

## NIAGARA CATHOLIC RECEIVES 100 PER CENT ECOSCHOOLS CERTIFICATION FOR EIGHTH STRAIGHT YEAR

Niagara Catholic Director of Education John Crocco is pleased to announce that the Board has received 100 per cent EcoSchools certification for the eighth consecutive year.

The Ontario EcoSchools program integrates environmental education, environmentally sound practices and environmentally responsible actions into a school or classroom setting. This creates a culture of conservation that is ingrained in students from their early years which they will practise at home and at school, and changes the habits of teaching and school staff. Niagara Catholic was the first school board in Ontario to receive 100 per cent EcoSchools certification in 2010, and is the only Board to have had eight years of consecutive Board-wide certification.

This year, five schools received Platinum certification, 34 schools received Gold certification, 14 schools received Silver certification and four schools received Bronze certification.

This accomplishment was once again possible through the exceptional learning opportunities provided to students through our outstanding staff and community partnerships.

Father Paul MacNeil, Chair of the Board, offered his congratulations to students and staff for their ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship.

*“From the moment you enter one of our Niagara Catholic elementary or secondary schools, it is obvious that our students and staff have taken Pope Francis’s call to preserve the world God has created for us very seriously,” he said. “Our students and staff are so enthusiastic when you ask them about the many wonderful projects happening in our schools that their energy could power the Board, and that energy spreads to those around them. Congratulations to everyone who has worked so hard this year to achieve this outstanding result, and thank you to all of those who have supported them.”*

Director Crocco said that this year's results are evidence of the Board's Green Niagara Catholic initiative, and also praised students and staff for their commitment to environmental stewardship.

*"Environmental stewardship is an integral extension of the culture of life that exists throughout Niagara Catholic," he said. "I'm extremely proud of all of those students and staff whose continued commitment to the EcoSchools program, as part of our Green Niagara Catholic initiative, resulted in our once again having 100 per cent certification to achieve this provincially leading result. We will continue to work to increase our number of silver, gold and platinum awards in 2017-2018 and look forward to having 100 per cent Board certification again next year."*

**Niagara Catholic's 2016-2017 EcoSchool Results are attached.**

***Niagara Catholic provides excellence in Catholic education to approximately 23,000 students throughout Niagara; from Early Learning Kindergarten through graduation.***

-30-

Contact: John Crocco, Director of Education

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## 2016-2017 ECOSCHOOL RESULTS

School Name	Level 2017
Holy Name Catholic Elementary School	Platinum
St George Catholic Elementary School	Platinum
Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School	Platinum
St Andrew Catholic Elementary School	Platinum
Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School	Platinum
St Charles Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Lakeshore Catholic High School	Gold
St Gabriel Lalemant Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St James Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Alexander Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Denis Morris Catholic High School	Gold
Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School (NF)	Gold
St Anthony Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Loretto Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Theresa Catholic Elementary School (SC)	Gold
Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Christopher Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Joseph Catholic Elementary School (S)	Gold

SEALS	
Platinum	5
Gold	34
Silver	14
Bronze	4

Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Notre Dame College School	Gold
St Philomena Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Denis Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Martin Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Ann Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Edward Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Therese Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Saint Michael Catholic High School	Gold
St Michael Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Alfred Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St John Catholic Elementary School (B)	Gold
Mary Ward Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Mark Catholic Elementary School	Gold
St Mary Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Saint Paul Catholic High School	Gold
St Mary Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School	Gold
Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School	Silver

St Patrick Catholic Elementary School (PC)	Silver
Our Lady of Victory Catholic Elementary School	Silver
St Peter Catholic Elementary School	Silver
Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School	Silver
St Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School	Silver
Assumption Catholic Elementary School	Silver
St Ann Catholic Elementary School (SC)	Silver
Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School	Silver
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School	Silver
St Joseph Catholic Elementary School (Gr)	Silver
Alexander Kuska KSG Catholic Elementary School	Silver
St Nicholas Catholic Elementary School	Silver
St Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School	Silver
St Kevin Catholic Elementary School	Bronze
St Augustine Catholic Elementary School	Bronze
St John Bosco Catholic Elementary School	Bronze
St Patrick Catholic Elementary School (NF)	Bronze