



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAIRN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL TO LAUNCH CAMPAIGN

Smithville/Stoney Creek, ON – The Board of Directors of Cairn Christian School, with campuses in Stoney Creek and Smithville, announced they plan to launch a campaign to move forward with several necessary capital projects. The *Building the Way Campaign* will enable the schools to expand their ability to meet current enrolment and program needs, welcome more students, and enhance their learning environments through three projects – a major addition to the Smithville Campus, significant renovations to the Stoney Creek Campus, and elimination of the schools' current debt.

The Smithville Campus will benefit from the addition of four new classrooms – two dedicated Kindergarten and two Primary spaces. They will also receive a renovation to the school's entrance, student services and much-needed administrative spaces to welcome visitors and provide enhanced security and accessibility to their diverse community of learning.

Increased enrolment and community use of their Stoney Creek school necessitates renovations in a few areas. The school's entryway will be enhanced to provide full accessibility and create a more open and welcoming experience for visitors, students and staff. A dedicated Outdoor Education space will replace the aging play structures and an outdoor active learning to inject new life into the learning experiences of their students. The project will also see the replacement of the roof on the older section of the building.

Amalgamation, past renovations and three years of deficit budgets many years ago, has given way to a strong financial picture today after a decade of balanced budgets. Increased enrolment, responsible budgeting and diligent sustained payments have significantly reduced the debt to its current level. Eliminating the debt now will provide financial stability and ensure tuition fees will be directed entirely to operations. More importantly, it will allow the schools to invest further into their students and their learning.

"Families continue to discover the richness an education at Cairn Christian School brings. Christian education that seeks to ***inspire students to love, learn, and lead together in God's world*** is catching the attention of more families making these capital improvements necessary," explained Kevin Huinink, Cairn Christian School's Executive Director. "This increased enrolment in excellent schools continues our developing story since the 1950's, and drives us forward to be leaders in education, bringing Christ's love to the world."

The Cairn Christian School Board of Directors has approved moving forward with the \$3.2M *Building the Way Campaign* to raise the necessary funds for these projects. The decision came following the undertaking of a Community Assessment that was conducted by The Dennis Group Inc., a fundraising consulting firm, in the spring of this year, and the completion of concept designs by Brouwer Architecture. Guided by the input of a Campaign Planning Committee through the summer, a Campaign Cabinet has been recruited to move the campaign forward under the guidance of The Dennis Group Inc.

ABOUT CAIRN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Cairn Christian School is a group of parents and supporters who operate two Christian schools in the West Niagara/East Hamilton regions. These schools provide instructional excellence with a mission to inspire students to love, learn, and lead together in God's world. In operation since the 1950's, the schools have a long legacy in thousands of graduates who are making a difference as they lead in their communities.

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