

# More news

Spring/Summer 2016

**40TH ANNIVERSARY**  
*KURELEK MURAL*

**ENDOWED CHAIR**  
*INDIGENOUS SPIRITUALITY  
AND RECONCILIATION*

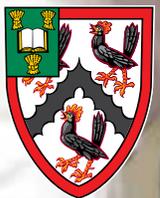
**STM SUMMER STUDENT**  
*RECRUITMENT LIAISONS*

**STM TEACHING  
EXCELLENCE AWARD**  
*DR. NATALIA KHANENKO-  
FRIESEN*

**ORDER OF CANADA**  
*STM RECIPIENTS*

**NORTH BUILDING**  
*RENEWAL PROJECT*

**A New Dean for STM**  
Dr. Arul Kumaran



**ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE**  
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

# President's Message

Those of us in postsecondary administration live as much in the future as we do in the present in that we are constantly deliberating on what is to come – next term, next academic year, next strategic planning cycle. This is particularly true during the spring as universities put the finishing touches on the current academic year and finalize preparations for the new one to follow. Such forward planning gives concrete form to hope, a process that calls to mind the words of the US novelist and poet, Marge Piercy: "Hope sleeps in our bones like a bear/waiting for spring to rise and walk."

In the case of St. Thomas More College, we have several good reasons for our hopes to rise and walk as we enter the 2016-2017 academic year including: In consultation with our Advisory Circle that includes Elders and Community Leaders from across Saskatchewan, STM has established an Endowed Chair in Indigenous Spirituality and Reconciliation that will be formally launched in advance of the 2016-2017 academic year; STM is hosting a major international conference on 22-24 September, 2016, "Utopia for 500 Years," to mark the 500th anniversary of the publication of Thomas More's Utopia; STM has a list of 16 distinguished former students, award recipients, former and current faculty at STM whose careers and accomplishments have been recognized by appointment to the Order of Canada; STM has commenced construction of yet another major addition that includes expansion of our library and cafeteria, additional Student Services facilities and a student lounge. This new structure is on the opposite side of our campus from the major expansion that was completed in 2013; we have made two new tenure-track appointments in psychology thereby renewing our faculty; STM continues to fundraise for the Chair for Catholic Studies, the Basilian Atrium Fund, our building expansion, and for scholarships and bursaries in line with our Strategic Plan 2015-2020 priority to greatly enhance scholarships and bursaries; we celebrate this year the 40th anniversary of the completion of the famous William Kurelek mural in our chapel. His own description of this remarkable work of art is reproduced in this newsletter; and, STM has proposed the establishment of a Centre for Faith, Reason and Justice that will house our Dubé Chair for Catholic Studies, promote research on social justice locally, nationally and globally, administer and promote our Minors in Catholic Studies and Critical Perspectives on Social Justice and the Common Good, and provide an institutional home for Service Learning and all of STM's social justice work.

On behalf of all members of the STM community, I extend thanks for your ongoing support that enables us to maintain and enhance the fertile STM scholarly tradition; we all look forward to another exciting and productive academic year. Our hopes do indeed arise and walk; we give thanks for our many blessings.

Finally, on June 30, 2016 Dr. Carl Still will complete his second five-year term as Dean of STM. On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff of STM, I extend our profound thanks to Carl for his legendary commitment to the wellbeing of STM, and for his decade of exemplary leadership in this very demanding position. It has been a privilege for me to work closely with him.



Terrence J. Downey, PhD  
President

## St. Thomas More College Board of Governors



(L-R) Ashley Smith (Chair) • Bev Hanson (Vice-Chair) • Ray Kolla (Treasurer) • Richard Fontanie • Maia Gibb • Keith Pavo • Marie Stack • Dr. Sharon Wright (Faculty rep.) • Brooke Kincart (Student rep.) Not pictured: Dr. Terrence Downey (President); Cheryl Yuzwa (College Secretary)

# Dean's Message

Since the appearance of the last issue of More News the college has appointed a new Dean, Dr. Arul Kumaran of our English department, who will begin his term on July 1, 2016. Since the announcement in late November we have begun a transition process, which will enable a smooth transfer and prepare him for a successful deanship. I wish Arul every success as he takes on this new role in the College.

In addition to the selection of a new Dean, we have been active this past year in pursuing the priorities of our new Strategic Plan. For the first time we have drafted an enrolment management plan in order to identify and enhance opportunities to recruit and retain more students. We have continued to revitalize our curriculum by introducing new courses, among them a for-credit version of our popular *Writing for Academic Success* course, which introduces students to essay writing. We have appointed two new faculty members to permanent positions in our Psychology department and taken the first step toward meeting our goal of recruiting Indigenous scholars to our faculty. Next year we plan to introduce an Aboriginal Graduate Fellowship to complement the recently approved Chair in Indigenous Spirituality and Reconciliation. And we are planning to establish a Centre for Faith, Reason, and Justice to house the Dubé Chair for Catholic Studies along with our academic programs in Catholic Studies and Social Justice and the Common Good.

As I conclude my service as Dean, it is natural to reflect on milestones of the past ten years that have contributed to the strong position in which we find ourselves today. Thanks to the previous work of my predecessor, Dean Wilfrid Denis, we were able to conclude an Academic Partnership Agreement with the College of Arts and Science early in 2007. As part of an ambitious program of faculty renewal launched under President George Smith, we have hired 13 new faculty members into tenure-stream positions – a third of our current permanent faculty. This process alone has brought untold new energy and creativity into the college. We also introduced for the first time academic programs distinctive to STM. We expanded our building in dramatic ways and with it our capacity to teach and serve students. A recent survey of students taking classes at STM revealed a high level of satisfaction with the quality of instruction, our community service-learning options, our smaller class sizes, our distinct course offerings, and our student services support.

It has been a privilege for me to serve as Dean of STM for the past decade. It has afforded me a unique vantage point on the college and enhanced my appreciation of the role that every faculty and staff member plays in making STM successful. We have faced challenges over the past ten years, but thanks to the talent and dedication of our faculty, staff, and senior administration, we have emerged a stronger community, committed to the success of our students and confident in our mission as a Catholic liberal arts college. If we continue to be guided by a strong sense of our common purpose and unique value at the University of Saskatchewan – as I believe we will – then we may expect to see STM achieve new heights in the next ten years.



Carl Still, PhD  
Dean, St. Thomas More College

## St. Thomas More College Faculty Department Heads



**More news** Editor/designer Jacquie Berg  
Director of Communications and Marketing, STM.



**ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE**  
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

St. Thomas More College 1437 College Drive Saskatoon SK S7N 0W6 Phone:1.800.667.2019 or 306.966.8900 [stmcollege.ca](http://stmcollege.ca)



**This South Carolinian** graced St. Thomas More College with 10 years of leadership in the demanding role of Dean. Consistently a gentlemen and advocate of sound decision making based on a balanced review of input from all facets and always with the organization's goals his ultimate focus.

**Thank you Carl for your great contribution to the STM legacy.**

**CARL STILL, DEAN  
ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE**

- Installed as Dean in 2006
- Reappointed as Dean in 2011
- Negotiated (with negotiating committee) five CBA's (2005-2007, 2007-2010, 2010-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2017)
- Worked with four presidents: (including acting)
  - George Smith, CSB
  - Tom Deutscher
  - Ken Smith
  - Terrence Downey



ST. THOMAS MORE CO  
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATC

## Dean Carl Still - *Parting Thoughts*

**W**hat was the greatest adjustment/challenge serving as Dean for the College?

When I first started as Dean it was probably adjusting to the 8:30 am to 4:30 pm schedule after having the freedom of a faculty member to come and go around my classes, meetings, and office hours. But a far greater challenge was learning that – however well planned the schedule was – the unexpected could happen at any time and rearrange your whole day. Part of the training of a Dean, then, is to learn to expect the unexpected – and embrace it when it happens.

**W**hat do you feel was your greatest accomplishment during your tenure as Dean for the College?

I wouldn't say my greatest accomplishment, because the Dean almost always acts with and through others. Every accomplishment was a team effort, and I worked with exceptional teams of faculty, staff, and students over the past ten years. The two accomplishments that stand out most for me now are the recruitment of 13 new scholars to our permanent faculty and the approval of academic programs – first Catholic Studies, then Social Justice and the Common Good – that have no parallel at the U of S. The promise of these and other distinctive STM programs is yet to be fully realized, but it was a significant moment when the U of S approved academic programs in which the expertise resides at STM. Since that time I have seen many other signs confirming that the U of S sees STM as a full partner in the work of teaching, research, and outreach to the community.

