

## St. Mary's College Alumni Association Announces Charitable Foundation & Website Launch

### *Supporting Student Scholarship Program*

*Sault Ste Marie — October 27, 2020* — Today the St. Mary's College Alumni Association (SMCAA) announced the launch of a new alumni website ( <http://stmaryscollege.ca>) and the availability of the “*Mount St. Mary's Support Fund*” a charitable foundation to support a student scholarship program. The association has been providing scholarships since 2006 and today has given out 100 scholarships valued over \$50,000. Previous fundraising had been supported solely by the “*SMC Alumni & Friends Golf Classic*” however because of the COVID-19 pandemic the 2020 tournament had to be cancelled. As a result, the need for alternate fundraising is required therefore we are asking for donations which can be accepted online via the newly created website. Charitable receipts will be provided.

“Since the 2006 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion it has been the associations desire to obtain a charitable foundation status and the *Mount St. Mary's Support Fund* fulfills that goal” said Abbie DiDonato, President of the St. Mary's College Alumni Association. According to Harvey Barsanti, Vice President, “The association wants to leave a lasting legacy and provide a sustainable scholarship program for the next generation of the alumni. Many students have benefited from the program and it is hoped to continue providing scholarships and supporting student needs for the foreseeable future. We are proud of what we have accomplished!” DiDonato also noted, “We are grateful the alumni and many of our sponsors have been very supportive. Without them we could not continue with the scholarship program and supporting student needs as we have done for the last 15 years.”

All of the *SMC Alumni, Teachers and Staff* are being asked to visit the website and **register online** to join the SMC Alumni directory. There is access to registration, news, events, info on scholarships, photo gallery, alumni profiles and contacts. We also have a Facebook group where we can remember the past and share memories, pictures, stories and news about our alumni's achievements.

Anyone interested in joining our organization or has any questions please contact Abbie DiDonato at 705-255-4634 or Harvey Barsanti at 705-971-8759.

The *SMC Alumni Association* was incorporated in 2005 to promote educational pursuits in support of St. Mary's College. This includes promotion of the Annual SMC Alumni Association Scholarships, Fundraising and to network with former alumnus who will in turn help to raise the profile of the association.

The *Mount St. Mary's Support Fund* is a not-for-profit incorporated entity which functions as an endowment fund for scholarships at SMC.

**For more information, press only:**

**Abbie DiDonato**  
President, Director  
705-255-4634  
[abbiedidonato@shaw.ca](mailto:abbiedidonato@shaw.ca)

**Harvey Barsanti**  
Vice President, Director  
705-941-8759  
[harveybarsanti@hotmail.com](mailto:harveybarsanti@hotmail.com)

**SMC Alumni Association Directors**

**Loris Pecile**  
Director  
(705) 942-2655  
[lpecile@sympatico.ca](mailto:lpecile@sympatico.ca)

**Mark Sicoly**  
Director  
(705) 943-2708  
[marksicoly@gmail.com](mailto:marksicoly@gmail.com)

**Joe Sicoly**  
Director  
(705) 649-3636  
[joesicoly@sympatico.ca](mailto:joesicoly@sympatico.ca)

**Orlando Rosa**  
Director  
(705) 779-3702  
[orosa@wishartlaw.com](mailto:orosa@wishartlaw.com)

**Mount St. Mary's Support Fund Directors**

**Christopher Spina**  
Director  
(705) 942-4820  
[chris.spina@hscdsb.on.ca](mailto:chris.spina@hscdsb.on.ca)

**John Stadnyk**  
Director  
(705) 542-5642  
[jstadnyk52@shaw.ca](mailto:jstadnyk52@shaw.ca)



**Figure 1**

**2015 SMC Alumni Association - \$50,000 Donation Presentation to Building Fund**



**Figure 2**

**2006 SMC Alumni with Father Brian Higgins During 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion**