

2016–2017

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*To the Members | June 5, 2017*



**ST. BONAVENTURE'S**  
COLLEGE

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I AM DELIGHTED and blessed to present to you my fourth annual President's Report for St. Bonaventure's College. The 2016-2017 school year continues a long tradition of a rewarding year, filled with academic achievement, athletic, music and extra-curricular accomplishment. These successes only happen because of the love and support of teachers, staff, parents, alumni and volunteers.

Each year we are blessed by the abundant support in the area of fundraising by the efforts of dedicated parents and alumni who lead these projects and support these events. Given the difficult financial times we face, more needs to be done to find ways to fund our "in demand" bursary program, which is the hallmark of what it means to be a Jesuit school.

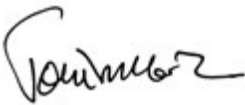
At the heart of our community is the charism of St. Ignatius Loyola. I believe our community and all that we do is filled by his spirit. Everyday I witness parents who love their children, teachers who care for them and children who flourish in this caring and compassionate place. We give thanks each day to Jesus Christ for this wonderful gift.

Our community will experience a change in leadership with the departure of Dr. Greg O'Leary and the appointment of Mrs. Annette Mallay as his successor. Dr. O'Leary has made a significant impact on our teaching and learning and we will miss him dearly. Mrs. Mallay is an experienced Ignatian educator who will bring enthusiasm and new talents to this important position. May God richly bless both of these wonderful people.

I wish to acknowledge and sincerely thank the following for their kind and generous support this year:

- The Board of Governors, Administrators, Teachers and Staff,
- His Grace, Archbishop Martin Currie, Priests and Staff of the Archdiocese, Parents, Volunteers & Alumni,
- Very Rev. Peter Bisson, S.J., Provincial, The Jesuits of English Canada, Jesuit Fathers & Brothers of St. John's,
- Sisters of Mercy & the Presentation Sisters and the Christian Brothers, and
- Generous Donors & Benefactors

Respectfully submitted,



Tom McGrath  
President

# I. CATHOLIC IDENTITY/ IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY

- The continuation into a second year of the Spiritual Exercises for members of the cohort from 2015/2016 under the direction of Fr. Earl Smith, S.J.
- The addition of Emmaus House Food Bank as a partner group for our Christian Service Program. Grade 12 students volunteered at the Food Bank through parts of Terms I and II.
- The addition of a Grade 10 run ESL Conversation Lunch Program for refugee and immigrant members of RIAC (Refugee and Immigrant Advisory Council) Wednesdays at lunch to our Christian Service Program.
- The formation of a social justice committee comprised of members of the St. Bon's committee and students from Holy Heart who began planning for a Refugee Camp Simulation scheduled for Fall 2017. Students attended a workshop on Refugee Camp Experiences facilitated by RIAC and initiated first planning steps.
- Grade 10 students have contributed Service hours by participating in our Eco-Literacy Campaign, both through their work with composting in the school and with running eco-lessons with classes in Holland Hall.
- The continuation of our relationship with The Gathering Place, The MacMorran Centre and the Computers for Seniors as part of our Christian Service Program.
- Teacher Professional Development included experiential on-site work with The Gathering Place, St. Patrick's Mercy Home, RIAC and our Garden Program as part of teacher formation.
- Students travelled internationally to participate in workshops and conferences with students from other member schools of the Jesuit Schools Network.
- Our Director of Campus Ministry travelled to Kansas City to participate in a Campus Ministers Cohort Gathering oriented at exploring best practices for student retreats and spiritual formation.
- Fr. Earl Smith, S.J., and Fr. Cecil Critch both worked with classes in primary, elementary and junior high on "teaching masses" oriented at giving students a deeper understanding of liturgical experience. The Kindergarten class, the Grade 6 class and the Grade 8 class all participated in taking responsibilities for mass ministries at school masses.
- A liturgical committee was developed to share ideas for enhancing student mass experiences. From that, a return to a greater role for band and choir at masses has taken place.
- Fr. Joe Mroz, S.J., the Archdiocesan Chaplain at Memorial University, visited our school to speak to our Senior High students about university and faith

