







Annual Report of the President 2021-2022



#### **Mission Statement**

St. Joseph's College is a university community established by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton and affiliated with the University of Alberta. The College is committed to discover, integrate, and disseminate truth, as revealed by God, discerned by reason, experienced in community. In this learning and living environment, St. Joseph's College strives to engage everyone in the experience of those human values that encourage a respect for all persons, promote social justice, service, and friendship and foster a desire for truth that includes the sacred.

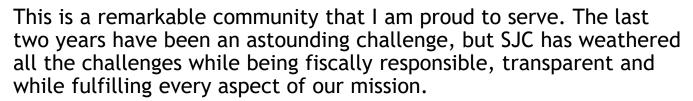






### Letter from the President

Dear Members of the SJC Community,



We have begun new traditions like an annual student Commencement celebration, we have targeted our resources at our specific needs, we have been engaged in reconciliation with Indigenous and Métis Peoples and we have sought to be more visible at the University of Alberta and in our communities. In addition, we have signed a new agreement with the U of A, renewed our relations with the Basilian Fathers and are looking forward to more ways in which we can enhance our mission. We look with anticipation to our 100-year anniversary. We invite you in this annual President's report, to get to know SJC, re-engage with us, and let everyone know of the good work we are doing.

Dr. Shawn Flynn, President



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# Study

In the last year, SJC taught more than 1800 University of Alberta students in our courses across the breadth of the Catholic intellectual tradition. Our professors did remarkable work with students in another year shaped by Covid-19, being flexible and professional, while shifting classes between being in-person and remote, and our students spoke to the transformative nature of these courses across multiple aspects of their lives even within these difficult circumstances. The last year also saw marked achievements in terms of faculty



research, with multiple publications and conference presentations in prestigious venues, and the first awarding of a SSHRC grant in the College's history.

Our Certificate in Catholic Education has thrived, evolving to meet the needs of students and Catholic school districts. At the beginning of the year, SJC had an MOU with one school district in Alberta for the Certificate, which considers the Certificate to be a 'hiring asset' for students seeking work in Catholic education. In the last year, we have reached across Alberta and now have MOUs with 11 Catholic school districts (out of 17 in Alberta).

At the end of the Winter term, we instituted a new tradition at the College: celebrating our students' academic achievements in the form of a Commencement. This celebration acknowledged and celebrated our graduating Certificate and Minor in Christian Theology students, as well as those who won SJC Awards. We look forward to building upon and expanding this tradition in years to come.

Dr. Matthew Kostelecky, Vice-President (Academic) & Dean

# **Spirituality** (Chapel and Campus Ministry)

Campus Ministry and Chaplaincy continue to provide support for the spiritual lives of worshiping community members, students and residents. This year, we witnessed strong student leaders and their initiative, with students planning both a Western Canada Regional conference and a wonderful lenten retreat in which worshipping community members, residents and CSA members were in attendance.



Crunch on Curiosity, a spiritual formation program designed to invite discussion on topics people may find challenging in our faith in a non-judgmental atmosphere, ran over 10 weeks in the winter term. Alpha, where students explore basic Christian kerygma, ran in the fall term. Continued pastoral counselling, spiritual direction, and social engagement activities were additional ways in which we accomplished spiritual support and community building this past year.

A small committee assisted Fr. Jim in COVID recommendations to the College. The Chapel looks to welcoming all back and finding ways to improve through a Chapel survey that was widely used. Our success has been realized through the consistent support of the worshipping community, faculty, staff and students. We especially appreciate the efforts of our volunteers to ensure that remote masses were possible. Without their dedication, we would not have been able to provide access to the prayer of the Church.

Fr Jim Stenberg CSB, Theresa Robinson, and Mona-Lee Feehan

# **Residence Community**

As we started off this year in residence, we knew that there would continue to be challenges and that we would need to be ready and adaptable. We began the year by hiring two new Residence Life positions, the Prefects. These positions, along with our team of Community Caretakers, were crucial for on the ground work in the residences. With the constant change in restrictions, the residence team worked hard to keep an active and engaging community, both virtually and in person.

From movie, trivia and board game nights, to paint/pottery nights, intramurals, theme nights, door decorating contests, and even ice cream floats to celebrate the annual "Floodiversary", there was constant work to ensure everyone was able to participate regardless of their comfort level.

The residence team also spent much one on one time with residents, checking in and making sure everyone felt welcome. With an increase in occupancy from previous Covid years, residents were once again excited to be part of the SJC community and have a closer to normal on campus experience. We are projecting 94% occupancy in the coming year! In addition we have a full slate of summer bookings. We continue to strive for a unified residence community, and are proud of the progress we made throughout this year and the obstacles we have overcome.

Stephanie Lehr, Director of Residence



## Advancement

At St. Joseph's College, we are focused on building relationships, thanking our donor community, and engaging alumni. Despite pandemic challenges, we held two alumni events, a beer tasting evening with Troubled Monk (the CEO is an SJC alum) and an Oilers hockey night with about 30 SJC alum. We certainly plan on more in the future.

This has been rewarding work in which we know donors choose to participate in our mission with their gifts.

We have also invited new friends to the College and invited them to understand our mission.



# **Enhancing our Home**

There have been many exciting projects underway in our buildings throughout the pandemic. All of the men's residence dorm rooms underwent a full facelift and the common lounge areas have also seen new paint, updated equipment, and the creation of a more marketable space for our male residents.

