

Fall Campaign Kicks Off \$480,000 Matching Fund

September wasn't just the start of the school year at St. Augustine's but a month of breathtaking financial support from the community.

In an extraordinary act of generosity, one parishioner has made a gift of \$480,000 towards the new school campaign.

"When we received the news, we were speechless," said Father Terry, our Pastor.

"One day we may be able to tell the full

story – one that moves us all – but what we can say at this time is that this gift came from a faithful parishioner who attended the first school built here a long time ago and who wanted to inspire others to give as much as they could to this cause," said Father Terry.

"We feel the best way to honour this person's generosity would be to use this gift as a matching fund, encouraging everyone to match it dollar for dollar," he said.



Grade 7 Families First to Match New Fund

It was over a dinner in early September – when school parent John Street suggested that it might be time for the entire Grade 7 class to pledge to the Campaign as a way of motivating the entire school to help break ground next year.

Before long, John had promoted the idea with other parents such as Brian Moylan, some teachers and the Faith and Foundation team. Many signs pointed towards this being a good thing to do. An email was sent to a few class parents and nearly \$20,000 was committed. Within two weeks the amount had nearly tripled and within the span of one month, \$102,000 was pledged by the Grade 7 class.

"We are now encouraging each grade level to pull out all the stops, to match or exceed what we've done," said Street. "Other

parents have suggested reaching out to grandparents and friends for help, to stretch as far as they can," he added.

"When my family came to Canada nearly five years ago, we didn't know a soul but we found St. Augustine's, its school and a bigger community that eventually welcomed our adopted daughter. For this, we are so grateful," said Street.

"We know many in our parish community have stories of gratitude, just like the Streets," said Faith and Foundation Chair Lawrence Pillon. "The response to John's idea is proof of this, made even more inspiring as nearly two-thirds of the parents will no longer have children in the school after this year."

The \$102,000 in pledges and gifts will go towards the \$480,000 matching fund.

Ways to Give

- One-time donation
- Donation pledged over time, suiting the needs of the donor
- Joint pledges with family members, grandparents, and friends
- Gifting of securities, life insurance, annuities or mutual funds
- Bequests from wills and estates
- Gifts and pledges from parish organizations
- Gifting through matching funds at your workplace
- Gifts made in honour or in memory of a person or occasion
- Other ideas? Just give the Campaign office a call at 604-736-4455 (Ext 231).

Feasibility Study Provides Basis to Move Forward

The feasibility study for the construction of a new school has been completed including how much it will cost to build the school in phases.

New estimates by the parish building committee – through detailed discussions with various contractors and expertise of committee members – indicate that phase I will cost approximately between \$7.5 million and \$8 million and phase II, up to an additional \$5 million.

The feasibility study, completed by

architectural firm Acton Ostry in late 2010, concludes that phasing of construction is viable.

The firm identified issues related to the method of handling traffic around the school and the drive through access and its relationship with the West 7th Avenue bike route.

All of the issues and design concerns are in keeping with normal development processes and, in the opinion of the building committee, manageable and

typical challenges associated with a project of this nature.

The study provides the parish with an important reference point upon which to make further decisions. The building committee has developed a preliminary 28,000 – 30,000 square foot design that will occupy the space on the north side of the existing property, thereby returning to the site of the original school and parish facility on 7th Avenue and Arbutus Street.

How Close Are We?

1. In light of the new matching fund, the building committee will now accelerate the completion of its new school proposal for final review by the Parish leadership.
2. The proposal will be submitted to the Archdiocese once the parish has added approximately \$180,000 to the matching fund, reaching the \$4 million milestone, 50 percent of the total cost of phase one as currently projected.
3. When the Archdiocese approves the proposal, the parish will commission detailed architectural drawings and seek building permits from the City. At this point we will know the final cost of phase one.
4. Fundraising will continue in earnest throughout 2012 to lessen the eventual borrowing that will be required by the Parish.

New School Concept Elements

PHASE I

- Eight classrooms, plus four additional classroom spaces
- Accommodation for preschool programs, before-and-after-school care, day care programs
- Large resource room that will incorporate a library, computer lab, learning resource space and a place for our seniors to gather at the school
- Fine arts / cooking facility
- Entrance foyer large enough to host small gatherings
- Adequate and accessible office space, including a staff room and storage

PHASE II

- Elevated gymnasium that allows for underground parking (similar to St. Patrick's at 12th & Main)
- Industrial kitchen on same floor as the gymnasium
- Washrooms and change rooms
- Fine arts/music room



2010 Financial Report: The Faith and Foundation Campaign

St. Augustine's campaign to build a new school commenced in 1999 when then Pastor John Brioux assembled a group of parish leaders to study the needs of our aging elementary school. This review also included an engineering feasibility study which found that it would be more cost-effective to replace the school than attempt to repair or renovate the existing structure.

As part of the Campaign's efforts to report its activities and fundraising achievements in a transparent manner, we invite all of our donors and other parishioners and school parents to review our 2010 Financial Report.

We thank all of our donors for their faithful support of St. Augustine's Faith and Foundation Campaign that now enters its 11th year.

