as we possibly can, you don't reach everybody or it doesn't resonate when you're trying to communicate things.

"We have nothing to hide and we have nothing to be embarrassed about. We stand by our process. We stand by the candidate that we selected."

## **Crowfest Chatham-Kent ready to take flight Oct. 11-14**

After provincial recognition earlier this year, Crowfest Chatham-Kent organizers are expecting even bigger things to come for the event next week.

Chatham Daily News - Oct 02, 2023



Crowfest Chatham-Kent co-chairs Andrew Thiel, left, and Mayor Darrin Canniff, right, are shown Monday with John Fairley, St. Clair College's vice-president of communications and community relations, at back. The event will take place Oct. 11-14 in downtown Chatham. (Trevor Terfloth/The Daily News)

After provincial recognition earlier this year, Crowfest Chatham-Kent organizers are expecting even bigger things to come for the event next week.

The second annual festival is slated to take place Oct. 11-14 in downtown Chatham, with a special launch held Monday at Turns and Tales to announce the lineup of entertainment and activities.

"This is going to be an absolutely amazing event," Mayor Darrin Canniff, who is also the festival co-chair, said. "Last year, we got the flavour for it. ... People know what Crowfest is."

Earlier this year, Festivals and Events Ontario announced its achievement awards, with Crowfest selected as best new festival or event in the \$100,001 to \$500,000 category

Canniff thanked volunteers and sponsors for their efforts, adding the festival is growing into a regional attraction.

"I expect us to fill the downtown significantly," he said. "It's a great time to have it, because we're not competing with a whole lot of other stuff."

On Oct. 11, there will be the Olde Crows Tea at Retro Suites at 11:30 a.m.. Tickets are \$35 and include a lunchoon and entertainment. Tickets are available at Pet and Wildlife Rescue. Media Report October 24, 2023 12 of 36

Great Balls of Fire will kick off at 5 p.m. at the Garden on King, with pyrotechnic performers on the patio. At 6 p.m., the Great Canadian Dueling Pianos will perform at the River Rock. Tickets are \$10 and available at the Garden on King and Sons of Kent.

The Crowfest gala is slated for Oct. 12, which also will feature a murder mystery, A Murder of Crows, at the Portuguese Club. Brian Machado, of Churrascaria Steakhouse, is preparing the meal. Tickets are limited and available at cktickets.com, or in-person at the cultural centre.

Oct. 13, on King Street, vendors and international buskers will be on site. There also will be art classes, a paint party, and the Crowbar licensed area to enjoy crow-themed cocktails, local beers and wine.

On Oct. 14, buskers and vendors will continue, with a costume contest beginning at 1 p.m. The 19-plus Busk After Dusk is the official wrap-up party at Sons of Kent. Tickets are \$10 and available at the Garden on King and Sons of Kent.

There will be more than 90 vendors, with co-chair Andrew Thiel noting everything will be located on King Street this year.

"There's going to be a lot going on," he said.

Presenting sponsors include St. Clair College, Abstract Marketing, Waste Connections Canada and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

John Fairley, the college's vice-president of communications and community relations, said they are pleased to be involved in the event.

"We're all in," he said. "We're thankful to have this opportunity."

Some volunteers are still needed for the event. For more information on Crowfest, including a full list of activities, or to volunteer, visit <u>https://crowfestck.com/</u>

# Local roundup: Saints' football close in on unbeaten season with 51-1 road win over Hurricanes

Windsor Star - Oct 02, 2023



St. Clair Saints' quarterback Maurice Sodja threw for one touchdown and ran for another in Sunday's win. jpg

The St. Clair Saints moved to within a win of a third-straight unbeaten regular season in the Ontario Football Conference.

The Saints moved to 7-0 on the season with a 51-1 road win over the Hamilton Hurricanes (4-4) on Sunday.

Quarterback Maurice Sodja hit Enzey Youyoute with a 36-yard touchdown pass and also ran in another score from two yards out while Zack Burmaster pulled in a 57-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Matthew Guenette. Tristan Rutherford and Boriz Wright had touchdown runs while M.J. Doyle-Marshall finished with 128 yards rushing on 13 carries.

Defensively, the Saints held Hamilton to just 76 yards in offence while recovering four fumbles and picking off four passes, which including two from Nathaniel Norton, and a pick six from Gaddy Kazadi.

Kicker Preston Knight converted all six scores and added three field goals for the Saints, who close out the regular season at home on Saturday against Quinte (2-5).

