



# Media Release

For Immediate Release  
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## Major Milestone as Grand Erie Elementary School Turns 100

**Brantford, Ont.** – Major Ballachey Public School in Brantford is celebrating its 100 anniversary on October 10, and the public is invited to take part in the festivities by visiting the school, learning more about its history, and reminiscing with current and former students, staff, and community members.

“A lot has changed in 100 years, but the sense of community and spirit of cooperation remains constant,” said Greg Anderson, Grand Erie District School Board Chair, of Major Ballachey, which is one of the oldest schools in the Board. “Major Ballachey holds a special place in the hearts of many, so we’re thrilled to be marking this milestone with everyone.”

The school may be 100 years-old, but it certainly isn’t worse for wear. Thanks to considerate updates and retrofits over the decades, Major Ballachey meets contemporary needs, while retaining its historic charm. Last year, a three-level elevator addition was installed to make the building fully accessible. The library was also converted to a learning commons with new technological features and furniture elements to enhance collaboration and 21<sup>st</sup>-century learning strategies.

The school was named for Major Panayoty Percy Ballachey who was killed in action during World War I. Ballachey had been involved in public education, serving as a Trustee for the former Brantford Board of Education. Constructed in 1919, the school’s naming honoured the community’s debt to Ballachey’s ultimate sacrifice.

Grand Erie’s Multi-Year Plan, *Success for Every Student*, includes a focus on Environment, which places importance on maintaining and upgrading schools to make the best use of space, improve energy and conservation, and ensure continuity of services and programs.

### Major Ballachey Public School Celebrates 100 Years:

- Thursday, October 10, 2019 • 6-7:30 p.m.
- 105 Rawdon Street, Brantford
- Speeches and cake-cutting to kick off the event, areas of the school will be open for tours, and historic items and photos from the Archives will be on display

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