

ST. CLAIR COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

MINUTES OF THE

FULL BOARD MEETING of the BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Held virtually on April 28, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., from the President's Board Room #342, Windsor, ON

PRESENT:

Mr. K. Beaudoin
Mr. W. Beck
Ms. T. Bendo
Ms. M. DeSchutter
Ms. P. France, **President**
Mr. J. Gutierrez Calzada
Ms. N. Jammu-Taylor, **Chair**
Ms. R. Khosla
Ms. J. Piccinato
Mr. R. Renaud
Mr. E. Sovran, **Vice Chair**
Ms. M. Watters
Ms. M. Wickham
Ms. T. Wonsch

Also Present:

Ms. K. Adams, Board Secretary
Mr. J. Fairley, Vice President, College Communications & Community Relations
Ms. S. Favaro, Executive Director, President's Office, Corporate Secretary & Ministry Compliancy
Mr. W. Habash, Vice President, Academic
Mr. M. Jones, Vice President, Finance & Chief Financial Officer
Mr. R. Seguin, Vice President, International Relations, Training & Campus Development
Mr. J. Sirianni, Vice President, Human Resources, Safety & Facilities Management

Having a quorum of Governors in attendance, the Notice of Meeting and the Agenda having been duly sent to all Board members, the meeting was declared regularly constituted. A copy of the Notice of Meeting/Agenda is attached as **Appendix 'A'**.

Ms. N. Jammu-Taylor chaired the meeting and Ms. Adams was the recording Board Secretary.

1.0 **Adoption of the Agenda and Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Hearing no declarations of conflict of interest and no changes to the agenda, it was

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors adopt the Full Board agenda as presented.

2.0 **Approval of the Minutes of the Full Board meeting held on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 in Windsor, ON**

Hearing no amendments, errors or omissions to the minutes, it was

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the Full Board minutes of the March 24, 2020 meeting.

3.0 **Constituent Reports**

Ms. Jammu-Taylor informed the Board that as the meeting was being held virtually, there would be no constituent reports.

4.0 **President's Report**

The President stated that the media report was sent out electronically, has been posted on the Board portal and is attached. There was no further President's Report.

5.0 **Approval Items**

5.1 **2020 Convocation Motion to Confer Diplomas, Certificates and Degrees**

The Board of Governors was provided a recommendation from College Administration for the conferring of Diplomas, Certificates and Degrees for the Fifty-Third Annual Convocation.

After a brief discussion it was,

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors hereby authorize the awarding of the appropriate Diploma, Certificate or Degree to eligible students, as designated by the Registrar and recommended by Faculty, to be presented at each session of the Fifty-Third Annual Convocation of St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology.

6.0 **Policy Review**

6.1 Policy 2003-12: General Executive Constraint – 2nd Reading

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2nd reading of Policy 2003-12, as presented.

6.2 Policy 2003-4: Committee Principles – 2nd Reading

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2nd reading of Policy 2003-4, as presented.

6.3 Policy 2003-4.1: Audit and Finance Committee – Terms of Reference – 2nd Reading

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2nd reading of Policy 2003-4.1, as presented.

6.4 Policy 2003-13: Emergency Executive Succession – 1st Reading

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 1st reading of Policy 2003-13, as presented.

8.0 **Date of the Next Meeting**

8.1 The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at the Windsor Campus.

The Full Board meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

Transforming lives and strengthening communities through high quality and accessible educational experiences that support career-readiness, innovation, and life-long learning.

ST. CLAIR COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

481st FULL BOARD MEETING

of the

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, April 28, 2020

TIME: 6:30 p.m. – Meeting

PLACE: Board Room #342 – Windsor Campus

**** NOTE:** This meeting will be held virtually with the meeting invitation forthcoming.

AGENDA

- 1.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
- 2.0 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL BOARD MEETING HELD ON MARCH 24, 2020 IN WINDSOR, ON
- 3.0 CONSTITUENT REPORTS
- 4.0 PRESIDENT’S REPORT
(Policy – Executive Limitations Communication & Counsel #2003-21)

Information Item – The President will provide her report to the Board apprising the Board of any new developments since the last meeting.

- 5.0 APPROVAL ITEMS
 - 5.1 2020 Convocation Motion to Confer Diplomas, Certificates and Degrees

Approval Item – The motion to confer Diplomas, Certificates and Degrees to the Graduates of the 53rd Annual Convocation Ceremonies will be presented to the Board, attached as Item #5.1.

6.0 POLICY REVIEW

6.1 Policy 2003-12 – 2nd Reading

Approval Item – The Board will review policy 2003-12 for 2nd reading, attached as Item #6.1.

6.2 Policy 2003-4 – 2nd Reading

Approval Item – The Board will review policy 2003-4 for 2nd reading, attached as Item #6.2.

6.3 Policy 2003-4.1 – 2nd Reading

Approval Item – The Board will review policy 2003-4.1 for 2nd reading, attached as Item #6.3.

6.4 Policy 2003-13 – 1st Reading

Approval Item – The Board will review policy 2003-13 for 1st reading, attached as Item #6.4.

7.0 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

7.1 The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at the Windsor Campus.



ST. CLAIR

C O L L E G E

TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT

DATE: APRIL 28, 2020

RE: 2020 CONVOCATION CONFERRING OF DIPLOMAS, CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES

SECTOR: ALL – SENIOR OPERATIONS GROUP

AIM

To provide the Board of Governors with a recommendation from College Administration for the conferring of Diplomas, Certificates and Degrees for the Fifty-Third Annual Convocation Ceremonies.

BACKGROUND

College Administration annually provides the Board of Governors with a motion to authorize the conferring of the appropriate Diplomas, Certificates and Degrees to eligible students.

RECOMMENDATION

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Board of Governors of St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology hereby authorize the awarding of the appropriate Diploma, Certificate or Degree to the eligible students, as designated by the Registrar and recommended by Faculty, to be presented at each session of the Fifty-Third Annual Convocation of St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology.



POLICY TYPE: Executive Limitations **NUMBER:** 2003-12
POLICY TITLE: General Executive Constraint **DATE:** May 2003
REVIEWED: April 2020

The President shall not knowingly allow any practice, activity or decision, which is contrary to legislation, regulation, and Ontario Human Rights Code or Board policies.

The President will not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either imprudent, illegal or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics.



ST. CLAIR

C O L L E G E

TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT

DATE: APRIL 28, 2020

RE: REVIEW OF POLICY 2003-4 – COMMITTEE PRINCIPLES

SECTOR: SENIOR OPERATIONS GROUP

AIM:

To provide the Board of Governors with a recommendation to amend Policy 2003-4 – Committee Principles.

BACKGROUND:

Upon review of Policy 2003-4 – Committee Principles by the Audit Committee, the attached document has been amended with revisions identified in track changes.

RECOMMENDATION:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Board of Governors approve the amendment of Policy 2003-4 – Committee Principles.



POLICY TYPE:	Governance Process	NUMBER:	2003-4
POLICY TITLE:	Committee Principles	DATE:	May 2003
		REVISED:	November 2008
		REVIEWED:	March 2019

The Board may establish committees to help carry out its responsibilities. To preserve Board authority, committees will be used sparingly.

1. Board committees may not speak or act for the Board except when formally given such authority by the Board for specific and time-limited purposes. Such authority will be carefully stated in order not to conflict with authority delegated to the Chair of the Board of Governors and the President.
2. Board committees are to assist the Board in achieving the College's Mission according to the parameters set by the Board.
3. Board committees cannot exercise authority over staff and operations.
4. A committee is a Board committee only if its existence and mandate come from the Board, regardless whether the Board members sit on the committee. The only Board committees are those which are set forth in this policy.
5. An Audit and Finance Committee will be established by the Board of Governors at the appropriate time with primary responsibility to ensure compliance with Board policy through financial oversight and inquiry. ~~the following members:~~

~~3 Board members + 1 additional internal Board member, or external non-voting member at the discretion of the Board.~~

~~The Committee Chair will be elected by the members of the Committee. As defined in the By-Laws, the Committee Chair may also be appointed Treasurer of St. Clair College. Only those members of the Committee can vote.~~

~~The Committee will meet a minimum of 3 times per year at the call of the Chair.~~

~~The primary responsibility of the Audit Committee is to ensure compliance with Board policy through fiscal oversight and inquiry.~~

The Audit Committee shall be entrusted for:

- ~~Appointing external auditors.~~
- ~~Reviewing and approving the audit plan for the external auditors.~~
- ~~Ensuring that there are no management restrictions placed on the external auditors.~~
- ~~Evaluating the adequacy and effectiveness of the Board's policies as well as the College's administrative, operating and accounting policies through communication with management and the external auditors and make recommendations to the Board regarding necessary changes.~~
- ~~Reviewing and approving the annual financial statements of the College.~~
- ~~Acting as a resource to administrators with respect to financial matters.~~
- ~~Assisting the Board in identifying and managing financial risk posed to the College by being an objective party to review, critique, and advise with respect to financial information.~~
- ~~Reviewing major proposals as submitted by administration, or highlighted by the Board of Governors.~~



ST. CLAIR

C O L L E G E

TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT

DATE: APRIL 28, 2020

RE: POLICY 2003-4.1 - AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – TERMS OF REFERENCE

SECTOR: SENIOR OPERATIONS GROUP

AIM:

To provide the Board of Governors with a recommendation to add Policy 2003-4.1, Audit and Finance Committee – Terms of Reference to the Board Policies.

BACKGROUND:

Policy 2003-4.1 is a new policy that outlines the Audit and Finance Committee Terms of Reference, including its composition, meetings and responsibilities.

RECOMMENDATION:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Board of Governors approve the new Policy 2003-4.1, Audit and Finance Committee – Terms of Reference to the Board Policies.



POLICY TYPE: Governance Process **NUMBER:** 2003-4.1

POLICY TITLE: Audit and Finance
Committee – Terms of
Reference **DATE:** March 2019
REVISED: NEW

In accordance with Policy 2003-4, Committee Principles, an Audit and Finance Committee will be established by the Board of Governors at the appropriate time with primary responsibility to ensure compliance with Board policy through financial oversight and inquiry.

Policy 2003-4.1 outlines the Audit and Finance Committee Terms of Reference.

1. Composition

3 external Board members + President, and/or an external non-voting member at the discretion of the Board.

The Committee Chair will be elected by the members of the Committee. As defined in the By-Laws, the Committee Chair may also be appointed Treasurer of St. Clair College. Only those members of the Committee can vote.

2. Meetings

The Committee will meet a minimum of 3 times per year at the call of the Chair.

3. Responsibilities

i. Audit

- Appointing external auditors.
- Reviewing and approving the audit plan for the external auditors to ensure that the combined evaluation of risks and testing of controls is comprehensive.

- Review the scope of the external auditor's reviews of the College's internal controls, any significant findings and recommendations by the external auditors and the responses of the College's staff to those findings and recommendations.
- Ensure that external auditors have access to the Committee to ensure that no management restrictions have been placed on their scope, extent of audit examinations or reporting of their findings.
- Review with the external auditors the results of the audit and determine if there were any difficulties or disputes with management, any significant changes in the audit plan, any significant changes in accounting policies and any management estimates that required significant judgement.
- Review and discuss the annual financial statements and related note disclosures with management and the external auditors.
- Seek assurance that the financial statements of the College are prepared in accordance with public sector accounting standards, which would include oversight of the selection of accounting policies used in the preparation of the financial statements, and consideration of all relevant alternatives.
- Review the annual draft financial statements and, where appropriate, suggest improvements in the financial information and, when accepted, recommend the final statements for approval by the Board.
- Have the right to make inquiries and call upon corporate officers of the College, as the Committee deems necessary.
- Review the performance of the external auditors annually and recommend to the Board their appointment and related fees.

ii. Financial

- Review the annual budget and mid-year budget and recommend its approval to the Board.
- Receive reports from management, external auditors and legal counsel, if appropriate or necessary, on all significant deficiencies or indications/detection of fraud along with the corrective activity undertaken.
- Evaluating the adequacy and effectiveness of the Board's policies as well as the College's administrative, operating and accounting policies through communication with management and the external auditors and make recommendations to the Board regarding necessary changes.

- Ensuring the College has an Investment Policy for the operating, reserve, and endowment funds, and periodically review its relevancy.

iii. Other

- Acting as a resource to administrators with respect to financial matters.
- Assisting the Board in identifying and managing financial risk posed to the College by being an objective party to review, critique, and advise with respect to financial information.
- Reviewing major proposals as submitted by administration, or highlighted by the Board of Governors.



POLICY TYPE:	Executive Limitations	NUMBER:	2003-13
POLICY TITLE:	Emergency Executive Succession	DATE:	May 2003
		REVIEWED:	October 2008 May 2020

In order to protect the Board from sudden loss of Chief Executive services, the President shall not have fewer than two other executives familiar with Board and Presidential issues and processes.

The President will designate to the Board each year, at the organizational meeting, his or her recommended succession plan.

This succession plan will be followed for the purposes of assigning an Acting President for times when the President is absent for up to 30 days.

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Sunshine lists show 3,000 local public employees making \$100K-plus

Windsor Star – March 24, 2020



Windsor Regional Hospital President and CEO David Musyj speaks during a press conference on Friday, April 5, 2019. DAN JANISSE / Windsor Star

Windsor Regional Hospital CEO David Musyj took a three per cent pay cut last year along with his senior executives, but still ended up at the top of the list for local public sector earners in 2019, making \$418,119.

The annual Sunshine List of employees making \$100,000 or more last year was released by all the school boards, universities, colleges, municipalities, hospitals and other organizations that receive taxpayer dollars — despite the fact many of them are very busy operating in the eye of the coronavirus storm. More than 3,000 people were listed.

The top of the overall list includes many people leading the coronavirus fight or grappling to keep their organizations running, like Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare CAO Janice Kaffer (\$319,073), medical officer of health Dr. Wajid Ahmed (\$271,878), Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network CEO Ralph Ganter (\$273,791), City of Windsor CAO Onorio Colucci (\$274,930), Windsor police Chief Pam Mizuno (\$209,267), Health Unit CEO Theresa Marentette (\$202,353), Windsor commissioner of development and health Jelena Payne (\$202,741), St. Clair College president Patty France (\$300,160), Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens (\$198,559), and five Windsor Regional vice-presidents who all earned more than \$206,000.

The third-highest earner on the list, however, was no longer doing his job in 2019. Alan Wildeman retired June 30, 2018 as president of the University of Windsor, but he continued to draw a salary — \$364,240 in 2019 and \$366,375 in 2018. University spokesman John Coleman said in an email Monday that “any compensation now appearing on the list would reflect the agreed-to terms between Dr. Wildeman and the university.”

He said that Wildeman served two six-year terms starting in 2008. The second term doesn't end until June 2020, though he's now on academic leave. “The practice of incorporating academic leave into such a senior position in university administration is not uncommon,” Coleman wrote.



Janice Kaffer, President and CEO of Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare speaks during a press conference on Thursday, March 12, 2020.

The second-highest local earner was Wildeman's interim replacement, Douglas Kneale, who earned \$380,275 in 2019. The current president, Robert Gordon, who came from Wilfrid Laurier University and officially started Sept. 1, was paid \$124,091. The university had 651 people on the list — mostly professors — whose total salaries added up to \$98.5 million, up slightly from 648 people earning \$96.7 million in 2018.

While the top earners on the Sunshine List draw much of the attention, what's also clear is many lists are growing as large groups of lower-paid employees start earning more than \$100,000. The Greater Essex County District School Board, for example, saw many teachers joining the list, as the total number went from 457 in 2018 to 521 in 2019. The Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board saw its numbers grow from 257 to 269. The board's director of education Terry Lyons saw his earnings grow from \$237,617 to \$245,204 while public board director Erin Kelly saw a drop from \$260,596 to \$249,234.

The number on the City of Windsor list actually went down, from 899 earning \$110.4 million in 2018 to 861 earning \$101.9 million last year.

City staff members making more than \$100,000 dropped from 281 to 233, a decline of 48. Windsor fire employees dropped from 259 to 245, while Windsor police on the list rose from 359 to 383.

Among senior city hall administrators, treasurer Joe Mancina made \$190,442, up from \$184,436, Windsor Public Library CEO Kitty Pope made \$160,748, down from \$179,776, city solicitor Shelby Askin Hager made \$202,483, up from \$190,517, Fire Chief Steve Laforet made \$188,920, up from \$157,354, city planner Thom Hunt saw his earnings drop from \$195,479 to \$164,838, City engineer Mark Winterton's earnings rose from \$189,858 to \$201,211, chief building official John Revell dropped about \$10,000 to \$160,747, parks and recreation corporate leader Jan Wilson dropped about \$9,000 to \$175,461 and city clerk Valerie Critchley's earnings went from \$200,247 to \$202,741.

Colucci also experienced an income drop, from \$278,173 to \$274,930.

The number of employees earning more than \$100,000 can rise or fall based on how much overtime was worked, salary reviews and employment equity rulings. But Colucci said the big reason for fewer city employees on the Sunshine List and many employees experiencing salary drops, himself included, is tied to a city council policy to have Windsor salaries near the middle of the pack when compared with similar municipalities. In 2018, that resulted in payouts for multiple years from 2012 to 2016 when Windsor salaries were lower.

“The key is it was a multi-year retroactive bump-up,” in 2018, Colucci said.

The mayor, meanwhile, enjoyed a hefty raise thanks to a restructuring of city council remuneration approved in late 2018 by the outgoing council. Raises, that amounted to \$29,387 for the mayor, were approved to account for federal tax changes that get rid of tax-free status on one-third of income. The changes meant the mayor would still take \$7,000 less home because of higher taxes paid, Colucci said. Councillors got a \$6,100 raise, bringing remuneration to \$45,748.