## St. Clair softball

The St. Clair Saints' 43-game softball winning streak came to an end with the team droving a pair of road games to the Durham Lords on Saturday by scores of 2-1 and 6-4. St. Clair rebounded on Sunday to sweep the Seneca Sting 10-0 and 7-0 to improve to 18-2 on the season.

On Saturday, Sierra Baltzer's home run tied the game, but Durham got the winning run in the sixth inning.

In the second game, the Saints held a 4-1 lead before Durham rallied for the win. Baltzer and Amy Claydon each had a pair of hits October 24, 2023 Media Report 14 of 36 On Sunday, Claydon doubled twice and drove in two runs. Shae-Lyn Murphy drove in four runs and Baltzer had three hits in the opening win. Murphy had three hits in the second game, including a home run, while Jacklyn Yewchyn and Ireland Toohey each had a pair of hits.

## St. Clair baseball

The St. Clair Saints swept a pair of baseball doubleheaders on the weekend to move into sole possession of first place in the OCAA.

The Saints beat George Brown 13-1 and 6-5 on Sunday to improve to 12-1 on the season after taking out the Sheridan Bruins 7-0 and 3-0 on Saturday.

On Sunday, Tyler Brown-Amlin allowed one hit in six innings of work and striking out eight, homered and finished with three hits while driving in two runs. Colin Robinson hit a pair of home runs and leads the OCAA with five while driving in five runs. Mitch McCosh also had three hits.

In the second game, Robinson singled to drive in the go-ahead run in the seventh inning. Carter Reh went fourfor-four with a home run while droving in three runs.

On Saturday, Cody Moore tossed a one-hitter while striking out five. Henry Real had a pair of hits and drove in three runs while Owen Levesque had two hits and drove in two runs.

In the second game, Brady Knelsen allowed just three hits and struck out 10 with Real driving in a pair of runs.

## St. Clair soccer

The St. Clair Saints men's soccer team split a pair of weekend OCAA games while the women's team picked up a win and a draw.

The men, who are 4-1-1 on the season, dropped the Humber Hawks 9-0 on Saturday at Acumen Stadium, but fell 2-0 on Sunday against the Humber Hawks.

Tanner Page had three goals in Saturday's win. Massimo Pollard and Moussa Nizam each scored twice with single goals going to Joao Gabriel Santos and Artan Omrani and Ezra Fogal earning the shutout.

The St. Clair women's team drew 0-0 against the defending OCAA champion Hawks on Sunday. Goalie Scotlyn Fick made seven saves, which included one on a penalty kick.

On Saturday, Fick earned the shutout against the Knights in a 3-0 win with Victoria Walsh scoring twice and Alexa Mognon netting the other for St. Clair, which improved to 3-1-2.

# **Retirement homes seeking volunteers to serve as companions for residents**

CTV News Windsor- Oct. 3, 2023

For some seniors living in retirement homes, their only companion — outside of staff — can be volunteers who visit them one or two hours a day.

But, according to Cardinal Place in Windsor, the number of volunteers it used to see prior to the pandemic has still not rebounded.

"People are still a little reluctant to come in. We try to keep all the safety measures so everyone is safe when they come in," said Betty Fitzgerald, administrative assistant at Cardinal Place.

Some of the activities that volunteers are asked to do include reading, playing games, making crafts and accompanying residents on bus rides during the home's group outings.

Without those volunteers, residents who do not have family or friends to visit them can experience social isolation, cognitive deficits and mood concerns such as depression and grief.

According to Jenniffer Clifford, operations and clinical manager of geriatrics at Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, that grief can be more "ambiguous."

"So grieving the loss of that social connection or their life that they might have had, prior to coming into that retirement or assisted living setting," said Clifford, adding companionship can provide "purpose" to seniors.

"It's important that we continue to foster these relationship because it helps maintain memory and cognitive functioning. It also improves their physical and emotional health."

Cardinal Place said, pre-COVID, it would previously see two to three community members volunteer every day.

Through a partnership with St. Clair College, students are able to volunteer at Cardinal Place.

But, Fitzgerald said, that program is temporary and sees students stick around for just a few months before they move on to new opportunities.

"We're grateful for the program. We'd just like to enhance it with people in in the community," said Fitzgerald, adding the need for volunteers increases during special occasions such as Thanksgiving and Christmas.

"We're looking for people that can relate, listen, participate and help our seniors."

