



École Saint-Joseph: celebrating 50 years of French Catholic education in Wawa

For immediate release

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The Wawa community will gather at École Saint-Joseph on Monday, June 28, from 2 to 8 p.m., to celebrate the school's 50 years of excellence. The program for this outdoor celebration includes a barbecue, food, games, a dunk tank and music. All members of the community are invited to take part in the celebrations at École Saint-Joseph, located at 101 Churchill Avenue in Wawa.

School staff, present and former students, families, and friends will celebrate their school, the first to offer French Catholic education to citizens of Wawa. While it began with only two classes in September 1959, the school now has 133 students in its elementary section (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8) and also provides secondary school education to 41 students. The school serves families from Wawa, White River, Hawk Junction and Dubreuilville.

"For over 50 years, hundreds of Francophones from the Wawa area attended École Saint-Joseph and can attest of the quality of the French Catholic education provided to the community," commented Mr. Marcel Montpellier, President of the Conseil scolaire catholique du Nouvel Ontario (CSCNO). "We salute the incredible work accomplished by the staff and the incredible support of the community for a quality French language education for students from Wawa and its surrounding area."

"École Saint-Joseph has a proud history that deserves to be celebrated," explained CSCNO Director of Education Ms. Lyse-Anne Papineau. "We are thrilled at the many successes of this school, which stands out by its energy, quality and commitment of its staff. We want to thank everyone who has contributed to its success right from the first days in September 1959. In light of the support shown by parents and the community, we are convinced the school will continue to shine for many years to come."

During its history of 50 years of excellence, École Saint-Joseph has earned the confidence of parent, and is recognized for its outstanding contribution to Francophone Catholic life, culture and sports. More than 95% of Grade 8 students pursue their studies at École secondaire catholique Saint-Joseph. Among the school's 31 staff members, 11 are former students who today are working as principal, teacher, secretary or educator.

The Conseil scolaire catholique du Nouvel-Ontario offers a French Catholic Educational Program that is recognized for its excellence. With more than 7,300 students in 28 elementary and 10 secondary schools, the CSCNO offers a positive learning environment from early childhood to adult education.

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