# II. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

## Curricular Activities

- Inspired by Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'* and in collaboration with the team "For A New Earth", we launched an initiative to integrate Eco-literacy into our curriculum through all grade levels. The work that the students have done on this topic will be showcased at the inaugural Eco-Literacy Day on June 9.
- A K-6 Art Jumpstart program was launched in January. Working with local artists, classroom teachers chose cross curricular based projects that reflected a love for our common home. Students explored art forms such as drawing, water colour painting, printmaking, bookmarking and silk painting. The art pieces will be displayed during Eco-Literacy Day.
- L'Arche presented to our Jr. and Sr. students regarding their programs and spoke about inclusion and tolerance in our world.
- RNC Constable Ken Milks gave a presentation on CyberBullying and Internet safety to our Grade 7-12 students.
- MADD Canada presented to Grades 7-12 on Drinking and Driving Awareness
- Fight the New Drug presentation on pornography for Grades 7-12 sponsored by the Centre for Life.
- Grade 9 Information Evening for High School Programming
- Frankie's Book Challenge, which was launched during the 2015-16 school year, has expanded to include Grades 2 and 3 students
- In March we participated in Literacy Week in Holland Hall. The committee planned activities giving all our students the opportunity to celebrate the importance of literacy and the love of books. The theme was Seussville (Dr. Seuss books).
- The students of Holland Hall participated in two exciting music field trips – Wizard of Oz and National Arts Centre Orchestra (Alexander Shelley, conductor)

## School Wide Professional Development

In addition to opportunities for staff to attend various professional development through travel to Jesuit Schools Network cohort gatherings, we held five and one-half days of school wide professional development.

**Days 1-3** - These days were held prior to the opening of school for students. Father William Muller, S.J., Executive Director at the Jesuit Schools Network, led sessions on Ignatian Pedagogy and Ignatian Spirituality with a focus on the four "C's." These four "C's" are: competence, conscience, compassion, commitment. Using a plan prepared by the President's Office, each of these characteristics were in-serviced to staff and rolled out using signs and messaging through the school. The third day included presentations from "For A New Earth." We examined Laudato Si' and the possibilities for across the curriculum infusion of eco-literacy themes.

**Day 4** (1/2 day) – In October we were joined by Frances Tilly, Assistant Director, National First Spiritual Exercises Program headquartered in Sydney, Australia. Frances spent the afternoon discussing the program and spiritual conversation.

**Day 5** – The staff completed work begun at staff meetings in September and October on the remaining 4C's. Rather than spend time in the afternoon trying to connect these two final C's to our personal spiritual lives and formations through exposition, we organized a series of service options for all staff that enabled them to "do" the C's individually and collectively, each in their own way. This was their personal Experience of these two C's; albeit limited, the afternoon activities hopefully gave them a 'taste' for further reflection.

**Day 6** – The session included: Tom McGrath challenged staff with the question, "Where are we with the 4C's?" Annette Mallay and Jaline Rowsell examined, "How are we as educators, holistically living the 4Cs?" The afternoon session included a review by Tom McGrath of the Jesuits' General Congregation 36 and Greg O'Leary and David Martino examining the question, "What is the connection between the 4Cs and Truth and Reconciliation, Global Citizenship and Eco-Literacy." The day concluded with a First Spiritual Exercises examen led by Krista Cardwell.

### **Extra-curricular Initiatives**

Our already busy extra-curricular schedule was expanded to include these new activities:

- Grade 2 Yoga
- Elementary Gardening Club
- Elementary Lego Club
- Grades 2/3 Boys Basketball
- Grades 3/4 and 5/6 Girls Basketball
- K-3 French for Life
- Grade 9 Boys Basketball
- Grades 7-12 Tennis

# III. MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS, ALUMNI & DEVELOPMENT

## Marketing & Communications

Highlights of the year in marketing and communications include:

### Materials

- Published: 2015-2016 President's Report
- Published: 2015-2016 Report of Appreciation
- Published: Brand Standards Guide
- Published: 2016 Annual Giving Brochure
- Published: 2017 Easter Appeal Brochure
- Published: Inaugural edition of MAGIS Magazine
- Published: Xavier Society Information Card
- Published: 4Cs Posters and Banners
- Creation of 160th Anniversary Logo
- In production: Information Cards and Folder

### Video Production

- Completed: Fall Gala Sponsors Thank You video
- In production: Student Testimonial videos

### Advertising

- Completed: Mail out of thousands of invitations to Information Session
- Completed: Alumnus of the Year & Magis Award Recipients Announcement in The Telegram
- Completed: Ignatius Society Ads for Jesuits' Provincial Dinner and the Archbishop's Dinner & Auction
- Participation in the NL Kids Expo, June 3-4, 2017