While the deadline to submit the list of employees making more than \$100,000 is March 31, almost all organizations locally submitted early, despite the turmoil over coronavirus crisis.

This year’s lists also saw 212 employees of municipalities in the county making more than \$100,000, including 64 in LaSalle. The County of Essex had 51, including CAO Rob Maisonville making \$229,374 and EMS Chief Bruce Krauter making \$170,722. Tecumseh had 18, Lakeshore had 13, Amherstburg had 20, Town of Essex had 15, Kingsville had 11 and Leamington had 20.

The Windsor-Essex Children’s Aid Society had 46 people on the list, including executive director Derrick Drouillard who earned \$184,999. Windsor-Essex Economic Development Corp. only had two on the list, including CEO Stephen MacKenzie who earned \$217,098.

St. Clair College antes up medical equipment for hospitals



St. Clair College, south Windsor main campus. Blackburn News file photo.
Blackburn News - March 24, 2020 12:02pm

A day after the [City of Windsor, Essex County](#), and the [union that represents healthcare workers in Chatham-Kent](#) asked for donated medical equipment, St. Clair College is answering the call. The college has equipment from its Health Sciences programs. Now that the campus is closed and students are completing their courses online, the college is not using it.

Since the plea went out, college officials have been taking stock of the gloves, gowns, masks, and hospital beds it has and will deliver the equipment to the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance, Windsor Regional Hospital, and Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare.

The Toldo Centre for Applied Health Sciences has 90 hospital beds and will send 35 of them to area hospitals, more if they are needed.

“We are prepared, also, to provide the local hospital system with any further assistance which St. Clair College might be in a position to offer,” said College President Patti France. “If St. Clair can help the community in this life-saving effort, it will respond immediately and whole-heartedly.”

St. Clair College is just the latest to step up to help fight the COVID-19 pandemic. Businesses, including [Hiram Walker and Sons](#), are shifting production to make life-saving equipment, including hand-sanitizer.

St. Clair College Donates Beds, Ventilators And Supplies To Local Hospitals

WindsorDOTca News – Tuesday, March 24th, 2020



St. Clair College will be delivering equipment from its Health Sciences programs to local hospitals as the healthcare institutions prepare for the possibility of an increase in patients requiring treatment for COVID-19.

The College plans to hand over gloves, gowns and masks to Windsor Regional Hospital, Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, and Chatham-Kent Health Alliance.

In addition, the College will lend out its hospital beds in the event they are needed for an overflow of patients.

Three ventilators and other lifesaving equipment have been delivered to Windsor Regional Hospital.

“From its founding several years ago – and based upon its design to replicate a hospital-in-miniature – St. Clair had pledged to provide the local healthcare community with access to the services and equipment of the Toldo Centre for Applied Health Sciences,” St. Clair College President Patti France said. “It is our distinct honour, now, to make good on that promise by providing our heroic hospital personnel with the protective devices and patient-care equipment which they so urgently need.”

The beds are being sent to our local hospitals. The College has a total of 90 beds.

“Right now, they’re expanding for the potential and they reached out to us and we have been able to provide them 35 of our beds and we are able to lend more if needed,” said Dr. Ken Blanchette, Associate Vice President, Academic.

“These are true hospital beds, from our Simulation Centre and they are used by all the health care programs.”

St. Clair College donates medical equipment to help local hospitals in case of COVID-19 influx

'They'd like to prepare for an influx, if it does happen,' says Dr. Ken Blanchette

CBC News · Posted: Mar 24, 2020 9:18 PM ET | Last Updated: March 24



The goal is to help area hospitals ready themselves in the event that COVID-19 grows worse. Citing a desire to help local hospitals prepare for the possibility that COVID-19 will grow worse in the region, St. Clair College announced on Tuesday that staff have donated 35 hospital beds and eight ventilators, with plans to send over personal protective equipment within the next few days.

According to Dr. Ken Blanchette, associate vice-president academic with St. Clair College, the hospital beds are set for Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, which will coordinate with Windsor Regional Hospital to determine supply needs.

The college has also donated supplies to the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance through the college's Chatham-area satellite campus.

"They'd like to prepare for an influx, if it does happen," said Blanchette. "We've responded in kind by pretty much draining our supplies of consumables that we have — gloves, masks, things like that.

He added that staff with St. Clair College will likely begin sending over personal protective equipment on Wednesday.

Blanchette said the beds and other medical supplies were previously housed in St. Clair College's Centre for Applied Health Sciences — a 100,000 square foot simulation building used by students and staff.

The college is able to provide up to 90 hospital beds if needed, Blanchette said, explaining that there's equipment to spare because students are currently engaged in online learning as a social distancing measure to prevent the spread of coronavirus.



In addition to hospital beds and other medical equipment, St. Clair College donated eight ventilators. (Submitted by St. Clair College)

"That leaves the labs and the supplies and the equipment as not being used right now," he said.

Should area hospitals find themselves unable to meet an influx of patients, Blanchette said St. Clair College would be able to provide facilities for "very low-risk levels."

"We do have facilities here to be able to [provide care], but we haven't crossed that bridge yet," he said. "Hopefully Windsor is not hit as bad as what we're seeing across the rest of the globe."

Steve Erwin, manager of corporate communications with Windsor Regional Hospital, said his organization "very much appreciates the donation from this community partner." As of Tuesday evening, Windsor-Essex has three confirmed cases of COVID-19, while Chatham-Kent has two confirmed cases.

St. Clair College shipping critical supplies to hospitals

Windsor Star – March 25, 2020



David Purdie, from St. Clair College, loads up hospital beds from the Anthony P. Toldo Centre for Applied Health Sciences, to be delivered to Hotel Dieu-Grace Healthcare, Tuesday, March 24, 2020, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

With classrooms and labs shut down as part of the community fight against the spread of COVID-19, St. Clair College has begun stripping its state-of-the-art health sciences facilities in order to bolster efforts underway at local hospitals.

“This is our community — it’s all hands on deck,” college president Patti France said Tuesday.

Critical medical supplies — everything from hospital beds and ventilators to monitors, masks, gowns and gloves — are being packed up and shipped out to Windsor Regional Hospital and Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare. The Chatham-Kent Health Alliance is also receiving supplies from the local college.

“Our health-care workers, they’re the real heroes now, and whatever we can do to help, we will,” said France.

The first 35 hospital beds to go (St. Clair has 90 in total) were headed to Hotel-Dieu on Tuesday, while eight ventilators were sent to Windsor Regional Hospital on Monday and Tuesday.

The fully functional specialized medical equipment and materials being shipped out are used in the training of students in college facilities like the Toldo Centre for Applied Health Sciences that are designed to replicate what France calls “a hospital-in-miniature.”



Pete Panzica, left, and David Purdie, from St. Clair College, load up hospital beds from the Anthony P. Toldo Centre for Applied Health Sciences, to be delivered to Hotel Dieu-Grace Healthcare, Tuesday, March 24, 2020, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

The beds are worth about \$3,500 each, while the ventilators cost about \$70,000 each and are the “higher-end” type, designed for complex cases to assist acute-care patients to breathe or to even do the breathing for them, said Dr. Ken Blanchette, St. Clair College’s associate vice-president, academic.

There’s no excuse not to be prepared

Most of what’s being sent out is being held in reserve by the hospitals as the number of coronavirus cases keeps climbing, particularly over the border in Michigan, where the governor has ordered a near-total lockdown to help stem a rapidly rising tide of COVID-19 infections.

“It’s difficult to ignore what’s happening across the river — there’s no excuse not to be prepared here,” said Bill Marra, vice-president of external affairs at Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare.

The hospital beds from St. Clair College will be put to immediate use. Marra said 10 acute-care patients a day are currently being transferred from Windsor Regional Hospital’s two local campuses and Leamington’s Erie Shores HealthCare to Hotel-Dieu’s Prince Road location in west Windsor.

“We’re adding 40 (acute-care) beds, and we have the ability to go higher,” said Marra. Windsor Regional Hospital, which has already cancelled all elective surgeries, is freeing up its own acute-care spaces in anticipation of any spike in local COVID-19 cases.

“I commend them whole-heartedly — it’s very prudent of the hospitals to pull in that stuff now,” Blanchette said of those preparations. “When you need a ventilator, when you need a bed, you need it immediately.”



A hospital bed from the Anthony P. Toldo Centre for Applied Health Sciences, one of 35 beds in total to to be delivered to Hotel Dieu-Grace Healthcare, Tuesday, March 24, 2020.

Blanchette said local health officials are probably learning from the horror scenes on the news from such coronavirus global hotspots as Italy, where patients have been shown lying head-to-toe on blankets on the hallway floors of hospitals, or a convoy of military trucks was shown moving loaded coffins out of one town.

Marra said the local situation is being gauged daily, but his hospital is grateful for the college's reaching out: "It's a good news story."

France said local hospital leaders had been in touch with her but that staff at both hospitals had been in direct communication with health services faculty at her college. Last Friday, hospital administrators were given a tour of the college's health sciences offerings and invited to list their needs.

"It's been difficult for me, but I can't imagine how much more difficult it is for our health-care workers," said France.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS DONATING MEDICAL SUPPLIES AMID COVID-19 CRISIS

AM800 CKLW – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020



St. Clair College staff load critical care equipment onto a moving van for delivery to Windsor Regional Hospital (Photo courtesy of St. Clair College)

Several local organizations are stepping up to make sure frontline staff have the medical supplies they need to battle the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Monday, the City of Windsor and County of Essex put out a call to anyone willing to donate extra supplies.

The St. Clair College Health Sciences program has shipped a number of items to Windsor Regional Hospital and Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare including beds, ventilators and other lifesaving equipment.

The college's Associate Vice President of Academics, Dr. Ken Blanchette, says the hospitals are creating an emergency ward in preparation for a surge in patients.

"They are putting together patient overflows for beds and making a ward right now at Hotel-Dieu Grace on Prince Rd. So we've shipped off 35 hospital beds. We have 90 beds total that we could provide to the hospitals in case Windsor does get a crisis," he says.

Dr. Blanchette says both hospitals are doing their best to prepare.

"These folks are planning for the worst," he adds. "They want to make sure that we are absolutely ready. The amount of effort they've been putting in and the logistics of making things work, they are about as ready as they possibly can be for this and the community needs to know how hard they're working to make this work."

The Greater Essex County District School Board has also come through with a long list of supplies including more than 55,000 pairs nitrile gloves, nearly 300-litres of concentrated disinfectant and 40 N-95 respirators.

Jarvis: "This is where our community relies upon us"

Windsor Star – March 25, 2020



RNs and security staff prepare for patients at the COVID-19 assessment centre at Windsor Regional Hospital's Ouellette Campus on Tuesday.

Moving patients to free up beds, using tarps to create dozens of new isolation rooms, checking ventilators, even arranging an additional makeshift morgue — Windsor Regional Hospital is in the midst of a massive effort to prepare for a potential surge in COVID-19 cases.

"We must plan for the worst," hospital CEO David Musyj told staff at a recent assembly on the pandemic.

The region's designated hospital for critical COVID-19 cases because of its Level 3 intensive care unit, it activated a detailed pandemic plan March 11, including an "incident management system" and command centres at each campus.

A slew of emergency measures have followed.

Between 600 and 700 elective procedures a week have been cancelled to create capacity for coronavirus cases.

When we all started in health care, we knew this was a possibility

A total of 60 to 80 non-urgent patients — 10 to 15 a day — have been moved from Windsor Regional and Erie Shores HealthCare in Leamington to Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, the non-acute care hospital, again to free up acute care beds.

Work is ongoing on Saturday March 14, 2020, at the Windsor Regional Hospital to open a COVID-19 Assessment Centre at the Ouellette campus. David Musyj, President and CEO of WRH speaks to reporters during a press conference at the centre.

"Our job is to create additional capacity for the acute care system," said Hotel-Dieu spokesperson Bill Marra. "We need to be prepared for all eventualities."

Hotel-Dieu has opened 20 additional beds and is prepared to open another 20.

The measures have freed up 140 beds at Windsor Regional. More can be created if needed by converting offices to patient rooms.

Everything is being moved around, with floors and halls being set aside for COVID-19 patients. The hospital has created an additional 40 isolation rooms in the emergency rooms and critical care units at each campus by replacing the curtains that separate some beds with sealed tarps.

“We want these patients isolated when they come in,” Musyj said.

It has also checked its 18 negative pressure rooms, where the air expressed by intubated patients is sucked outside instead of being recirculated.

The hospital has inventoried its 57 ventilators, and is checking another 10 borrowed from St. Clair College. It will also have access to a stockpiled supply at the Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration network as well as the province’s emergency supply.

Doctors from hospitals in Windsor, Leamington, Chatham-Kent and Sarnia will be cross-credentialled, allowing them to shift to any hospitals that is overwhelmed by patients or loses staff to the pandemic.

St. Clair College Respiratory Therapy Students Granted Early Licences

WindsoriteDOTca News – Monday, March 30th, 2020



St. Clair College Respiratory Therapy students have been granted early licences, as they are placed into action in the fight against COVID-19.

The college says that thirteen students who are in their third year of studies will be eligible to receive their licences from the College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario, according to Connie Sivyler, coordinator of the Respiratory Therapy program at St. Clair College.

“The regulatory body is not graduating the students. That’s up to the colleges,” Sivyler said. “But they are saying even though they are not graduated, they are close enough. We will give them a license to practice.”

The students will be required to complete online classes and exams in order to graduate, Sivyler said. “They may in fact have to go back and do some clinical placements, but we have not identified those gaps yet.”

The students will have to apply to Health Force Ontario, which is dealing with nurses and other health care professionals whose licences have lapsed but want to re-enter the field to help during the COVID-19 crisis.

Third-year respiratory therapy students join the fight against COVID-19



Faculty members arrive at the main Windsor campus at St. Clair College as the province-wide strike continues on November 8, 2017. Photo by Mark Brown/Blackburn News.

Blackburn News - March 30, 2020 12:01pm

It will be up to St. Clair College to decide if they will graduate this year, but in the meantime, 13 third-year respiratory therapy students are getting their license to practice early because of COVID-19.

The College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario has decided the students are close enough to graduation to join the fight against the pandemic.

The students will still have to finish their online classes and exams to graduate.

“They may, in fact, have to go back and do some clinical placements, but we have not identified those gaps yet,” said Connie Sivyver, the coordinator of the Respiratory Therapy program at St. Clair College.

The students will have to apply to Health Force Ontario, which is also granting licenses to nurses and other healthcare professionals who have allowed their licenses to lapse.

A statement from St. Clair College said there is a shortage of respiratory therapists across Ontario, and the early licensing should help boost the numbers.

St. Clair College respiratory therapy students granted early licences

CTV - Monday, March 30, 2020



St. Clair College Respiratory Therapy students. (Courtesy St. Clair College)

WINDSOR, ONT. -- St. Clair College Respiratory Therapy students are being called to action amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

The students have been granted early licences.

The change will impact 13 students, who are in their third year of studies.

They will be eligible to receive their licences from the College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario, according to Connie Sivyer, coordinator of the Respiratory Therapy program at St. Clair College. "The regulatory body is not graduating the students. That's up to the colleges," Sivyer said. "But they are saying even though they are not graduated, they are close enough. We will give them a license to practice."

The students will be required to complete online classes and exams in order to graduate, Sivyer said. "They may in fact have to go back and do some clinical placements, but we have not identified those gaps yet," she added.

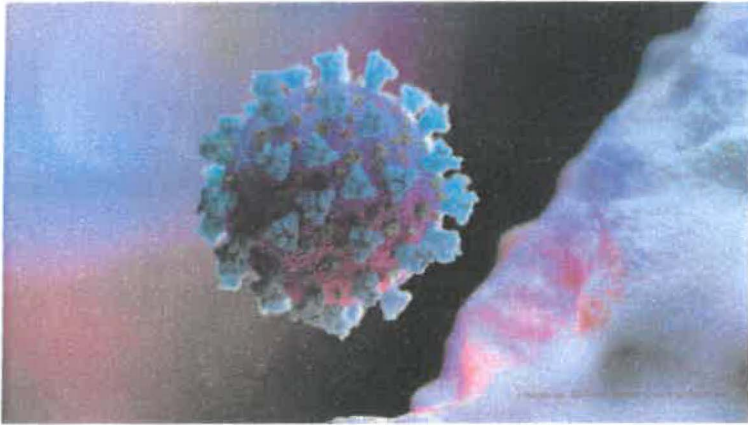
Sivyer said the students will have to apply to Health Force Ontario, which is dealing with nurses and other health care professionals whose licences have lapsed but want to re-enter the field to help during the COVID-19 crisis.

The aspiring Respiratory Therapists "have sufficient training to be significant and valuable assets to whoever takes them on board," Sivyer said.

There has been a reported shortage of Respiratory Therapists across the province by hospitals. There are approximately 3,000 therapists across Ontario, thus the decision by the CRTO to grant early licencing to help with this shortage.

College respiratory therapists granted early licences

Windsor Star – March 31, 2020



A computer image created by Nexu Science Communication together with Trinity College in Dublin, shows a model structurally representative of a betacoronavirus which is the type of virus linked to COVID-19, better known as the coronavirus linked to the Wuhan outbreak, shared with Reuters on February 18, 2020.

As part of a provincewide effort to bolster the ranks of respiratory therapists, third-year students, including 13 at St. Clair College, will be granted early licences allowing them to work immediately in the health care field.

St. Clair announced the move by the College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario (CRTO) Monday as they search for more health care providers in the fight against COVID-19.

