



COLLINGWOOD SCHOOL

ALUMNOTES

November 19, 2021

Dear Collingwood Alumni and Alumni Families,

Alumnnotes is evolving! We will continue to curate alumni news and life updates, but we are now also using this platform as a way to send you information about events at Collingwood and how you can get involved in school and student initiatives.

Our new [Strategic Plan](#) includes a commitment to Forward Focused Learning. One of our priorities within, is to provide unique student-centred projects and programs to deepen learning and to leverage world class businesses and organizations. We also want to strengthen the engagement between each of you as alumni to our School. Naturally, we see some symmetry here and in the coming years, we would like to better utilize our alumni network and your expertise as a resource for our students. As such, we are also excited to announce the re-launch of our Collingwood Alumni instagram account ([@CollingwoodAlumni](#)) and [Facebook page](#)!

Follow us for throwbacks, updates and be the first to find out the details about our upcoming alumni events!

Collingwood's Strategic Plan: A Note from Lisa Evans



Dear Collingwood Alumni and Alumni Families,

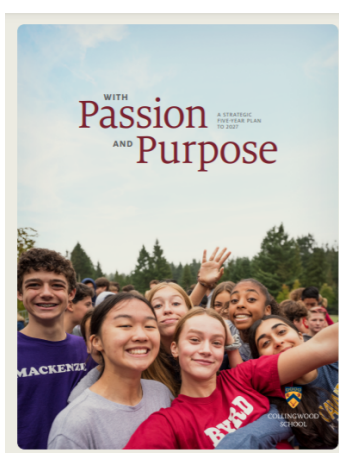
As shared in my [email](#) to you on October 25, 2021, we are excited to share our new strategic plan with you, and to express gratitude for your support and participation in this comprehensive stakeholder engagement process.

Your input – along with the contributions of our students, families, faculty and staff, and Board of Governors – was instrumental in shaping With Passion and Purpose: A Strategic Plan for Collingwood. If you haven't already had the chance to do so, please watch our launch video [here](#) or read the full [strategic plan](#).

This plan is a 5-year plan, charting the course towards our 40th anniversary in 2024 and beyond. It will guide our School as we continue to inspire and support young people for meaningful lives.

Warmly,

Lisa Evans
Head of School



Message from Tim O' Neill, Chair of Alumni Executive Committee



Dear Fellow Alumni,

The Collingwood Alumni Executive Committee and I are thrilled to be on the path back to some more normalcy within the committee and the programming and events that you have become used to over the years. Thank you for all the support you provided over a challenging 18-month period where we were forced to pivot to almost exclusively virtual events and programming. The

executive committee is committed to bringing the best of what the alumni have come to expect - events such as class reunions and holiday socials, and drive the alumni to more engagement and mentorship opportunities with our senior school students. It is an amazing opportunity for all of us as alumni to look to support the upper school with the breadth of knowledge and experiences from our diverse careers and backgrounds. Please join me in firming up your commitment to supporting the School and the continually evolving programming that supports the growth and trajectory of our senior school students.

So how can you help and get involved? Collingwood has an exciting schedule set up starting in the new year. The Collingwood Business Organization (CBO) has a number of events, competitions and speaker series in which alumni would be welcome to help support, judge and speak at. In the spring the school will continue on with it's successful Collingwood U series in which alumni, parents and friends of the school connect with the upper school for engaging career-orientated presentations and mentorship.

Our doors are always open to your involvement and feedback and I look forward to seeing many of you at upcoming in-person gatherings.

Best regards,

Tim O'Neill
Chair, Alumni Executive Committee

Developments to the Advancement Team

We would like to welcome our new Executive Director of Advancement, Rebecca Kerbel and Associate Director of Advancement, Khushboo Moolchandani to Collingwood. Rebecca Kerbel and Khushboo Moolchandani work closely with Annabelle Lin (Alumni Coordinator) and the Collingwood Alumni Executive Committee to plan and make decisions on alumni events and alumni programming.



Rebecca Kerbel is an experienced Director of Philanthropy and Advancement with more than 15 years of experience in fundraising and donor stewardship. Rebecca comes to Collingwood from West Point Grey Academy (WPGA) and is proud of the work that she did there in developing strong relationships with staff, parents, volunteers, students and Alumni.

She looks forward to creating a similar collaborative and communicative environment here at Collingwood and believes that creating robust connections with the School is at the heart of developing a sustainable culture of philanthropy.

Khushboo Moolchandani joins Collingwood in her 10th year of working in Advancement in JK-12 schools, most recently from West Point Grey Academy. She has expertise around donor engagement, stewardship, communications and building an alumni program. She has successfully implemented new programs, connected with the community and focused on clear and innovative ways of communicating school-wide. Khushboo brings her genuine interest in getting to know the Collingwood community, a passion for education and philanthropy along with her positive energy and big smile.



Do you have an idea of what you would like from Collingwood's alumni programming? We would love to hear from you! Contact us at [alumni@collingwood.org](#).

Upcoming Events

Join us in person to celebrate the holidays, December 14!

We are excited to welcome you back to our Morven Campus on December 14, 5:00pm-7:00pm, for our holiday social! Food, drink and holiday cheer will be provided.

Invitations to follow. Proof of vaccination will be required.

CAVs Business Lunch Returns!

