

Our Faith, Our Future. Sept. 18, 2015 HONORARY CHAIR NAMED FOR MASTERPIECE CAMPAIGN



[™]St. Joseph

PROJECT

On behalf of the St. Joseph Project, the Bishop's Task Force is pleased to announce the appointment of **Duncan De Souza**, **MD FRCPC** as honorary Chair of *The Masterpiece Fundraising Campaign*.

Born to parents from Africa who emigrated to Canada in the late 1960's, Duncan De Souza is the oldest of four siblings. He spent his early life in Calgary before leaving for medical school at Queen's University in Kingston, ON.

"I was raised in a strongly Catholic family. The lessons of the faith were instilled in all four of us children – my one brother is a priest and Catholic chaplain at Queen's University in Kingston, ON.

I have one sister who is a nun with the Sisters of Life order and another who is married with a child in Calgary."

During the 1990's Duncan worked as a family doctor in British Columbia until 2000

when an anesthesia residency became available in Texas. In Houston, Duncan would come to meet his future wife, Mary. The two wed in 2003, settling in the US state of Virginia and eventually welcoming all four of their children in turn.

In 2011, Duncan was recruited to help start the open heart surgery program at Kelowna General Hospital. Now as the Director of Cardiac Anesthesia for KGH and a Clinical Assistant Professor in the UBC Department of Anesthesiology, Duncan and his family have settled in to local, day-to-day, Catholic family life.

"I attended Catholic school and it was a positive experience – being raised in a home where the faith was encouraged and lived. St. Joseph's School functions as an integral part of the Kelowna Catholic community for all of us." As a busy family and regular parishioners of St. Charles Garnier church, Duncan's wife Mary also finds time to volunteer in the music ministry, children's liturgy and even the hospitality committee at St. Joseph School.

"Obviously with four children at St. Joseph's between kindergarten and Grade 4, we stand to gain a great benefit from a new school, but the bigger reason is that the physical buildings are old and need to be replaced. This school functions as an integral part of the Kelowna Catholic community for all of us, whether you have children attending the school or not."

The Masterpiece Campaign seeks to raise the funds necessary to successfully complete the addition and wholesale renovation of St. Joseph Elementary School. With a budget of \$4.8 million and more than \$2.4 million already raised, Duncan is quick to explain why it's so important this fundraising project succeed.

"St. Joseph's school is another part of the great Catholic outreach that extends beyond the four walls of the church. Supporting that mission and Catholic education through St. Joseph's must continue for as long as we are part of the Kelowna Catholic community." Dr. De Souza is committed to doing his best to support this extremely critical Catholic legacy project.

If you would like more information on providing a legacy donation to **THE MASTERPIECE CAMPAIGN** please contact Holly Routley at <u>HRoutley@cisnd.ca</u> or (250) 575-6996