



COLLINGWOOD SCHOOL

ALUMNOTES

Dear Collingwood Alumni and Alumni Families,

The days are getting longer and the energy in the hallways at Collingwood is palpable as students begin the final push to the end of the school year. We are so appreciative to all of the alumni and families who have engaged with us in some way already this year, and we still have more events and opportunities to interact with the school as we approach summer, including our family-friendly [Alumni Homecoming](#), as well as our [milestone reunions](#) for the classes of 1994, 2004, and 2014. Whether you are seeking to network with new folks, reconnect with your former peers and teachers, or wanting to share your knowledge and experience with current Collingwood students, there are numerous ways for our alumni to remain connected with the Collingwood Community. We hope to see you at one of our upcoming events, or to connect virtually with you on any one of our social media pages!

We also want to encourage our community to consider nominating an alumni for one of three Alumni Awards, awarded annually by the Collingwood Alumni Association. Scroll down to learn more about how you can help us recognize the achievements of individuals in our alumni community.

If you have any questions, concerns, or if you'd like to connect, please contact us at [alumni@collingwood.org](mailto:alumni@collingwood.org).

- Advancement Team

MEET YOUR ALUMNI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Collingwood Alumni Association is lucky to receive volunteer support from the Alumni Executive Committee. This hardworking group of alumni devote their time and energy to supporting the efforts of the Alumni Association, by assisting with the execution of events, fostering the connections between alumni and the school, and promoting the various ways that alumni can engage with the Collingwood Community. You can learn more about the Alumni Executive Committee [here](#).



- Clockwise from top left:
- Ariana Sairafi**, Chair, Grad 2011
  - Joey Tai**, Grad 2006
  - Claire Longcroft**, Grad 2013
  - Joey Jin Kim**, Grad 2010
  - Dara Djafarian**, Grad 2007
  - Katrina Davis**, Grad 2011
  - Tansy Cai**, Grad 2016
  - Sasha Faris**, Grad 2005

PROJECT EXCELLENCE

We are incredibly excited to introduce a project that is bringing some big changes and new purpose-built spaces to our Morven Campus, including a **Centre of Excellence for STEEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Entrepreneurship, and Math)** and a new **Learning Commons in the heart of the Campus**.

"Project Excellence" is set to catapult our students to success and elevate Collingwood School's technology and innovative learning.

Project Excellence will allow us to combine our strength in delivering STEM education alongside our growing Entrepreneurial programming to create the Centre of Excellence in STEEM – as well as utilizing the current space on the first-floor main hall to build a new, elevated Learning Commons space that will become home to the new Senior School library and so much more.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Project Excellence.

ALUMNI AWARD NOMINATIONS

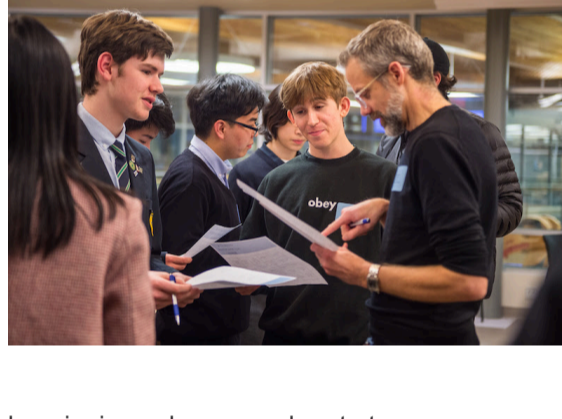
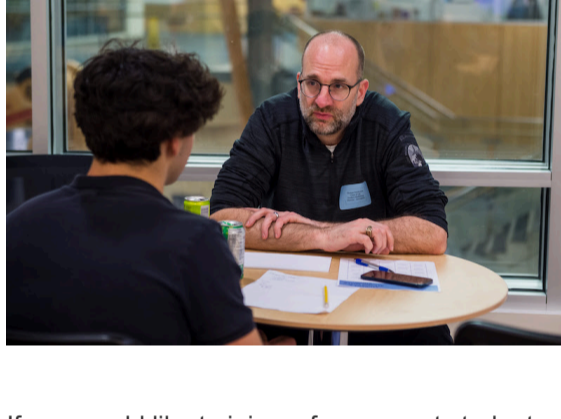
To recognize the excellence and growth of members in our alumni network, each year the Collingwood community has the opportunity to nominate alumni for three prestigious awards: The Mackenzie Awards, the Alumni Association Honours Award and the Alumni Association Volunteer Award. The Mackenzie Awards are presented to alumni who have exhibited outstanding performance in one of the four strands (Academics, Athletics, Arts, or Service). The Alumni Association Honours Award recognizes outstanding accomplishments as a result of business or professional achievements, or the display of courage in the face of adversity. The Alumni Association Volunteer Award recognizes an alumni for service to the Alumni Association and/or Collingwood School.

If you wish to nominate someone, or wish to learn more about the Alumni Awards, please fill out [this form](#). Award recipients will be announced in the first quarter of 2024.

