



CITY COUNCILLOR FOR ST. BONIFACE

**DAN VANDAL**



**Joint Press Release:**

## **MAJOR FUNDING FOR ICONIC ST. BONIFACE CATHEDRAL SITE: Grant Approved by Winnipeg City Council**

Posted April 24th, 2013

City Councillor for St. Boniface, Dan Vandal and members of the St. Boniface Cathedral's Capital Campaign Cabinet are pleased to announce that a \$350,000 Heritage Conservation Grant has been unanimously endorsed by City Council this morning.

"The St. Boniface Cathedral has become an important icon not only for St. Boniface, but for Winnipeg and for the entire province," said Vandal. "It is important to protect historic sites like these not only to support local development but to make sure our history and our common cultural identity are preserved for future generations."

The \$350,000 Heritage Conservation Grant was first proposed at the Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management on April 11, 2013 and received unanimous approval at the City of Winnipeg's Executive Policy Committee on April 17, 2013.

"By building bridges with different levels of governments, we are collectively working towards our vision of making the St. Boniface Cathedral site a community gathering place for peoples of all faiths," said Gerry Labossière, chair of the Capital Campaign Cabinet / Archbishop Albert LeGatt. "We know that St. Boniface has the potential to be at the centre of something very important for the City of Winnipeg and this funding is clearly a step in the right direction."

The St. Boniface Cathedral has a history that spans almost two centuries. While being a place of worship, the cathedral is also architectural and artistic symbol in St. Boniface and hosts numerous cultural events each year. The cemetery and the ancient walls are the setting for plays, inspiration for photographers, and attract tourists looking for the names of notable historic figures, such as Bishops Provencher, Taché, Langevin, and Louis Riel, the founder of Manitoba. The St. Boniface Cathedral Renewal Project is estimated at 6 million dollars.

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