**H**ow have students changed or perhaps the institution (University education) since you took over as Dean?

Technology has, I think, reshaped us all and made us more distracted. When I began as Dean in 2006 I was given my first cell phone – a Blackberry – and noticed that not everyone carried a mobile device at that time. Now you would stand out if you didn't carry one, and that seems especially true for students. Faculty tell me they wrestle with whether to ban laptops, tablets, and mobile devices from their classrooms in the hope of minimizing internet surfing and social media use. This strikes as a battle that one cannot win, not unlike the medieval attempts to ban Aristotle's works from the classroom. The desire to explore new knowledge was stronger than all the attempts to regulate it, and eventually Aristotle became a cornerstone of the curriculum in the medieval universities. Learning can certainly be enhanced by the internet, and there may soon be no classroom that is not technologically enhanced; but it will take us some time to master our devices as learning tools instead of letting them lead our distracted minds around aimlessly.

**W**hat are you most looking forward to now that you step out of the Administrative role?

Starting July 1, I'll have a year-long administrative leave. Some may imagine that I'll just take the year off and chill out, but the list of things I want to do in that year grows every time I think about it. Returning to faculty work, especially full-time teaching, will be more challenging than continuing on as Dean would have been. So I expect to spend that year learning how teaching is done now, catching up in my field, writing as much as I can, and generally figuring out how to integrate what I learned as an administrator into the faculty work I hope to do in the years to come. That is quite a lot to look forward to, and I consider myself extremely fortunate to have a year to delve into it.

**I**s there anything you will miss – returning to a faculty position?

Working as closely as I did with the other members of our administrative team. That was a privilege that can only last so long, and in my case it lasted long enough for me to work with four different presidents at STM. I learned a great deal from the other members of our leadership team, and I hope to build on that experience in all the work I do in the future.

## Endowed Chair in Indigenous Spirituality and Reconciliation

In consultation with an Advisory Circle that includes Elders and Community Leaders from across Saskatchewan, STM is establishing an Endowed Chair in Indigenous Spirituality and Reconciliation which was formally inaugurated May 17th in the new Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre, University of Saskatchewan. At the outset, the Chair will sponsor lectures and events that contribute to an understanding of the cultures and beliefs that have shaped Christian-Indigenous relations in Western Canada.

This Chair is a major component of the Indigenous Engagement priority in our 2015-2020 Strategic Plan which includes several other initiatives to attract and support a growing number of Indigenous students. The hiring of Indigenous faculty members and increases in the current number of scholarships and bursaries for Indigenous students are among the other priorities.



L – R: Gertrude Rompre, STM Director of Mission and Ministry; Dr. Darrell McLaughlin, Associate Dean, STM; Candace Wasacase-Lafferty, Director of Aboriginal Initiatives, Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre; Elder A.J. Felix, Sturgeon Lake First Nation; Elder Patricia Felix, Sturgeon Lake First Nation; Harry Lafond, Executive Director, Office of the Treaty Commissioner (Co-Chair); Gordon Martell, Superintendent of Education, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools; Dr. Terrence Downey, President, STM (Co-Chair)  
Absent from photo - Colleen M. Cameron

# ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE NEW FACULTY HIRES

**CARIE BUCHANAN** is currently in a full-time Lecturer position at STM, where she has taught courses in adolescent development as well as advanced seminars in developmental psychology since 2011. She completed her Honours Bachelor of Arts in psychology and transferred into the doctoral program at the U of S, where she earned her PhD in 2012 with a dissertation on adolescent peer victimization. Her doctoral studies were supported by a CIHR doctoral research award. While in graduate school she published four co-authored articles and has four additional manuscripts in progress. She has presented her research at 18 scholarly conferences, including the Society for Research on Adolescence, the Society for the Study of Emerging Adults, and the Society for Research in Child Development.

**JENNIFER BRIERE** currently holds a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S), where she is working on a SSHRC-funded project on early literacy education. She earned her Honours Bachelor of Arts in psychology, her MEd in educational psychology, and her PhD in cognitive development psychology (2015) at the U of S. Her dissertation deals with retrieval-induced forgetting in children and was supported by a number of scholarships, most notably a post-graduate scholarship from NSERC. Jennifer has taught at STM since 2014 and has most recently offered courses in the psychology of aging and human memory. While in graduate school she published four co-authored articles and one book chapter and has two additional articles in press. She has presented her research at 19 scholarly conferences, including the Banff Annual Seminar in Cognitive Science, the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition, and the Psychonomic Society.



## STM STAFF RETIREMENT DOROTHY BITTNER



### Excerpt from Dorothy Bittner's Retirement Celebration by Gail Morrison

Dorothy began her work at STM in January of 1985 in a job-share position. Dorothy recalls these early days of typing all the exams and course outlines on an electric typewriter that only had a two-line memory so you crossed your fingers that no changes needed to be made. All had to be copied on a Gestetner machine. If you don't know what that is, I would encourage you to talk to Dorothy about the trials and tribulations. She said there was only one photocopier in the building, but that was only to be used in emergencies!!

The telephone was a well-used tool back then. No offices had direct phone lines so Dorothy answered anywhere from 50-70 calls a day. (No time for day dreaming that's for sure).

Dorothy's dream came true in 1987 when she was given her first computer. The college also provided her with a dot matrix printer. However, she said it squeaked so loud that maintenance had to build a sound proof box around it. I don't know that I would have called these the "good old days" Dorothy.

STM initiated a Development Office and Dorothy was asked to work in this office during her off-week. In her role as support to this office, she did a wide variety of jobs including arranging Gala events, assisting with fund-raising, updating alumni information and she also played a significant role in setting up the donor wall and Heartwood Tree by Room 260. Dorothy said she typed up so many labels during those years that she still remembers where many of our alumni live.

Dorothy also provided clerical assistance to PCUH when the Centre first began. STM then purchased Ogle Hall, which was our student residence, and the college took over the management of Sheptytsky Institute residence across the street. Dorothy looked after residence applications, collected rent for both residences and looked after bill payments.

In 2002, Dorothy became the full-time receptionist in the Main Office. She worked alongside Claude Lang in Student Services for a number of years dealing with bursaries, basketball tournaments, booking student appointments, etc. The list goes on.

*Dorothy, we thank you for all the work you have done over the past 31 years as a great ambassador for the College and we wish you all the best in your retirement!*

# St. Thomas More College 2015-2016 Teaching Excellence Award

## Recipient - Professor Natalia Khanenko-Friesen

An annual teaching award granted to an STM faculty member based on student nominations and recommendations from a committee of fellow faculty members. This year we are pleased to recognize Professor Natalia Khanenko-Friesen with the 2015-2016 STM Teaching Award. The committee was impressed with Professor Khanenko-Friesen's commitment to community engaged learning, the creative pedagogical tools she uses in her classes and her clearly innovative forms of teaching in the classroom. Congratulations Natalia!

Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen began teaching Cultural Anthropology at STM in 2001. In addition to her regular teaching schedule, Dr. Khanenko-Friesen is also largely involved with PCUH (Prairie Centre for Ukrainian Heritage), which promotes Ukrainian language and history.

July 2015 Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen, Head of the Department of Religion and Culture and Associate Professor of Anthropology launched the Inaugural Issue of Canada's only scholarly peer-reviewed journal on community engaged teaching, learning and research, titled "Engaged Scholar Journal." The Founding Editor of the Journal, Dr. Khanenko-Friesen, for the last two years oversaw the creation of the Journal in both its forms, online and in print.

The Spring Session in Ukraine is conceived as an intensive language and culture immersion program coordinated jointly by St. Thomas More College (STM) and the University of Saskatchewan (U of S). The program is offered overseas in Ternopil, Ukraine in co-operation with a partner institution, Ternopil National Pedagogical University. Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen has been instrumental in engaging STM students with this opportunity abroad and this year, she will also be teaching a culture course there as well.

### STM Courses Taught

- ANTH 111.3 Introduction to Sociocultural Anthropology
- ANTH 227.3 Cultures of Central and Eastern Europe
- ANTH 233.3 Anthropological perspectives on Ukraine
- ANTH 330.3 Oral History and Storytelling: Anthropological perspectives
- INTS 202.3 Ukrainian History and Culture: An Introduction
- RLST 413.3 Ritual and Narrative: Anthropological Perspectives



### Natalia Khanenko-Friesen

- PhD, Cultural Anthropology and Ukrainian Folklore, University of Alberta, Canada
- MA, Ukrainian Folklore, University of Alberta, Canada
- Geography, Kyiv National University, UKRAINE

## STM Faculty Research



STM's Dr. Saeed Moshiri (STM Economics Department) is engaged with Chemical and Biological Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan in a research project supported with funding from the Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) to help the environment by producing a greener product using the resources already available in Saskatchewan (fuel pellets developed from agricultural residues).