# **Golf notes:**

Windsor Star - Oct 04, 2023

## Saints win OCAA bronze

The St. Clair Saints captured the bronze medal in the men's division as the OCAA golf championships, which wrapped up three days of play on Wednesday at Ambassador Golf Club. It was the first Division I medal by the men's team since 2007.

Vista Academy product Spencer Higginbottom led the St. Clair men's team with an eighth-place finish individually and an eight-over par 221 total.

Teamed with Owen Laverty, who placed 11th individually, Simon Moir, who tied for 12th overall, and John Van Bilsen, who tied for 17th overall, the foursome finished with a 45-over par total of 897, which was 24-shots up on fourth-place Georgian College and 15 shots back of second-place Fanshawe College. Humber College took the team title. St. Clair's Nate Wood was 21st overall.

Article content

On the women's side, Brennan high school grad Shannon Coffey started the final day 10 shots off a podium spot, but fired a two-over par 73 on Wednesday and finished just a single shot out of a medal position.

Teamed with L'Essor product Justine Gorham, who was sixth overall, and Essex product Megan Schaafsma, who finished seventh overall, the Saints placed second in the team competition behind Humber College.

The St. Clair men's team, along with Coffey and Gorham, have qualified for the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association national championship, which is Oct. 16-20 in Quebec City.

# New St. Clair College, UWindsor nursing agreement benefits students, CKHA

Blackburn News - October 5, 2023

Nursing students at St. Clair College in Chatham no longer have to travel to University of Windsor for their third year and placement in the fourth year.

College and university officials made the announcement at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance (CKHA) on Thursday, saying the entire four year nursing program will now be available at the Chatham campus.

Chatham resident and third year University of Windsor nursing student Crystal Wellington told CK News Today less commuting works out great because nursing students will stay fresher for learning and won't be so exhausted at the end of the day.

"I'm a mom and I have other responsibilities and the transit can be challenging in regards to studying. I tried traveling for the semester for two days and I couldn't do anything when I got home in regards to studying. I was beat and swamped," said Wellington.

Chatham resident and third year University of Windsor nursing student Holly Lalibertie said less commuting will mean less money spent on gas.

"The commute is going to be less than two minutes, it's going to be amazing. It's going to better on gas, you can save money. It's going to be a lot easier for me," said Lalibertie.

CKHA CEO Lori Marshall hopes more nursing students will stay in Chatham-Kent and will help return hospital staffing levels back to normal.

"The thought that all of these really bright young minds are able to learn and stay here means that maybe eventually we'll have a better chance of recruiting them to stay here afterwards once they're ready to practice," Marshall said.

Marshall told CK News Today the vacancy rate at CKHA is coming down.

St. Clair College President Patti France said it makes sense to keep the nursing students in their home community throughout their educations, especially in their clinical placements, because they become "ultra-familiar" with their clientele in Chatham-Kent.

University of Windsor President Robert Gordon said the revised agreement between St. Clair College and the University of Windsor exemplifies their commitment to being a driving force for positive change in this region and "puts student experience at the forefront of program delivery."



St. Clair College President Patti France, University of Windsor President Robert Gordon sign a memorandum of understanding at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance on Thursday, Oct. 5, 2023. (Photo by Paul Pedro)



# **College, university to offer full four-year nursing program in Chatham**

Chatham Daily News Postmedia- Oct 06, 2023



The University of Windsor and St. Clair College signed a memorandum of understanding at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance on Thursday to offer a nursing degree program at the college's Chatham campus for the entire four years. From left are Monica Staley Liang, the college's dean of nursing and health sciences, college president Patti France, university president Robert Gordon, and Debbie Sheppard-LeMoine, the university's dean of the faculty of nursing. (Trevor Terfloth/The Daily News)

To ease travel burdens and help keep home-grown health professionals in their community, St. Clair College and the University of Windsor are teaming to offer full four-year nursing degrees in Chatham.

Leaders from both institutions were on hand Oct. 5 at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance to sign a memorandum of understanding for the initiative.

The collaborative nursing program partnership started in 2001, with the first memorandum of understanding signed in 2012.

Students initially completed their first two years at St. Clair's Chatham campus, followed by a third year at the university and fourth-year clinical placements.

Now, the entire four-year bachelor of nursing program will be available at the Chatham campus, so students won't have to commute or relocate to complete their education.

