



News Release

June 16, 2025

Celebrating Excellence at STAR Catholic's 2025 Staff Recognition Night



Leduc — On Friday, June 13, STAR Catholic School Division gathered as a community to honour the outstanding dedication, service, and spirit of our staff at the annual Staff Recognition Night.

Held in a warm and celebratory atmosphere in Nisku, the evening recognized long-service milestones, retirements, and special contributions made by staff across our division. From five years to over 40 years of service, each individual honoured has played a vital role in shaping our schools and supporting the success of our students.

Highlights of the evening included a welcome greeting by Board Chair Donna Tugwood, award presentations by STAR Catholic Trustees, personal tributes to retirees, and words of gratitude from division leadership. Superintendent Laurie Kardynal closed the event with a moving message of appreciation, thanking all in attendance and reflecting on the joy of working in a vocation that nurtures both minds and hearts.

"This year, we walk together under the Jubilee theme declared by the Vatican: "Pilgrims of Hope. Tonight, we've witnessed hope in action, through staff who have given decades of faithful service, through colleagues who lead with compassion and courage, and through hearts that give generously, quietly, joyfully, day in and day out. So, as we leave this evening, may we carry with us a deep sense of gratitude, a renewed sense of purpose, and the joy of knowing that your work matters. It matters to our students, it matters to our families, it matters to our Church and our communities, and most importantly — it matters to God.", said Superintendent Laurie Kardynal.

The STAR Catholic Staff Recognition Night is more than an awards ceremony—it reflects the Division's deep commitment to community, faith, and excellence in Catholic education. The event was made possible through the ongoing support and leadership of the STAR Catholic Board of Trustees, whose commitment to recognizing staff contributions ensures this meaningful tradition continues.



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To all our honourees: thank you for your passion, your service, and your unwavering dedication to our mission.

A full list of honourees can be found on the STAR Catholic website.

Based in central Alberta, Saint Thomas Aquinas Roman (STAR) Catholic School Division represents 12 schools that serve the communities of Beaumont, Drayton Valley, Lacombe, Leduc, Ponoka, and Wetaskiwin. The STAR Catholic Schools team of teachers and support staff are committed to giving more than 4,700 students across our division every opportunity to achieve their potential in a caring, safe and Christ-centered environment.

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