Dr. Moshiri will be providing the techno-economical and life cycle analysis for the product.

For more information on this research project contact [smoshiri@stmcollege.ca](mailto:smoshiri@stmcollege.ca)

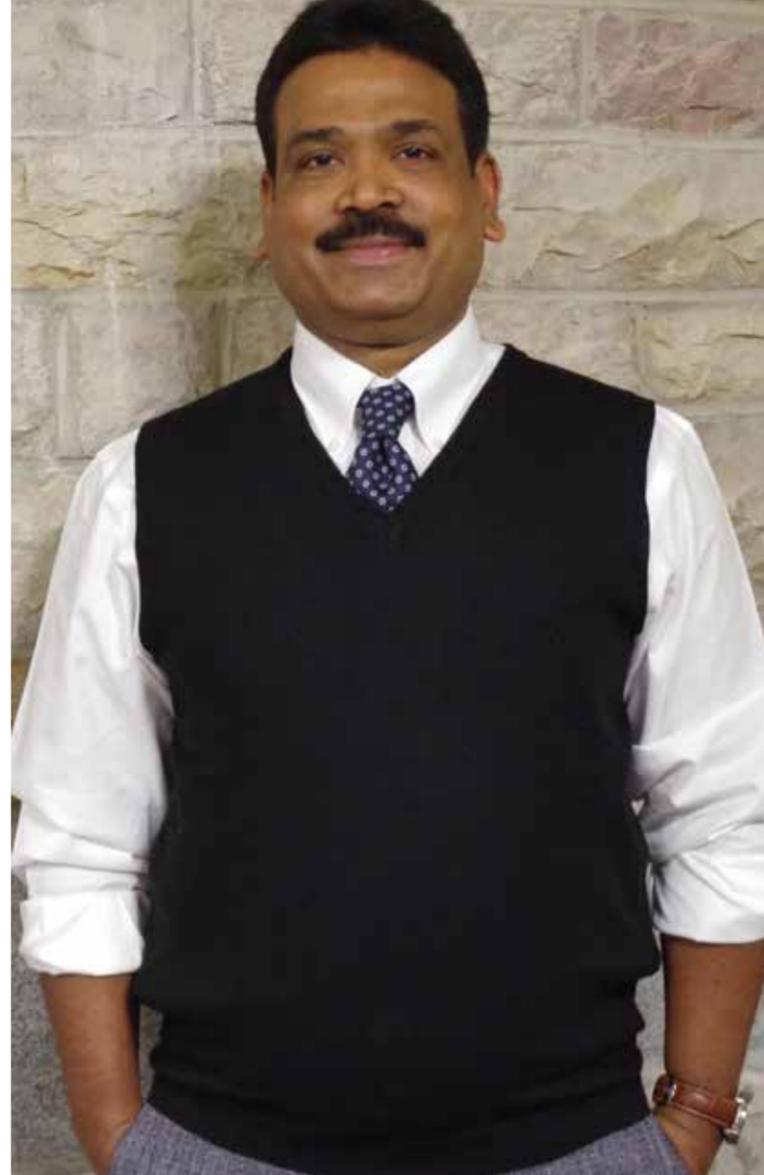
# Dr. Arul Kumaran

approaches his role as Dean with some pivotal goals in mind. "Ultimately, I want St. Thomas More College to be widely recognized as a robust Catholic liberal arts college in Western Canada in a meaningful and complementary federation with the University of Saskatchewan," he says.

**"I believe the key to this success is our distinct programming and inclusive community approach."**

## Key Elements of Dr. Kumaran's vision:

- Commitment to the College's Catholic mission
- Preservation of the federation agreement with the U of S
- Acknowledgement of the centrality of students in our mission they are the very raison d'etre of the College
- Importance of Faculty, because in many ways, they are the College
- Need to be creative about our programs and find ways to be a distinctive liberal arts college
- Collaborative leadership - to achieve durable self-sufficiency both academically and financially
- Continued commitment to teaching and research
- Active encouragement, even celebration, of academic freedom
- New approach to First Nations students and issues
- Commitment to equality in classrooms and workplace



President Terrence Downey announced that the St. Thomas More College (STM) Search and Appointment Committee for the Dean completed its deliberations and the Board of Governors has accepted his recommendation that Dr. Arul Kumaran be appointed Dean of St. Thomas More College, for a five year term effective July 1, 2016.

After ten years at STM as an educator, Dr. Arul Kumaran was considering a new challenge - a move to administration. "As an educator you often think about having the opportunity to actually play a role in shaping the system. I realized this was perhaps my opportunity and I didn't want to have regrets not putting forth my name," Kumaran stated. A strong proponent of the value met through Catholic Higher Education existing alongside mainstream secular offerings, he encourages student and faculty dialogue in areas of social justice, freedom, faith and traditional values.

In his new role as Dean, Dr. Arul Kumaran plans to continue improving and expanding student offerings which historically have made STM in its federated status a unique and valuable complement to the University of Saskatchewan.

**"I am confident that the College's commitment to excellence in teaching and research, incorporated within the key pillars of our new strategic plan, will serve to maintain and strengthen the legacy of STM moving forward." Arul Kumaran**

Arul Kumaran received his BA, MA, and MPhil degrees in English literature from the Madras Christian College in India, where he also taught as an assistant professor. Specializing in early modern literature, Kumaran came to the University of Saskatchewan in 1994 to complete his Ph.D. While finishing his doctoral work, Kumaran worked as a sessional lecturer for St. Thomas More College. He has also taught at St. Francis Xavier University and UBC – Okanagan. Dr. Kumaran was hired by St. Thomas More College as assistant professor in a tenure-track position in 2005. He currently holds the rank of associate professor of English and served as head of STM's English department from 2012-2015.

Congratulations Arul, and best wishes in this new leadership role with the College!



stm1936



St. Thomas More College University of Saskatchewan



stmstudentlife



## STM Summer Recruitment Liaisons

A new enrolment initiative at St. Thomas More College provided summer positions for four enthusiastic students - already greatly involved with STM - to travel to schools in the community and across the province, sharing information along with their own experiences in the College. Other key aspects of their role included following up with prospective students to promote STM courses and initiatives as students plan for registration; engaging them in STM social media, leading College tours and developing STM recruitment videos.



### STM 'SUMMER SQUAD' STUDENTS

**HAYLEE DAYTON**, Bachelor of Arts Majoring in Psychology and Minor in Crime Law Justice Studies

**NIGEL DETBRENNER-REMPEL**, Political Science and English Literature

**BROOKE KINKART**, History Major

**ANSON LISKI**, BA Honours in Political Studies with a Minor in Social Justice and the Common Good

## NORTH BUILDING RENEWAL PROJECT

STM broke ground May 26 on the North Building Renewal Project. This is an important project for STM to correct some serious building deficiencies and become more energy efficient. The project also takes advantage of these changes to incorporate more space for student activities through a new lounge area; a new front reception area for the College; a completely new north entrance to the College, as well as an exciting renewal and expansion of our library space!

## 2013 ADDITION DOUBLE AWARD RECIPIENT

**February 29, 2016**, the City of Saskatoon and the Municipal Heritage Committee announced St. Thomas More College's 2013 Addition as a **Municipal Heritage Award Winner** in the Sensitive Addition category.

**May 31, 2016**, Heritage Saskatchewan awarded STM's 2013 Addition, the **Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Heritage Architecture Excellence Award** for Sympathetic New Construction.



# creating more.



**STM DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**  
Karen Massett

## Out and About with STM Alumni:

Wally Richlark in front of the STM Chapel Doors during a tour of the College. Next time you are at STM, stop by, reminisce, and behold the doors; they have been recently polished and are looking beautiful! Plans are in development to refurbish all of the original copper doors of the College.



Long-time friends John Francis (Frank) Roy, and Mae Daly enjoying some cheer during a past visit to Saskatoon. Both Frank and Mae have been loyal friends of the College over the years, sharing a heartfelt connection from their time here. They were active members of the Newman Club during the days of the White House (1945-50) and sang many duets together. Frank received the STM Distinguished Alumni Award in 1992, and Mae and her husband Bernard Daly were 1994 recipients.

## MEMORIES OF THE GOOD OLD DAYS...

Do you recognize yourself or anyone else in this picture? Let us know who you know. Send your information by email to [kmassett@stmcollege.ca](mailto:kmassett@stmcollege.ca), by post to the College's address (on the back page of the newsletter) or give Karen a call at 306.966.8918. Feel free to include a story or two or your most cherished memories of STM. We hope you will participate; the more responses we receive, the more alumni we can identify!