“The regulatory body is not graduating the students. That’s up to the colleges,” Connie Sivyer, the college’s coordinator of the Respiratory Therapy program, said in a news release. “But they are saying even though they are not graduated, they are close enough. We will give them a licence to practice.”

Sivyer said the students will be required to complete online classes and exams in order to graduate.

“They may in fact have to go back and do some clinical placements, but we have not identified those gaps yet,” she said.

Sivyer said the students have to apply to Health Force Ontario, which is dealing with nurses and other health care professionals whose licenses have lapsed but want to re-enter the field to help during the COVID-19 crisis.

The aspiring respiratory therapists “have sufficient training to be significant and valuable assets to whoever takes them on board,” Sivyer said.

The CRTO granted early licensing in a pre-emptive strike against possible staffing shortages.

With seven college programs across the province, the CEO of the CRTO says there are over one hundred respiratory therapist students close to graduation.

“We’re prepared to register them all,” said Kevin Taylor, CRTO’s registrar and CEO in an email Monday.

Taylor said there are 3,700 respiratory therapists currently registered in Ontario, with over 2,200 working primarily in critical care areas.

“With a call out to any inactive or retired RT, in addition to the students mentioned above, redeployed RTs from primary care or diagnostic roles, and out-of-province applicants, we are able to handle the current patient load,” he wrote.

Taylor noted each respiratory therapist typically manages more than one ventilator at a time.

He said the CRTO is watching closely the growing number of Ontario patients requiring ventilators.

“We will only start to worry once (if!) the ventilated patient count hits the thousands. That’s assuming, of course, that we’ll have the critical care beds and ventilators to match that number as well,” he said.

ST. CLAIR COLLEGE RESPIRATORY THERAPY STUDENTS CALLED TO ACTION

AM800 CKLW – March 31, 2020



(AM800 file photo)

St. Clair College respiratory therapy students will be hitting the frontline sooner than expected.

In an effort to boost resources in the fight against COVID-19, third year students can receive their licence early from the College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario.

Sarah Khan is one of 13 St. Clair students eligible for the program.

She says it's a great opportunity for some real world experience.

"We're actually getting put into the frontline of the hospital and assisting the respiratory therapists that are already there just as extra assistance," she says. "We're putting our skills to use right now. We're helping the community by getting in the pandemic and doing the best we can."

Khan says they've already visited the hospital to receive their assignments.

"We were at the hospital, signing up, learning our new duties, how to protect ourselves at the frontlines, what we can do, what we cannot do and just extra precautions we must take," she says.

Khan says she and her classmates are honoured to help the community at such an important time.

"I'm pleased that I'm able to serve my community right now. They need respiratory therapists and I'm getting put there. My skills will be put to use and I feel more than qualified doing so," she adds.

There is currently a shortage of respiratory therapists across the province.

The students will still need to complete online classes and exams to officially graduate from the program.

Ontario goes digital to help post-secondary students continue studies



Dillon Hall at the University of Windsor. Photo by Mark Brown/Blackburn News.
Blackburn News - March 31, 2020 10:34am

The Province of Ontario has an agreement to make digital learning supports available at all universities and colleges.

“Students and their families make great sacrifices to attend postsecondary education, and it is incumbent on us to do everything we can to ensure this academic year is not put in jeopardy,” said Minister of Colleges and Universities, Ross Romano.

The agreement with eCampus will provide post-secondary schools with the technology they need to conduct year-end assessments while maintaining student privacy.

A release on eCampus’s website said it provides, “an open-source tool that lets users create over 40 types of interactive content, including quizzes, videos and more.”

eCampus is a not-for-profit corporation funded by the Ontario government.

Ontario will also offer digital learning to Indigenous Institutes and private career colleges.

The provincial government is distributing \$25-million to help colleges and universities during the pandemic for things like deep cleaning, purchasing medical supplies, and offering mental health supports.

Meanwhile, a day after the National Student Loans Service Centre announced it was suspending student loan repayment until the end of September, Premier Doug Ford suspended payments for the Ontario Student Assistance Program.

Collaboration steps up during pandemic



WRH CEO David Musyj, St. Clair College President Patti France, HDGH CEO Janice Kaffer and University of Windsor President Robert Gordon sign the memorandum of understanding for WE SPARK Health Institute, March 9, 2020. (Photo by Maureen Revait)

Blackburn News - March 31, 2020

A local healthcare collaboration has created a resource hub in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis.

The WE-SPARK Health Institute, a joint effort of St. Clair College, the University of Windsor, Windsor Regional Hospital, and Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare designed to address regional health issues, has created a one-stop centre for community resources concerning the constantly-evolving information surrounding the novel coronavirus.

Dr. Lisa Porter, WE-SPARK's executive director, is hopeful that all bases will be covered through this initiative.

"We created this one-stop-shop resource, for researchers, healthcare providers and our community, there's something there for everyone," said Porter in a media release.

The collaboration will compile the latest data on cases of COVID-19, locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. Information pertaining to pandemic research will also be available for health system databases and for fundraising purposes.

For doctors, nurses, and others in the healthcare profession, WE-SPARK will put together data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and psychosocial support for those on the front lines of handling the crisis. Resources on mental health, protecting young people from COVID-19, and the latest local information are also available.

The WE-SPARK Health Institute was launched earlier this month when representatives from the four participants [signed a memorandum of understanding](#). Porter told BlackburnNewsWindsor.com at the time that the collaboration will streamline the medical research field in Windsor-Essex. "By bringing us all together, really that can elevate the kinds of questions that we're asking, it's going to streamline and provide resources so that we can really make these research grants possible," said Porter.

Windsor Regional Hospital to convert St. Clair College SportsPlex into COVID-19 field hospital

SportsPlex will be turned into off-site hospital with capacity to treat up to 100 patients in recovery

CBC News · Posted: Apr 02, 2020 5:16 PM



Staff will begin converting the St. Clair College SportsPlex next week. (Melissa Nakhavoly/CBC)

Windsor Regional Hospital (WRH) announced on Thursday a partnership with St. Clair College that will see the school's SportsPlex converted into a field hospital in preparation for a potential "surge" of COVID-19 patients.

Over the course of the next week, staff will begin transforming the SportsPlex into a site with the capacity to treat up to 100 "low-acuity" patients recovering from COVID-19, as well as those who are in the recovery phase of their treatments, according to a media release published on Thursday.

Hospital president and CEO David Musyj said the SportsPlex conversion is being done in preparation "for the expected patient influx."

"This will help address challenges for hospitals across the province," he said, in the same media release. "Best case scenario is we do not need to move any patients to the St. Clair College site, but we have to be ready for the worst."

WRH has already created additional capacity at its Met and Ouellette campuses, creating 250 beds by pausing scheduled surgeries, as well as by receiving support from Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare and regional partners.

The hospital has also been able to create an additional 109 beds across both campuses by converting "various rooms" on each floor of each site into patients rooms.

As of Thursday, the hospital has approximately 350 additional patient spaces that are currently vacant across both the Met and Ouellette campuses.

During the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit's (WECHU) daily COVID-19 media briefing on Thursday, medical officer of health Dr. Wajid Ahmed said the region has 128 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

Best case scenario is we do not need to move any patients to the St. Clair College site ...-
David Musyj, President and CEO, Windsor Regional Hospital

Additionally, 1,237 people have been tested for COVID-19 so far, while 268 tests are still pending.

Last week, St. Clair College donated 35 hospital beds and eight ventilators to Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, intended to coordinate with WRH to determine supply needs.

St. Clair College president Patti France said her organization was "honoured" to help the hospital in its "heroic battle" against coronavirus.

"Our students and staff have been using the SportsPlex to foster their health for the past half-decade, so it is a natural transition for the community to use it now to restore its health," France said, in the same Thursday media release. "We will continue to respond immediately and enthusiastically to anything asked of the college while this challenge confronts our community."

St. Clair's SportsPlex to become COVID-19 field hospital



St. Clair College SportsPlex, Windsor. Blackburn News file photo.

Blackburn News - April 2, 2020 5:59pm

Windsor Regional Hospital has teamed up with St. Clair College to increase healthcare capacity in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The hospital system announced Thursday afternoon that it had reached an agreement with the college to transform the main Windsor campus's SportsPlex into a temporary field hospital for the duration of the crisis. The move is being made in preparation for any surge in local coronavirus patients.

The SportsPlex will be slowly transformed over the next week into a 100-bed offsite hospital, and if needed, will treat low-acuity patients in the recovery phase of treatment, including those who have tested positive for COVID-19.

Local hospitals have been working to increase capacity, but David Musyj, president and CEO of Windsor Regional Hospital, said the SportsPlex is there just in case.

"We are preparing for the expected patient influx and creating capacity for Windsor-Essex. This will help address challenges for hospitals across the province," said Musyj. "Best case scenario is we do not need to move any patients to the St. Clair College site, but we have to be ready for the worst."

St. Clair College President Patti France said the school was more than happy to meet the challenge.

"Our students and staff have been using the SportsPlex to foster their health for the past half-decade, so it is a natural transition for the community to use it now to restore its health," said France. "We will continue to respond immediately and enthusiastically to anything asked of the college while this challenge confronts our community."

At this point, there are no off-site facilities run by WRH to treat patients in the pandemic. However, the hospital's Metropolitan and Ouellette Campuses have increased capacity by cancelling elective surgeries. As of Thursday, the hospital said there were 350 vacant patient spaces between the two buildings.

The SportsPlex was chosen through the guidance of retired Lieutenant Colonel Andy Stewart, who had served for 38 years with the British Army, then the Canadian Forces. Stewart had worked in Germany during the Cold War, and in Britain during the fight against foot-and-mouth disease.

Windsor Regional Hospital Transforming St. Clair College SportsPlex Into A Field Hospital

Blackburn News – Thursday April 2nd,2020



Windsor Regional Hospital has reached an agreement with St. Clair College to transform the school's SportsPlex into a field hospital for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The hospital says that through a phased-in approach over the next week, they will work to transform the building into an offsite hospital with the capacity to treat up to 100 low acuity patients in the recovery phase of their treatments, including patients recovering from the virus.

"We are preparing for the expected patient influx and creating capacity for Windsor-Essex. This will help address challenges for hospitals across the province," said David Musyj, President and CEO of Windsor Regional Hospital. "Best case scenario is we do not need to move any patients to the St. Clair College site, but we have to be ready for the worst."

Local hospitals have already increased capacity within the system. Windsor Regional Hospital currently has created capacity at its two acute care campuses of approximately 250 beds as a result of a low census, through the "pausing" of scheduled surgeries, the support of Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare and the region.

In addition, the hospital has created 109 more beds across both campuses by turning various rooms into patient rooms on each floor of each site. WRH went from 27 negative pressure rooms to 58 and 49 Level 3 ICU beds to 83. In total, as of today, on its two campuses, WRH has approximately 350 additional patient spaces that are currently vacant.

St. Clair College President Patti France said the college was "honoured" to assist Windsor Regional Hospital in its "heroic battle" against this devastating virus. "Our students and staff have been using the SportsPlex to foster their health for the past half-decade, so it is a natural transition for the community to use it now to restore its health," France said. "We will continue to respond immediately and enthusiastically to anything asked of the college while this challenge confronts our community."

Retired Lieutenant Colonel, Andy Stewart, who has 38 years of experience with the British Army and is now a Major in the Canadian Armed Forces, assisted the hospital in selecting a suitable

location for the field hospital. Acting as a civilian, Stewart, who worked in Germany during the Cold War and later in the UK during the fight against Foot and Mouth Disease, lent his expertise to the search.

“I want to indicate to our community that Windsor is in good hands, with this group of very professional and dedicated specialists. It was an honour and a privilege to help albeit in a small way to establish additional hospital capacity for Windsor and Essex County. Hopefully, it will not be required,” he said.

PHOTOS: St. Clair SportsPlex Begins Transformation Into Field Hospital

WindsoriteDOTca News – Friday April 3rd,2020



Images courtesy Windsor Regional Hospital

Windsor Regional Hospital has started the process of transforming St. Clair College's SportsPlex into a field hospital.

The field hospital will be used for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic to treat up to 100 low acuity patients in the recovery phase of their treatments, including patients recovering from the virus, Windsor Regional officials said.

"We are preparing for the expected patient influx and creating capacity for Windsor-Essex. This will help address challenges for hospitals across the province," said David Musyj, President and CEO of Windsor Regional Hospital. "Best case scenario is we do not need to move any patients to the St. Clair College site, but we have to be ready for the worst."





Photos: SportsPlex transforms into COVID-19 field hospital

Windsor Star – April 4, 2020



Crews prepare the St. Clair College SportsPlex for a field hospital for Windsor Regional Hospital in the event of a COVID-19 surge, Friday, April 3, 2020.

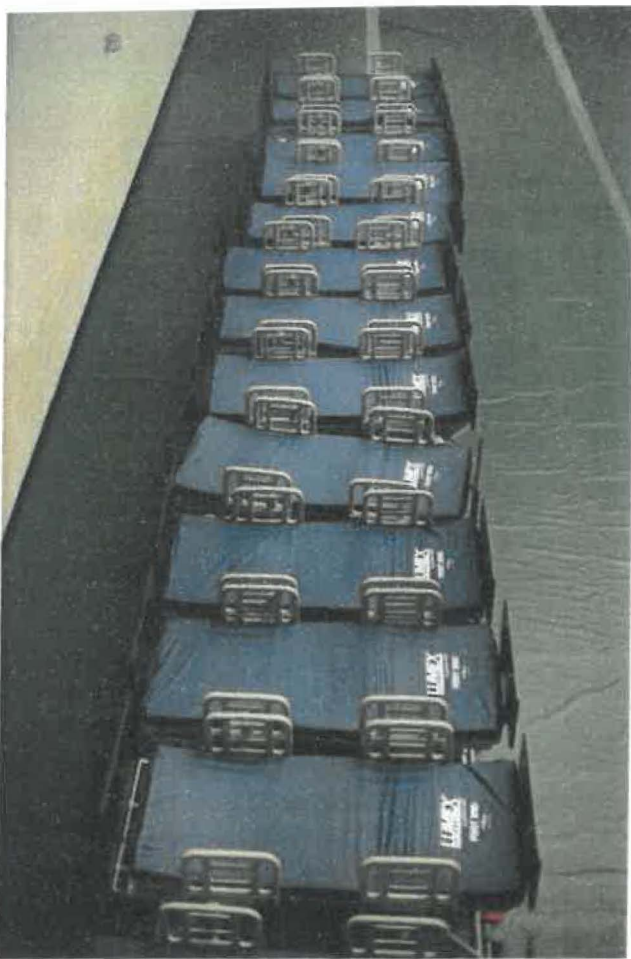
The transformation has begun to turn St. Clair College's SportsPlex into a field hospital for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The stand-alone athletic facility on the main campus will be used for additional space for Windsor Regional Hospital in case there's a surge of patients. The transformation will be phased approach over the next week. The plan is use it to treat up to 100 low-acuity COVID-19 patients for the recovery phase of their treatments.

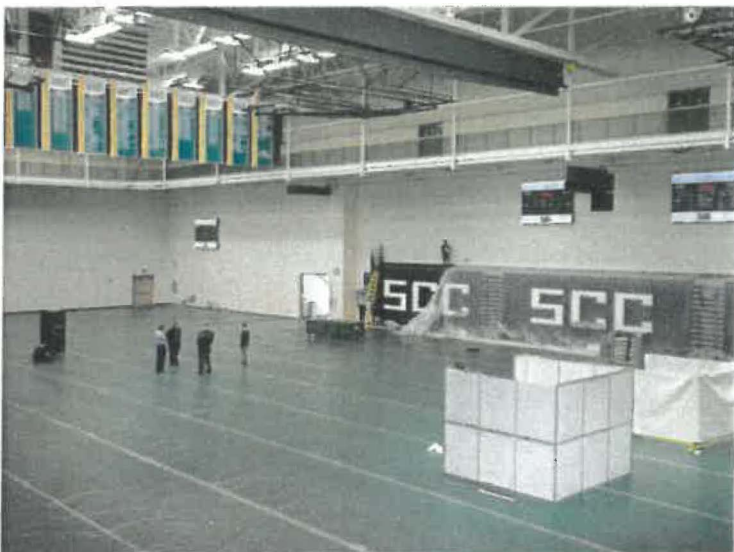
The number of COVID-19 cases in Ontario is projected to surge beginning as early as Sunday. So the local hospital system is quickly moving to free up space.

Windsor Regional has freed up 250 of its beds by cancelling elective procedures and moving less ill patients to Hotel-Dieu Grace HealthCare, a non-acute care hospital. It has also brought in 109 additional beds.

The hospital has dramatically increased its number of ICU beds to 83 from 49 and the number of negative pressure rooms to 58 from 27 to prepare.



Hospital beds are seen as crews prepare the St. Clair College SportsPlex for a field hospital for Windsor Regional Hospital in the event of a COVID-19 surge, Friday, April 3, 2020.



Crews prepare the St. Clair College SportsPlex for a field hospital for Windsor Regional Hospital in the event of a COVID-19 surge, Friday, April 3, 2020.

Respiratory therapist student prepares to start career amid COVID-19

Sarah Khan hasn't graduated yet, but has received an emergency graduate licence to get to work

CBC News · Posted: Apr 05, 2020



While the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic rages on, the College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario says it's fast-tracking the certification to get students into hospitals as quickly and safely as possible.

St. Clair College respiratory therapist (RT) student Sarah Khan hasn't technically graduated just yet.

As a result of the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, however, Khan and more than 110 RT students like her across the province will soon be on the front lines, working with other health-care staff to save lives.