## Alumni

The 2016-17 year has been a busy year for the St. Bon's Alumni. A number of events have been hosted including:

- The Fallen 51 Dinner
- The Annual Alumni Dinner & Mass
- The Annual Alumni Christmas Social
- The Annual Alumni vs. Students hockey game
- The Sports Day Alumni Social

To continue strengthening our relationship with our Alumni, we instituted two new initiatives this year:

- **Alumni Phone-A-Thon:** Grade 12 students contacted Alumni from 2003-2016 to verify their contact information so they can stay up-to-date on upcoming Alumni Events
- **Captains of Class:** We are pleased to report that our new “Captains of Class” program is beginning to come together. Captains act as a liaison between St. Bon’s and alumni. Captains will be contacting members of their graduating class to inform them about various events and initiatives. So far we have recruited captains for 15 classes.

### *With Thanks*

*The St. Bonaventure’s College Alumni Committee wish to express sincere thanks to outgoing Chair, Mr. Derm Whelan ‘57.*

## **Development**

Highlights of the year in development include:

- The membership of the Ignatius Society has increased from 32 members in 2015-16 to 42 members in 2016-2017.
- The creation of the Xavier Society was announced at the Ignatius Society Dinner in March. The Xavier Society will operate with the same objectives as the Ignatius Society, with the money raised being used solely for Bursary Assistance. Membership is open to persons under 40 years of age and they pledge to donate \$200 per year for five years. Since the announcement, we have recruited 2 members. A committee will come together to help with the recruitment of new members.
- In November the Annual Giving Appeal was mailed to our supporters, alumni and parents with a follow-up mail out, the Easter Appeal, taking place in March. Donors to these appeals can designate their donation towards the Bursary Program, the Alumni Athletic Scholarship or Greatest Need. To date, these appeals have raised over \$25,000 which is a 39% increase over last year’s efforts.

# IV. FINANCE, FACILITIES & HUMAN RESOURCES

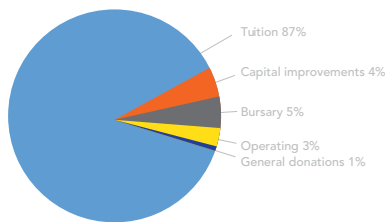
## Finance

*Fiscal Year 2015-2016 (AUGUST 1, 2015 – JULY 31, 2016)*

The audit is complete and the Canada Revenue Agency return has been filed for the Fiscal Year ending July 31, 2016. St. Bonaventure's College ended the year with a surplus of \$92,596. Because of these revenues, we were able to increase our overall Retained Earnings from a deficit of (\$25,273) to a surplus of \$67,323.

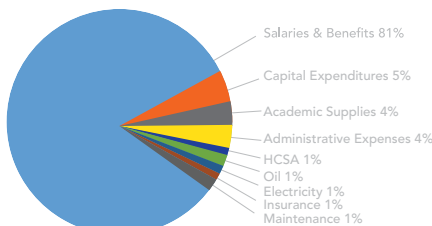
As made evident in the included pie charts, the primary revenue source is tuition. While the remaining revenue is just 13% of the total, this adds up to \$434,744 that had to come from other means (ie: donations, fundraising, etc).

Revenue  
2015-2016



Salary is the number one expense at St. Bonaventure's College, consuming 81% of the total expenses accrued in this fiscal year. In fact, for every \$1 collected from parents for tuition fees, \$0.89 has to go towards paying staff salaries. That leaves \$0.11 to pay for operating expenses which include maintenance of our buildings, heat & electricity, miscellaneous academic and classroom supplies, etc. The majority of the major capital improvements have been funded through our generous donors and fundraising events.

Expenses  
2015-2016





### *Fiscal Year 2016-17 (AUGUST 1, 2016 – JULY 31, 2017)*

The budget for the current year was approved in December 2015. It called for revenues of \$3,260,000 and expenses of \$3,235,060. Based on our quarterly reports and with prudent management, we are expecting to finish our year with a surplus.

### *Budget (AUGUST 1, 2017-JULY 31, 2018)*

The Board of Governors approved the 2017-18 budget in January 2017 and an updated version was presented again in March 2017 and approval was reconfirmed. Tuition will remain the same at \$8,400 for the upcoming school year.