*The STM Distinguished Alumni Award is awarded annually to a female and a male graduate of St. Thomas More College whose lifetime accomplishments and achievements have been outstanding, who have made a significant contribution to their community, and who have continued to celebrate their relationship with St. Thomas More College since their graduation. We believe our recipients are wonderful examples of individuals whose life-work and commitment reflect the values and benefits of the education they received from the College.*

**Nominations are now open for the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Awards.**

### Distinguished Alumni Award Past recipients:

- 1992 - J. Frank Roy & Mary Louis Long
- 1993 - Alphonse Gerwing & Marikay Falby
- 1994 - Bernard & Mae Daly
- 1995 - Grant & Vivian Maxwell
- 1996 - Ted & Danielle Fortosky
- 1997 - Margaret Mahoney & Herman Rolfes
- 1998 - Kevin & Dorothy Murphy
- 1999 - Kenneth Schmitz & Margaret Dutli
- 2000 - Not awarded
- 2001 - Dr. Tom Molloy and Mildred Kerr
- 2002 - Dr. Michael Krochak & Betty Farrell
- 2003 - Henry Kloppenburg & Kay Feehan
- 2004 - Joseph Bellefleur & Dr. Lois Brockman
- 2005 - Dr. Walter Podiluk & Dr. Colleen Fitzgerald
- 2006 - Peter Zakreski & Elaine Shein
- 2007 - Not awarded
- 2008 - Bill Zerebesky & Sr. Kay MacDonald, NDS
- 2009 - Dr. Douglas Schmeiser & MJ DeCoteau
- 2010 - Art Battiste & Barbara Berscheid
- 2011 - Dr. Mary Jo Leddy & Justice Peter Dielschneider
- 2012 - Archbishop Sylvain Lavoie & Sr. Teresita Kambeitz
- 2013 - Dr. W (Earle) DeCoteau & Geryllyn (Geri) Hall
- 2014 - Margaret Sanche & Otto Lang
- 2015 - Dr. Jim Dosman & Sister Irene Poelzer

If you know of a special STM College Alumni you'd like to nominate, please fill out the Distinguished Alumni Nomination form found on our website under Alumni or contact Karen Massett 306.966.8918 [kmassett@stmcollege.ca](mailto:kmassett@stmcollege.ca) to have a form mailed. Nominations must be received by July 29, 2016.

## ORDER OF CANADA RECIPIENTS of St. Thomas More College

The distinguished careers and accomplishments of a significant number of STM's former students, award recipients, former and current faculty members have been recognized by appointment to the Order of Canada. To date, 16 Order of Canada recipients have been identified as listed below. This is a remarkable record for STM. We invite our alumni to submit names of other Order of Canada recipients that may have been overlooked. When the list is finalized, the names will be put on a plaque as a companion piece to the plaque that lists STM's nine Rhodes Scholars.

### ORDER OF CANADA RECIPIENTS FROM ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE:

- Thomas Courchene, OC
- Edgar Dosman, CM
- James Dosman, OC
- Alphonse Mathias Gerwing, CM
- Frederick Hill, CM
- Daniel Ish, OC
- Henry Kloppenburg, CM
- Otto Lang, OC
- Francis Leddy, OC
- Mary-Jo Leddy, OC
- W. Thomas Molloy, OC
- Edmund J. McCorkell, CSB, CM
- Walter Podiluk, CM
- Andre Poilievre, CM
- Guy C. Vanderhaeghe, OC
- Peter E. Zakreski, CM

### STMNAA

**The STM-Newman Alumni Association Board is looking for new members.**

For more information on how you can become involved with YOUR Alumni association contact STM Development Officer: Karen Massett at 306.966.8918 or [kmassett@stmcollege.ca](mailto:kmassett@stmcollege.ca)

## Leave a Legacy at STM



Wally Richlark is "Leaving a Legacy" to honour his Father, Peter Harold Richlark, while planning ahead and creating more opportunities for students who will, in the future, study within the walls of STM.

Through a bequest to STM in his will, Wally is again contributing to the vitality and growth of St. Thomas More College. Wally's bequest is designated for the Peter Harold Richlark Bursary Fund, which was recently established. When Wally's bequest is realized, both the amount of the bursary and the number of students receiving the funding each year will increase substantially.

By including STM in his will, Wally has honoured his father and created a legacy that will provide students with financial assistance for generations to come. The Peter Harold Richlark Bursary will provide much-needed support to STM students to offset the increasing costs of a university education, and it will forever be appreciated and remembered!

Thank you once again, Wally, for your incredible support of both St. Thomas More College and the students of each generation which will benefit from your generosity.

Photo: L - R, Development Officer Karen Massett; STM President Terrence Downey; Wally Richlark

# The Peter Harold Richlark Bursary

Established by Mr. Wally Richlark

Wally Richlark values the importance of our Liberal Arts College as it continues to fulfill its calling as an exemplary embodiment of the Catholic intellectual tradition in Canada. Wally also understands the incredible financial challenges faced by STM students during their educational journey.

With this in mind, and in honour and memory of his father, Peter Harold Richlark, Wally has established a \$50,000.00 Endowment Fund created for the purpose of funding Bursaries to support STM Students in financial need. Each year two students will receive \$1,000.00 in financial support. As the bursary is endowed, only a portion of the interest earned will be used to fund it each year. Importantly, the donated principle will remain in tact, and the Peter Harold Richlark Bursary will remain in perpetuity, thereby providing enduring support for STM students.

Wally has a great deal of respect for his father, Peter Richlark, who enlisted with the Canadian Military in 1916 and served in WWI at the age of only 16. Peter returned to Canada after being wounded at age 17 in The Battle of Ypres, where the German and the Allied armies clashed, resulting in hundreds of thousands of casualties. Back in Canada, Peter worked for C.N.R. Railways as a labourer; he was with C.N.R. for 42 years. Wally notes that upon retiring, his father's C.N.R pension was only \$196.00 per month. A modest man, he never applied for a Veteran's Pension as his belief was that while he was able to work, he could not accept any form of assistance from the government.

Peter Richlark's son, Wally, was born in 1928 and like his father, Wally served his country during times of war. At the age of 15, he became a Merchant Seaman on both Canadian and American cargo ships during WWII, and he continued to serve during the Korean War. Also as his father, Wally worked for C.N.R, as a Locomotive Fireman and Engineer for 15 years. At that time locomotives were fueled by coal and as a Locomotive Fireman his role was to shovel coal into the burners.

Wally received his education in Saskatchewan and his educational journey is truly inspiring. He left school after grade 8 at the age of 14. He worked at various jobs over the years and it was 19 years later that Wally entered an adult senior matriculation course, offered through the University of Saskatchewan. At that time it was a seven-month course in Regina, which he passed with much hard work and determination. Wally discovered STM when he again returned to school, earning a B.A. in Sociology.

In 1967 Wally enrolled with C.U.S.O. where he volunteered for two years. His work with C.U.S.O. was as a "Mechanical Work Supervisor" with the: "Division of Power Transport and Works, Mechanical Services Branch" in the Republic of Zambia. His responsibilities mainly included the commissioning of equipment in 21 new secondary schools in Zambia. Wally was responsible not only for the maintenance of the plants, but also training mechanics to operate the equipment. These schools were scattered throughout many rural areas and necessitated much travel and many long hours. On his "Certificate of Service" from the Republic of Zambia, the Deputy Commissioner of Works commented, "He carried out his duties tirelessly and efficiently and has shown himself a reliable worker and capable officer...". Wally speaks fondly of his time in Africa and especially of the people he came to know, and he notes that his B.A. in Sociology helped him in his work there.

Over the course of his career Wally also worked for 16 years with Statistics Canada as a Project Manager. Now Wally receives a small pension from the Department of Veterans' Affairs for his loyal and dedicated service. Both Wally and his father are men of humble beginnings with inspiring drive and determination, both gave of themselves for their country, and now Wally is giving back to STM.

Reflecting on his decision to donate to STM College and to help fund students in financial need, Wally notes, "What may be a little unusual now is that my Dad and I, both blue collar workers, are involved in a University Bursary Program, which shows that a person can contribute to this program on a small income".

It could be said that in many ways, education is an act of hope. Our Catholic College provides education with the hope of enabling students to reach the full measure of their being, thereby transforming lives, which in turn will resonate with future generations. The Peter Harold Richlark Bursary at STM provides hope for students in financial need.

President Downey extends his profound gratitude to Wally Richlark for his remarkable generosity that provides opportunities for students who otherwise might be unable to attend University.

From all of us at St. Thomas More College, we say "Thank you, Wally" for both your generosity and kindness of heart! *by Karen Massett*

**PLANNED GIVING AT STM** is an important way alumni/ae and friends pass on what they have received, to maintain and advance the educational experience and reputation of STM as the largest influential Catholic College in Western Canada.