That's because the College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario is fast-tracking the certification of RT students, as a means of adding more bodies to help care for patients, providing emergency graduate licensure to any student in the province who is within 10 weeks of graduating.

"They're pulling retired RTs and they're pulling RTs that are just about the graduate, and graduating them just to be placed on the front lines," Khan said.



Sarah Khan is a respiratory therapist student at St. Clair College. Soon, she'll be one of more than 110 newly licensed respiratory therapists on the front lines against COVID-19.

Once licensed, Khan said she'll perform vital intubation and ventilation work to help patients suffering from COVID-19 get much needed air and oxygen. "[We're] going to be in charge of a ventilator and [we're] going to be establishing an airway into [patients that] are needed," Khan said. "It can be multiple different types of airways, and then we have to manage not only access to breathing, but we also have to look at the entire picture."

Khan, who has spent the last seven years studying to be an RT, said she's already spoken to her family about the risks associated with the work she'll soon perform.

"I'm living in a house with six people," she said. "We've prepared a quarantine room if things go south, and I feel it's my responsibility to do so. If things go bad, I have my quarantine room."

Hospitals are scrambling to secure more ventilators amid the coronavirus outbreak. A respiratory therapist explains how they work. 2:59

And even though Khan hasn't graduated just yet, Ed Dudan — manager of allied health services at Windsor Regional Hospital — said he's confident that Khan will know how to keep herself and others safe.

"We've impressed on them, even before this began, the importance of proper donning and doffing of personal protective equipment, the elements of hand hygiene, keeping themselves safe before anything else," he said.

"A lot of what we do is urgent in its nature, so we have to rush into rooms, but in efforts to keep safe and to make sure that we're not spreading this any further, those elements are very, very crucial."

TESTING TO BEGIN ON COVID-19 FIELD HOSPITAL AT ST. CLAIR COLLEGE

AM800 CKLW – April 7, 2020



St. Clair College Sportsplex (by AM800's Peter Langille)

Progress is being made to transform the St. Clair College SportsPlex in Windsor into a field hospital to handle patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Windsor Regional Hospital reached an agreement with the college on April 2 to use the space to handle a possible surge in patients.

Work has been underway since then to build walls to create up to 100 bed spaces in the facility at 2000 Talbot Rd.

Windsor Regional Hospital Vice President of Critical Care and Director of Infection Control, Karen Riddell, expects it to take ten days to complete work on the first 30 spaces.

Speaking on AM800's The Morning Drive, Riddell said they're going to be running simulations this week to make sure they have everything they need.

"As you can image there's a lot of work to be done, running electricity to each room, portable sinks, computers, faxes, printers," she says. "So it's a huge project and it's coming together very, very quickly."



St. Clair Sportsplex in Windsor, Ont., on Friday, April 3, 2020. (Rich Garton / CTV Windsor)

Riddell, says the Sportsplex could house a mix of non-isolated and isolated patients.

"We predict that we'll be having patients in their convalescent period of hospitalization, whatever the reason might be. Maybe they're not quite ready to go home yet or can't go home for whatever reason, so we can move them out of the hospital into a lower acuity setting," she says.

Riddell adds that right now they have very good patient capacity in the hospital but they want to plan for the worst, that way if they do need additional space, they're not scrambling at the last-minute.

College And University Donate To Windsor Regional Hospital COVID-19 Fight

WindsoriteDOTca news – Tuesday April 7th,2020



Student government groups and alumni associations from St. Clair College and the University of Windsor are each donating \$50,000 to help Windsor Regional Hospital with the purchase of new ventilators in the immediate fight against COVID-19.

University of Windsor President Robert Gordon said the University is pleased to be able to work cooperatively with colleagues and friends at St. Clair College during this uncertain and difficult time in our region's history.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has brought together our entire university community – including our students and alumni – to provide support to our essential front-line healthcare workers at Windsor Regional Hospital," he said. "We owe all these dedicated individuals an incredible debt of gratitude, and we thank each and every one of them for their contributions every single day. Together we will get through this."

St. Clair College President Patti France said the entire St. Clair family of staff, students and alumni is involved in the crucially important effort to offer support.

"A community-wide threat requires a community-wide response, and St. Clair will be doing whatever it possibly can to help, from now until this crisis is resolved," she said. "If we have the ability to help and assist the medical community at this critical time, we're going to do just that."

St. Clair College, University of Windsor support frontline workers

Blackburn News - April 8, 2020 8:15am

Windsor Regional Hospital will have another \$100,000 to buy personal protective equipment and medical supplies after a large donation from the University of Windsor and St. Clair College.

Student groups and alumni associations at both post-secondary schools also chipped in.

Half of the money comes from St. Clair College, while the other half is from the university.

"A community-wide threat requires a community-wide response," said College President Patti France. "If we have the ability to help and assist the medical community at this critical time, we're going to do just that."

Kiara Clement is the president of the St. Clair College Student Representative Council.

"We can't supply volunteers, but we can help to furnish the essential equipment needed by our hospital heroes as they combat this threat," she said.

At the University of Windsor Students' Alliance, President Jeremiah Bowers said his organization wanted to do its part.

"Windsor has always been strongest when we're looking out for each other," he said. "This is what being Windsor Proud is all about."

U of Windsor, St. Clair College donate \$100K to COVID-19 fight

Windsor Star – April 8, 2020



Registered nurses are shown on March 24, 2020, preparing for patients at the COVID-19 assessment clinic at Windsor Regional Hospital's Ouellette campus. NICK BRANCACCIO / Windsor Star

Several groups from the University of Windsor and St. Clair College have joined forces and will contribute \$100,000 towards medical equipment and support at Windsor Regional Hospital to assist with the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

The university and college will be donating \$50,000 each which will be used primarily to help the hospital with the purchase of new ventilators for patients infected with coronavirus.

Aiding in the contribution are student government groups and alumni associations from both local post-secondary school institutions.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has brought together our entire university community — including our students and alumni — to provide support to our essential front-line health-care workers at Windsor Regional Hospital," Robert Gordon, the university's president, said in a news release.

"We owe all these dedicated individuals an incredible debt of gratitude and we thank each and every one of them for their contributions every single day. Together we will get through this."

St. Clair College president Patti France said that the entire St. Clair family of staff, students and alumni came together to offer financial support.

"A community-wide threat requires a community-wide response and St. Clair will be doing whatever it possibly can to help, from now until this crisis is resolved," she said. "If we have the ability to help and assist the medical community at this critical time, we're going to do just that."

Windsor Regional Hospital president David Musyj said the hospital remains grateful to all those in the local community for their ongoing support during the pandemic crisis.

"We are fortunate to have two great partners in St Clair College and the University of Windsor coming forward at this difficult time," he said. "Their efforts to help the most vulnerable in our community and support the frontline workers at WRH is appreciated."

Jeremiah Bowers, president of the University of Windsor Students' Alliance, said his student government wanted to do its part to contribute to the community's fight against COVID-19.

"Windsor has always been strongest when we're looking out for each other and this is no different," he said. "The university, college, alumni and student associations coming together — this is what being Windsor Proud is all about."

St. Clair College HealthPlex to serve as field hospital to help with COVID pandemic

Chatham Daily News - April 9, 2020



The Chatham-Kent Health Alliance will soon be running a field hospital at a St. Clair College facility as a “last resort” to deal with COVID-19, the hospital’s president and CEO said Thursday.

In a conference call with media, Lori Marshall said the HealthPlex site at the Thames campus will have 40 beds available for the “least acute” patients if they are needed.

“(It) will only be used in the event that every other bed in a hospital site is in use,” she said. “We have to look to see who is the most well among those patients who still require some degree of hospitalization. They would then be moved to the field hospital in order to make room for our more acute patients.”

A news release from the health alliance said the field hospital will be set up over the next week. Marshall said they are going to set it up as fast as possible, but it “will take some time.”

The health alliance has hired Bob Crawford, the former fire and paramedic chief for Chatham-Kent, to direct the logistics of opening the site.

Marshall said Crawford has “extensive experience” in emergency planning in Canada and internationally.

“Given the time constraints, we went essentially to Bob to see if he was available to help us, knowing that he has a great deal of experience in this particular area, and fortunately, he identified that he would be willing and also available to assist us with this,” she said.

St. Clair College had already offered its SportsPlex facility in Windsor as a field hospital for Windsor Regional Hospital. Marshall said that agreement “paved the way” for using the Chatham facility.

“It has a large, open area in the gym,” Marshall said. “It has the ability to bring equipment, beds and things in very easily. It has showers and bathrooms that would be appropriate for patient use, and it also has a separate area that would be appropriate for staff and physician use.”

Staffing for the hospital will likely come from the Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network’s Home and Community Care contracts, Marshal said.

The beds and other equipment will be borrowed or rented, she added.

“It will be a combination potentially of hospital beds, stretchers or cots that would be in place and ... there would be some infrastructure around that would court those least acute patients that the hospital would need,” she said.

Some of that equipment would include “some form of monitoring and some form of IV pumps ... but it will not have a great deal of equipment brought over,” said Marshall.

St. Clair College president Patti France, in a statement, said educational facilities need to take a “back seat” to the health of the community.

“As it turned out, I suppose it is fitting that we had named this athletic facility the ‘HealthPlex’ because it will certainly assume a medical role now,” she said. “We are at the disposal of our local health-care heroes. If there is anything else that St. Clair can provide in terms of facilities, services or expertise, it is there for the asking.”

Additionally, the health alliance has already grown its capacity by 46 beds – four of which are critical level care – at the Chatham site, the news release said.

Marshall said the provincial government is allowing for these types of facilities or to use hotel rooms for patients.

“There is a broader plan ensuring that we have capacity across our region in order to be able to respond to the pandemic.”

UPDATE: St. Clair College HealthPlex in Chatham will host CK field hospital



Photo via CKHA. April 9, 2020.

Blackburn News - April 9, 2020 11:54am

A location for the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance field hospital has been finalized.

CKHA announced Thursday afternoon the field hospital will be located at the St. Clair College HealthPlex in Chatham after a deal was reached.

CKHA CEO Lori Marshall said the field hospital will be open as soon as possible and will have the capacity to treat up to 40 recovering patients, which could include patients recovering from the virus.

“We are preparing for a potential influx of patients and creating capacity in Chatham-Kent. This will help address challenges for hospitals across the province,” said Lori Marshall, president and CEO of CKHA. “Our hope is that we do not have to move any patients to our field hospital but we are making these preparations for the possible scenario that we receive an influx locally or if we are required to take additional patients from outside our municipality.”

Marshall is quick to point out the field hospital will be used as a last resort.

She told reporters during a conference call that St. Clair College made sense because it’s large and has shower facilities.

Marshall also said employees with the Local Health Integration Network Home and Community Care will staff the field hospital.

She said equipment for the field hospital will be rented or borrowed and won’t be moved from the Chatham hospital.

During a news conference on Thursday morning, Marshall said final negotiations were underway.

Marshall said last week a field hospital was under consideration in Chatham-Kent in case there is an overflow of patients at the Chatham hospital during an expected COVID-19 surge. She said work was underway to determine if there is a suitable spot for a field hospital in the area.

CKHA already has 46 extra beds at its Chatham hospital and has cancelled non-emergency and elective surgeries allowing the hospital to redeploy 40 nurses to other areas during the pandemic.

Former CK fire chief Bob Crawford will handle the logistics and is working with other organizations to set up the field hospital.

“Bob is well known in Chatham-Kent as the former chief, Fire and Paramedic Services. In addition to this, Bob has extensive experience in Emergency Planning in Canada and internationally. Bob's skills, knowledge and experience will be critical in the planning and set up of the Field Hospital to serve our community,” said Marshall.

Crawford has been hired until the end of May.

CKHA has also announced that the COVID-19 assessment centre in Chatham next to the hospital will remain open this Easter long weekend.

UPDATE: ST. CLAIR TO CONVERT HEALTHPLEX IN CHATHAM INTO FIELD HOSPITAL

AM800 CKLW - Thursday, April 9th 2020



An undated photo of St. Clair College's HealthPlex at 1001 Grand Ave. W. in Chatham.

St. Clair College will be opening a second field hospital to help deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, this time in Chatham-Kent.

The college announced that it came to an agreement with the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance Thursday. According to college President Patti France, the plan is to turn its HealthPlex into a field hospital for 40 patients in the recovery phase of their treatment.

St. Clair *is already converting its SportPlex into field hospital* in Windsor to prepare for a "worst case scenario." France says the motivation in Chatham-Kent is the same.

"We hope that they don't have to use our sites in Windsor or in Chatham, but to be proactive they wanted to make sure that they were ready from a pandemic perspective to have the space and the beds if a worst case scenario does happen," she says.

Work is already underway, according to France.

"They will be responsible for security and all of that. Obviously we'll do everything we can to help, but that space is already theirs. We're just trying to sort out how we can help them from a facilities perspective and an IT [Information Technology] perspective," added France.

She tells AM800 News the college will continue to do what it can to help.

"We're very proud to support and help Chatham-Kent Health Alliance and all health care workers in this battle against COVID," she says.

France says it will take a week to get the field hospital set up

St. Clair women's basketball adds size to roster with addition of Whiteye

Windsor Star – April 11, 2020



St. Clair assistant women's basketball coach Phil Milanis (at left), and head coach Andy Kiss (at right) welcome new recruit Gabrielle 'Gabi' Whiteye (centre)

Head coach Andy Kiss is looking to upsize his St. Clair Saints women's basketball roster for the 2020-21 season.

After back-to-back silver medals at the OCAA championship, Kiss has gotten started on that plan with the recruitment addition of five-foot-11 Gabrielle 'Gabi' Whiteye, who played club basketball for the Wallaceburg Airhawks as well as at Wallaceburg high school.

"Gabby has some size and one of our issues has been a lack of size," Kiss said. "She has hybrid skills. She can play guard or forward."

The 17-year-old Whiteye helped Wallaceburg to an OFSAA girls' AA basketball title in 2018 and had offers from six different colleges, but opted to join the Saints.

"St. Clair, I know, has a good nursing program," Whiteye said of her field of study. "Plus, the basketball team has been good for many years and I just feel better joining a team that's going to continue to get better."

Whiteye was a high school teammate of Saints' guard Meghan Zelina, who is headed into her second season. She's also familiar with Sarnia native Keirsten Tomkins along with sisters Logan Kucera and Jana Kucera.

"I've been scoring in double digits all year and I'm nervous a bit, but also excited," Whiteye said. "I went down (to Windsor) for a couple of games and the atmosphere seems really good."

But Kiss feels Whiteye will bring more than just talent and athleticism to the Saints.

"She fills a need for us, but one of the things I like, and it's an intangible, is that she comes across as someone with leadership qualities and is community minded, which kind of fits what we are here," Kiss said. "There's more to her than just a student-athlete."

"Her complete level is high and those kids are compatible with my coaching style and we're excited to bring her aboard."

Sports briefs: basketball, hockey, golf, cross-country, lacrosse

Basketball player Gabi Whiteye of Wallaceburg has signed with St. Clair College for the 2020-21 season.

Chatham Daily News - April 13, 2020



Gabi Whiteye of Wallaceburg, Ont., is welcomed to the St. Clair Saints women's basketball team by head coach Andy Kiss, right, and assistant coach Phil Milanis. (Contributed Photo)

Whiteye signs with Saints

Basketball player Gabi Whiteye of Wallaceburg has signed with St. Clair College for the 2020-21 season.

The five-foot-10 guard/forward helped the Wallaceburg Tartans win the 2018 OFSAA 'AA' girls' championship.

"Gabi has a great motor and competitive edge, which is an excellent fit for our pressing and up-tempo style," Saints head coach Andy Kiss said. "She also brings intangible qualities like leadership and community-mindedness with a maturity beyond her years. We are thrilled she has chosen St. Clair."

Whiteye plans to study nursing at St. Clair, which has won two straight silver medals at the OCAA championship.

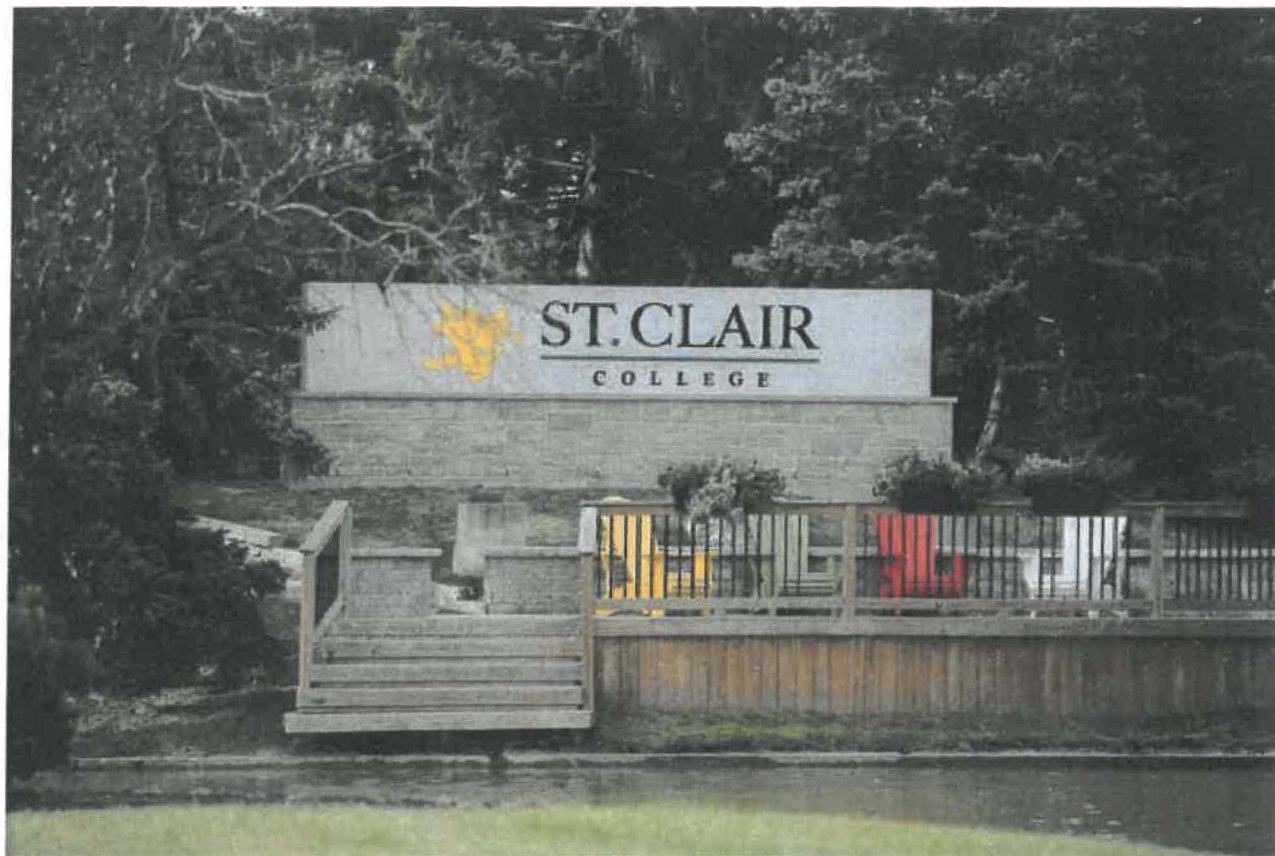
"St. Clair, I know, has a good nursing program," Whiteye said to the Windsor Star. "Plus, the basketball team has been good for many years and I just feel better joining a team that's going to continue to get better."