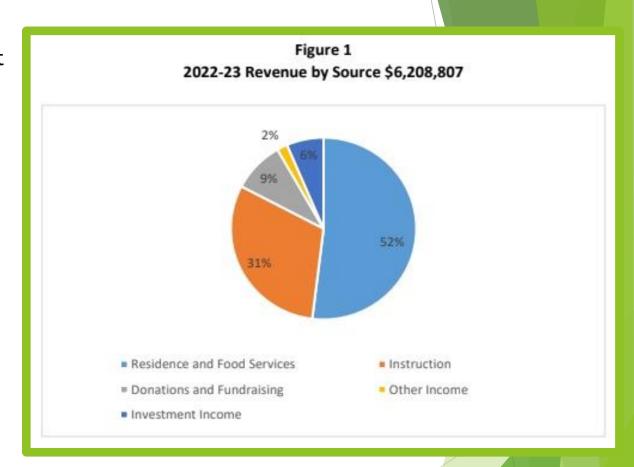
At the same time, the women's residence is now on a rotating maintenance schedule ensuring all of the apartments have the necessary upkeep on a yearly basis. Both buildings saw an upgrade in the wifi service this past March with specialized networks for gamers; the initial feedback on service improvement is fantastic.

Project	Description	Impact
Project 1	Residence Wi-Fi Upgrading	Student's consistent access to online materials and courses.
Project 2	LED Lighting	Environmental impact, savings.
Project 3	Men's Residence Suite renovations	Livability and creating a welcoming space.

Amanda Villetard, VP of Administration and Finance

# Fiscal Management

- While fulfilling every aspect of its mission, SJC has worked hard to reduce its expenses by over 1 million dollars!
- 2018 Total Department Expenses (\$5,147,538)
- 2023 Total Department Expenses (\$4,001,528)



<sup>\*</sup> Expenses here do not include capital lease obligations and amortization of capital assets.

### Commencement

On April 9th, SJC gathered to celebrate students at our inaugural Commencement. Students from the Certificate of Catholic Education, from the Minor in Christian Theology and award and bursary winners, gathered with faculty, family, and friends to celebrate their achievements.

This now yearly celebration of students includes an academic procession with bagpipes, the national anthem, opening prayers, a presidential address, a student commencement address, and a social event afterwards.

This year, we celebrated over 117 of our students including awards.









### **Student Awards**

- ► Catholic Students Award (Joshua Greschner): for students originating from select Catholic school division who are pursuing degrees in education and have taken at least two SJC courses
- St. Kateri Campus Ministry Award (Janine Tatlow): awarded to a student for outstanding participation in and contribution to Campus Ministry at St. Joseph's College
- ▶ Barb and Phil Payne Scholarship (Lisa Sembaliuk and Sophia Zombor): awarded annually to students who commit to taking at least two courses at St. Joseph's College and who have graduated (or will be graduating) from a Catholic High School in Alberta.
- William Hsu Memorial Award (Andres Merino Restrepo and Larissa Mitchell): awarded annually to full-time students who have shown outstanding participation and volunteer efforts that enhance the St. Joseph's College Community.
- Lois Bredo Memorial Bursary (Jayleana Baron and Racheal Ulor): provides funding to a deserving resident of St. Joseph's College.
- ▶ Justice Kevin Feehan Award (Alexis Pfeffer): awarded annually to a fulltime student at the University of Alberta who shows a commitment to promoting and living Catholic Education values.

# **Board of Governors**

#### 2021-2022 MEMBERS OF THE ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

#### Ex Officio Members

- Archbishop Richard Smith, Archbishop of Edmonton, Board of Governors Chair, Governance Committee
- Dr. Shawn Flynn, President of St. Joseph's College, Governance Committee, Mission Fidelity and Services Committee, Financial Sustainability Committee, Audit Sub-Committee (Non-voting)
- Dr. Jason West, President of Newman Theological College
- Ms. Emily Ball, University of Alberta Representative, Mission Fidelity and Services Committee

#### Members

- Ms. Marion Haggarty-France, Board of Governors Vice Chair, Governance Committee, Mission Fidelity and Services Committee Chair
- Mr. Philip Stack, Governance Committee Chair, Audit Sub-Committee Chair, Financial Sustainability Committee
- Ms. Kimberley Hutton-Franchuk, Financial Sustainability Committee Chair
- Dr. Indre Cuplinskas, Faculty Representative, Mission Fidelity and Services Committee
- Dr. Doris Kieser, Faculty Representative, Financial Sustainability Committee

- Mr. Patrick Stratton, Governance Committee Vice Chair, Financial Sustainability Committee
- Mr. Patrick Lema, Mission Fidelity and Services Committee Vice Chair
- Mr. Ryan Antonello, Financial Sustainability Committee Vice Chair
- Ms. Rielle Gagnon, Student Representative, Mission Fidelity and Services Committee
- Mrs. Monica Kryska, Mission Fidelity and Services Committee
- Mr. Allan Willis, Financial Sustainability Committee, Audit Sub-Committee
- Dr. Jack Zupko, Governance Committee
- Mr. Ron Coulombe, Financial Sustainability Committee
- Dr. Zinia Pritchard, Mission, Fidelity and Services Committee

### Installation

On April 8th, 2022, St. Joseph's College celebrated the installation of our 19th President, and the Colleges' first lay president. Dr. Shawn W. Flynn was installed at the Basilica by Archbishop Smith, in a lovely community celebration.

Faculty, staff, students, and friends joined members of the SJC chapel choir who led the music, while Dr. Flynn's children did the readings and prayers. Three Bishops, Fr. Storey (the Basilian Superior General) and multiple Basilians and priests, all concelebrated the mass, while various dignitaries from surrounding universities joined on a beautiful sunny day.

Photos by Matthew Bodnarek CAEDM (Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton).





