



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# St. Peter's College Wins National Title

*Key to Success Gala earns Gold for Best Program*

**June 8, 2009** – Today, St. Peter's College announced that it has won the Gold Prix D'Excellence Award in the "Best Program - Small Shops / Independent School" category by the Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education (CCAE).

Advancement offices across the country that operate with four people or less and who demonstrated their most effective program in Public Affairs and Communications, Development, Alumni Relations or Student Recruitment were judged by a national panel. Criteria included effectiveness, execution, objectives/results, innovation, and success.

St. Peter's College (SPC) received this honour today at CCAE's Annual National Conference held in Hamilton, Ontario June 6-9.

SPC was awarded The Prix D'Excellence Award for last fall's highly successful *Key to Success Gala and Awards Ceremony* co-chaired by SPC alumni the Honourable Rod A.A. Zimmer, Senator, and his brother J. Wayne Zimmer.

"St. Peter's College is honoured and privileged to be recognized as the best in the country," said Lisa Laskowski, SPC director of development responsible for the Gala. "The judges told us they were amazed at the results of our work, and were impressed with the rallying of community support to make the event a success."

The sold-out inaugural Gala featured key speaker, the Honourable Belinda Stronach, executive vice-chair of Magna International Inc., and SPC alumnus Paul J. Hoenmans, retired director and president of Exxon Mobil. That night, Mr. Hoenmans announced his \$1 million donation to the college's Key to Success Campaign.

Launched at the Gala, the Key to Success Campaign so far has raised \$3 million from alumni, faculty, friends, businesses and other organizations toward its \$4.5 million goal. This private sector investment supports the College's \$15 million capital and program plan. The Province of Saskatchewan also contributed \$3 million toward that plan, bringing current commitments to \$6 million.

Senator Zimmer, who co-chairs the campaign with J. Wayne Zimmer, is inspired by the financial and other support the College receives.

"The support of donors, alumni and partners is outstanding. It is also essential to the fabric of this special college," said the Senator. "By working together, we will continue to expand the tradition and excellence in programming, facilities and services St. Peter's is known for. Meeting our critical goals will help to meet the demands of our 21<sup>st</sup> century students and community members."

During the CCAE Conference, Laskowski was inducted into the CCAE Circle. This distinguished service award recognizes and honors CCAE members, as well as individuals or organizations who have contributed in a meaningful way to the cause of higher education in Canada.

Laskowski was recognized for 15 years of service in educational advancement in the professions encompassed by CCAE.

Established in 1921, SPC is an independent post-secondary institution located in Muenster, Saskatchewan. The College has been affiliated with the University of Saskatchewan since 1926. As Canada's only Benedictine College offering interactive face-to-face university classes in a variety of disciplines, SPC has built its campus, programs and services on a foundation of academic and research excellence, personal enrichment, social responsibility, community and other stakeholder support. Its emphasis on mentorship, leadership and learning continues to distinguish SPC.

SPC provides fully accredited university courses in Arts and Science, Business and Kinesiology. Many students start their Arts and Science, Kinesiology, Commerce or Agriculture degree at the College or fulfill the entry requirements of professional colleges such as Medicine, Law, Nutrition, Education, and Pharmacy. The College also offers a Writing Diploma and other university, professional and community programming.

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For more information, including the *Key to Success* Campaign case statement or Lisa Laskowski's bio, contact:

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