

NIAGARA CATHOLIC ANNOUNCES 2016 RECIPIENTS OF DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION'S INSPIRATION AWARD

Niagara Catholic Director of Education John Crocco is proud to announce the 2016 recipients of the Director of Education's Inspiration Award.

The Director of Education's Inspiration Award was created in 2013 to provide Niagara Catholic staff with the opportunity to annually nominate a colleague to be recognized for their call to serve students, colleagues and our Catholic community through their extraordinary contribution to Niagara Catholic. All Niagara Catholic employees are eligible for nomination.

The "Class of 2016" honourees include both elementary and secondary school teachers, Educational Assistants, Child and Youth Workers, three staff who support Catholic education through the Catholic Education Centre, a Literacy and Basic Skills Instructor and a retired Principal.

"The Niagara Catholic Board of Trustees is pleased and proud to support the Director of Education's Inspiration Award," said Chair MacNeil. *"I'm always so impressed with the ways in which our staff strive to serve our students, whether they are in the classroom or work behind the scenes, and I can confidently say that, without fail, each of these individuals do what they do every day not with the hope of being recognized by their peers but for the sheer love of the students and for the vocation of Catholic education."*

Director Crocco said the individuals nominated this year represent the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

"This year's nominees and recipients represent the abundance of exemplary faithful, passionate and innovative staff we are blessed to have as part of our Niagara Catholic team, and are integral parts of our combined effort to ensure Niagara Catholic remains one of the leading school boards in the province," said Director Crocco.

"I offer my sincere appreciation to those who nominated a colleague and my congratulations to all who were nominated. You are truly part of an elite team here at Niagara Catholic. I am grateful for the opportunity to witness such an outstanding group of individuals, who contribute their unique gifts and talents to Niagara Catholic each and every day."

Niagara Catholic's 2016 Director's Inspiration Awards

will take place on Thursday, October 6, 2016.

The celebration will begin with a Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 316 Queenston St. in St. Catharines at 6:30 p.m., followed by the awards presentation and short reception.

The media is welcome to attend.

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Niagara Catholic provides excellence in Catholic education to approximately 24,000 students throughout Niagara; from Early Learning Kindergarten through graduation.

Contact: John Crocco, Director of Education
Issued by: Jennifer Pellegrini, Communications Officer
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2016 RECIPIENTS OF THE DIRECTOR'S INSPIRATION AWARD

Recipient name	School/Site
Craig Bell, Teacher	Denis Morris Catholic High School
Joe Biamonte, Teacher and Principal	Retired
Catherine Chin Yet	Teacher
Krista Connor, Teacher	Saint Michael Catholic High School
Kim Cruise, Teacher	St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Welland
Tina DeLuca, Literacy and Basic Skills Instructor	St. John Centre
Susan Drossmann, Teacher	St. Martin Catholic Elementary School
Melissa Gordon, Teacher	Denis Morris Catholic High School
Lauren Kimber, Teacher	Lakeshore Catholic High School
Andrew Kittel, Teacher	Denis Morris Catholic High School
Chris McLean, Link Co-ordinator	Niagara College Welland Campus
Cathy McMullin, ABA Supervisor	Catholic Education Centre
Virginia Natale, Child and Youth Worker	Pope Francis Centre
Debbie Ogilvie, Community Outreach Co-ordinator	Catholic Education Centre
Jennifer Pirosko, Student Success Consultant	Catholic Education Centre
Corey Quinn, Teacher	Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School
Cynthia Ratkovsky, Educational Assistant	St. Ann Catholic Elementary School, St. Catharines
Joseph Sciarra, Teacher	Notre Dame College School
Cornelia Stefanik, Child and Youth Worker	Journey Retreat
Michael Stevenson, Teacher	Lakeshore Catholic High School
Sharon Stortz, Educational Assistant	Holy Name Catholic Elementary School
Diane van der Veldt, Student Information Services	Catholic Education Centre
Scott Watson, Teacher	St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School