



## DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

### **A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM BISHOP FABBRO:**

### **ST. PETER'S SEMINARY TO UNDERGO \$30 MILLION RENOVATION**

Below is the text of a news release that was distributed today, in regards to the future of St. Peter's Seminary. This \$30 million project will begin a whole new era for our Seminary, enabling it to realize its full potential as a leading center of formation for those preparing for priesthood, and the women and men seeking leadership roles in our Diocese and in the Church in Canada.

In the weeks ahead, you will be hearing more about the launch of the fundraising campaign in our parishes. I ask you to bring this good news to your friends and fellow parishioners, as this is a wonderful and unprecedented opportunity in the history of our Diocese and the Seminary. Please pray for its success.

Bishop Ronald Fabbro, CSB, Bishop of London, is pleased to announce St. Peter's Seminary will undergo a full modernization and restoration, with the help of a contribution of \$23 million from the Diocese of Hamilton, under the leadership of Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI. A total investment of \$30 million will allow the Seminary to continue its mission in its present building. This revitalization of the Seminary building will enable the Seminary to realize its full potential as a leading house of formation for those men and women preparing for ministry in the Catholic Church in Canada. It will also strengthen the successful partnership with King's University College.

The balance of funding for renovations will come from already raised funds, the proposed sale of surplus property at the Seminary to King's University College, and a future fundraising campaign.

The renovations will upgrade much of the dated and inefficient interior, including 60 seminarian rooms, as well as new faculty suites, offices, classrooms, and common spaces. In addition, the exterior stonewalls and slate roof will be restored, and modern heating and cooling systems will reduce the Seminary's carbon footprint.

In its current state, St. Peter's has been challenged with the high cost of maintaining and operating its main building, first opened in 1926. As the Seminary with the broadest representation of seminarians from across Canada, it is clear that the vitality of St. Peter's Seminary is important not only to the Diocese of London, but to dioceses across Canada.

### **Quote from Bishop Ronald Fabbro, CSB, Bishop of the Diocese of London:**

"I am grateful to Bishop Crosby and the Diocese of Hamilton for their generous contribution and confidence in St. Peter's Seminary. This support will enable us to modernize our facilities and, in partnership with King's University College, continue to be a leader of Catholic higher education in Canada, especially for the formation of priests, deacons and lay ministers."

### **Quote from Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, Bishop of the Diocese of Hamilton:**

"The Diocese of Hamilton has benefitted greatly because of the service of our priests who have studied at St. Peter's and we are pleased to be supporting such an exciting initiative. St. Peter's Seminary is an iconic piece of our Canadian Catholic heritage, and I am pleased that the Diocese of Hamilton is able to help ensure it will continue its mission of nurturing and forming future priests for diocesan ministry in London, Hamilton, and beyond."

Bishop Fabbro will make this announcement public at the 12th Annual Bishop's Dinner for Windsor/Essex, tonight (October 29) at the Ciociaro Club (3745 N Talbot Rd. Oldcastle, ON).

St. Peter's Seminary, founded in 1912, serves as a key center of Formation and Education to ensure the high quality formation of priests, deacons, and lay ecclesial ministers; and provides programs of ongoing formation and education for those in every vocation in the Diocesan Church.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of London, founded in 1857, serves more than 400,000 Catholics in nine counties in Southwestern Ontario, stretching from Windsor to Woodstock and from Goderich to Port Dover.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Hamilton serves more than 600,000 Catholics in 126 parishes.