For STM, a Planned Gift offers long-term stability which in turn allows us to plan into the future, ensuring that our facility and the student's academic needs will be provided for in the best means possible. Some of the areas that require long-term funding support include scholarships and bursaries, student support services, campus ministry, library, building upkeep and faculty research. Through STM's Planned Giving program you are provided opportunities to make a special gift - a lifetime gift.

By making a Planned Gift as an alumni/ae and friend you can have great pride in the fact that you helped ensure that students today and tomorrow will have the same opportunities to attend an exceptional Catholic College as you did when you attended STM.

**For more information please contact Karen Massett, Development Officer at 306.966.8918 or kmassett@stmcollege.ca**



## 2015/2016 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

### COMMUNITY SERVICE-LEARNING SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

#### Les and Irene Dubé Service & Justice Scholarship

Caitlyn Anhorn	Jordana Lalonde
Raphael De Los Reyes	Jillian Madey
Casey Eberl	Anastasia Meckelborg
Adedolapo Fadare	Colten Molner
Danielle Friesen	Angela Okotinsky
Jade Hupé	Amanda Thompson

#### Les and Irene Dubé Service & Justice Award

Ameer Hamza Suhail Awan	Paul Hansen	Lauren Stevenson
Hashim Suhail Awan	Chelsea Lehner	Pinkpreet Toor
Emma-Love Cabana	Anson Liski	Jacob Yuriy
Mackenzie Correa	Katherine Luneng	
Jessica Froehlich	Theodore Oliver	

### ENTERING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Kramer Scholarship Jessylee Wionzek

Reverend Edwin Kline, CSB Scholarship Camille McKay

Sisters of Our Lady of the Cross First Year Scholarship

Jaden Ball	Tina Luross	Elizabeth Smith
Douglas Brunet	Ana Meckelborg	Zhealynn Topacio
Eric Katula	Emile Moellenbeck	

#### K of C First Year Scholarship

Sarah Blom	Elizabeth Richardson	Alicia Pratt
Beaonca Meier	Shayma Shah	Anna Tang

STM First Year Scholarship Lois Villaruz Nicole Wright

Mr. Dan Perrins First Year Scholarship Andrea Pottle

Mr. Kieron Kilduff First Year Scholarship Adetoba Adeniran

Dr. Gerald Farthing First Year Scholarship Theodore Oliver

STM Entering Student Book Awards Hannah Ablass

STM Entering Aboriginal Student Scholarship Angela Lewis; Taylor Roufosse

### CONTINUING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Henry and Agnes Brockman Scholarship Shiney Choudhary; Alia Diehl

Margaret McWilliam Scholarship Jaclyn Morken

Jeannette Tetreault Scholarship Kayden Siriany Linares

Council 1517 George Mackey Foundation Scholarship Emmet Fortosky

Evelyn Burkitt Scholarship Tarah Gaboury

Batten Scholarship Jessica Froehlich

Thomas Deis '38 Pioneers of Saskatchewan Scholarship

Joshua Kurtenbach

Founding Fathers Scholarship Linda Huard

Wilfrid and Sylvia Hinz Family Award Haylee Dayton

Cornelius and Rosallie Woloschuk Scholarship Jillian Ramsey

The Doug and Irene Schmeiser Scholarship Alice Zhang

Dr. David L. Farmer Scholarship Naomi Zurevinski

John and Elizabeth Kaufmann Scholarships Joanna Korchinsk, Tessa Laird

The Roy E. Lloyd Scholarship Daniel Benning

Dielschneider Aboriginal Scholarship Alia Diehl

STM Leadership Awards Anson Liski; Connor Moen; Benjamin Schwab

The Ukrainian Self-Reliance Association/TYC – Steppe Branch

Ukrainian Language Awards Larissa Belinsky; Jill Howlett; Tanner Prychak;

Rachel Ward; Tyla Betke; Katherine Prytula

### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS (no application required)

The Rose Semki Hrynchuk Scholarship Ashley Halko-Addley

Maureen Haynes Catholic Studies Scholarship Kaitlin Meggs; Arianna Oleksuk

STM Creative Writing Scholarship Carl Schmidt

The St. Thomas More College Award for Excellence in CSL Writing

Brette Kristoff; Amanda Rissling

## 2015/2016 BURSARY RECIPIENTS

### ENTERING STUDENT BURSARIES

STM Aboriginal Entering Student Bursary

Darian Constant  
Angela Lewis

Matt and Beth Hertz Bursary

Darian Constant  
Kara McDonald

Margaret C. Dutli Award Beaonca Meier

### CONTINUING STUDENT BURSARIES

Cowan Bursary Haylee Dayton

STM Aboriginal Continuing Student Bursary

Danielle Bird  
Alia Diehl  
Kelly Standingready  
Pamela Yuzicapi

Aulea Arsenault Bursary

Joshua Kurtenbach Kayden Siriany Linares

Anne Phelan DeCoteau Bursary Tessa Laird

Wilfrid and Sylvia Hinz Family Bursary Monique Wong

Knights of Columbus State Educational Bursary

Jillian Ramsay Matthew Selinger

Nicholas Lucyshyn Bursary Connor Moen

Nasser Family Award Meagan Haarstad

Lorne and Elizabeth Parker Bursary Ugobame Uchibeke

Louis J. Vizer Bursary Naomi Zurevinski

Dielschneider Aboriginal Bursary Alia Diehl Pamela Yuzicapi

### GENERAL STUDENT BURSARIES

STM Student Bursary:

Kelsey Bates	Angela Lewis
Keighlagh Donovan	Kayla Lipinski
Melissa Dreaver	Kara McDonald
Paul Hansen	Breana Morrell
Linda Huard	Jayden Rempel
Aidan Kilduff	Shayma Shah
Nykole King	Mackenzie Stewart
Jazmin Kurtenbach	Lois Villaruz
Chelsea Lehner	Jessylee Wionzek
	Alice Zhang

**For more information on establishing a scholarship or bursary please contact Development Officer, Karen Massett at 306.966.8918 or kmassett@stmcollege.ca**

## 2016 Spring Convocation STM Student Award Recipients

*Congratulations*

to all St. Thomas More College students who convocated this Spring 2016. We wish you all the best and as you continue on your journey, hope you embrace each new challenge with curiosity, intelligence and creativity, never underestimating the role you can play in making the world a better place.



The Thomas Deis '38 World War II Memorial Prize is awarded to a St. Thomas More College student or Newman Centre member who has demonstrated all-round excellence or leadership, and who has enriched the life of STM or Newman Centre. **Anson Liski**



The Thomas Deis '38 Prize in Scholastic Philosophy in Honour of Dr. Basil Markle is awarded annually to a distinguished graduating student at St. Thomas More College majoring in Philosophy.

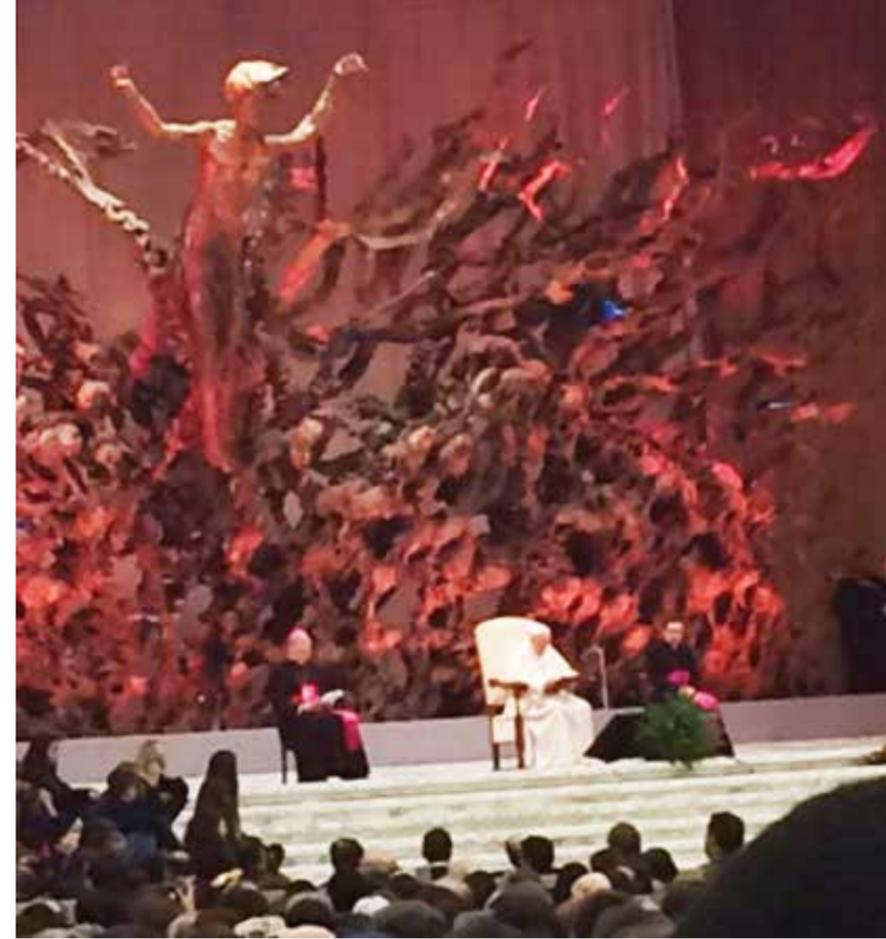
**Mary Lasby**

Right Reverend Monsignor Myroslav Kolodey Memorial Academic Prize. is given out each year to a graduating 3rd or 4th year St. Thomas More College student with the highest overall cumulative average.