St. Clair College president Patti France said many students end up working in the community in which they study, and never return to Chatham-Kent.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Media Report 20 of 36 "For our Chatham students, it was a burden and a hardship for some to just have to travel," she said. "When you have to literally pick up your things and move, even though it's only an hour, for some students, it was just very, very difficult."

Students benefit from having a college and university experience, France added.

"I really think it's the best of both worlds," she said. "College has always been known for applied learning . . . and university is certainly known for their theory, and math and science.

"A lot of colleges would have their own (program), but then I think you're competing with one another and you're not necessarily maximizing all the resources and supporting each other as much as you could."

France also noted the program helps familiarize students with various facets of the Chatham-Kent health-care system.

University of Windsor president Robert Gordon called it a "transformative partnership," and a driving force for positive change.

"Our shared vision is to help shape a brighter future," he said. "(And) reaffirming that commitment to a new memorandum of understanding, one that solidifies the ongoing incredible partnership."

Lori Marshall, the hospital's president and chief executive, said it was a great way to keep nurses in the community.

"We know that people tend to choose where they end up practising based on where they went to school," she said. "What better way for us to retain all that really smart talent that we've got in our community."

## **St. Clair College and University of Windsor usher in new era of nursing in Chatham-Kent**

AM800 CKLW - Saturday, October 7th 2023



St. Clair College President, Patti France (left), and University of Windsor President, Robert Gordon (right), sign renewed memorandum of understanding. October 5, 2023 (Photo Credit: Courtesy of St. Clair College)

It's a new era of nursing in Chatham-Kent.

Leadership from St. Clair College and the University of Windsor have come together to sign a renewed memorandum of understanding that will transform nursing education in Chatham-Kent.

The renewed memorandum of understanding will now see the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program offered at St. Clair College's Chatham campus.

The collaborative nursing program partnership began in 2001, with the first MOU being signed between St. Clair and the University in 2012.

Initially, students enrolled in the program completed their first two years at the college's Chatham campus, followed by the third year at the University of Windsor and culminating with fourth-year clinical placements.

However, with the signing of the new MOU, the entire four-year BScN program will now be available at the Chatham campus.

Speaking on AM800's The Shift, Michael Silvaggi, Vice President of Academic and Registrar at St. Clair College, says at the end of the day those in the Chatham program tend to live in that municipality.

"It's the traditional approach when we look at our Chatham enrolment for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, the program is comprised in Chatham and obviously tends to attract individuals who live in Chatham-Kent, quite simply."

He says they were hearing from students that it was hard to split the program between Chatham and Windsor. Full Board Minutes: Media Report October 24, 2023 22 of 36 "Without that there's always this bit of unknown that can certainly impact the way an individual learns, lives, and so forth. So we really wanted to ensure that students can plan their lives accordingly."

Silvaggi says there has always been a large interest in the nursing program.

"I've always shared from an admission's perspective anyone that's looking for a possible career in nursing, nursing is one of our most competitive programs. So there is always, always strong competition for those limited seats that we do have."

The MOU signing took place on Thursday at the Chatham Kent Health Alliance.

St. Clair College President, Patti France, stated that the vast majority of Chatham-based nursing students end up working in that community upon graduation, and it makes more sense to keep them in that area throughout their education.

### St. Clair Saints golf coach names OCAA 'Golf Coach of the Year'

AM800 CKLW - Saturday, October 7th 2023



Kevin Corriveau of the St. Clair Saints is the 2023 Ontario Colleges Athletic Association Golf Coach of the Year. October 6, 2023 (Photo Credit: Courtesy of St. Clair College)

One coach at St. Clair College has been recognized.

Kevin Corriveau of the St. Clair Saints is the 2023 Ontario Colleges Athletic Association Golf Coach of the Year.

Corriveau led the Saints men's team to a bronze medal and the women's team to second place at the recent OCAA championships.

For the men, it marked a first OCAA Division I team medal since 2007.

All five St. Clair men's golfers placed in the Top 25 at the tournament and one woman finished fourth in the women's competition, earning All-Ontario status.

Corriveau is a full-time faculty member at St. Clair College in the Sport and Recreation Management program. He also volunteers as an Academic Advisor for all St. Clair varsity athletes.

Corriveau, who is OCAA's nominee for national golf coach of the year, will now lead the Saints into the 2023 Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) Golf National Championships.

The event takes place at the Lorette Golf Club in Quebec City from October 16 to October 20.