The Saints' roster also includes Chatham's Logan Kucera and Jana Kucera and Tartans alumna Meghan Zelina.

"I've been scoring in double digits all year and I'm nervous a bit, but also excited," Whiteye said. "I went down (to Windsor) for a couple of games and the atmosphere seems really good."

St. Clair Spring Convocation Moved To October

WindsoriteDOTca News – Monday April 13th,2020



St. Clair College has moved spring convocation ceremonies that were scheduled for June 8th to 13th to the fall convocation ceremonies in October.

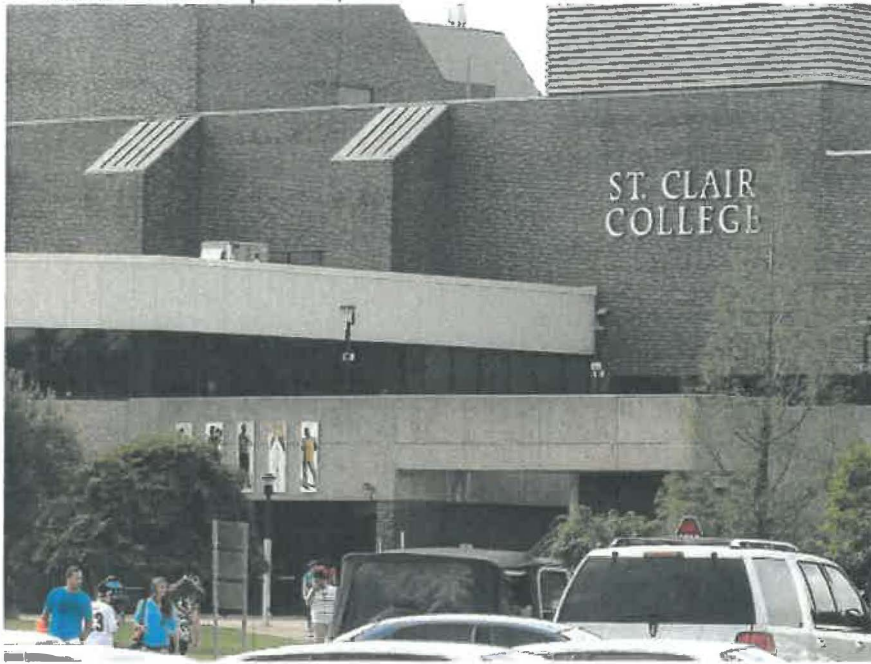
The annual academic excellence awards banquet scheduled for May has also been cancelled.

Students who achieved academic distinction in their programs, recognized for student leadership or attained a faculty academic award will be receiving official written communication by mail.

In June, St. Clair College will mail College credentials, liripipes and alumni pins to all students who are graduating.

St. Clair College, school boards save dual-credit courses

Windsor Star – April 13, 2020



The main building of the St. Clair College campus at 2000 Talbot Rd. is shown in this September 2012 file photo. JASON KRYK / Windsor Star

Administration and instructors at St. Clair College have come up with innovative ways to save the winter semester for those high school students taking dual-credit courses.

"I'm a little tired of being creative," said St. Clair's director of student services Art Barron, with a laugh recently.

Barron noted there are 484 students across four school boards — Greater Essex County District, Windsor Essex Catholic, Lambton Kent and St. Clair Catholic — who would normally travel each Thursday to St. Clair campuses in Windsor and Chatham for a course that enables them to earn both a high school and college credit.

In the fight against the coronavirus, the Ministry of Education first extended the March break for high school students by two additional weeks and then cancelled all face-to-face classes until May 4.

The ministry asked boards across the province to launch teacher-directed online learning this week.

"So we restarted dual-credit courses this week and decided to follow suit and put all our course on line," Barron said.

One of the biggest challenges facing college instructors is the fact that most of the 28 dual-credit courses are primarily hands-on learning.

"We have a large range of courses so that it appeals to a wide range of students and some of those courses fit perfectly into online learning and others do not," Barron said.

Students can take courses in baking and pastry, celebrating diversity, design illustration or skilled trades to name a few.

For predominantly hands-on courses such as baking and welding, Barron said the college worked with the ministry to "do a blended learning model."

Since the dual-credit semester started in February, students already had 15 hours of coursework completed.

"We've counted that time and moved students into a related course so they can finish the semester and not lose out on the credit," Barron said.

So students in the baking a pastry class have transitioned to a course on hospitality career development and placement while welding and electrical trade students are now studying safety and trends in the trades.

The dual-credit semester ends June 4 and plans are to stick with that timeline, Barron said.

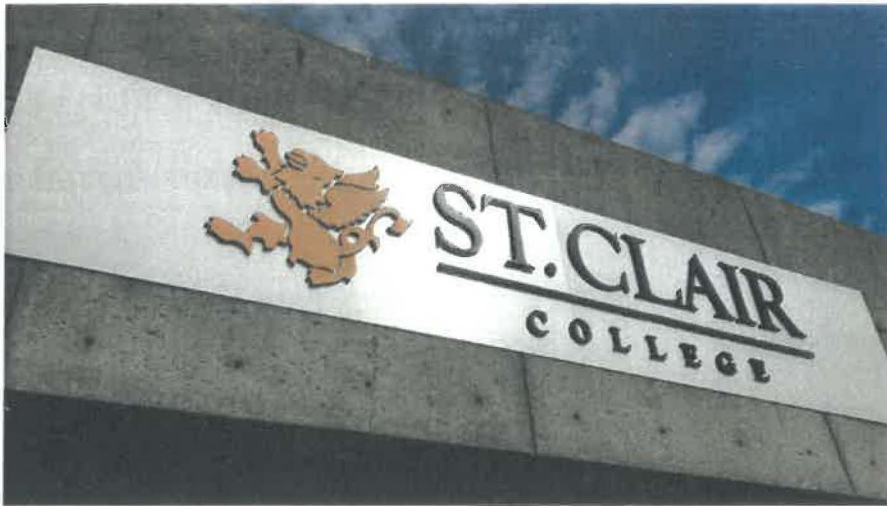
Instead of 400 plus students trying to do online work Thursdays, instructors send out assignments at the beginning of the week and are available daily either by video chat or email.

Barron said the money being saved on student transportation has been redirected to help those in need of mobile technology or Wi-Fi supports.

"We've getting creative because we want every student to have the opportunity to finish the semester if they want to."

St. Clair College cancels June convocation ceremonies

CTV - Tuesday, April 14, 2020



The entrance to St. Clair College's main campus in Windsor. Photo taken August 22, 2019.

WINDSOR, ONT. -- St. Clair College is cancelling the spring convocation ceremonies due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ceremonies were scheduled for June 8-13. College officials say all spring graduates are invited to participate in the fall convocation ceremonies in October.

The Annual Academic Excellence Awards banquet scheduled for May has also been cancelled.

Students who have achieved academic distinction, been recognized for student leadership or attained a faculty academic award will be receiving official written communication for the honour by mail.

In June, St. Clair College will mail students the college credential, liri pipe and alumni pin to all those who are graduating.

Potential graduates can go to the convocation [FAQ page](#) and review the questions posted. Email the college at convocation@stclaircollege.ca with any of questions or concerns.

College officials say they are committed to providing the opportunity to celebrate at a convocation. The details about the October convocation ceremonies will be shared with as soon as they are confirmed.

Saints eyeing gold after locals Wiebe, Hearn, Yuen join women's volleyball team along with three others

Windsor Star – April 15, 2020



Sandwich's Lilly Hearn is one of six players set to join the St. Clair Saints women's volleyball team for the 2020-21 OCAA season. makes a play at the DAX MELMER / Windsor Star

Left-side hitter Helen Wiebe is set to the return to the St. Clair Saints women's volleyball team and hopes her final season will be a memorable one.

The 25-year-old Wiebe was one of six additions for the 2020-21 OCAA season announced by head St. Clair coach Jimmy El-Turk on Wednesday.

"Honestly, I've met some of the girls and seen some of them play and, with some of the new recruits, I'm confident this is a team capable of (an OCAA) gold medal and a national medal," the six-foot-one Wiebe said.

Wiebe played four seasons with the Saints from 2012-16 and led the OCAA in kills per set in her third season.

"This year, I really started to miss it," said Wiebe, who is a Leamington high school product set to do her post-graduate certificate in human resource management. "I thought I was done and hanging up my shoes, but my love for volleyball started to grown again in new ways."

Joining Wiebe for next season is Sandwich high school product Lilly Hearn along with Massey high school grad Ashley Yuen, who is moving over after a year at the University of Windsor. Those three locals players are set to join the Saints along with Whitby's Sarah Dobinson, Waterloo's Kelly Rodgers and Milton's Crystyn James.

"I think the roster just continues to improve every season," El-Turk said. "We keep adding more and more athletes with big-game experience.

"I think we're getting closer and closer to being the most talented offensive team in the league. The expectation is we have to win. That's the roster we feel we've constructed and we have to make it happen."

A middle hitter, the six-foot Hearn was a WECSSAA all-star at Sandwich high school and played club with South County.

"All the girls were really welcoming, nice and encouraging that that's awesome and I love Jimmy's coaching style," Hearn said. "He's calm, but knows what to say and it'll impact the game."

A setter, the five-foot-seven Yuen did not play volleyball at the University of Windsor, but is excited to get back on the court.

"I missed volleyball," said Yuen, who also played club for South County. "With all the craziness my first year of university, I thought it was better to step back from volleyball, but I'm really excited."

Dobinson is finishing a degree at York University and also played NCAA Division I at Niagara University. The six-foot-one outside hitter also experience with Team Ontario.

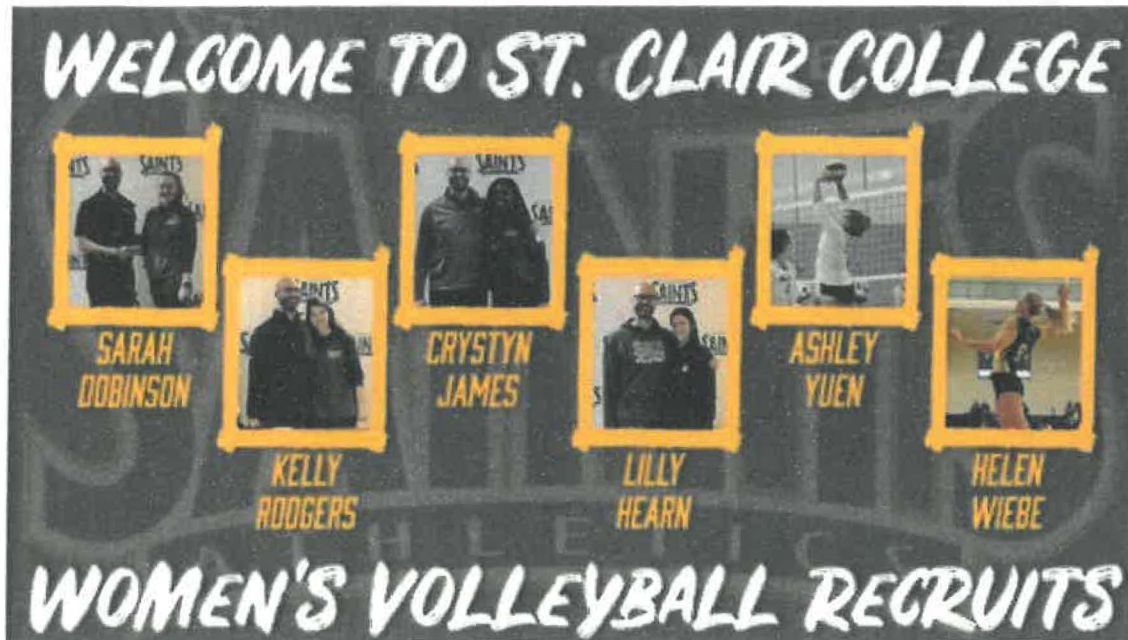
"Both Sarah and Helen fell into our lap," El-Turk said. "Sarah emailed me, 'I'm coming, my family's moving to Windsor and I'm coming to St. Clair and here's my history.' She's a very talented athlete."

The six-foot-two Rodgers and the six-foot James both play in the middle and also have experience playing with Team Ontario.

"We were looking for three middles, which we were fortunate to get all three in the same class, and a setter and all are very talented," El-Turk said. "The group of middles, we'll need to come in right away and both Kelly and Kristen have experience as former Team Ontario athletes."

SAINTS ADD SIX VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS

AM800 CKLW – APRIL 16, 2020



(photo courtesy of St Clair College)

The St. Clair College women's volleyball program has added six top recruits for the 2020-21 season.

The women that will be joining the program are Sarah Dobinson, Helen Wiebe, Kelly Rodgers, Crystyn James, Lilly Hearn and Ashley Yuen.

Three of the players are from the Windsor area, including Wiebe, a 6'1 outside hitter from Leamington.

Hearn is from LaSalle where she is graduating from Sandwich Secondary School. The 5'10 middle also has played with South County Volleyball Club.

Yuen is a Windsor native who graduated from Massey Secondary before attending the University of Windsor for a year. The 5'5 setter also has played for the South County Volleyball Club.

St. Clair finished the 2019-20 regular season with a record of 13-5 and won bronze at the OCAA Championship.

The Saints were ranked as high as 3rd in the OCAA during the season and were ranked as high as 13th in Canada

FIELD HOSPITAL AT ST. CLAIR COLLEGE SPORTSPLEX SOON READY FOR PATIENTS

AM800 CKLW – April 16, 2020



St. Clair College's SportsPlex is being transformed into a field hospital. April 2020 (Courtesy of Windsor Regional Hospital)

A field hospital at St. Clair College's SportsPlex is nearly ready for patients.

Windsor Regional Hospital ***announced earlier this month*** the facility would be transformed to care for a possible surge in patients due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Since then, crews have been putting up partitions, adding necessary plumbing, lighting and implementing food services.

Speaking on AM800's the Morning Drive, Hospital Vice President of Critical Care Karen Riddell says the physical work is now complete and the hospital will be running simulations on accepting patients, caring for them and discharging them.

She says it will be all hands on deck for today's test run.

"We are going to have our EMS partners, hospital staff, physicians, administration team and of course our support team and facilities and we are going to make sure we are going to be able to provide the best care possible," she says.

The field hospital came together through what Riddell called, "a lot of intense work."

"I was there most of the day yesterday and there were 100 people in the building pulling everything together from lighting to electricity to food services and it is an incredible amount of work," added Riddell.

As the number of people being tested increases, Riddell expects more positive COVID-19 patients.

As of now, she says there is a 'good capacity' in the acute care setting at the hospital, but there are concerns coming from long-term care homes.

Hospital CEO David Musyj says if the field hospital isn't necessary for local patients, it could be used for patients outside of the region.

COVID- 19 Patients From Windsor Essex Long Term Care Homes Being Moved To Field Hospital

WindsoriteDOTca News – Friday, April 17th,2020



Windsor Regional Hospital is set to open its 100-bed field hospital at St. Clair College for COVID-19 patients Saturday, and the field hospital will be initially used for residents of local long-term-care and retirement homes who have tested positive for COVID-19.

Hospital officials say the goal is to provide a specialized setting where residents being transferred from long-term care and retirement homes can be provided with the best care.

“This decision allows us to remove these LTC residents away from the outbreak to the Sportsplex facility where they can receive safe medical care by WRH staff, while at the same time protecting those that remain in the facility, including staff at the home,” said WRH President and CEO David Musyj.

Officials say the first group of patients transferred to the field hospital will come from Heron Terrace in East Windsor. They say Essex-Windsor EMS will be providing transport for the patients. Hospital officials say other long-term care home residents with COVID-19 will then be moved to the field hospital.

“This plan will allow us to continue to provide our residents with the care that they need and deserve, and assist in our battle to stem the spread of COVID-19,” stated Amy Sworik, Administrator, Heron Terrace. “I cannot be more proud of our staff at Heron Terrace. Together with the Windsor Regional Hospital team we will be better able to protect both our residents and staff.”

