



ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

## **Media Release**

*For release Monday, October 15, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.*

### **Philanthropists David and Karen Holst and Allan Markin donate \$1,000,000 to St. Thomas More College for new building expansion**

**Saskatoon, Canada:** St. Thomas More College (STM) at the University of Saskatchewan today announced two \$500,000 leadership gifts totaling \$1 million to its \$6 million capital campaign -- the second \$1 million announcement at STM in less than a week.

David and Karen Holst from Warman have donated \$500,000 and Allan Markin of Calgary has donated another \$500,000 to kick start the campaign to fund the new \$8 million building expansion. **This announcement was made today at the formal groundbreaking ceremony.**

This 12,000 square foot building expansion will increase STM's footprint by 20% and provide much needed additional classroom, research, seminar and gathering space. This will allow the college to teach most of its students within its own facilities.

*This new building, our first major expansion in many years in spite of significant enrolment growth, ensures adequate classroom space to foster the nurturing scholarly learning environment for which STM is already well known. This new facility will enhance community for students, promote further opportunities for closer faculty-student and student-student academic engagement, and ensure a continuation of the uniquely inspiring learning experience that is the STM academic tradition stated President Dr. Terry Downey.*

The \$6 million *Creating More* campaign was launched earlier this year to raise funds for this expansion and to create an endowed Chair for Catholic Studies. Just last week, STM announced a \$1 million gift from Leslie and Irene Dube to fund this Chair.

The expansion announced today is projected to be completed by the late fall of 2013.

**For further information, please contact:**

[www.stmcollege.ca](http://www.stmcollege.ca)

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## ***Media Release***

*For release Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.*

### **Philanthropists Leslie and Irene Dubé donate \$1,000,000 to St. Thomas More College to establish a Chair for Catholic Studies**

**Saskatoon, Canada:** St. Thomas More College (STM) at the University of Saskatchewan today announced a \$1 million leadership gift to its \$6 million capital campaign. Longtime STM supporters Leslie and Irene Dubé were at the College today to announce their donation in support of an endowed Chair for Catholic Studies. In recognition of this gift, and in honour of their sustained generous support of the College over the years, STM will dedicate the Chair in their name as the Leslie and Irene Dubé Chair for Catholic Studies at St. Thomas More College.

The Leslie and Irene Dubé Chair for Catholic Studies will support scholarship in the area of Catholic Studies, broadly defined to include early, classical and contemporary iterations of Catholic teaching and tradition. Through exemplary teaching and reputable research, the Chair will foster the advancement of Catholic knowledge and education, promote ecumenical dialogue and advance awareness of the great faith traditions. The Chair is to be a source of intellectual leadership for STM and for the broader Catholic and local communities through an annual public lecture, guest lectures, invited presentations, availability to the Diocese, Catholic school boards and the Catholic and secular media for commentary and expertise on Catholic issues, and publications to be available to the local and provincial community.

“STM is near and dear to our hearts,” said Irene Dubé. “We are strong believers in the importance of a College that encourages students to explore both faith and reason, and the Chair in Catholic Studies will be a vital contributor to this environment.”

STM President Dr. Terry Downey thanked the Dubés for their remarkably generous commitment that enables the establishment of the first Chair for Catholic Studies in Saskatchewan and only the second in the history of western Canada. In expressing appreciation on behalf of the STM scholarly community, Downey acknowledged the Dubés exemplary commitment and innovative leadership in advancing Catholic higher education: “Your support of this Chair makes possible a uniquely transformative learning experience for our students that will resonate through their lives and throughout the entire community. The confidence you have shown in STM by your generosity here today is an inspiration for all who serve and study at STM and for this we are profoundly grateful.”

This new \$1 million donation gift complements an earlier \$1 million Dubé project at STM, the Leslie and Irene Dubé Service Learning Program that enables students to take what is learned in the classroom out into the world.

The \$6 million *Creating More* campaign was launched earlier this year to raise funds to expand STM's existing building and create the endowed Chair in Catholic Studies. The building footprint of the 75 year-old Catholic College has not increased in the past 40 years.

#### **For further information, please contact:**

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