



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
*Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey*

## **MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### ***ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC AND LAMBTON KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS PROVIDE LEVEL TWO THREAT ASSESSMENT TRAINING***

School staff from both St. Clair Catholic and the Lambton Kent District School Board, along with police, community mental health professions, probation officers and other community partners from Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton, are taking part in a two-day threat assessment training program. The training, which focuses on strategic interviewing of key individuals in the threat assessment process, including threat makers and targets, is aimed at helping make our schools and communities safer.

“We believe this training is important because it helps us identify and respond to behaviours that may pose a risk for violence in our schools and in our communities,” says Deb Crawford, Superintendent of Education with the St. Clair Catholic District School Board. “The goal of early intervention by schools, community partners and families is to reduce the risk of violence, which may result in harm to individuals and others.”

To date, the Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton communities have held seven Level I training sessions since September 2011. The current Level II training involves more than 120 participants. The participation of multi-level community organizations assists in the review and sharing of relevant information, and a collaborative response, which is broad-based and makes use of a wide range of expertise.

The training is facilitated by Kevin Cameron, who is a board certified expert in traumatic stress. In partnership with the RCMP behavioural sciences unit, he developed Canada’s first comprehensive, multi-disciplinary threat assessment training program. He trains crisis response teams both nationally and internationally and consults with schools and communities. Mr. Cameron has also worked with the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Secret Service in helping to develop a protocol for schools to prepare for and respond to terrorist attacks.

***Day two of the Level II Threat Assessment Training will be held at the St. Clair Catholic District School Board Catholic Education Centre, 420 Creek Street, Wallaceburg on Friday, October 19, 2012. Members of the media are invited to attend during the morning session. Mr. Cameron and representatives of the school boards will be available for questions during the lunch break, beginning at 12:00 p.m.***