“I have been involved in the preparation and operation of many field hospitals. I can inform you what the team has assembled here is more than that. It is in impressive clinical facility that along with our clinical and non- clinical teams will provide exceptional care for our most vulnerable population,” said Dr. Paul Bradford, Trauma Lead and Emergency Department physician at Windsor Regional Hospital, and Senior Area Medical Officer, SW Ontario Area Field Operations, Veteran Affairs Canada.

UPDATED: COVID-19 field hospital at St. Clair College will take in first patients on Saturday

Windsor Star – April 17, 2020



Staff preparing the Windsor Regional Hospital's field hospital at the St. Clair College SportsPlex are shown on Friday, April 17, 2020. DAN JANISSE / Windsor Star

Windsor Regional Hospital's COVID-19 field hospital — built at St. Clair College with advice from the Canadian army — will start housing sick patients this weekend.

The first field hospital up and running in Ontario to fight the virus, it will mainly be used to house and segregate COVID-19 patients from long-term care and retirement homes.

After successes with social distancing and keeping hospital admissions low on the “front end of the war,” hospital CEO David Musyj said it’s now vital to focus on blunting the virus’s assault on long-term care homes.



Windsor Regional Hospital's field hospital at the St. Clair College SportsPlex is shown on Friday, April 17, 2020. DAN JANISSE/Windsor Star

Of the 21 reported COVID-19 deaths in Windsor-Essex by Friday, 14 were at long-term care and retirement homes.

“What’s happening is this flank manoeuvre that’s happening during the war that’s coming at us from long-term care and retirement homes,” said Musyj. “That vulnerable population, this COVID searches for that. This virus searches for that population and has found it. Unfortunately, that could ricochet back and get us on the front end.”

The hospital struck an agreement earlier this month to use St. Clair College’s SportsPlex, a standalone athletic facility on the main campus, as a field hospital during the pandemic.



Staff preparing the Windsor Regional Hospital’s field hospital at the St. Clair College SportsPlex are shown on Friday, April 17, 2020. DAN JANISSE/Windsor Star

The Canadian army helped the hospital pick the location and gave advice about setting it up.

In less than two weeks, the SportsPlex has been transformed into a 100-bed hospital.

“I have been involved in the preparation and operation of many field hospitals,” said Dr. Paul Bradford, the hospital’s trauma lead and emergency department physician, and a senior area medical officer for field operations with Veteran Affairs Canada. “I can inform you what the team has assembled here is more than that. It is an impressive clinical facility that along with our clinical and nonclinical teams will provide exceptional care for our most vulnerable population.”

Crews had to run plumbing and electricity into the building’s main gymnasium to support the field hospital. Windsor Regional’s new “campus” also has computerized drug systems, nurse stations, a lab and pharmacy.



Windsor Regional Hospital's field hospital at the St. Clair College SportsPlex is shown on Friday, April 17, 2020. DAN JANISSE/Windsor Star

Every room has its own bed, chairs, lighting system, nurse call system, IV equipment, personal protective equipment and an iPad or Android device so patients can watch TV and connect with loved ones.

A total of 55 hospital staff will care for the patients.

"In effect you're in a hospital ward," said Musyj. "It's no different than walking into Windsor Regional Hospital Ouellette or Met campus."

Dr. Wajid Ahmed, Essex County's medical officer of health, said local health-care leaders have been trailblazers in the province by moving to create a field hospital so quickly.

"It is something that has not opened up anywhere else," he said. "There has been some conversation, but we would be the first one that is actually moving forward at a rapid pace compared to others."

The field hospital is focussing on retirement and long-term care home patients so they can be better cared for while reducing pressure on the overwhelmed facilities.



Staff preparing the Windsor Regional Hospital's field hospital at the St. Clair College SportsPlex are shown on Friday, April 17, 2020. DAN JANISSE/Windsor Star

Musyj said it's also important to separate COVID-19 patients from the other residents and staff in the homes.

"By trying to stem the tide of this and segregate the population as best as possible in this setting it will hopefully stem the tide of COVID from spreading back to our community," he said.

COVID-19 has taken a frightening toll in care homes, in some cases with asymptomatic patients unknowingly spreading the virus to fellow residents.

Country Village Homes has been the hardest hit. On Friday, the tally there had risen to 64 confirmed COVID-19 positive residents and 20 infected staff, according to the health unit.

Heron Terrace had 22 patients with COVID-19 on Friday and 13 staff.

AMICA at Windsor had 17 residents and nine staff members who had tested positive. Lifetimes on Riverside had 11 residents and six staff. Sun Parlour Home and Franklin Gardens each had one resident who tested COVID-19 positive, and Extencicare Southwood Lakes had one staff member.



Staff preparing the Windsor Regional Hospital's field hospital at the St. Clair College SportsPlex are shown on Friday, April 17, 2020. DAN JANISSE/Windsor Star

The first wave of residents to arrive at the field hospital will come from Heron Terrace in east Windsor. Paramedics with Essex-Windsor EMS, who tested the residents, will transport the patients.

The field hospital will take in 25 residents at a time, with about 50 patients moved in by Monday. As is the case currently at long-term care facilities, visitors will not be permitted.

"This plan will allow us to continue to provide our residents with the care that they need and deserve, and assist in our battle to stem the spread of COVID-19," said Heron Terrace administrator Amy Sworik. "I cannot be more proud of our staff at Heron Terrace. Together with the Windsor Regional Hospital team we will be better able to protect both our residents and staff."



Staff preparing the Windsor Regional Hospital's field hospital at the St. Clair College SportsPlex are shown on Friday, April 17, 2020. DAN JANISSE/Windsor Star

St. Clair men's volleyball adds locals Kwiatkowski, Derksen and Certossi for 2020-21 season

Windsor Star - April 17, 2020



St. Clair Saints men's volleyball head coach Shawn Reaume added three more local recruits to his roster on Friday for the 2020-21 season. / jpg

Head coach Shawn Reaume continued to stack his recruiting class on Friday with the addition of three local products.

Essex high school products Nick Kwiatkowski and Jacob Derksen along with Belle River high school product Jonah Certossi will join the St. Clair Saints men's volleyball program for 2020-21.

"I really couldn't be happier," Reaume said Friday. "These three are huge.

"I've got strengths in all positions and now a strong overall squad that can make itself better in practice, too."

Friday's three additions join Sandwich high school outside hitter Marc Galipeau, Kennedy high school libero Ler Lar Hay along with Hamilton's Vaunn Smith, who can play multiple positions, and Kingston's Owen Kemp, who can play in the middle or outside. Those four committed to the program earlier this month.

"I've known Nick since high school," the 18-year-old Derksen said. "I also know Ler Lar, Marc and Jonah.

"Some of my travel team buddies are going there, too, so I know that the St. Clair men's team would be good and that I would have a lot of fun."

An outside hitter that can also play setter, the six-foot-one Derksen and the six-foot-two Kwiatkowski, who plays setter, have been to OFSAA the past two seasons.

"Watching the team while I was growing up really got me looking up to them," the 18-year-old Kwiatkowski said. "I remember attending a volleyball camp in grade school and

there being a few members from the team there and I thought it was the coolest thing. I've always looked up to the team and it's an honour to sign (with) such a great school."

All three players have experience with Reaume through the Sky Volley club program.

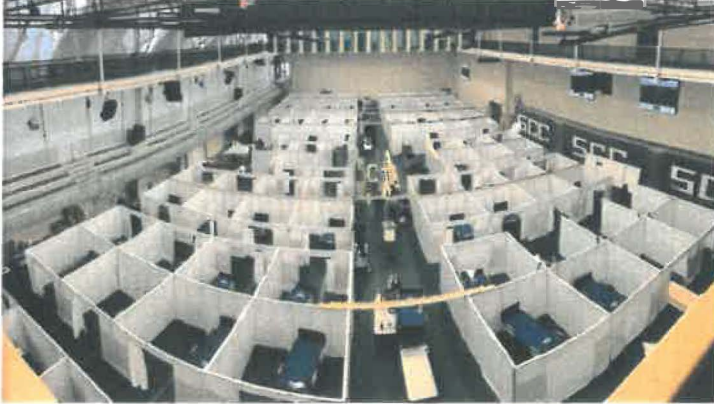
"I liked the idea of staying local and the opportunity to keep working with the same coaches that I've known for most of my time playing volleyball," said the six-foot-six Certossi, who is a middle hitter and won five Ontario Volleyball Association gold medals with the Sky Volley program.

The 17-year-old Certossi, who was a WECSSAA first-team all-star, is hoping to find the same success with the Saints.

"I'm really excited to join the program because I love the atmosphere at the SportsPlex and the players all seem like great guys," Certossi said. "I've had the chance to practice with a few of them and I have a feeling that we'll be able to make an impact in the OCAA over the next couple years."

Windsor field hospital set to open for long-term care and retirement residents

CTV Web Writer / Entertainment Reporter - Friday, April 17, 2020



Windsor field hospital at the St. Clair College Sportsplex in Windsor, Ont. (Courtesy Windsor Regional Hospital)

WINDSOR, ONT. -- Windsor Regional Hospital officials say they are set to open its field hospital at St. Clair College for COVID-19 patients on Saturday.

Hospital officials say the initial placement will be of residents who have tested positive for the COVID virus at local long-term care and retirement homes.

“This decision allows us to remove these LTC residents away from the outbreak to the Sportsplex facility where they can receive safe medical care by WRH staff, while at the same time protecting those that remain in the facility, including staff at the home,” said WRH president and CEO David Musyj.

The health unit says [there are seven outbreaks at LTC homes in Windsor-Essex.](#)

The goal is to provide a specialized setting where those residents being transferred from LTC and retirement homes can be provided with the best possible care.

This will in turn reduce the pressures being experience by local homes that have been impacted by COVID-19 outbreaks, and allow them to focus on the well-being of their other residents.

WRH officials say the first cohort of patients for the Sportsplex will come from Heron Terrace in east Windsor, involving residents there who tested positive for COVID-19

Essex-Windsor EMS, who tested the residents, will also arrange to safely transport them to the St. Clair College Sportsplex.

“This plan will allow us to continue to provide our residents with the care that they need and deserve, and assist in our battle to stem the spread of COVID-19,” said Amy Sworik, administrator at Heron Terrace. “I cannot be more proud of our staff at Heron Terrace. Together with the Windsor Regional Hospital team we will be better able to protect both our residents and staff.”



WRH reached an agreement with St. Clair College to use the College's SportsPlex, as announced on April 2. It is a stand-alone athletic facility on the main campus.

In just over two weeks, they have transformed the Sportsplex into a 100-bed hospital facility.

"I have been involved in the preparation and operation of many field hospitals," said Dr. Paul Bradford, Trauma Lead and Emergency Department physician at WRH. "I can inform you what the team has assembled here is more than that. It is an impressive clinical facility that along with our clinical and non-clinical teams will provide exceptional care for our most vulnerable population."

WRH officials say they will ramp up use of the Sportsplex facility by starting with Heron Terrace and then moving to other LTC homes where a COVID-19 outbreak has been identified.

The Sportsplex will be staffed by WRH employees and professional staff the same way we would staff a typical WRH in-patient unit. The Sportsplex will be able to care for 100 patients.

Similar to a long term care facility visitors will not be permitted. However, we will be using iPad or Android devices to help residents stay in touch with their loved ones.

WRH opening field hospital to patients



The field hospital at Windsor Regional Hospital. (Photo provided by Windsor Regional Hospital)
Blackburn News - April 17, 2020

Windsor Regional Hospital will start treating COVID-19 patients at the field hospital at St. Clair College on Saturday.

The first patients to be moved in are residents of the long-term care facility Heron Terrace who have tested positive for the virus.

“What we’ve been seeing is an increase of patients in our long term care facilities of COVID-19 and we really wanted to do something on an urgent basis to really give some support to our long-term care facilities that are struggling with the volume of cases, as well as health care workers being off sick and unable to work,” said Karen Riddell, vice president of critical care at Windsor Regional Hospital.

The Sportsplex will be staffed by Windsor Regional Hospital employees in the same way an in-patient unit at the hospital would be staffed. There is also a temporary lab and pharmacy on-site.

“Our commitment is to providing the same outstanding care to individuals at the Sportsplex as they would receive at either the Met or Ouellette Campus,” said David Musyj, CEO of Windsor Regional Hospital.

The field hospital has 100 beds available. Staff will ramp up the use of the facility starting with patients from Heron Terrace and then move on to other long-term care facilities facing an outbreak.

Visitors will not be allowed at the facility, however, residents will be encouraged to stay in touch with loved ones using tablets.

CBC Windsor April 18 COVID-19 update: Field hospital at St. Clair Sportsplex begins taking patients

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit provides a daily update

CBC News · Posted: Apr 18, 2020



The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit provides daily COVID-19 updates for our region.

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit reported three more deaths because of COVID-19 Saturday afternoon, bringing the total for the region to 24. All three individuals were residents in long term care who were over the age of 80.

As of Friday evening, the health unit said a total of 452 people had tested positive for the virus and 58 of those cases were resolved. A total of 3,631 people have been tested for COVID-19, the health unit said, and 697 are still waiting for results.

The health unit said 17 of the 24 deaths in the region are associated with long-term care and retirement homes.

While there have been outbreaks at nine of the facilities in all, it said it continues to monitor the situation at seven homes the region. It says 429 residents and staff have been tested at the facilities in the last week.

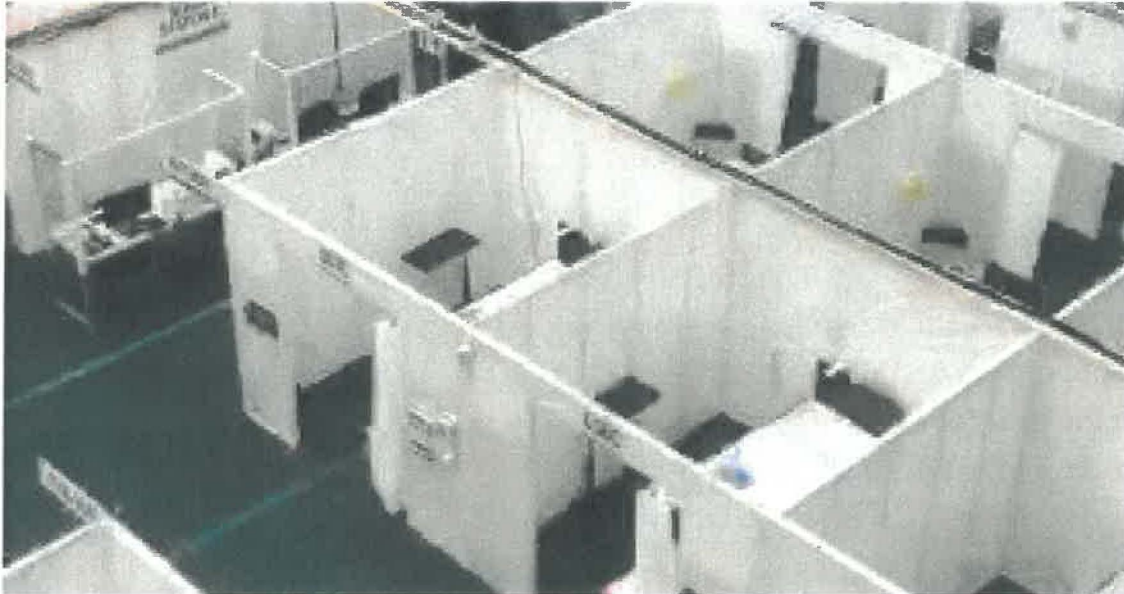
COVID-19 Outbreaks

Premise	Type	Date Declared	# of Residents	# of Staff	Date Resolved
Sun Parlour Home	LTCH	16-Apr-2020	1	0	
Franklin Gardens	LTCH	09-Apr-2020	1	0	
Extendicare Southwood Lakes	LTCH	06-Apr-2020	0	1	
Heron Terrace	LTCH	06-Apr-2020	24	14	
The Village at St. Clair	LTCH	04-Apr-2020	0	1	14-Apr-2020
Lifetimes on Riverside	RH	01-Apr-2020	11	6	
AMICA at Windsor	RH	01-Apr-2020	20	9	
Country Village Homes	LTCH	01-Apr-2020	64	21	

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit says it is monitoring outbreak situations at seven long term care facilities and retirement homes in the region. (WECHU)

Windsor Regional Hospital began taking patients at a field hospital at St. Clair college's Sportsplex on Saturday.

Here's a top level view of the St. Clair College field hospital that will start taking patients on Saturday. <https://twitter.com/i/broadcasts/1nAJEdybjGL> ...



Here's a top level view of the St. Clair College field hospital that will start taking patients on Saturday.

Chris Ensing @ChrisEnsingCBC

MORE COVID-19 PATIENTS BEING MOVED TO HOSPITAL AT ST. CLAIR COLLEGE

AM800 CKLW – April 20, 2020



Windsor Regional Hospital staff stand outside a temporary hospital on the campus of St. Clair College, just before they received 21 COVID-19 patients from the Heron Terrace long-term care home on Saturday, April 18, 2020 (Photo courtesy of Windsor Regional Hospital)

More COVID-19 patients are being moved to Windsor Regional Hospital's St. Clair College Campus. A field hospital set-up at the college received the first group of patients over the weekend, 21 in all, and at least seven more will be moved to the facility today.

Windsor Regional Hospital CEO David Musyj, told AM800's The Morning Drive that the 21 patients moved to the campus are from Heron Terrace, a long-term care home at 11550 McNorton St. in Windsor.