## **New Agreement To Benefit Nursing Students In CK**

CKXS - October 10, 2023



Leadership from St. Clair College and the University of Windsor sign a memorandum of understanding at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance on October 5, 2023. (Photo by Robyn Brady/CKXS News)

A new agreement between two post-secondary schools will ensure nursing students studying in Chatham no longer need to commute to complete their degree.

Leadership from St. College and the University of Windsor gathered at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance on Thursday to sign an updated memorandum of understanding.

The new agreement ensures nursing students can complete their entire four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree program at the St. Clair College Thames Campus in Chatham.

Initially, students enrolled in the program completed their first two years at the college's Chatham campus, followed by the third year at the University of Windsor, culminating with fourth-year clinical placements.

Lori Marshall, the president and CEO of the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance, said the agreement will help to ensure more nurses are living and working within the municipality.

"This is a wonderful benefit, not only to the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance but every health provider in our community that offers placements to students," said Marshall. "We know that people tend to choose where they end up practicing based on where they went to school. So what better way for us to retain all that smart talent that we've got in our community."

The collaborative nursing program partnership between the two institutions began in 2001, with the first memorandum of understanding signed in 2012.

The nursing program at St. Clair College sees an enrollment of around 200 students each year. Approximately 60-80 of those students complete their studies in Chatham.

"I think it's important that they build relationships and connections with local health facilities and our hospital, so they have that emotional connection as well so that they not only stay in Chatham-Kent... but they'll stay and work in Chatham-Kent," said St. Clair College President Patti France.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Media Report 25 of 36

## Nursing agreement good news for C-K

Local health care has received a significant boost thanks to a historic agreement that allows a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree to be completed entirely in Chatham-Kent.

Peterborough Examiner / Hamilton Spectator / Chatham Voice - Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Local health care has received a significant boost thanks to a historic agreement that allows a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree to be completed entirely in Chatham-Kent.

On Oct. 5, officials from St. Clair College and the University of Windsor signed a memorandum of understanding at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance sealing the agreement between the schools.

Previously, students in Chatham would have to travel to Windsor for their third year of study. The new agreement means they can continue their academic studies in Chatham, as well as exposing them to the myriad of health-care opportunities in Chatham-Kent in their fourth year of clinical studies.

St. Clair College president Patti France said the collaboration, three-years in the making, "epitomizes the value of a hybrid education.

"It's the best of both academic worlds," France said, noting the change relieves the burden of commuting or moving to Windsor, thereby making it easier for students.

"We know that students often stayed there (Windsor) and didn't come back (to C-K) to work," France said, adding the new approach will benefit the community, Chatham-Kent health-care facilities and the hospital.

"It's good for everyone," France said.

A total of 200 students are enrolled in the program each year, 60 of which are from St. Clair College's Chatham campus.

CKHA president and CEO Lori Marshall said the change will help the hospital fill nursing vacancies.

"We know that people tend to choose where they end up practicing, based on where they went to school, and so what better way for us to retain all of that smart talent we've got in our community," Marshall said.

University of Windsor president Robert Gordon said the agreement "exemplifies our commitment to being a driving force for positive change in this region" by putting student experience at the forefront of program delivery.

The collaborative nursing program partnership between the schools began in 2001, with the first memorandum of understanding signed in 2012.

The Canadian Press. All rights reserved.

## **OPINION:** Thumbs up for nursing, inclusivity

The Chatham Voice - October 11, 2023



With folks having just enjoyed Thanksgiving, let's enjoy a cornucopia of thoughts.

First off, it is great news that the University of Windsor/St. Clair College Bachelor of Science in Nursing program will now allow students who start the program here at St. Clair to complete it here. That means they won't have to spend two years in classes in Windsor at the university, instead remaining here.

For students, especially those who are from Chatham-Kent, that means not having to find living arrangements in Windsor, or dealing with a daily commute that could be problematic at times in the winter.

For health care in C-K, it means an increased likelihood more nurses will want to remain here to practice their craft, helping to improve health care in the municipality as a result.

If they get good training opportunities here, and don't have to leave town, that cannot but help replenish our nursing ranks.

Kudos to the college and university realizing how important this is for students, as well as the community as a whole.

A total of 60 students enroll in the hybrid nursing program each year at St. Clair College's Thames Campus here in Chatham. That is a significant number, and this change in the program will have significant impact for C-K health care.

Now, shifting to municipal representatives...we can't fault Mayor Darrin Canniff for attending Right to Life banquets in the past.

