

Dear Sir/Madam,

It has been announced that St. Thomas Aquinas School will be replaced with a new school. The new school is expected to be open for the fall of 2021. This is very exciting news for our entire community in Provost. Not only will the new school be used by the children, staff and families that will be attending the new facility but will be enjoyed by the entire community as a whole.

The government has a set formula that determines the number of classrooms, size of school and size of gymnasium that will be built. Unfortunately this formula does not allow for a full size gymnasium to be built in our school. Instead of a 600 square meter gymnasium, which is the size of our current gymnasium, a 430 square meter gymnasium has been allotted. We have been told that Alberta Infrastructure will not entertain the idea of building the new school onto our current full size gymnasium and so to maintain our current sized gymnasium, we must fundraise for the difference. This has left us with the daunting task of raising a minimum of \$500,000.00 before March 15, 2019 to ensure plans will be made for a full size gymnasium. East Central Alberta Catholic Board has agreed to match our donated funds up to \$250,000.00, therefore leaving us to raise the required remaining funds by that date.

A full size gymnasium would ensure one, or both schools could apply to host Provincial sporting events. A large gym could include a stage and bleachers that would allow a proper space for fine arts events such as music festivals, drama presentations or routine class space. Community groups would reap the benefit of a full size gymnasium for men's/ladies basketball or volleyball tournaments. Without a full size gymnasium, school senior high teams will be limited to playing on non-regulated sized courts.

Having two schools with strong athletic and academic programs enhances the ability of the town to draw new families to our community. When large events are held in our community all businesses and individuals in our town reap the benefits. Hotels get booked, restaurants are filled, and stores are visited. We are able to proudly showcase our town when more people and groups are brought in due to social and athletic events.

The new school will benefit our youth, the health and welfare of our community and boost our economic development. We are asking the community to come together and help support our schools initiative to create a new school with the best facilities. We ask for your financial support at this time to ensure we can proceed with building the best facility possible at St. Thomas Aquinas School. With the \$250,000.00 from the East Central Alberta Catholic Board we are hoping that with your help we will meet our financial goal of \$500,000.00.

Your Opportunities To Contribute are:

Diamond Opportunities - \$100,000.00 and Above – Naming rights to the gymnasium (First to donate will be given the naming rights)

Platinum Opportunities - \$50,000.00 to \$99,999.00

Gold Opportunities- \$25,000.00 to \$49,999.00

Silver Opportunities – \$10,000.00 to \$24,999.00

Bronze Opportunities - \$5,000.00 to \$9,999.00

Friends of St. Thomas Aquinas – \$1,000.00 to \$4,999.00

Supporter Opportunities - \$1.00 to \$999.00

Tax deductible receipts will be issued.

Donations can be made payable to:

St. Thomas Aquinas School (New School)
Box 1304
Provost, Alberta
T0B3S0

If you have any questions please contact:

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EVERY DONATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Yours sincerely,

St. Thomas Aquinas Building Fund Committee