**Jillana Schmidt**

The Fr. Henry Carr Award is presented to a graduating St. Thomas More College student who has shown leadership in and contributed to the life of the College.

**Linda Huard**



## World Congress on Catholic Education in Rome

Over 1,500 delegates from around the world gathered in Rome for the World Congress on Catholic Education. Reflecting on the theme: "Educating Today and Tomorrow: Renewing the Passion", participants heard global perspectives on Catholic education. STM's director of Mission and Ministry, Gertrude Rompré, attended the university stream of the conference where major topics included reflections on Catholic identity and mission, faculty and staff development, the challenges of Catholic education and a focus on what Catholic higher education can contribute to society, both locally and globally. The highlight of the congress was an audience with Pope Francis who called Catholic educators to remain open to the needs of the world, to avoid rigidity and the temptation to hide behind walls, and to nurture in students the capacity for transcendence. The congress marks the 50th anniversary of the Vatican II document, Gravissimum Educationis, and the 25th anniversary of Ex Corde Ecclesiae.

# UTOPIA FOR 500 YEARS

A CONFERENCE ON THOMAS MORE'S *UTOPIA* TO BE HELD AT ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN 22-24 SEPTEMBER 2016, IN CELEBRATION OF THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORK'S PUBLICATION

In the five hundred years since Thomas More published his *Utopia*, the work has had a profound influence on political and philosophical thought. But it has likewise held an important place in modern aesthetic and cultural developments—in literature, in art, in architecture and design—and has inspired political change, social experiments, and radical countercultural movements.

This conference seeks to address the varieties of utopia and utopianism that More's work and those influenced by it have dared imagine. Does the utopian impulse mark a practical response to political, ecological or social crisis? Does utopia reflect a nostalgia for some lost golden age or optimism for a better—if perhaps impossible—future? Do utopian fictions allow us to explore previously unseen possibilities or confine us to the realm of mere imagination? What about dystopias? How are imagined dystopias informed by the tradition begun by More? Are they a straightforward antithesis of the utopian impulse, or could it be that dystopia is somehow a product of utopianism? Finally, what is the place of *Utopia* and utopias in historical change? Can we identify historical or modern social, economic or ecological experiments that display some utopian vision? In short, how has utopia been used as a tool to think with and how have people translated that thought into action.

Conference Details and Speakers found at [STMCOLLEGE.CA](http://STMCOLLEGE.CA)

THE  
Leslie & Irene Dubé  
CHAIR FOR CATHOLIC  
STUDIES  
LECTURE SERIES & EVENTS



SPRING 2016 LECTURES included:

**DE MARGERIE LECTURE ON CHRISTIAN UNITY AND RECONCILIATION:**  
*Building an Ecumenical Barn*

Reflecting on the image of 'building an ecumenical barn', Bishop Kearan shared stories of his own involvement with the ecumenical movement in Ireland, particularly through the Irish School of Ecumenics.

**LAUDATO SI' ON THE PRAIRIES:** mini conference exploring the impact of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* in the Canadian context.

**MICHAEL HIGGINS LECTURE** *JEAN VANIER AND HENRI NOUWEN, THE GREAT FRIENDSHIP:* Discussing the friendship of Jean Vanier and Henri Nouwen as one of the key spiritual friendships of the last century.

**BASILIAN HISTORY LECTURE:** The Basilians, STM and the U of S: A Unique Experience in Canadian Education



Watch for Details - [stmcollege.ca](http://stmcollege.ca) : Fall 2016 Lecture Series  
2016 Keenan Lecture - special guest speaker Dr. Margaret Somerville

# Newman Players ARSENIC AND OLD LACE



photo  
Rachelle Hosak

Congratulations to the STM Newman Players for a wonderful performance of Joseph Kesserling's *Arsenic and Old Lace*

**Director** Adam Day  
**Assistant Director / Stage Manager** Rachelle Hosak  
**Set Designer** Jensine E. Trondson  
**Costume Designer** Nicole Zalesak  
**Costume Assistant** Maria Zalesak  
**Tech Crew** Ben McMillan, Chantelle Baril  
**Set Construction** Darrell McLaughlin  
*Daniel Taillon, Doug Higginson, Lionel Strasky, Stacy Stillwell*  
*Richard Medernach*  
**Assistant to the Director** Dean Schmidt

The talented cast included: *Daniel Taillon, Amanda Bendel, Amanda Gieni, Mike de Jong, Nathan Yaworski, Doug Higginson, Jaden Holle, Lionel Strasky, Art Battiste, Chiara Tate-Penna, Jessica Yaworski, Samuel E. Greig*

**For more information on auditioning or other ways to get involved with Newman Players or Newman Sounds contact:**  
 | Richard Medernach | rmedernach@stmcollege.ca | 306-966-8900 |



# Social Justice in the University Experience

STM Student Profiles by Caitlin Ward

At first, **Anson Liski** didn't think he was allowed to be a part of the STM-Intercordia program. When he went to an information session about the college's study abroad program, he wasn't sure he fit in.

"I was the only guy in the room," Liski recalls. "I'd been hearing about 'women only' spaces on the radio, and I thought maybe everyone was too nice to tell me to leave."

He worked up the nerve to ask if he, as a male student, was allowed to participate. It was coincidence that the coordinators and the alumnae in attendance that day happened to be all women, and he was strongly encouraged to apply.

It's lucky he did. Graduating with a degree in Political Studies with a minor in Critical Perspectives on Social Justice & the Common Good this year, Liski considers the STM-Intercordia program the highlight of his undergraduate degree. As part of that program, he spent a summer living with and learning from a small community in Honduras. Though he had traveled quite a bit before, his experience living in solidarity with a host family was an experience unlike any other.

"Nothing compares to it," Liski says. "I learned a lot about myself and the world, and I realized that the way you go about your life and career can affect people everywhere."

The STM-Intercordia program was also his official introduction to St. Thomas More College. He started working with Just Youth through a student internship with Development & Peace, and he also became a student mentor for the STM-Intercordia Program and the Service & Justice Project. As well as a place to express his convictions about social justice and charity, STM became a home. "Before I found STM, I was lacking a sense of community on campus," he says. "The college really gave me a place to call my own."

When asked what he wants out of life, Liski is philosophical. "I don't want to be happy," he says. "I feel like that sounds selfish. I want to be content. It means treating others as well as you can." But then he laughs. "Other than that, I'll probably be Prime Minister."



**Emma-Love Cabana** may have changed her degree program a few times throughout her undergraduate degree, but her larger focus has never changed. "I always had a passion for social justice," Cabana says. At first, she thought that passion was going to lead her into medicine, but through her time at St. Thomas More College, she learned that there are many different ways to work for the greater good.

Now graduating with a degree in Sociology and a minor in Critical Perspectives on Social Justice & the Common Good, she's grateful to STM for the opportunities it presented to her, and the ways in which it has broadened her perspectives.

She first became involved with St. Thomas More College through the Service & Justice Project, a program that matches students with local community-based organizations and invites them to reflect upon their experiences in light of Catholic Social Thought and general principles about justice. She volunteered with several organizations throughout her undergraduate degree, including a student-run health clinic in the inner city, and a workshop for people with disabilities through L'Arche Saskatoon. However, in many ways what has influenced her most is her work with the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). She has volunteered with the Appleby Kids Club for two years, a youth group that promotes peace through community and mutual understanding.

It was through the MCC that she went to the organization's United Nations Office Student Seminar in New York this past year, with financial support from STM. In many ways, that opportunity brought her university experiences into focus, and called her to a very particular kind of social action. Living in solidarity with the Quechua people of the Ecuadorian Andes as part of the STM-Intercordia Program, mentoring students through the Service & Justice Project, learning about social inequality and the structures of power through classes at STM: these experiences have helped her to see her Catholic faith in an ecumenical light, and appreciate Christianity as a mutual basis for social action.

