

February 6, 2026

Hello Class of 2026 families,

I'm Tracy Bowman, Chair of the Grad 2026 Committee. I hope you enjoyed Wednesday's Grad Ring Blessing ceremony, the start of the season of grad events, and if you're like me, I'm sure you can hardly believe we are only five months away from our sons' high school graduation. It's an exciting and overwhelming time—for both our sons and us as families—as we prepare for what comes next after St. Paul's High School.

Our dedicated parent volunteer committee has been meeting since December 2024, first alongside the Grad 2025 committee and, for the past seven months, fully focused on planning a memorable, fun, and safe Grad 2026. I also attended Safe Grad 2025 to see firsthand what the evening involves.

Grad and Safe Grad will take place on **Friday, June 19** at the **RBC Convention Centre (York Ballroom, first floor)**. The reception begins at **5:00 p.m.**, dinner at **6:00 p.m.**, and Safe Grad runs from **9:30 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.**—a long but special night for everyone.

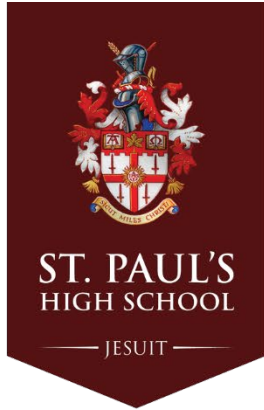
Thank you to all Grade 12 families for supporting the **Crusader Raffle**. Together, we raised **\$15,270**, the second-highest total in its history, plus **\$1,600** in grad apparel sales. These funds allow us to reduce ticket prices this year to **\$90 for dinner** and **\$70 for Safe Grad**.

A grade 12 families meeting will be held on **Monday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m.** in the St. Paul's High School Multiplex. One parent or guardian per family is asked to attend, as important information will be shared. Ticket sales and volunteer sign-up will launch the following day.

Student input has been central to planning. The boys selected a **Casino Royale** theme, which we're interpreting with a bold Vegas-style décor. A second survey helped shape Safe Grad food, games, and prizes, including several new activities—some firsts for a St. Paul's Safe Grad. The grad song is still to be determined and may require an additional survey. Some of the boys will soon be attending a meal tasting at the RBC Convention Centre to provide their advice on the dinner menu.

The boys will be periodically receiving information from custom suit establishments, like St. Paul's High School alumni-owned business, EPH Apparel. Please note we are just sharing information, no formal presentations will be given at the school, and the decision of where to purchase or rent a suit or tuxedo is up to you.

We will need **70+ volunteers** for Safe Grad and for room setup on June 19. As we do not have the budget to hire full setup crews, family support is essential. Besides volunteering, families can also help by donating prizes or sharing vendor contacts for décor, food, or prizes.



If you can assist with prize donations, share contacts, or have questions, please contact me at tbowman@stpauls.mb.ca.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to celebrating this important milestone with our sons on June 19.

Tracy Bowman
Chair, Grad 2026 Committee