It is a politician's job to represent all constituents, regardless of their beliefs. Right to Life is a pro-life, antiabortion organization. It was mired in the flag kerfuffle earlier this year at the Civic Centre, where the municipality did not fly that group's flag, and did not limit flags flown at municipal buildings to just government flags, as was proposed by one councillor earlier this year.

A mayor, and any elected official for that matter, has the task of representing their constituents. All of them. To ignore any based on a difference of opinion is not the way democracy should operate.

Inclusion promotes diversity. Exclusion does just the opposite.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Media Report 27 of 36

### Nursing agreement good news for C-K

The Chatham Voice - October 11, 2023



St. Clair College dean of Nursing and Health Sciences Monica Staley Liang, St. Clair College president Patti France, University of Windsor president Robert Gordon and Debbie Sheppard-LaMoine, dean of the Faculty of Nursing at the university, sign a memorandum of understanding that allows future Bachelor of Science in Nursing students to achieve their degrees without having to leave Chatham-Kent.

Local health care has received a significant boost thanks to a historic agreement that allows a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree to be completed entirely in Chatham-Kent.

On Oct. 5, officials from St. Clair College and the University of Windsor signed a memorandum of understanding at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance sealing the agreement between the schools.

Previously, students in Chatham would have to travel to Windsor for their third year of study. The new agreement means they can continue their academic studies in Chatham, as well as exposing them to the myriad of health-care opportunities in Chatham-Kent in their fourth year of clinical studies.

St. Clair College president Patti France said the collaboration, three-years in the making, "epitomizes the value of a hybrid education.

"It's the best of both academic worlds," France said, noting the change relieves the burden of commuting or moving to Windsor, thereby making it easier for students.

"We know that students often stayed there (Windsor) and didn't come back (to C-K) to work," France said, adding the new approach will benefit the community, Chatham-Kent health-care facilities and the hospital.

"It's good for everyone," France said.

A total of 200 students are enrolled in the program each year, 60 of which are from St. Clair College's Chatham campus.

CKHA president and CEO Lori Marshall said the change will help the hospital fill nursing vacancies.

"We know that people tend to choose where they end up practicing, based on where they went to school, and so what better way for us to retain all of that smart talent we've got in our community," Marshall said.

University of Windsor president Robert Gordon said the agreement "exemplifies our commitment to being a driving force for positive change in this region" by putting student experience at the forefront of program delivery.

The collaborative nursing program partnership between the schools began in 2001, with the first memorandum of understanding signed in 2012.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Media Report 28 of 36

## 'We should all be appalled': Local leaders push for nation-wide student breakfast program

CTV Windsor News - Oct. 12, 2023

Students are coming to school hungry.

"This is why we brought these leaders together, [because] this is the start of the movement," said Lorraine Goddard, executive director of the United Way who is joined by the VON, Ontario Student Nutrition Program, St. Clair College, and more to change that.

In a release, the group stated that Canada is the only industrialized country that doesn't have a national school meal program.

"We're hearing from school teachers and administrators that students are coming to school even hungrier than before," said Danielle Findlay, OSNP community relations. "It's an unprecedented time with respect to the needs of food."

There are 94 schools area that are part of the Ontario School Nutrition Program, which Findlay said is up one school from last year. Eight schools are on a wait list.

"I think in a country as wealthy as Canada, we should all be appalled by this and it should be unacceptable," said Goddard. "Food is a right and it's not a commodity."

Last week, the federal government added \$5 million to the Student Nutrition Program and started a fundraising campaign to raise another \$5 million for that program, but local officials say they don't know how much of that money will make it to our region.

"What we would like to move to is a national school food program which would be a meal program," Findlay said. "Right now, it's a snack program which is basically a band aid effort."

June Muir, executive director of the UHC Hub of Opportunities, said a stronger student nutrition program would alleviate some stress off food banks.

"If we don't exist we'd be happy but that's not the case right now. We're getting hit hard and we are a necessity and everybody is coming to us," said Muir.

A round table will be scheduled in the upcoming weeks to discuss community partnerships.

"We're going to leverage every network, every opportunity we have to elevate this. To force the federal government to actually put the dollars into the budget and let's get this going," Goddard said.

## **St. Clair College women's and men's golf teams take** part in CCAA Golf National Championships

AM800 CKLW - October 17, 2023



St. Clair College women's and men's golf teams take part in CCAA Golf National Championships. October 16, 2023 (Photo Credit: Courtesy of St. Clair College)

St. Clair College's golf teams are heading to the 2023 CCAA Golf National Championships.

