

Media Release

Campaign aims to raise \$2-million for Laurier Brantford

Generous community support means campaign starts with more than \$1-million

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BRANTFORD – The Grand Valley Education Society (GVES) today launched the fundraising campaign for Laurier Brantford and announced that it is already halfway to its goal. The group plans to raise \$2-million by the end of 1999 to help equip the new campus and to support students in need.

Half of the total raised will help furnish and equip the new campus located in the old Carnegie Library. The facilities will include a 30-station computer lab, video-conferencing facility and multi-media equipment for three lecture rooms.

The remaining \$1-million will endow scholarships and bursaries for students.

Scholarships offer financial reward to students who excel academically, while bursaries help support students based on their financial needs.

"When you see people walk through the door and hand you a gift even before the campaign launch, you know that you are fortunate to be associated with the project," said campaign co-chair Brendan Ryan. Co-chair Bruce Hodgson added that "the commitment shown by the people and businesses in this community will ensure that the long-time dream of having a university in Brantford will soon come true."

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Two local groups with a reputation for supporting youth development have already pledged pace-setting gifts. The Rotary Club of Brantford has pledged \$120,000 to a scholarship fund. S.C. Johnson and Son Ltd. has promised \$250,000 – \$75,000 of which will fund an auditorium and \$175,000 for bursaries and scholarships.

Other groups and individuals – including BML Multi Trades Group Ltd., Davis Fuel Company Limited, Gordon Cockshutt Foundation, Jane Glaves Holdings Ltd., Kiwanis Club of Brantford, Jane and Dick LeVan, Helmi Marquis in memory of Dr. Jack Marquis, Royal Bank of Canada, Margaret Stedman, Mary Stedman, Ruth Stedman, Wescast Industries Inc. and The Williamson Group – have helped raise the current total to just over \$1-million.