

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Mary's University College to change name to St. Mary's University

Calgary, Alberta (July 3, 2014) Alberta Premier and Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education, the Honourable Dave Hancock, has given approval for St. Mary's University College in Calgary to change its name to St. Mary's University.

The change acknowledges both the university's stellar 28-year history and recognizes its actual status as a fully-accredited university within the post-secondary Campus Alberta system. "This name change has been long-awaited and is very welcome," says St. Mary's President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Gerry Turcotte. "St. Mary's is not a college in any respect. It is fully accredited to deliver undergraduate university degrees and a Bachelor of Education after-degree. This change acknowledges the university's outstanding track record of providing high-quality university degrees in the Arts, Sciences and Education in small class-settings on a remarkable site in South Calgary."

Dr. Turcotte, who is Chair of the Independent Academic Institutions, was instrumental in negotiating the approval for the change in name for the sector, though he is intent to point out that this isn't a "category change". "St. Mary's is already a university and has been awarding university degrees since 2004. The name change acknowledges this reality and removes unnecessary confusion in the community about the status of our students' degrees." Dr. Turcotte acknowledges that this decision "owes much to the vision and leadership of Premier Dave Hancock, and is clear evidence of the value that he places both in the diversity of the Campus Alberta system, but also, and just as important, in the huge role that the independent institutions play in the post-secondary system."

Chair of St. Mary's Board of Governors, Mr. Terry McCoy, agrees that this is a wonderful acknowledgement of the university's standing. "The name change acknowledges the university's national and international standing, its unparalleled teaching and research culture, and the valuable options St. Mary's provides to students within the post-secondary landscape. The Board of Governors is delighted with this approval."

"The name change improves student and alumni opportunities, at home and abroad," says Dr. Turcotte. "In that sense, we could not be more thrilled."

St. Mary's will be taking the necessary steps to officially implement the name change in the near future.

About St. Mary's University College

St. Mary's University College is a Catholic post-secondary, student-focused liberal arts and sciences teaching and research institution. St. Mary's offers Bachelor of Arts degrees, a Bachelor of Science degree, a Bachelor of Education (Elementary) degree, and courses in 35 academic disciplines. For more information, visit www.stmu.ca

-30-

FOR MEDIA INQUIRIES, CONTACT:

MACKENZIE CANN
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
DIRECT LINE: (403) 254-3705
CELL PHONE: (403) 998-1081
MACKENZIE.CANN@STMU.CA

DR. GERRY TURCOTTE
PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR
ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
DIRECT PHONE: 403-862-5985
GERRY.TURCOTTE@STMU.CA