The St. Clair women's and men's golf teams are in Quebec City this week to take part in the event.

The practice round took place on Monday, with the first of four rounds starting today at Club de Golf Lorette.

This will be the first time that the St. Clair men's team has competed at Nationals since 2009 when St. Clair hosted at Ambassador Golf Club.

The men are coming off winning an OCAA Bronze medal; their first OCAA Division 1 team medal since 2007.

There are 11 teams competing from across Canada.

The women's team has had several appearances at Nationals in recent years.

The Saints golf team is ranked 5th in Canada heading into the Championships.

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023

# These Windsorites are excited for their sports to be showcased at future Olympics

Lacrosse, squash and cricket are among 5 sports that will be added for 2028

CBC News · Oct 17, 2023



Windsorites react to news of five new sports being added to the summer Olympics. (Kane Murphy/Sara Khan/Kshitij Punj)

Sarah Khan says she has her eyes squarely set on the 2028 Olympics now that squash has been added to the program of events.

The 21-year-old from Windsor plays professionally and is currently <u>ranked around 201st</u> in the world and is on Canada's <u>NextGen National Squad</u>. She's played across North America and in Europe.

Squash is one of five sports added to the 2028 Olympic program. Cricket, lacrosse, softball and flag football are the others.

Khan says her goal is to play in Los Angeles five years from now and represent her country.

"I certainly believe that," she said. "I feel very optimistic that in 2028 I'll be a contender for the Olympics. It'll give me more motivation to train and like to play more tournaments. Definitely."



Winds Forl's Scatter KManuteesurrently ranked 201st in the world and plays squash professionally echar Refs bath) October 24, 2023 31 of 36 According to Khan, she's on the squash court roughly 20 hours every week.

When not on the court, she's an accountant.

Khan says she was shocked to hear squash was being added to the Olympics — and that she jumped up and down after finding out about it Monday on Instagram.

"It was a complete surprise. I was not certainly expecting it. We were trying for a lot of years to get squash back into the Olympics. It's like a big surprise ... I didn't think it was possible."

Khan says if Monday is any indication, she expects interest in squash to grow with it being on the world stage.

"It's picking up a lot. We actually have a lot of people coming out to play. Yesterday when I went to our squash club, there were people just coming out to play because it was announced about the Olympics."



#### St. Clair College in Windsor, Ont., hosts inaugural outdoor cricket tournament

St. Clair College in Windsor, Ont., is hosting its first outdoor cricket invitational tournament this weekend. Conestoga College is in town for a three game series.

Kshitij Punj says he knew the day would come sooner rather than later having cricket added to the summer Olympics — but, regardless, it's a "pretty awesome" decision.

The Windsor man owns a cricket and baseball batting cage called PaxPitch Sports — and used to coach cricket at St. Clair College.

Now, Punj teaches kids the game and thinks Canada could eventually compete as one of the world's top cricket countries.

"I don't think in 2028," he said. "I still think we're a little far away from where other countries are because it all starts from the junior programs. Because if you're a junior, programs are strong. That's what the crop looks like for every country. It will take about 10, 12 years."



Windsor's Kshitij Punj used to coach cricket at St. Clair College and now coaches kids and runs a batting cage for the sport and baseball. (Kshitij Punj)

In Windsor right now, Punj says community members play the sport — people in corporate jobs or in school — but eventually he can see more kids taking it up in the future.

"I think that's going to be a big thing in the community. Everyone will be interested in how to play this. Even when curling was growing, a lot of people tried to get their kids into it because they could see a future.

Punj says now that he has his own facility, which caters to cricket enthusiasts, he sees firsthand the excitement level of all ages in Windsor when it comes to the sport — and where the game still needs to grow.

"I think our cricket academies are going to start picking up now. Cricket Canada also. That's another reason Cricket Canada is now offering cricket coaching level one certificates for a cheaper cost because it goes to show you, like, they want people to get into the sport."

### Canada's official sport now on the world stage

For Kane Murphy, ever since the first time he played it he's loved lacrosse.

The 17-year-old first-year paramedic student at St. Clair College was introduced to the sport when he was seven after one of his mom's friend's kids started playing.

"I tried it out that one time and I just loved it," said Murphy.

"There was goal scoring, there was a physicality in it that I like and the fast pace and my exact words when I came home was it felt like I jumped in a pool because of how much I was sweating."