RECENT ALUMNI EVENTS

Student and Alumni Mixer

We recently held our first Student and Alumni Mixer, which was an expanded version of the annual mixer event we host between the members of the Student and Alumni Executives. This new event was open to all alumni and students in grades 11 and 12, and provided an opportunity for students to learn about the careers of various alumni, and the paths that led them to where they are today. For our students, this is an incredible chance to ask about all the unknowns that come with graduating high school, and to learn about educational and career opportunities they may have not been aware of. For our alumni, this is both a great opportunity to network, as well as a chance to reconnect with the school and engage with upcoming grads.



If you would like to join us for our next student and alumni mixer, please reach out at [alumni@collingwood.org](mailto:alumni@collingwood.org) to ensure you receive communications for this and other future events.

CAVS Business Lunch with Tina Beer Hamlin

Last week we held our alumni-favourite CAVS Business Lunch, featuring **Tina Beer Hamlin '93**. Tina is the Co-Owner and Senior Appraiser at Coast Consignment, a woman- and family-owned business on the North Shore. This conversation shared insights into navigating the business world as a woman, balancing the demands of owning a business, and the importance and benefits of shopping secondhand.

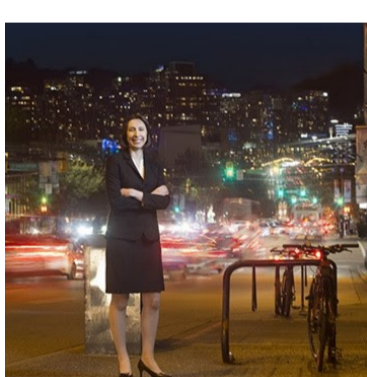
We are so appreciative to Tina for speaking, and to Claire Longcroft '13 for leading this fantastic conversation, and can't wait for the next CAVS Business Lunch!



ALUMNI NEWS

Women in Law

**Elisabeth Sadowski '05** is a litigation lawyer at Hammerco Lawyers LLP, off the heels of serving as the president of the Trial Lawyers Association of British Columbia for 2023. In the organization's 40+ year history, Elisabeth was only the 6th woman to hold the title of president, and she is now serving as the immediate past president. Born and raised in Vancouver, Elisabeth strongly believes in giving back to her local and legal communities. She has served on several executives and boards, including nearly a decade on the board of CLICK: Contributing to Lives of Inner City Kids, along with her current roles with Parkinson Society British Columbia and the discipline committee of The Vancouver Club.



**Megan O'Neill '10** is a Senior Associate Lawyer at Farris LLP and was recently awarded the Association for Corporate Growth's 'Rising Stars Award' for 2023. This inaugural award recognizes the contributions of emerging leaders in the Vancouver deal community who have contributed to the prosperity of BC middle market companies through dealmaking. Megan focuses her legal practice on mid-market private M&A deals, principally in the hospitality and beverage industries, including the BC wine industry in the Okanagan and on Vancouver Island.



**Stop, Stop, Stop!**

**Megan Smith '16** has recently published her first children's book! Inspired by Megan's education and work in psychology, her love of working with children, and her own experiences with ADHD, "Stop Stop Stop!" explores the challenges that children with ADHD face in school and at home. Written in rhyming verse and filled with fun and colourful illustrations, the book reminds young readers to embrace their differences and that anyone can be successful with the right tools and support.



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:



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

**Catherine Brent & Nicola Blackman**

[alumni@collingwood.org](mailto:alumni@collingwood.org)



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](mailto:alumni@collingwood.org) to be added to the Bridge mailing list.

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT WITH US

Upcoming Events

**Saturday, May 4th** - Reunions | Classes of 1994, 2004, 2014

We are so excited to welcome back our alumni from the classes of '14, '04, and '94 to celebrate their 10th, 20th, and 30th class reunions! [RSVP](#) now.

**Sunday, May 5th** - Homecoming

Join us for the 2nd annual Alumni Homecoming! This family-friendly event includes opportunities to sit in on an alumni panel, enjoy a BBQ catered by Vera's Burgers, and spectate or play in an alumni basketball game. We can't wait to see you there! [RSVP](#) now.

Out-of-Town Events

Our efforts to continue offering events and meetups for our alumni outside of Vancouver continue, with meetups happening in Chicago, USA and around China next month. If you would like to take part in a Collingwood Alumni event in your city, [let us know](#) where we should visit next!

Alumni Events in China

Head of School Lisa Evans, Executive Director of Advancement Rebecca Kerbel, and Director of Enrollment, Scholarships and Financial Assistance Lindsay Thierry will be visiting China in April. We invite you, our alumni, to join us for dinner with other alumni and current parents:

- Shanghai, Saturday, April 6th
- Beijing, Tuesday, April 9th
- Hong Kong, Thursday, April 11th

Please [RSVP](#) and select which event you will be attending. We will share event details closer to the date.

Social Impact Labs

We're calling past students to take action and help Careers4U, a social impact lab run by Collingwood students. Whether you are in university or have a job, we are interested in interviewing any educational or career path. The interviews are less than 15 minutes long in person (Vancouver) or via Zoom. These interviews will then be posted to YouTube to share with other students. It's important for us to cover a wide range of careers because our goal is to help students find their passions and gain insights into various professions. Please email [hannah.lee@mycw.org](mailto:hannah.lee@mycw.org) if you are interested in being interviewed, or have any questions.