## **Facilities**

We continue to complete upgrades and improvements to the school and the campus. During the past year the following work was completed:

- Holland Hall – refurbished boy’s & girl’s washrooms, replacement of 9 panels of glass block, installed brick wall and crushed stone,
- Mullock Hall – painted logo on gym floor, refurbished staircase, replaced flooring in chemistry lab, refurbished front steps, installed canopy over emergency exit, installed new staircase handrails,
- Painting and plumbing repairs in both Holland Hall & Mullock Hall,
- Installed exterior lighting,
- Installed new entrance and signage at campus entrance, and
- Replaced 9 sections of fencing.

The cost of this work was approximately \$110,000, which was covered by the proceeds from the 2015 Fall Gala and the 2016 Lottery.

## **Human Resources**

Staff continue to access world class professional development through the Jesuit Schools Network. This year staff members attended 18 national and international professional development conferences, meetings or student events. We had representatives present at Jesuit Schools cohort meetings for: Seminars in Ignatian Leadership (Atlanta, San Francisco, Phoenix); Mission and Identity (Kansas); Principals (Washington); Advancement / Alumni (Boston); Presidents / Board Chairs (Miami); Academic Assistant Principals (Spokane); Chaplains (Kansas); Education of Youth (Regina); Directors of Jesuit works (Pickering)

Student leadership training (teacher accompanied) and travel has included:

- Ignatian Teach-In for Justice (Washington)
- Operation Veteran (Ottawa)
- WE Day (Halifax)
- Jesuit Basketball (Montreal)
- Arrupe Leaders Summit (Maryland)
- Music Tour (Italy)

# V. GOVERNANCE

The Board of Governors primary responsibility is to hold the Jesuit and Catholic mission and identity of the school in trust for the Society of Jesus by setting direction, establishing policies, and ensuring programs build and manifest the school's Jesuit and Catholic mission and identity. The Board mandate includes:

- Striving to represent the diversity of the community,
- Selecting trustees is mission driven and their understanding of the mission is strengthened through ongoing formation in Jesuit education, Ignatian spirituality, and good governance practices,
- With the President, maintaining a vibrant relationship with the Archbishop of St. John's, the Jesuit Provincial and the Assistant for Pre-secondary and secondary education (PASE).
- Engaging in presidential succession planning in collocation with the Jesuit Provincial, knowing the President is mandated by the Provincial as the "Director of the Work,"
- Actively participating in the Jesuit Schools Network,
- Ensuring professional growth opportunities for school personnel through the Jesuit Schools Network,
- Engaging in self-evaluation

These are accomplished through:

- Board retreats, discernments and examens.
- Laser focus on mission.
- Board composition.
- Good governance practice.
- Quarterly Board meetings.
- Board Orientation sessions.
- Yearly meeting with the Provincial, PASE.
- Participation of the local Jesuit Superior in service on the Board.
- Participation in the bi-annual Board Chairs Conference with the Jesuit Schools Network (JSN).
- Annual participation by Staff in a myriad of JSN cohort gatherings.

## *With Thanks*

*The Board of Governors of St. Bonaventure's College wish to express sincere thanks to outgoing Governors: Mr. Chris Carew, and Mr. Michael Stringer.*

# 2017-2018: THE YEAR AHEAD

## Strategic Plan

We are now into year three of the five-year Strategic Plan. Work continues on implementation.

Evaluation of the plan is ongoing and we will look to begin soon the planning for a new strategic plan.

## Leadership Team

We will implement a new structure for academic leadership in the school. This team will do a full review of the current curriculum program.

## President's Office

We will add a new staff person to continue to develop relationships with our graduates.

## Infrastructure/Student Population

A review of the current school facilities and student population is underway.

## Capital Campaign

Planning will continue around a capital campaign. This will include the completion of a business plan and the preparation of "as built" drawings for the Skinner Building.

## Marketing

In the year ahead, we will increase our tempo of getting the good news out concerning St. Bonaventure's College. A digital marketing strategy will be implemented.

## Jesuit Collaboration Opportunities

We will explore opportunities for student and staff collaboration with other Jesuit institutions within the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States.

## Fund Raising Plan

Our fund raising plan will continue to evolve away from event based fundraising toward an annual giving campaign.

## Government Relations

As promised we have opened the dialogue with government and will continue to explore with them concerns around the supply of student textbooks and teacher materials, including the accessing of government sponsored professional development opportunities for teachers.

## St. Bonaventure's College

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*Established in 1856.*

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