Cabana is interviewing for a student internship in the MCC New York office, and hopes to begin work with Save the Children or the United Nations this fall. It's an opportunity that might not have been possible without the experiences she gained at St. Thomas More College. "I would recommend any student get involved with STM," Cabana says. "The opportunities apply meaning to your degree."

# Newman Sounds BRITISH INVASION



photo,  
Michael VanderKooi

## THE VOICES

**Sopranos:** Sarah Blom, Tarah Gaboury, Amanda Hinatsu, Katrina Leung, Zanna McCrea, Meghan Mercer, Emily Mooney, Valerie Rozwadowski, Amanda Thompson, \*Eileen VanHeerde, \*\*Shana Yates

**Altos:** Rebecca Bouvier, Sheri Guan, Veronique Levesque,

\*Sandi Pitura, Sarah Twa

**Tenors:** Chimee, Paul Elias, Michelle Manabat, \*Colin Schaan, \*\*Austin Schiffner, Mackenzie Stewart

**Basses:** Jared Betchel,

\*Mitchell Corbett,

Kagen Newman, Nigel Town

\*indicates section leader, \*\*indicates choreo section leader

Congratulations to the STM Newman Sounds for a wonderful evening of hits from some of our great British artists.

## The Production Team

**Directed by** Kristen Raney  
 Accompanied by Ian Elliott  
 Tech by Richard Medernach  
 Sound by Night Owl Audio Lights

## ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE CHAPEL MURAL

by **William Kurelek** - completed in 1976.

St. Thomas More College chapel has two murals, the larger of which is by William Kurelek. The mural was a gift from the Basilian Fathers on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the College and the 50th Anniversary of the Newman Centre.

This gift was made possible through the generosity of the artist who - as a favour to the Basilian Fathers - offered to do the work "for charity," rather than for a regular fee. Instead of earning anything for himself, he allocated his remuneration directly to the support of missionary work.

## THE KURELEK MURAL

St. Thomas More College Chapel

# 40th Anniversary

In celebration of the 40th anniversary of renowned Canadian artist William Kurelek's mural completion for St. Thomas More College, the following excerpts from the artist's notes are as follows:

"The mural has a major and a minor theme. The primary theme is man's union with God. The subordinate theme, centrally located in the mural, is Christ's multiplication of the loaves and fishes, here distributed to the people sitting in a Saskatchewan wheat field. The miracle is recorded in Matthew XIV, 15-21, and in parallel passages of the other evangelists. The multiplication of the loaves is a prefiguration of the Eucharist, the Christian's central act of worship, through which Christ feeds the multitudes.

"This is my first proper mural done on location. Father de Valk commissioned me to do this one and I've incorporated most of his suggestions. It was to be a religious theme with a prairie settings that I knew; so I asked ahead of time that the sky be painted in before I arrived. And it was; so I was able to set about painting in the clouds on the horizon which I'd decided would be about three feet above the top of the existing inset mural, done in 1956 by **Lionel Thomas**.

That mural was a real problem if for no other reason that its two-dimensional, semi-abstract, flowing style in no way resembled my semi-primitive, three-dimensional, naturalistic style. The way I contrived to make the marriage (it's up to the viewer to decide if I succeeded or not) was to take elements out of that early mural, liberally copying them and including them in the decor of my mural setting. For example, the border of my own mural, surrounding the earlier mural, is a motif taken from the garments of Thomas' angels. Also, the wall behind which the students sit, listening to St. Thomas More and Cardinal Newman preach or lecture, is decorated with other motifs from the Thomas mural idea-wise by having both preachers point into it as if explaining that the abstractions therein represented are symbols of the Kingdom of Heaven which Christ is preaching about in the Saskatchewan field.

Father de Valk asked me to figure St. Thomas More and Newman large since they are by now traditionally (apart from Thomas Aquinas) looked up to by the Catholic university students as their spiritual and intellectual heroes. I personally don't know a lot about Newman though I admire his poem *The Dream of Gerontius*, and one of his aphorisms was a big help to me in my long three-year search for the Christian faith in England back in the fifties. It is: A thousand difficulties do not make a single doubt. Of St. Thomas More, I am an out-and-out admirer, especially since seeing the film *A Man For All Seasons*. He was very much in the world, blessed with every honour, and intelligence, yet not of the world - something our world today sorely needs: a man willing to face world powers for principle's sake and pay the supreme penalty rather than give in to expediency."

It was, perhaps, just as well that I had not worked out the mural completely before arriving in Saskatoon, for some interesting things happened while I worked sketching my ideas directly on the wall. For one thing, the prairie sun in the very pinnacle of the gable (which I'd already conceived of as symbolic of the Godhead) seemed to attract a lot of white birds. As I worked further, it dawned on me that they represent the souls of the saved moving toward union with God in the next world, the union which constitutes the happiness of heaven. Going still further, I realized that the crowd of 5,000 as described in the Bible, that were fed with a few barley loaves and fishes while sitting on the prairie grass, represented those fed by Holy Communion and thereby enabled to live forever with Him as He promised they would if they ate His Body. Therefore, I show birds seemingly rising out of the crowd.



*"If any credits are given for this mural it is my wish that they be directed to the Almighty Himself in a prayer, for it was He who gave me whatever inspiration for this particular project." William Kurelek*

**"MURALS** are democratic. The visitor to the building can look at a mural and agree and accept the message (if any) or leave it behind there on the wall when he or she leaves.

It is a privilege to have done my first major mural in a university chapel, for I consider it vital that the Christian message be at least available to young people at the turning point in their intellectual life which university represents." *William Kurelek*

"Another surprising thing is that I originally conceived of Christ surrounded by His original twelve apostles - dressed in white like Himself. And the wheat field to the right was right up against the group so that they could be seen breaking the pharisaical Sabbath rules by rubbing the ears of wheat in their hands to eat. Instead, as I worked they became their modern-day successors - our priests. In this case, they are the Basilians who staff this College, dressed in their black robes so Christ would be better set off in His white robe. Instead of plucking ears of wheat, they are gathering up the fragments in twelve baskets after the feeding of the 5,000.

As I was doing the Basilians, and I'd met a few already in the two days I was in the College, I decided just for fun to do a semi-portrait identification of each of the Fathers. Before I realized it, every priest in the mural became someone on the college staff, and then others were suggested. I had to put them in the crowds approaching from the left to right. The crowd on the left represents the original inhabitants and colonizers of the prairies; the one on the right represents the mass migration coming in after the land was surveyed."

Mr. Kurelek notes that in the extreme right there is a priest who: "is upset about the individuals turning their back on God, and who gestures helplessly. This symbolizes how powerless Christian clergy are nowadays in the worldly sense to 'keep people good.' They can only exhort and pray, and hope for the best.

## NATIVES AND IMMIGRANTS

"We have in the far distance a thunderstorm - that symbolizes my personal premonition that society is headed for some kind of major catastrophe because we are moving fast and far from God. A herd of buffalo (the original grazers of the prairie) are stampeded by the storm. In the crowd approaching the Lord's banquet are Indians, fur-traders, pioneer business men and their wives, Grey Nuns who endured many hardships and dangers to come from Montreal and establish hospitals across the West, the R.C.M.P., the Irish railway builders, Chinese cooks, several Metis (Gabriel Dumont in particular, the one in purple), a surveyor, the saintly Bishop Charlebois - weighed down with his travel gear topped off with his Mass kit, and, finally, a French-Canadian voyageur. On the right we see the immigrants approaching the banquet over the stubble field with Father Regan peeking out between the Irishman and the East Indian lady. There's a ghost too. The lady with the stiff upper lip represents the extreme WASP movement in the West in the twenties and thirties. The harvesters in the foreground symbolize my hard-working parents."

## CHRIST

"Christ stands at dead centre between the wild West and the ordered West, just as He stands in the centre of history. His gesture is an enigma. He may be blessing the congregation but mostly I intended to represent Him pointing up to the Blessed Trinity which He came down to earth to reveal to us. While working on the top part of the mural, I lost my nerve when trying to get at the sun. It contains the triangle (the symbol of the Trinity) enclosing the heart (because God is love). The topmost scaffold didn't have a railing. I was very lucky to get a student of the Fine Arts department, Geryl Jansen, as a helper for the mural because she was fearless of heights. She painted the sun all in while I coached her, hanging onto the ladder with both hands."

