

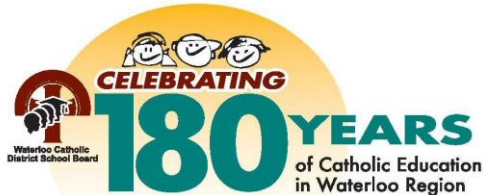


Waterloo Catholic
District School Board

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News Release



June 13 2016
For immediate release

Kermit the Frog Was Wrong: Waterloo Region's Catholic Students Show It's Easy Being Green!!

Twenty-nine WCDSB schools receive *Ontario EcoSchools* certifications; St. Anne CES in Kitchener Achieves Prestigious PLATINUM Designation

Waterloo Region, ON – Students and staff at twenty-nine of Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools have gone green in a big way, achieving certification as "*Ontario EcoSchools*". The board joined the program in 2011, with seven certified EcoSchools, and has set an ambitious target of having all schools certified by the 2018-19 school year.

Special congratulations to the students and staff of **St. Anne CES** in Kitchener – the WCDSB's first **PLATINUM** certified EcoSchool! The following schools have received the following EcoSchools certifications:

PLATINUM

St. Anne CES (Kitchener)

GOLD

Holy Family CES (New Hamburg)
Holy Rosary CES (Waterloo)
Holy Spirit CES (Cambridge)
Monsignor Doyle CSS (Cambridge)
Resurrection CSS (Kitchener)
Saint John Paul II CES (Kitchener)
St. Agatha CES (St. Agatha)
St. Anne CES (Cambridge)
St. Augustine CES (Cambridge)
St. Clement CES (St. Clements)
St. Elizabeth CES (Cambridge)
St. Joseph CES (Cambridge)
St. Luke CES (Waterloo)
St. Margaret of Scotland CES (Cambridge)
St. Michael CES (Cambridge)
St. Nicholas CES (Waterloo)

SILVER

Blessed Sacrament CES (Kitchener)
John Sweeney CES (Kitchener)

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Sir Edgar Bauer CES (Waterloo)
St. Bernadette CES (Kitchener)
St. Daniel CES (Kitchener)
St. David CSS (Waterloo)
St. Gregory CES (Cambridge)
St. John CES (Kitchener)
St. Vincent de Paul CES (Cambridge)

BRONZE

Canadian Martyrs CES (Kitchener)
Christ The King CES (Cambridge)
St. Peter CES (Cambridge)

QuickFacts

- ✓ **Ontario EcoSchools** is an environmental education program for grades 1-12 that helps students develop ecological literacy while engaging in practices to become environmentally responsible citizens. This is a perfect fit with the philosophy in Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools that sustainable development means *"meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."*
- ✓ The **Waterloo Catholic District School Board** has set an ambitious goal of having all schools certified by 2018. Currently, more than half the board's certified EcoSchools are at the Gold or Platinum level.
- ✓ **Saint John Paul II CES** and **St. Clement CES** have both achieved their sixth consecutive GOLD certifications -- while **St. Margaret of Scotland CES** has reached GOLD for the fifth straight year.
- ✓ **Platinum** certification allows high-achieving schools to deepen their existing program through rich opportunities that engage students in environmental learning and practice. In order to be eligible for Platinum certification schools must have:
 - Certified for at least five years with no more than a one-year gap
 - Certified at the Gold level for at least three of those five years
 - Certified Gold in the year prior to the Platinum application

Quotes

"We are so proud of the efforts our students have put into living greener lives at their schools and at home. The **Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations** call on all students to -- among other things -- be "collaborative contributors" and "responsible citizens" and their success in the EcoSchools program shows just how much they take their responsibilities to the environment seriously. Of course, without the dedicated leadership of our outstanding school staffs and the great work of our Facility Services department, being "green" would be a much bigger challenge"

~~ John Shewchuk, Chief Managing Officer

Related Links

[Ontario EcoSchools](#)

[WCDSB EcoZone](#)

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board, representing more than 96,000 Catholic school supporters, operates 52 schools and five adult education facilities serving more than 40,000 elementary, secondary and continuing education students in Waterloo Region – continuing a 180-year tradition of quality, inclusive, faith-based education. Follow us on Twitter: [@WCDSBNewsire](#) - [#WCDSBAwesome](#).

- 30 -

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