How much money has been raised?

Since 2001, the parish has raised approximately \$3.6 million in pledges and donations. In 2010, we raised approximately \$490,000. This was generated through a variety of means such as our annual Fall Campaign, school registration drive, Pass the Torch and various ways of individual giving.

Where is the money?

The building fund is held in a joint Parish/Archdiocesan account with the Bank of Montreal (banker to Archdiocese). This fund is held in a segregated account strictly for the purpose of building a school at St. Augustine's.

Will the provincial government or the Archdiocese of Vancouver contribute to the funding of a new school at St. Augustine's?

The Provincial government funds operating expenses for independent schools like ours equivalent to 50 per cent of the cost to educate a child in the public school system, with the remainder financed through school tuition fees, and school fundraising. Provincial funding is not available for capital costs – such as rebuilding a school. The Archdiocese will provide some interest rate subsidy.

How much money is spent on administration to run the Campaign?

We are fortunate at St. Augustine's to have so many people who volunteer thousands of hours of their time to the Campaign. There are some activities that require paid part-time support or specialized consulting knowledge to undertake the weekly and detailed administration required to process, track and manage hundreds of donor transactions. There are also expenses for mailing, printing, equipment and general office costs.

In 2010, we spent \$39,878 to run the Campaign, from funds that were allocated through our annual Pass the Torch Campaign. Our administration costs of approximately 8 percent of total donations are considered very low when compared to other philanthropic organizations in Canada. In addition, \$13,243 was spent on the services of architectural firm Acton Ostry for the purpose of our feasibility study.

How does the Campaign maintain its financial accountability?

First, the Faith and Foundation Campaign is accountable to the Pastor, the finance committee and the parish pastoral council. We report on all activities, including financial matters.

Second, we have many checks and balances in our donation management system between the Campaign, the Parish and the Archdiocese. Donations are receipted and accounted for according to Canada Revenue Agency guidelines. All donor information is held in strict confidence with access limited to the very few people required to manage this work.

Third, we maintain the accuracy of our records by ensuring the health of our pledge commitments. The Campaign has a policy of identifying on an annual basis those pledges that will not be collected. Our most recent review indicates that pledges totalling \$11,358 will not be collected. We understand that personal circumstances can change and are grateful to all individuals for the donations they were able to contribute to the Campaign.

2010 Sources of Revenue

School Registration	\$36,890
Pass the Torch	\$91,000
Fall Campaign Matching Fund	\$273,854
Other Donations	\$15,000
Interest	\$74,000
Total:	\$490,744

Broad Donor Base

Approximately one half of our donations come from families with children in the school, the other half come from individuals and parishioners and families without children, or children that previously attended or, in many cases, did not attend the school. Donors are as young as under 10 years old, others well into their 90s, and everything in between.

A Word from Father Terry McNamara, OMI



Dear parishioners, school parents and friends:

One hundred years of serving the Catholic community in the Kitsilano neighbourhood is a testimony to the

determination, commitment and faithfulness of a great number of people – and by your very involvement in our Parish Community and its Faith and Foundation Campaign -- you are part of this blessed community.

Vision, commitment to Faith and an enduring belief in the work of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate and the Sisters of St. Ann unites us all as we work together on this common cause – the building of a new school facility here at St. Augustine’s. Over the past year, in particular, we have been blessed with the presence and generosity of the Sisters towards our community.

As your Pastor, I am humbled and grateful for all the good work, dedication and generosity that holds this project together.

My friends, as we move into the eleventh year of our Parish Campaign, let us continue to be prayerful, generous and grateful for the abundance of blessings showered upon us in our work of building up the Kingdom of God right here at St. Augustine’s.

Mary, Mother of Eternal Light... pray for us!

Father Terry McNamara OMI, Pastor

The BIG Picture

Total Donations and Pledges:	\$ 3,624,077 *	2011 Matching Fund:	\$ 480,000
Funds in Bank Account:	\$ 3,187,712 **	Funds Matched:	\$ 102,000
Pledges Outstanding:	\$ 436,365		
Total Donors:	747		
Total Gifts:	1547		

* Includes 2011 matching funds and interest generated to June, 2011.

** Faith and Foundation Campaign funds are held in a separate Parish/Archdiocesan account for the sole purpose of building a new school at St. Augustine’s.

Origins of Our School Prayer

On a pilgrimage to France six years ago, Father John Brioux, then Pastor at St. Augustine’s, visited Lumiere, an historical site where Oblate founder Father Eugene de Mazenod opened the first scholasticate to train new Oblates. It’s also where a miraculous Shrine to Our Lady of the Light (Notre Dame de Lumiere) was established.

Our Lady is depicted holding the child Jesus with rays of sunlight behind her. Inspired by the connection to the Oblates and Our Lady’s affection for children, he wrote the prayer we recite at every mass as a way of placing our campaign under the care and patronage of Our Lady of the Light.

Help us build our school.

Donation forms are available at the back of the church or contact the **Faith & Foundation** office at 604 736 4455 ext. 231