## CRACKS IN THE EARTH

"On either wing of the mural, just under the left and right crowds, you see the earth cracking open to reveal arms shaking fists at the Godhead. This represents mankind in rebellion against God and the possibility of losing Him forever involved some struggle for me at the time of my conversion. But it got through to me eventually that man must have free will or he'd be a stone, a plant, or an animal only. God is love, and love cannot and will not force a mature intelligent being to choose Him rather than himself or herself. It must be possible to choose against something, otherwise choosing for it has no meaning or value. I've shown this 'turning away' on the right side of the mural by the labourer (who represents myself in my student and labourer years) and by the capitalist; and on the left side by an original Metis and White entrepreneur of the prairies. These figures are chosen at random. It's not for me to judge who the lost really are. I just consider myself ever so lucky that I returned to the faith and found joy in this life and (I hope) in the next.

"Under the clenched fists, for compositional reasons, there is a Red River ox-cart which leads the eye to St. Thomas More; also a fence-post shadow and a sheaf of weeds thrown over the fence, which points to Newman. To relieve the big grass space I put in some gophers, and, on the summer-fallow side, I set a pair of prairie gulls."

## STUDENTS

"In the crowd of students, I have included several of the lay staff of the college...I hope none of the other staff members are offended at my leaving them out as it is impossible to include all. Otherwise, the group would no longer be a student body. The photographs I worked from were very small; so I couldn't get good likenesses anyway. Gerry Jansen posed twice for me in the student groups. On the right, her elbow protrudes over the wall while she makes lecture notes. I hope its realism doesn't give the mural the humorous nickname of "Gerry's Elbow." Below Gerry's elbow and on the other side too, I've slipped in the design of the mock Lionel Thomas wall idea of the serpent representing some contemporary false clichés to distract the students following the two great Christian teachers."

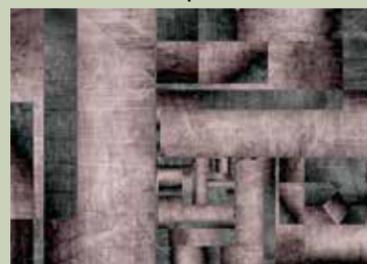
*I'd like to express my appreciation to the Basilian Fathers at St. Thomas More College for making me feel at home, while at the same time contriving to let me stay socially withdrawn to get the work done. I appreciate also, their respecting my decision to fast while here. It is a privilege to have done my first major mural in a university chapel for I consider it vital that the Christian message be at least available to young people at the turning point in their intellectual life which university represents. The Basilians give their lives of service to students and I am happy to be able to share in their good work."* William Kurelek

## St. Thomas More Gallery

### Saskatchewan Printmakers Association May 2- June 24, 2016

Featuring work by Michelle Brownridge, Jessica Richter, Rigmor Clarke, Karli Jessup, Joe Lovick, Caitlin Mullan, Wendy Nelson, Jannik Plaetner, Robert Truszkowski, Monique Martin, and Michael Peterson.

Monique Martin, *Never Ending*



Jannik Plaetner, *Waskesiu*

### Wendy Siemens September 1 to October 28, 2016

The Landscape is ever changing and at best we can only catch a glimpse of its beauty in passing. I photograph the land where ever I go preserving memories of the strong connection I feel to the land. My paintings reveal my spiritual connection to the land - the hidden color, the feel of the wind, the sounds of the living creatures, and the timelessness of the land around us.



Three Sams - the sun setting over the Town of Pedersen Marsh Triptych - Acrylic - 20 by 40 inches each piece by Wendy Siemens

# New and Distinct Course Offerings through St. Thomas More College

## WRITING FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS (INTS 103.3) Monday and Wednesday 2:30 to 3:50 pm offered in both term 1 and 2.

In September 2016, St. Thomas More College enters the next stage in its tradition of assisting students to become better learners and more effective communicators by offering a new for-credit course. The purpose of this course is to help students become strong writers regardless of their area of studies. The course will teach students the principles of good reading; essay structure; editing and revision; and the effective use of rhetoric. The course proceeds upon the premise that clear writing is rooted in sound grammar. The goal of the course is to provide students with the opportunity to learn: strategies for developing a writing project through logical stages, from reading to pre-writing to drafting, revision, and editing; and how to edit their own and others' writing to increase conciseness and clarity, to improve style, and to manage structure. The College has offered a non-credit version of this course for many years. Now, educators from across the University of Saskatchewan are recognizing that such a course has the potential to assist students to become more successful learners.



Check out the complete list of course offerings and descriptions for 2016-17 at [STMCOLLEGE.CA](http://STMCOLLEGE.CA)

REGISTER THROUGH PAWS or for more information call STM Advisors at 306 966 8900

### New courses added in 2015/2016 included:

- PHIL 121.3 Introduction to World Philosophies
- PHIL 298.3 Special Topics: Contemporary French Philosophy Ranciere and Badiou
- RLST 377.3 Living Community Solidarity and Social Change

### Distinct Courses for STM

- ANTH 236.3 Ethnicity in Action: Ukrainian Canadian Experience
- ENG 209.3 Transnational Literatures
- ENG 444.3 Topics in Commonwealth and Post Colonial Literature
- HIST 217.3 The Early Byzantine Empire Circa 285 to 565 CE from Constantine to Justinian
- INTS 103.3 Writing for Academic Success
- PHIL 275.3 Philosophy of Film
- RLST 112.3 Western Religions in Society and Culture
- RLST 210.3 Religion and Ecology
- RLST 226.3 Religion Globalization and Social Justice
- RLST 229.3 Religion and Sport
- RLST 237.3 Life after Death in World Religions
- RLST 277.3 Community Solidarity and Social Change
- RLST 300.3 Hidden Books of the Bible
- RLST 377.3 Living Community Solidarity and Social Change
- SOC 210.3 Families: Social Structure and Social Change
- SOC 211.3 Families: Gender Relations and Social Inequality
- SOC 301.3 Sociology of the Arts
- SOC 324.3 Multiculturalism: Theories, Debates, and Realities
- SPAN 250.3 Historical Trends of the Spanish Language
- SPAN 251.3 The Spanish of Latin Americans

### Revived Courses

- CLAS 104.3 The Classical Myths - This is our second consecutive year to offer this course after last being offered in 2004-2005
- ENG 215.3 Life Writing - This is our second consecutive year to offer this course after last being offered in 2009-2010
- LATN 202.3 and 203.3 - Intermediate Latin I and II



### Early Bird Breakfast Special 8:00 am until 9:30 am

- 2 Sausages, Scrambled Eggs, Hashbrowns, Coffee/Tea **\$3.99**
- 2 Sausages, 2 Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Hashbrowns, Coffee/Tea **\$4.99**





## Upcoming Events at St. Thomas More College: *Everyone Welcome*

- Thursday, June 9 - STM Feast Day and Long Service Celebrations
- Friday, August 19 – New STM Student Orientation Day
- Saturday, September 17 – Newman 90th Anniversary Coffeehouse
- Sunday, September 25 - STM Academic Mass and installation of Dean

### Upcoming STM College Anniversaries in 2016 -2017:

Watch for information on [stmcollege.ca](http://stmcollege.ca) to commemorate the following STM milestones:

- 80 year anniversary of St. Thomas More College
- 90 year anniversary of the Newman Club
- 40 year anniversary of the Kurelek Mural
- 50 year anniversary of the Lionel Thomas inset mural

### St. Thomas More College -

*"Courageously exploring the riches of Revelation and of nature so that the united endeavour of intelligence and faith will enable people to come to the full measure of their humanity"*  
*Ex corde ecclesiae, 5*

**All You can eat Lunch Buffet** 10:30am - 2 pm  
**\$10.** **\$8** U of S students & Seniors 65+



*Fresh made daily!*

**Pasta, Pizza, Salad Station, Hot Sandwich, Stir-fry, Meat Carving Station, Assorted Sides.**

Dessert, Coffee, Fountain Drinks

**And much, much MORE !**

*Menu Specials listed each day online - [stmcollege.ca](http://stmcollege.ca)*

**If you wish to receive your Newsletter magazine electronically, please email [kmassett@stmcollege.ca](mailto:kmassett@stmcollege.ca)**



With over 230 Arts and Science course options which are applied to University of Saskatchewan degrees, many students from various colleges at the U of S, including the College of Nursing, Edwards School of Business and of course Arts and Science, take courses at STM.

Students appreciate the smaller class sizes and attest to a greater level of professor-student engagement.

With award-winning faculty, additional bursary and scholarship opportunities, drama and glee clubs - this more intimate College environment **is a great option & complement to the U of S campus - and it is FOR YOU, TOO !**



**ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE**  
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

[stmcollege.ca](http://stmcollege.ca)

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**Alumni keep in touch !** To provide a change of address please contact Karen Massett - [kmassett@stmcollege.ca](mailto:kmassett@stmcollege.ca) or 306-966-8918  
St. Thomas More College 1437 College Drive Saskatoon SK S7N 0W6 Phone:1.800.667.2019 or 306.966.8900