



COLLINGWOOD SCHOOL

ALUMNOTES

Dear Collingwood Alumni and Alumni Families,

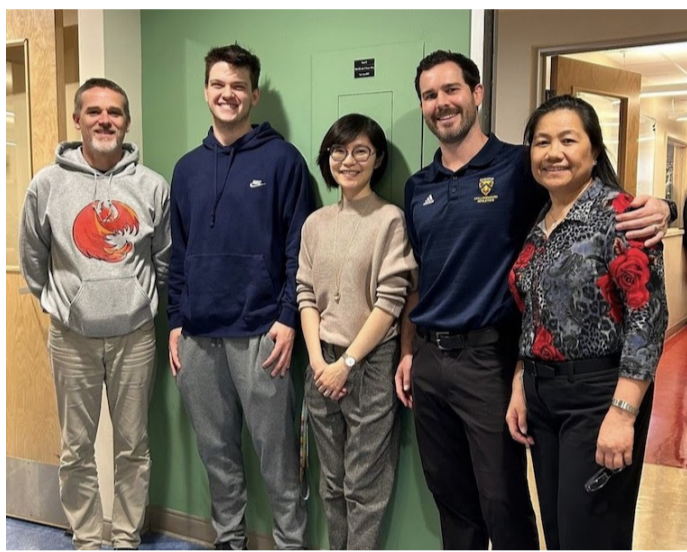
The school year is coming to a close and with that, we bring you the final issue of Alumnotes for 2022-2023! This has been such an exciting year for us as we've had the opportunity to connect in person, welcome alumni back into the school and host new events to reconnect our community in other ways, such as the Parent Alumni Mixer and Homecoming. We are so excited to continue this momentum into the next school year, and bring you even more events and opportunities to connect in 2023-2024. We hope you have a restful and relaxing summer and we can't wait to reconnect in the fall.

Advancement Team

FAREWELL TO MR. RAVENSBERGEN

This school year marks the retirement of beloved faculty member James Ravensbergen. James joined Collingwood as a faculty member 29 years ago, fresh out of university, as his first role in teaching. James has been an integral member of the Collingwood community, and is always on the list of teachers to visit when alumni return to CW. We will miss him tremendously, but we are so excited for him in this new chapter - we wish you all the best, James!

If you would like to send well wishes or stay in touch with James, please reach us at alumni@collingwood.org and we will forward your message or contact information along to Mr. Ravensbergen.



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023



We are so proud of our graduating class of 2023, and so excited to welcome them all to the Alumni Association! This exceptional group of hard working and determined students have persevered and successfully closed the chapter on their high school experience. Much of their time at Morven was painted by the realities of the Covid-19 pandemic; however, in this final year they have come together to exemplify our values of Community, Courage, and Curiosity. We are so excited for the next adventure these grads are about to undertake; whether it's further education, work, travel, or any other path they choose to follow.

Class of 2023, good luck, and we can't wait to reconnect with you soon!

THEN & NOW

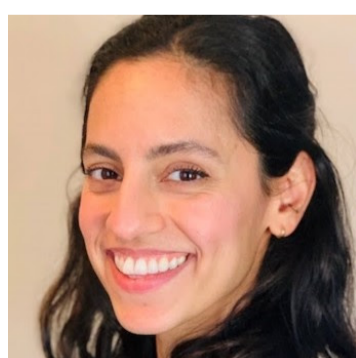
In September, Alumni Executive Chair, Ariana Sairafi, was reunited with her kindie buddy at the Welcome Back BBQ! Ariana graduated with the class of 2011, and along with her partner, Elyse Ancrum, was paired with then kindergartener, Isabella Szeto. Isabella is now graduating from Collingwood along with the class of 2023!



There is something so special about witnessing these full circle moments with our alumni, and seeing connections which last through the years. We are so excited for Isabella and wish her all the best in her upcoming adventures after CW. We can't wait to see where life takes her!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS!

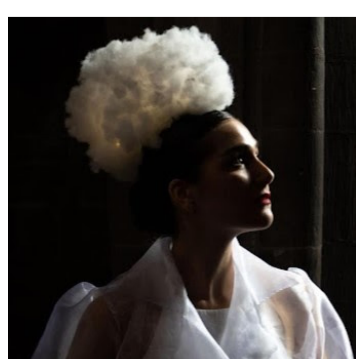
Thank you to all who submitted a nomination for our Alumni Awards! It is so important for us to recognize the successes and hard work of our alumni, and we are so lucky at Collingwood to have such an impressive group of alumni to honour.



Abrisham Eshghi, 2008, is the winner of the **Alumni Association Honours Award** for his work with the Children's Justice Unit of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office and Judicial Court.



Dan Sander, 1997, is the winner of the **Alumni Association Volunteer Award** for his years of service on both the Alumni Executive Committee as well as the Board of Governors.



Elena Unger, 2015, is the winner of the **Mackenzie Award for Arts** for her success as an artist. In the last year alone, Elena's work has been featured in British Vogue as well as exhibited at the Saatchi Gallery in London.

Maegan Beres, 2017, is the winner of the **Mackenzie Award for Athletics** for her athletic pursuits and successes as a

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

Bridge is now digital only!

Our Collingwood magazine is sent tri-annually, and gives an in-depth look at what is happening in the community.