After more than a century, lacrosse is back at the Olympics — debuting in Los Angeles in 2028. The last time it was played was in 1908.



Kane Murphy plays lacrosse for the Jr. B Clippers and is a first-year paramedic student at St. Clair College.

Murphy, who plays for the Jr. B Windsor Clippers lacrosse team, is also taking part in tournaments during the off-season for a team based out of Michigan.

"I was planning to go away for school to play lacrosse in the states ... I had some offers. I visited some schools, but ultimately, I decided to stay home, and go to St. Clair right now for the paramedic program because none of the states offered a paramedic program that would transfer over to Canada."

He says it's "really cool" that lacrosse will be a part of the Olympics and thinks it'll help grow the game.

According to Murphy, he says albeit a long shot he's not ruling out representing Canada in the Olympics in five years time.

"I definitely hope that I do get the chance to play for Team Canada in the Olympics. Although unfortunately for me, not playing lacrosse at school, I feel like it puts me at a disadvantage. But not to say that I don't think that means there's absolutely no chance. It's just a little bit harder and I'd have to work harder for it."

Windsor's minor lacrosse association says registration is currently at roughly 400 kids — more than other recent years. Like Murphy, Jerry Kavanaugh, president of the association, says he thinks and hopes the Olympic connection will help beef up numbers in years to come.

### **Career expo draws thousands of students**

Whether they had a good idea of what they hoped to do, or simply were exploring their options, thousands of local students had a chance to take an up-close look at various positions during this week's LivingCK career expo and job fair in Chatham.

Chatham Daily News - Oct 19, 2023



Jesse Fram, a Skills Ontario program

facilitator, shows students how to use a heavy equipment simulator in the tech and trades truck Thursday at the LivingCK career expo and job fair, held at the John D. Bradley Convention Centre in Chatham. (Trevor Terfloth/The Daily News)

Whether they had a good idea of what they hoped to do, or simply were exploring their options, thousands of local students had a chance to take an up-close look at various positions during this week's LivingCK career expo and job fair in Chatham.

Advertisement 2 Story continues below Article content

The well-attended event, held at the John D. Bradley Convention Centre on Wednesday and Thursday, featured about 50 employers, as well as various educational institutions, on site.

Some of the jobs included skilled trades, emergency services, health care, manufacturing and construction, with participants trying out equipment and learning more from those in the industry.

Victoria Bodnar, the municipality's manager of community attraction and promotion, was pleased with the turnout, adding the interactive displays can help spark a young person's interest.

"They're really excited about the variety of careers that are shown," she said Thursday. "They also get to have some hands-on experience. They're really enjoying it.

"I think that's made all the difference. The different ways to absorb the information and be able to talk to people face-to-face."

Full Board Minutes: October 24, 2023 Media Report 35 of 36 In addition to students, members of the general public were able to take part Wednesday afternoon, with 850 attending that day. A total of 3,000 students from Grade 7 to 12 came through the expo during the two days.

Bodnar said the need for skilled labour already is here and will only increase in the coming years.

"There are continuing to be more and more opportunities for jobs in Chatham-Kent," she said, adding that 18,500 positions are expected by 2030.

One big attraction was the Skills Ontario trades and tech truck, which featured tools, electronics and a heavy equipment simulator within its trailer.

Hayley MacKay, program manager for the truck, which travels to various expos and other events, was impressed with the public response, as well as the calibre of exhibits and the facility itself.

"Skilled trades are great first-option careers," she said. "You don't have to leave your community to get a job. And a lot of the time you don't actually have to pay for schooling. You can go through an apprenticeship."

Calling the interactive experience "crucial," MacKay said the organization continues to find different ways to promote the trades to young people and their parents.

"If they get to actually try it, it goes way farther," she said.

Mark Benoit, St. Clair College's chair for the school of academic studies, said the institution was promoting 14 programs, such as powerline, electrical engineering and nursing.

"All of the programs we brought, there's a high demand for individuals in those particular career fields," he said.

"There's been a lot of activity at our booth, which has been great," Benoit said.

Monsignor Uyen elementary school Grade 7 pupils Quinn Phillips and Oliver Formosa said they were learning a lot at the expo.

"The robotics and engineering stuff is really cool," Phillips said, adding he appreciated the opportunity to see the equipment in action.

Formosa was hoping to find out more about the legal profession.

"You can defend people ... I just think it's interesting," he said. "You can see all the different jobs. It's almost like a sample."