Save the date for February 3, where our CAVs Business Lunch returns at Glowbal at Telus Garden. Join us for a 2 hour lunch-and-learn and get to mingle with your fellow alumni. This event is capped at 20 attendees. Please reach out to [alumni@collingwood.org](#) with your interest!

Save the Date

The Collingwood Alumni Association is proud to announce a 90-minute webinar with Darci Lang, author and motivational speaker.



Do you feel that you are more focused on the negatives than the positives in every situation? Do you feel that this affects your relationships with your family, friends and co-workers? Please join us for this interactive webinar where you will get to share personal experiences, ask questions and learn about ways you can better connect with others.

Coming January 2022! (Date to be announced soon.) For more information, reach out to [alumni@collingwood.org](#).

Ways You Can Get Involved

Become a speaker for the Collingwood Business Organization!

If you would like to help out as a guest speaker, workshop facilitator, mentor or are interested in participating in our networking event, please contact Entrepreneurship 12 teacher [Sylvia Lau](#).

Visit [here](#) for more info.

Alumni News

Wedding Announcements



Congratulations to [Alumni Executive Committee Chair](#), Tim O'Neill ('96) and Sara Enns, who were married on September 25, 2021! They celebrated the event with Tim's daughter, Arianna O'Neill (pictured), a member of the Collingwood class of 2030!

Two Generations of Collingwood Students!

Welcoming our Alumni back as Collingwood parents makes us happy! We are so happy to welcome back Alissa Rouben ('97), Emily Schwede ('94) and Erin O'Neill ('01) as parents at Collingwood!

Pictured are our legacy families:



Alissa Rouben ('97) and Oskar Rouben ('32)

Staff & Faculty Acknowledgement



Founding Collingwood teacher and long-serving employee – Sandra Dawson passed away from breast cancer on October 4 at age 81.

Sandra was a member of Collingwood’s first Faculty, and here for the opening of our School (at the current Morven Campus site) in September 1984. She taught mostly in the Intermediate Years Program, working with Grade 4 students. Sandra always had a passion for students who struggled, and soon joined our newly implemented KEY Program for students with identified learning difficulties.

Sandra and her husband, Ken, were renowned for hosting epic staff parties at their home, making sure that there was a strong sense of community between colleagues both professionally and personally. Sandra was a colleague and a friend to many during her 14 year career at Collingwood, and had a very positive impact on the students that she taught. Sandra will be missed.

David Buchan’s Departure



After 25 years, David Buchan has decided it’s time to finish his career at Collingwood and is looking forward to exploring other opportunities and adventures in life.

David joined Collingwood in September 1996 as the Band teacher, and went on to teach students in both choral music and instrumental music during his career here. Through the creation of a caring and fun learning environment, and his strong rapport and ability to listen to his students, David established a strong instrumental music program that exists to this day!

David has inspired many students and staff over the years. We will always remember hearing the sound of singing in the Commons, the stairwells of Morven, and outside the Choir Room early in the morning as we arrive. And we will cherish the strong relationships that David created with many of us over the more than two decades he’s spent here at the School.

Please join us in wishing David the very best as he continues to share his love of music with others, and takes time for himself as he explores this next stage in life.

Should you wish to reach out to David Buchan, please contact alumni@collingwood.org.

For more information on alumni programming and how you can get involved, please contact:

Annabelle Lin

Advancement Alumni Coordinator
annabelle.lin@collingwood.org
604-925-3331 ext. 1186



Emily Schwede (‘94) and Kayla Schwede (‘35)



Erin O’Neill (‘01), Bradley Weese (‘35) and Matthew Weese (‘33)

Stay Connected

Update Your Contact Info:

Want to stay in the loop about alumni events, ways to get involved at Collingwood and receive alumni SWAG? Keep us up-to-date with your contact information by [filling out this form](#).

Collingwood Alumni Instagram:

Our alumni instagram is being refreshed! Be sure to [follow us](#) for throwbacks and updates on our upcoming events.

Join the Alumni Network Group on [Linkedin](#) and ‘Like’ us on [Facebook](#)!



Bridge Magazine

Our Collingwood School magazine is sent out three times a year and goes in-depth into everything that is happening at Collingwood. Would you like to receive a copy? Please reach out to alumni@collingwood.org and we’d be happy to mail you one!

What’s happening at Collingwood?



Class of 2022 Tie Ceremony

Do you remember the first day of school in your last year at Collingwood? This September, the Class of 2022 marked off their final year at Collingwood with the traditional tie ceremony! We were excited to commemorate the occasion with their parents, who were able to be present at the outdoor event and invited back on campus since the start of the pandemic.

Congratulations, Class of 2022! We look forward to you being the newest members of the Collingwood Alumni Association.



Grad and Kindie Buddies

For a few years now, Grade 12 students have been matched up with our students at Wentworth. This gives an opportunity for two classes at Collingwood to meet and connect as Grad and Kindie buddies! While this event would usually have been a lunch, this year our Class of 2022 and Class of 2024 got creative and embarked on a pumpkin search! It was a great success!



Madison Mailey Visit

Olympic gold medallists, Madison Mailey (‘14) and Maxwell Lattimer visited the Morven campus to speak to our Sports Science 12 students about grit and the perseverance of your goals. Students even got to try on the medal and congratulate Madison on her win as part of the Women’s 8 rowing team in Tokyo!

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