Email us at alumni@collingwood.org to be added to the Bridge mailing list.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

Collingwood U

In the last couple of years, Morgan McLaughlin has led our Grade 12s in an exciting opportunity which hopes to prepare them for life after Collingwood: Collingwood U. This program, which runs during the final two months of the school year, welcomes alumni, parents, and other members of the Collingwood community to speak to students about their university and career experiences, and provide them hands-on learning opportunities. The grads of 2023 have learned about everything from jobs in aviation and anaesthesia, to making an eye-catching and informative LinkedIn profile, to making gnocchi at home, to name just a few.

We are so grateful to everyone who volunteers their time and energy to help Collingwood U to help support our grads. As alumni, Collingwood U is a great opportunity to give back to the Collingwood community and to stay connected with the school. If you're interested in participating in future events, please contact alumni@collingwood.org.

ALUMNI SURVEY RESULTS

Full report coming this fall

We are so appreciative to every individual that completed our alumni survey last fall. We want to assure you that we will be using this feedback to make meaningful and positive changes to the experiences of our students. We have met with our school Senior Leadership Team, the Alumni Executive Committee, and our academic team, and shared the results of the survey



player for Canada's only professional women's hockey team: the Toronto 6, as well for her commitment to mentoring aspiring female hockey players.



Sasha Faris, 2005, is the winner of the **Mackenzie Award for Service** for his work helping find temporary housing for Ukrainian refugees, as part of the Maple Hope Foundation's "Operation Welcome Home."

For more information about each of these incredible alumni, or to nominate an alumni for the 2023/2024 Alumni Awards, please visit collingwood.org/alumni.

ALUMNI NEWS

Record Breaking



Earlier this year, Collingwood alumnus Miles Cloutier, 2008, and his partner Beth Neale broke the Guinness World Record for longest underwater kiss. At four minutes and six seconds, Miles and Beth beat the previous record by 42 seconds! For more of their freediving content, you can [follow](#) along on Beth and Miles' adventures.

Dear M



Clara Chalmers, 2021, made the top 5 for the 2023 CBC Short Story Prize shortlist for her short story *Dear M*. All five of the finalists had their work published on CBC Books, as well as received a financial award from the Canada Council for the Arts. Click [here](#) to read Clara's story which was inspired by reflections and observations of the Covid-19 pandemic.

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

This spring we hosted our first ever Homecoming! The Homecoming weekend offered all our alumni the opportunity to reconnect with one another and the school!

Homecoming



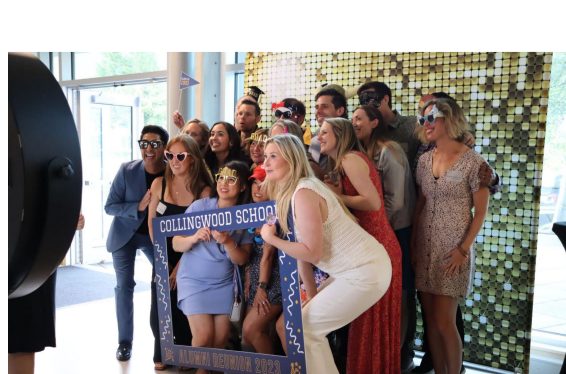
The weekend kicked off by welcoming back alumni and their families to Morven, and offering tours of the campus. Some who joined for tours returned to the all-too-familiar hallways after only graduating a year ago, while others hadn't been at Collingwood since the renovation and were trying (and struggling) to orient themselves in relation to the old building. Following the tours, guests were privy to an alumni panel hosted by the Alumni Executive Committee's very own, Joey Tai, 2006. Joey led the panel of alumni in a conversation about their individual successes and how Collingwood prepared them and shaped them for their professional careers. The panel featured alumni from across the years and who represented different strands. It was made up of Alexander Kerfoot '12, Kate Perry '03, Damara Jacobs-Petersen '00, Emma Richmond '93, and Elena Unger '15. The night ended with a BBQ and an opportunity for alumni to mingle and reconnect with one another and with faculty and staff. This first homecoming event was a huge success and we can't wait for next year's!



Class Reunions



Homecoming weekend coincided with our class reunions, to offer alumni multiple opportunities to get together while folks were in town. On Saturday, we hosted the 10, 20, and 30 year reunions for our classes of 2013, 2003, and 1993. It is such a unique privilege to witness the bonds between classmates, and between faculty and students, and how even after a decade (or two, or three...) apart, peers can come back together and it seems like no time has passed. Those who attended enjoyed reminiscing over photos and old yearbooks, taking a school tour led by our fearless leader, Lisa Evans, and were privy to a very special musical performance from James Lumsden and Taylor Johnson of the class of 2003.



with them. In the fall we will be sending out a comprehensive report of the results of the survey, along with our plan for integrating some of the feedback into our curriculum.

Much of the feedback we received around our alumni programming was that it was exclusionary to those who no longer live in and around Metro Vancouver. As a team, we are working out the logistics of having alumni meetups outside of Vancouver. Stay tuned for more information and make sure you follow us on [social media](#) and your contact information is [up-to-date](#) so that you know if a Collingwood alumni meetup is happening in a city near you!

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](#).

Be sure to follow us for throwbacks and updates on our upcoming events:



Join the Alumni Network Group on LinkedIn:



Or 'Like' and 'Follow'!





Homecoming Weekend ended on a sweaty note - with Alumni Executive Committee Chair, Ariana Sairafi, organizing an exclusive F45 workout class for Collingwood Alumni. After a weekend of reconnecting and socializing, this was a fun way for alumni to gather once more over this special weekend, and to end off their weekend feeling strong (and a little sweaty).

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

[Catherine Brent](#)
Alumni Coordinator

[Khushboo Moolchandani](#)
Associate Director of Advancement

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Collingwood School
70 Morven Drive, West Vancouver, BC V7S 1B2