

MEDIA ADVISORY

- TO:** Assignment Editors/News Directors
- WHAT:** St. Mary's graduates will celebrate their remarkable accomplishments with family, friends, faculty and staff on June 14th, 2013 at St. Mary's Convocation held at St. Mary's Cathedral.
- WHERE:** St. Mary's Cathedral, 219 18 Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta
- WHEN:** **Friday, June 14, 2013, Ceremony at 2:00pm**
- Why:** A total of 94 St. Mary's University College graduates will receive university degrees at a convocation ceremony at St. Mary's Cathedral on June 14th, 2013. Degrees will be conferred by the university's Chancellor, the Most Reverend Bishop Frederick Henry.

"St. Mary's is thrilled to see our largest cohort of graduates ever crossing the stage," said President, Dr. Turcotte. "This is a wonderful achievement for all of our talented students, but it is also a testament to the great support that our students received from friends and family, and of course from the high caliber of passionate professors who have worked so diligently to provide our graduates with an education that is second to none. Because of our small class sizes it's true to say that our professors are with them in the lecture, in the tutorial and in the field, and as such the bond between pupil and teacher is especially strong."

St. Mary's is proud to designate Mr. Gerald Watkins as this year's Honorary Fellow. Mr. Watkins is the tenth recipient of this designation which recognizes individuals for exemplifying the values, principles and vision of St. Mary's University College. "It is a great honour to pay tribute to Mr. Watkins," said Dr. Turcotte. "Not only was he a foundational and longtime member of the Board of Governors of the university, but he is also a prominent Calgary businessman, and a person who contributed as much to the life of the province's charities as he did to the vision of this great city. It is humbling that St. Mary's was such an important part of the many important projects that he supported. The fact that he and his wife Faye continue to support the university, through wise counsel and through bursaries, is a testament to their passion for education."

St. Mary's began offering degrees in 2004 and is the only unaffiliated, degree-granting, Catholic, post-secondary, liberal arts and sciences institution in Western Canada. St. Mary's offers the only BEd degree program in Canada that is specifically directed to the formation of teachers to serve in Catholic schools.

St. Mary's is a dynamic university with competitive tuition rates, including free on campus parking, and degrees that are fully accredited by the Government of Alberta. Students who attend St. Mary's receive high quality teaching in small classes with personalized attention where professors know them by name.

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