Musyj says a lot of communication has taken place between the staff and family members to make the move possible.

"Things have gone smoothly with respect to that. That has allowed Heron Terrace some relief to take care of the remaining residents and try to stem the tide of the spread in their facility," he says.

Musyj there's a lot of work ahead of every move which includes gathering information about the resident with respect to their history.

"Everyone is well aware of who's coming, a lot of reporting done to know exactly what their needs are, from a dietary point of view, from a medication point of view, from a clinical care point a view," he says. "Then the clinical team will do their own independent examinations of the residents."

The temporary hospital at St. Clair College **has 100 bed spaces available** to care for COVID-19 patients.

ST CLAIR IMPROVES VOLLEYBALL SQUAD

AM800 CKLW – April 20, 2020



(photo courtesy of St Clair College)

St. Clair College men's volleyball program has added three more top recruits for the 2020-21 season. Joining the program are Nick Kwiatkowski, Jonah Certossi and Jacob Derksen.

Kwiatkowski is from Essex District High School. The 6'2 setter is also a member of Sky Volley.

Second year head coach Shawn Reaume is excited to have Kwiatkowski join the team. "Nick has developed into a strong setter, showing that he can lead a team to OFSSAA more than once and also compete with the top club teams in Ontario. His experience in running a high level offense will translate positively and immediately for us."

Certossi attended Belle River District High School and was named a 1st Team All-City All Star. Jonah is a 6'6 middle who also plays for Sky Volley where he has earned five OVA gold medals.

Derksen is from Essex District High School where he was named MVP of the senior boys team in 2019. Derksen is 6'1 and can both set or play outside hitter.

Coach Reaume is looking forward to adding Derksen's versatility to the program. "Jacob is an impact player in multiple positions, bringing with him a high level of physicality and volleyball IQ. His time spent in the provincial program, competing in OFSSAA twice, and regularly playing against the top clubs teams in the province have made high skilled and high pressure situations the norm."

St. Clair finished the 2019-20 regular season with a record of 8-10 in the OCAA West Division ending up in 6th place. The Saints almost pulled off a huge upset in their crossover playoff match falling to the eventual bronze medal winning Georgian Grizzlies by a score of 3-2 dropping the 5th set 15-13. The Saints were ranked as high as 9th in the OCAA during the season.

with files from Jay Shewfelt St. Clair College

St. Clair College men's volleyball program has added three more top recruits for the 2020-21 season. Joining the program are Nick Kwiatkowski, Jonah Certossi and Jacob Derksen.

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Dozens of patients admitted to Windsor Regional Field Hospital

CTV Windsor News - Monday, April 20, 2020

WINDSOR, ONT. -- The Windsor Regional Field Hospital at the main campus of St. Clair College has been operational for a few days and already 28 patients have been admitted to the new COVID-19 specific facility.

Patients who previously lived at Heron Terrace Long-Term Care home in Windsor, but tested positive for the coronavirus have been moved into the temporary facility to help lighten the load at long-term care homes, a segment of the population hardest hit by COVID-19.

The field hospital at the Sportsplex has a current capacity of 100 patients, with the ability to expand the facility to handle as many as 300 beds, according to hospital officials.

As of Monday morning, seven long-term care and retirement homes in Windsor-Essex are experiencing outbreaks of COVID-19, including AMICA, Sun Parlour, Lifetimes on Riverside, Franklin Gardens, Extendicare Southwood Lakes, Heron Terrace and Country Village Homes. The oldest patient at the new field hospital is 99 years old. Some patients already admitted have significant co-morbidities.

"They're patients with multiple medical problems and need a lot of care and have now contracted the COVID-19 virus and are definitely at risk of not surviving this, sadly," says Marguerite Chevalier, who is the chief of Family Practice at WRH, and current head physician at the field hospital.

"We're in a different facility that's usually a gymnasium that's been converted into a hospital. But I think, generally speaking, it's going well," she says.

Windsor Regional Hospital has committed seven nurses for each 25 people admitted to the field hospital, along with a full complement of support staff, a pharmacy, housekeeping, a full time Chaplain, allied rehabilitation assistants, lab services, and a full-time dietary staff, according to Karen Riddell, the vice president of critical care at WRH.

"From a clinical perspective, we're able to deliver the same level of care that we've been delivering at an acute care unit that we've been delivering at Met and Ouelette (campuses)," Riddell says. She adds it's about more than healthcare. After just three days, staff members are trying to make the environment feel less like a field hospital, and more like the facilities the patients have grown used to.

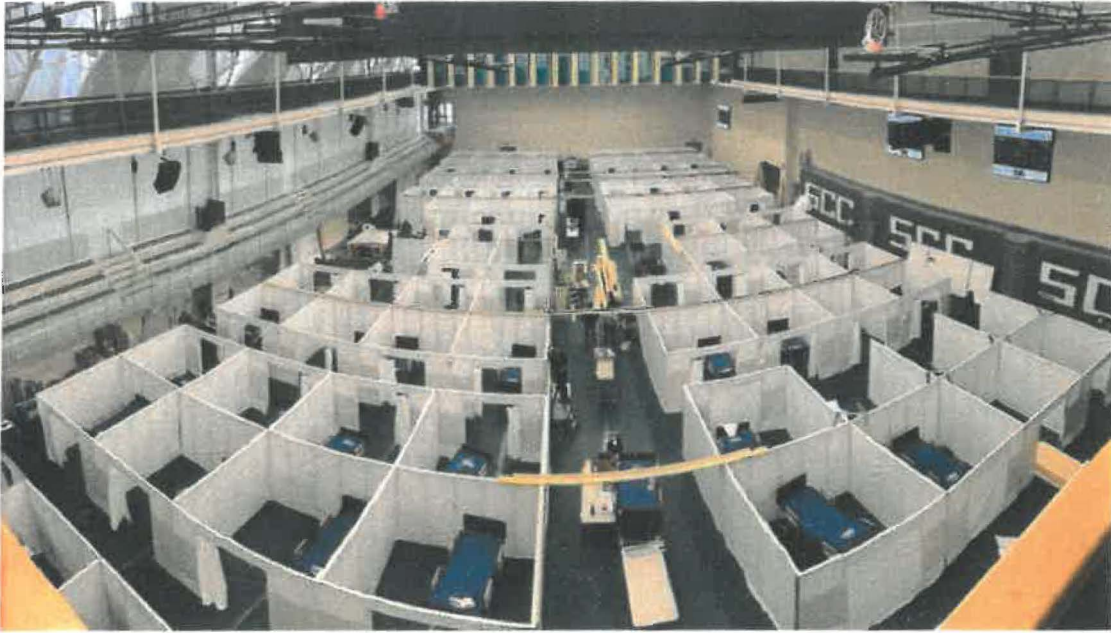
"We're getting pictures put up, we're adding photographs for the patients in their rooms and window murals and things like that so we're really getting into the aesthetics now," Riddell says.

Many of the staff members are coming together from different area hospitals, some working together for the first time.

"We're just happy to do our job," says Ljube Graobac, a nurse practitioner with Windsor Regional Hospital. He's part of the outreach team that works specifically with long-term care homes supporting acutely ill residents being transferred from long-term care homes to the field hospital.

He's familiar with the dynamics of the hospitals and long-term care facilities and says he's happy to work in collaboration with fellow staff as a team.

"Everyone is really upbeat, positive, everyone is all hands on deck," Graobac says. "It's been a great experience and if any of the families are watching, we assure that we will do everything we can to assure the best care we can provide for their loved ones, absolutely.



Windsor field hospital at the St. Clair College Sportsplex in Windsor, Ont. (Courtesy Windsor Regional Hospital)

CenterLine, St. Clair College collaborate to build automated ventilator bag

Windsor Star – April 21, 2020



CenterLine vice-president, Larry Koscielski, stands next to a pair of hands-free Ambu bag actuators, Tuesday, April 21, 2020. DAX MELMER / jpg

A collaborative effort between CenterLine (Windsor) and St. Clair College has produced an automated bag ventilator that is now being studied for approval by Health Canada.

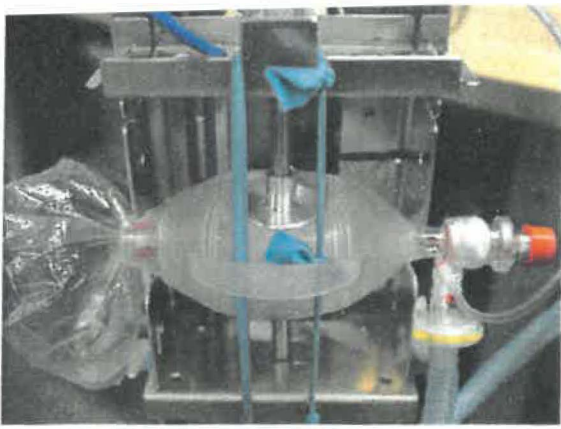
The Ambu bags (bag-valve-mask) were designed to add to the supply of supportive breathing devices in case the COVID-19 pandemic overwhelmed the supply of ventilators.

“From a mechanical engineering perspective it’s a fairly simple project,” said CenterLine (Windsor) vice president of process and technology development Larry Koscielski.

“The real story here is the collaboration of the different groups to produce something that meets patient needs.”

In addition to St. Clair’s BioMedical and Respiratory Therapy staff, medical professionals from Windsor Regional Hospital advised on the subtleties required on air pressure ranges and the number of compressions per minute required.

Ambu bags are normally manually operated, but are not meant for longer use as are the new automated versions.



A hands-free Ambu bag actuator, is pictured at CenterLine, Tuesday, April 21, 2020.

The device is a self-inflating rubber bag and facemask. The mask is placed over the nose and mouth of a patient and the bag is squeezed to provide a flow of air.

"Larry and his team at CenterLine are geniuses," said St. Clair College's vice-president-academic Waseem Habash.

"They were quick learners on the health sector.

"They spent tons of money out of their own pocket on this. They're great community partners."

The Ambu bag weighs about seven to eight kilograms and can be hung from an IV pole, attached to an air supply and plugged in.

"Our faculty and team were involved by giving ideas and helping in the testing," Habash said.

"I wish our students were here to see this. This was innovation in its most ideal form.

"Certainly our faculty will bring back their experience to students. What was accomplished in two weeks, the attitude that nothing can't be done, is what employers look for."



Koscielski admits he got an education on the simple act of breathing being more complicated than imagined.

He said the company assigned a dozen employees to the project for about three weeks.

"St. Clair and Windsor Regional were awesome in helping us understand the medical complexities and patient needs to those of us who don't understand medical language," Koscielski said.

"Every interaction with the medical professionals produced something else to take into account. We needed to understand the value of air pressure and adapting to the changes required."

Koscielski said the medical professionals were leery of giving up the sense of understanding they get by manually squeezing the air bag.

"We were taking that feel away, but we have sensors on air pressure now to monitor that," Koscielski said.

Once the scope and requirements of the project were understood, the company's manufacturing expertise produced 11 prototypes and a final product in less than two weeks.

"The Windsor Essex ventilator group met Saturday, March 21 and we felt we had the people that could do this project," Koscielski said. "We had an internal meeting Sunday and by Monday at 1 p.m. we had a prototype at the college for testing."

The college supplied CenterLine with a machine used for verification of ventilators and a simulated lung to take back to one of their LaSalle plants for testing.

"We produced a prototype a day for probably the first six or seven days," Koscielski said. "It took about two weeks before we ordered materials to produce 50."

Habash said working with CenterLine has shone a light on the importance of having a domestic manufacturing sector and how the college can support local companies.

"Someone can supply ideas and we can work with them to take it from the idea stage to a product," Habash said. "We already do research and development in a number of areas."

"Some companies don't have the resources and skill set to focus entirely on something like CenterLine did, but our students and faculty can help them do the groundwork."

Windsor ventilator project awaits Health Canada approval

CTV Web Writer / Entertainment Reporter – April 21, 2020



Larry Koscielski, VP at CenterLine, with James Durocher, faculty in BioMedical Engineering Technologies in Windsor, Ont. (Courtesy St. Clair College)

WINDSOR, ONT. -- St. Clair College is collaborating with an automation solutions provider on a ventilator project that is awaiting Health Canada approval.

The college and CenterLine Ltd joined forces in response to a potential shortage of ventilators during the COVID-19 crisis.

The device, designed and tested at Windsor CenterLine facilities, will automatically inflate and deflate a manual ventilator bag, taking over what a pair of human hands would normally do.

The product development team at CenterLine created the concept that “is nothing complicated, from a mechanical or engineering perspective,” according to Larry Koscielski, vice president of process & technology development at CenterLine.

“It’s a simple little device,” said Koscielski. “But now, when you start to understand all the little things that it has to do, and all the thought that’s gone into it...Like everything in life, breathing is incredibly more complex than we understood.”

Faculty from the College’s programs in Respiratory Therapy and BioMedical Engineering Technology collaborated with the engineers at CenterLine.

“Every interaction brought another level of understanding and opportunity to improve or solve another problem,” Koscielski said. “They’re taking something that for them is intuitively tactile. They get feedback just because they can feel it in their fingers and we’re basically taking that away from them in the mechanical squeezebox.”

The project kicked off on March 21. Representatives from the Windsor-Essex manufacturing industry, St. Clair College and Windsor Regional Hospital met to discuss ideas.

Within one day of that meeting, a cross-functional team at CenterLine had developed prints that were released for manufacturing.

By March 23, they had all the parts assembled into a working prototype.

“From the very first functional prototype, we have produced a total of 11 systems leading up to the final product,” Koscielski said.

St. Clair was also able to leverage support from Windsor Regional Hospital and staff from the hospital visited CenterLine, providing insights on the hospital’s needs.

A letter of support was sent to Health Canada that was co-signed by Windsor Regional Hospital CEO David Musyj and Chief of Staff Dr. Wassim Saad.

Another supporting letter was sent by Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens.

Device developed in Windsor awaiting Health Canada approval



© Can Stock Photo / herraes

Blackburn News - April 22, 2020 8:46am

Its creators call it nothing complicated, but for healthcare workers working on the frontlines of the pandemic, it could free up the hands of nurses to care for other patients.

A collaboration between St. Clair College, Automation Solutions Provider, and CenterLine in Windsor has resulted in a device that can automatically inflate and deflate a manual ventilator bag. It would “take over what a pair of human hands would normally do.”

The device was developed after a brainstorming session last month when a group of people responded to a call to action from the Windsor Essex Ventilator Solutions Team.

Within a day of that meeting on March 21, CenterLine developed prints, and in two days, had a working prototype.

Since then, Larry Koscielski, the Vice President of Process and Technology Development, said they developed 11 systems leading to the final product.

Faculty at St. Clair College’s Respiratory Therapy and BioMedical Engineering Technology programs consulted with engineers at CenterLine so they could understand how a person breathes.

“When you start to understand all the little things it has to do, and all the thought that’s gone into it — Like everything in life, breathing is incredibly more complex than we understood,” said Koscielski. “Every interaction brought another level of understanding.”

The next step for the device is approval from Health Canada. A letter of support from Windsor Regional Hospital CEO David Musyj and its Chief of Staff, Dr. Wassim Saad, has been sent to the federal agency. Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens signed a second supporting letter.

LOCAL VENTILATOR PROJECT WAITS FOR HEALTH CANADA APPROVAL

AM800 CKLW – APRIL 22, 2020



(AM800 file photo)

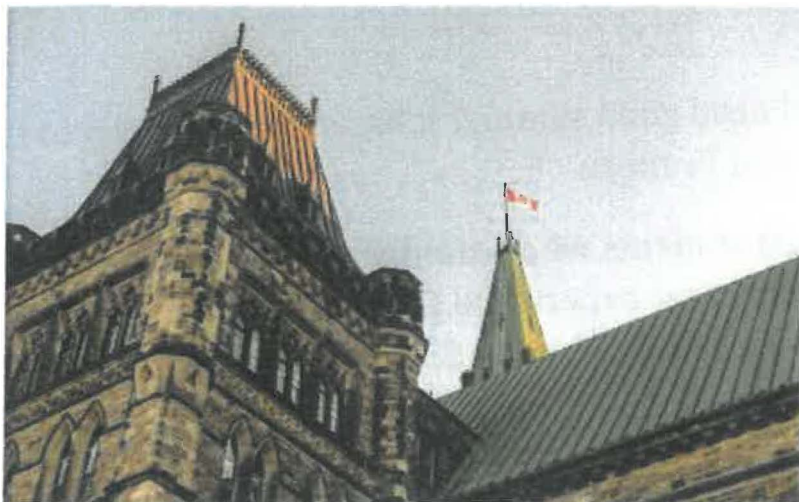
Centreline and St. Clair College in Windsor are waiting for Health Canada approval for their Ventilator Project.

Described as a "simple little device", it automatically inflates and deflates a manual ventilator bag, and takes over from a person's hands.

The device was designed and tested at Centreline with collaboration between Automation Solutions Provider and the college.

The project kicked off March 21 and was in response to a possible shortage of ventilators during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Ottawa opens the purse wide for students



© Can Stock Photo / Lopolo

Blackburn News - April 22, 2020 12:28pm

The federal government has announced \$9 billion in spending to help students through the COVID-19 pandemic.

For students who are not eligible for the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said his government would introduce the Canadian Emergency Student Benefit.

“COVID-19 has meant there aren’t as many jobs out there for students. Without a job, it can be hard to pay for tuition or the day-to-day basics,” said Trudeau. “You might normally have turned to your parents for help, but right now, Mom and Dad are stretched too.”

The benefit will help students pay their rent and buy groceries over the next few months. Between May and August, students going to college or university in September, who graduated in December or are currently enrolled, will receive \$1,250 a month. Those with disabilities or who are caring for a dependent will receive \$1,750.

The benefit will be open to students who are fortunate to have a job still but make less than \$1,000 a month.

Legislation to implement the program will need Parliamentary approval but will kick off May 1.

The federal government also wants to employ jobless students in the fight against COVID-19. It is creating 76,000 jobs across Canada in sectors that are experiencing staffing shortages. The jobs are in addition to the Canada Summer Jobs Program.

Trudeau said his government is still working out the details and should have more information in the coming days, but suggested students could work in agriculture and contract tracing.

“We know young people want and need good summer jobs, and we’re going to try to make sure they can get them,” said Trudeau.

A second program will help support students who volunteer either to support the fight against the pandemic or to get career experience. The Canada Student Service Grant will award those students between \$1,000 and \$5,000 depending on how many hours they volunteer.

Of the \$9 billion, \$291 million will be set aside to extend scholarships, fellowships, and grants for student researchers and graduate students.

Federal education grants for post-secondary school students will also be doubled for the 2020/2021 school year.

\$143K in grants awarded to fight COVID-19



WRH CEO David Musyj, St. Clair College President Patti France, HDGH CEO Janice Kaffer and University of Windsor President Robert Gordon sign the memorandum of understanding for WE SPARK Health Institute, March 9, 2020. (Photo by Maureen Revait)

Blackburn News - April 22, 2020 6:12pm

Over 100 people working on COVID-19 research will be the recipients of grants awarded by the WE-SPARK Health Institute, in partnership with the University of Windsor.

The Office of Research and Innovation at the University of Windsor has contributed a portion of \$143,000 in grant money that will be handed out to researchers. The university is one of the partners of WE-SPARK, along with St. Clair College, Windsor Regional Hospital, and Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare.

The grant money will fund 21 projects, and all four partners are involved in more than one. The projects range from designing personal protective equipment (PPE) to examining the physical and mental impacts of the pandemic.

“The seed funding provided through this important initiative enables researchers, clinicians, healthcare professionals, and community members to collaborate in the fight against COVID-19 in our region by accelerating the innovation and implementation of crucial medical and social solutions to this global challenge,” said Dr. Michael Siu, vice-president of research and innovation at U of W.

One recipient is Dr. Jessica Summerfield, a family physician and member of the COVID-19 Assessment Team at Windsor Regional. The money is being used to develop a home-monitoring device.

“One of Windsor’s best attributes is its ‘small community feel’ and the support the medical community has felt from the citizens of Windsor and Essex County has

been palpable. This grant is a clear demonstration of this support,” said Summerfield.

The WE-SPARK Health Institute was created last month as a collaboration between Windsor’s two health care systems and its two top secondary education entities. The institute was designed to enhance physical and mental well-being through research and knowledge translation.

GOLFING IS POSSIBLE DURING PANDEMIC: ST. CLAIR COLLEGE GOLF COACH

AM800 CKLW - Wednesday, April 22, 2020 - 2:55 pm



(Photo courtesy of taliesin via www.morguefile.com)

The head golf coach at St. Clair College believes golf lends itself to physical distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Heading into the nice weather, golf courses in Windsor-Essex remain closed because golf isn't an essential service.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford told TSN, the province will take direction from the chief medical officer and that the decision is out of his hands.

"Limit to threesomes instead of foursomes, don't let them take the flag out of the hole, lift the hole out of the ground so the ball can't go in so it is not being touched and the golf ball isn't being touched by other people," says St Clair Golf Coach Kevin Corriveau,

Speaking on AM800's the Morning Drive Corriveau says golf would be great for people physically and mentally.

"We are probably going to have to keep those food and beverage facilities closed for a while longer, so close your buildings, require people to pay green fees online,"

He says some changes would be required.

"One person at a golf cart, make sure it is sanitized when it is done, if you are going to let pullcarts out, sanitize the pullcarts just like the shopping carts are sanitized at the grocery store."

British Columbia and some U.S. states have allowed golf courses to open.

It is estimated there are two million golfers in Ontario.

FEDERAL COVID-19 FUNDING FOR STUDENTS

AM800 CKLW - Wednesday, April 22, 2020 - 12:06 pm



PM Trudeau speaks with media during his isolation at Rideau Cottage. March 2020. (Photo courtesy of Office of the Prime Minister)

The federal government has announced COVID-19 funding to help students.

Speaking on Wednesday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau unveiled a \$9-billion emergency program that includes a Canada Emergency Student Benefit worth at least \$1,250 a month from May to August.

According to Trudeau, those in post-secondary school now, headed to post secondary school in September or anyone who graduated after December 2019 can access the benefit.

Trudeau also spoke on Wednesday about Canadians returning home.

Over the past month, about 20,000 Canadians have returned to the country on repatriation flights.

Trudeau he knows there are still Canadians all around the world who still want to come back, and the government continues to work with other countries to make that happen.

All returning Canadians are required to quarantine for 14 days.

\$143,000 Awarded Locally For COVID-19 Research

WindsoriteDOTca News - Wednesday, April 22,2020

WE-SPARK Health Institute with additional funding from the Office of Research and Innovation at the University of Windsor has awarded 21 research grants totaling \$143,000 to tackle local COVID-19 public health challenges.

Overall there are over 100 people are working together to roll out these research projects. Recipients include 21 Principal Investigators, 50 co-applicants/collaborators, 28 students and over 20 volunteers. Each of the four WE-SPARK partner organizations – Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, Windsor Regional Hospital, St. Clair College and the University of Windsor are involved in multiple grants, along with an additional 16 academic, community and industrial partners.

These 21 projects will involve thousands of participants and range from designing Personal Protective Equipment, to optimizing rapid detection of COVID-19, to examining the psychological and physical impact of the pandemic.

Grant recipient Dr. Jessica Summerfield and her team are working on a home-monitoring program which will enable COVID-positive patients to remain at home while it is safe to do so.

Dr. Ken Drouillard, a grant recipient, is collaborating with multiple partners to create a quality control program for homemade personal protective equipment for use in health care institutions. Collaborators include the St. Clair College School of Fashion Design, a University of Windsor geospatial learning specialist, a Formulations Specialists in R&D at Jamieson Labs, and the Windsor Essex Sewing Force (WESF) – a volunteer community network with more than 500 volunteers who have produced and donated over 1000 masks to local healthcare institutions.

St. Clair women's basketball team gets an upsize with six-foot-two Paolini

Windsor Star – April 23, 2020



The St. Clair Saints women's basketball team has sized up with the addition of six-foot-two recruit Jessica Paolini. It's a whole different game for the St. Clair Saints women's basketball team.

The Saints have won back-to-back OCAA silver medals with a roster that often saw head coach Andy Kiss deploy five guards on the floor.

On Wednesday, the Saints upped their game again as six-foot-two centre Jessica Paolini signed on for the team for the 2020-21 season. The addition comes less than two weeks after the Saints added five-foot-11 guard/forward Gabrielle 'Gabi' Whiteye.

"One of weaknesses of playing five guards is the three-point shot is fool's gold," Kiss said. "When that well ran dry for us in the third quarter (of the OCAA final), we weren't able to manufacture a basketball in the paint. We stayed a little too much on the perimeter.

"With a bona fide six-two and Gabi at five-11, we've added some length. I think we can run a set play inside and orchestrate buckets inside, which we need to do."

Kiss has been after Paolini, who is from Stoney Creek, for the past two seasons.

"Andy was communicating through my dad last summer and wanted me to come down and play this past season, but I wasn't sure what school I wanted to go to," the 19-year-old Paolini said. "I didn't want to rush in."

Paolini helped Cardinal Newman high school win back-to-back OFSAA girls' AAA basketball silver medals in 2017 and 2018 and also played JUEL basketball with Hamilton Blessed Sacrament.

"I was looking at (the University of) Waterloo and University of Toronto-Mississauga, but I just felt St. Clair was the best fit," Paolini said. "They have the vet tech program I want and it's kind of perfect."

After coming so close to the gold medal at the OCAA championship, Kiss is hoping Paolini is another piece that can help put the Saints over the top.

"Everything is earned, so it has to be earned, but a six-two post is elite and not many teams have one in the OCAA," Kiss said. "We're going to look different now.

"With consecutive silvers, there's a thirst and a hunger to make that last step up the ladder. We're excited and happy with our recruiting class and I think we're a gold-medal contender next year."

FRATMEN UNVEIL NEW LOGO

AM800 CKLW – APRIL 23, 2020



St Clair Fratmen - new logo (photo from Saints Athletics)

The St. Clair Fratmen Football team officially unveiled their new logo which utilizes the St. Clair corporate Griffin inside a football while maintaining the historical text of the Fratmen nickname.

St. Clair College's traditional green and gold colours are present throughout the design.

SAA President Kshitij Punj says, "We think this new Fratmen Football team logo stands out and it is fittingly inspired by the griffin which ties our Saints family together". He continued, "With the launch of the new logo, my SAA colleagues and I are really looking forward to seeing the team wear our colours in action. The operations and development of this team are underway which is very exciting."

Due to COVID, the entire league is currently on shut down of any football related activity until June 1st.

The season schedule will be released when the Canadian Junior Football League leadership, after consultation with the provincial and federal health organizations, feels it is safe to resume activity.

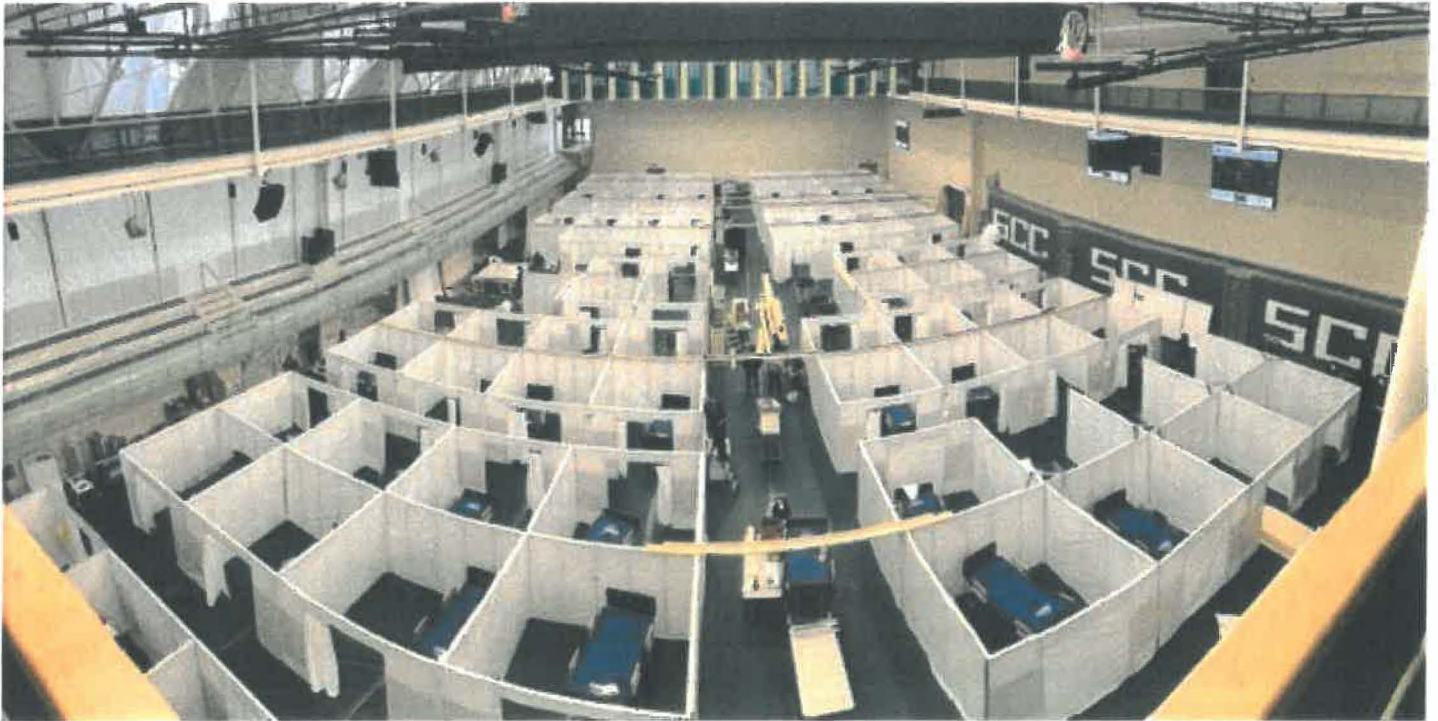
See below St. Clair Fratmen Coaching Staff for the 2020 season.

Mike LaChance	Head Coach/Offensive Coordinator
James Rice	Offensive Line Coach
Sean Guenette	Offensive Line Coach
Ricky Simons	Quarterbacks Coach
Jamie McCurdy	Running Backs Coach
Nick Niforos	Running Backs Coach
Joel Archer	Receivers Coach
Mike Morencie	Defensive Coordinator
Darren Quennell	Defensive Line Coach
Mike Laino	Defensive Line Coach
Erik Lovis	Linebackers Coach
Stacy Norton	Defensive Backs Coach/Special Teams Coordinator
Dave Drouillard	Defensive Backs Coach

In the coming days and weeks, the St. Clair Fratmen will begin to announce 2020 roster signings as well as information about pre-season mini camps.

Artwork Wanted From Local Kids To Brighten The Walls Of Hospitals And Long Term Care Homes

WindsorDOTca News – Friday, April 24, 2020



Windsor Regional Hospital photo

Essex-Windsor EMS is putting out a call for help from local budding, young artists.

They are looking for artwork to display at the field hospital at St. Clair College and long-term care homes to help brighten the day of those who are affected by the current COVID-19 health crisis.

Visit the [County of Essex website](#) to learn more and upload the artwork.

CKHA field hospital taking shape, but possible it won't be needed

Chatham Daily News - April 24, 2020



A view from above of two of the 40 hospital beds set up in a field hospital at the St. Clair College HealthPlex in Chatham.

The Chatham-Kent Health Alliance is poised to get a field hospital operational, but the best outcome will be if it never receives a patient.

The main shell on the temporary hospital, located at the St. Clair College HealthPlex in Chatham, was completed Friday, but Aaron Ryan, the health alliance's vice-president of performance and chief financial officer, said it's "definitely a possibility" it won't be needed.

"From the beginning, we said success would be that we don't have to use it," he said. "We're hopeful that we don't have to use it and we can keep our resources here at the hospital."

The decision was made to create the facility to help take pressure off the alliance's two hospital sites in Chatham and Wallaceburg if there is a surge in COVID-19 cases.

As of Friday afternoon, there were 40 confirmed cases of the virus across the municipality, with 23 people listed as recovered and 286 tests pending, according to the Chatham-Kent public health website.

Ryan said the hospital has a project plan in place to have the site fully operational, if needed, that would take about five days to move in all the equipment needed.

"We're going to be monitoring the occupancy at the hospital and then, as we reach capacity, we would enact that plan to put the final pieces into the field hospital," he said.

"If we see a big spike in numbers, we can be ready to go."



One of the 40 hospital beds set up in a field hospital at the St. Clair College HealthPlex in Chatham.

If the temporary hospital is needed, Ryan said the staffing plan is to have health alliance nurses overseeing the care while community care providers would be engaged to help, including nurses that provide home care and personal support workers.

If the hospital reaches maximum capacity, he said some of the least acute patients, who are close to being discharged from hospital and just need a little more care, would go to the field hospital.

Nearby Windsor and Sarnia have been hit a lot harder by the pandemic than Chatham-Kent.

When asked if the field hospital could be used if hospitals in those cities get overwhelmed, Ryan said "there's the potential of moving patients to other hospitals" since any hospital bed in Ontario is a provincial asset.

He added the need for that hasn't been seen yet.

Ryan said the Ministry of Health has indicated funding is available to reimburse health-care facilities for setting up field hospitals.

He credits the willingness of St. Clair College to provide the HealthPlex to house the temporary hospital.

"It's just a great sign of community help. They just basically turned that facility over to us and helped us as much as possible," he said. "They've just been really great partners to work with."

Ryan said the pandemic has created an unprecedented situation, which can change quickly.

He said the current lease agreement for the HealthPlex is until June 30 but, "like everything else, it's up in the air."

Wanted: children's artwork to decorate field hospital in Windsor



The field hospital at Windsor Regional Hospital. (Photo provided by Windsor Regional Hospital)
Blackburn News - April 25, 2020 6:00am

The head of the Essex Windsor EMS has a unique project for kids this weekend if they want to help fight the pandemic, creating artwork for the field hospital at the Sportsplex at St. Clair College in Windsor.

Bruce Krauter got the idea while touring the field hospital a few days ago, and Windsor Regional Hospital supports it.

“They’re not the most inviting places,” said the chief. “They’re just small. They’re stark. There’s no windows.”

The 100-bed field hospital has been taking COVID-19 positive residents from Heron Terrace this past week, and because of social distancing, they can not have visitors.

Krauter figured some artwork would help cheer the patients and staff.

“You know, if they did some artwork of a spring scene, whether it’s flowers and sunshine or birds or whatever — just to make it bright and fun for the field hospital,” he said.

He put out the challenge to the families of EMS workers this week during a teleconference meeting, updating the workers and their loved ones about developments in the pandemic.

He said he is still working out the logistics, but if parents want to email the EMS, they may be able to pick the artwork up. [Its email address is at the bottom of the EMS page on the Essex County website.](#)

“We’re somewhat mobile being an EMS service. So, if we know where they’re at, and they leave it in their mailbox, we can stop by and pick it up if they have it in an envelope or a bag,” said Krauter. “We’ll get it. We’ll get it to the field hospital.”