



Dear Collingwood Alumni and Alumni Families,

The dreary dawn of winter is waning. The day is longer, the sun is brighter, and student laughter fills the wide open spaces on campus—Finnie Plaza is vibrant with volleyball circles, and the pitch is packed: early morning soccer, break-to-lunch students playing, and rugby teams flank their way to the field. The school is alive with the promise of spring... and summer, soon to follow.

With the school year's end in sight, we extend every welcome and opportunity for our alumni community to get involved and connect with one another before the chaos (the good kind, of course) of the summer season is in full swing. Join us for Collingwood's family-friendly **Alumni Homecoming** and **milestone reunions** for the **classes of 1995, 2005, and 2015**. Whether you're looking to network with new faces, reconnect with old friends and teachers, or share your expertise with current Collingwood students, there are many ways for our alumni to stay engaged with the Collingwood community.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events or connecting with you virtually on our social media pages!

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you'd like to connect, please contact us at alumni@collingwood.org.

- Advancement Team

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE ALUMNI EXECUTIVE

Dear fellow alumni,

Join the Alumni Executive Committee!

The Collingwood Alumni Executive Committee is looking for passionate alumni to help shape and grow our alumni community. If you're excited about fostering meaningful connections, giving back, and helping students or fellow alumni thrive, we'd love to have you on board!

As a committee member, you'll play an active role in building a welcoming and inclusive alumni network by:

- Attending monthly meetings where we brainstorm initiatives, plan events, and collaborate on ways to strengthen our network.
- Participating in alumni and school events, from networking mixers to mentorship opportunities.
- Helping design meaningful experiences that connect alumni with students, foster mentorship, and celebrate our incredible community.

If you (or someone you know) would be a great fit, please send a short statement of interest to alumni@collingwood.org or reach out directly to arianasairafi@gmail.com by **Tuesday, April 22**. We look forward to hearing from you!

Alumni Association Awards Nominations – Deadline March 15

Do you know a Collingwood alum who deserves recognition for their accomplishments? Nominate them for an Alumni Association Award! These awards celebrate alumni who have made a meaningful impact in their field or in service to our community.

- **The Mackenzie Award** – Recognizing alumni who have excelled in one of Collingwood's Four Strands: Academics, Athletics, Arts, or Service.
- **The Alumni Association Honours Award** – Celebrating alumni who have made remarkable contributions in their professional careers or demonstrated resilience in overcoming challenges.
- **The Alumni Association Volunteer Award** – Honouring alumni who have shown outstanding dedication to the Alumni Association and/or Collingwood School.

Good people know good people—help us celebrate their achievements! Submit your nomination by **Saturday, March 15**.

I am looking forward to connecting with many of you soon!

Ariana Sairafi
Chair, Alumni Executive Committee

ALUMNI MEETUP IN SHANGHAI, BEIJING, AND HONG KONG



Collingwood School is excited to return to China to visit with our alumni and families. **Lisa Evans**, Head of School and **Rebecca Kerbel**, Executive Director of Admissions and Advancement, are thrilled to visit Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong.

Please **RSVP** here to join!

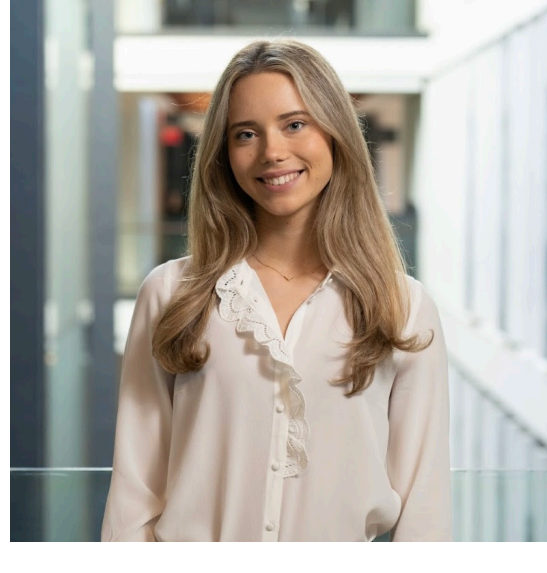
Shanghai: Wednesday, April 9
Beijing: Sunday, April 13
Hong Kong: Tuesday, April 15

If you have any questions or would like to secure your spot, please email advancement@collingwood.org.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT | BUILDING CONNECTION

Ella van der Werff's Journey with Sasha Faris

Ella '24 met **Sasha Faris '05** at our Student and Alumni Mixer at the end of Grade 12 and was immediately drawn to his story.



"When I started at UBC, I wanted to connect with my network from Collingwood more and decided to contact Sasha. Being in business school, there's a lot of emphasis on networking and meeting professionals. Doing so with someone I had more in common with, and who was very supportive, made the process much less intimidating than it usually is. As we continued to meet every couple of months, I asked if he was planning on opening any summer positions, and he found me an opportunity in his company! I'm excited to learn more from him and his team this summer and to gain hands-on experience."

Reflecting on this unique opportunity for Ella, Sasha Faris shared his thoughts: *"I think to have a Collingwood alumni join us as an intern for the summer just shows how strong our community can be. The network at collingwood could be a very powerful one, so*

through example, we want to showcase this through our connection with current students. For a school that gave so much to us, we are happy to be in a position to give back to it in this way."

We're thrilled to congratulate Ella on this incredible opportunity and can't wait to see what she accomplishes this summer!

JOIN ENCOUNTER 54 AS AN ALUMNI

Did you have an unforgettable experience at Encounter, or maybe you have no idea what it's all about but are curious to learn more? Either way, we'd love for you to join us! As an alumni participant, you'll have the chance to engage with current students during the program. While assigned to a cabin, you'll stay separately from the students. Please [complete this form](#) if you're interested in joining the April trip (April 11 - 13) or would like to be considered for future trips.

We look forward to having you with us!

RECENT EVENT

Student and Alumni Networking Mixer



On February 27, current Grade 10, 11, and 12 students had the chance to connect with members of our alumni community. They gained valuable insights into alumni experiences at Collingwood, their journeys to university, and how those experiences helped shape their personal and professional lives. Students were encouraged to ask questions about the transition to university, explore how skills learned at Collingwood have impacted careers, and hear firsthand about the diverse paths alumni have taken.

We were fortunate to have alumni from a wide range of industries, including Health and Innovation, Biotech & Pharmaceuticals, Law, Finance & Advisory, Entrepreneurship, and the Creative Industries.

A big thank you to all who participated—your presence made this event truly rewarding for both students and alumni. We look forward to creating more opportunities to connect current Collingwood students with our alumni community in the future!

If you're interested in participating in future mentorship opportunities, please reach out to alumni@collingwood.org. We're always excited to add more inspiring voices to our network.



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.

Update Your Contact Info:

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

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

Kayleigh Garland
alumni@collingwood.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

CAVS: Tartan Edition - Only 5 Spots Left!

We're excited to remind you about our upcoming event, **CAVS: Tartan Edition**, celebrating Collingwood's 40th anniversary! This unique gathering will offer a fresh perspective on our beloved alumni tradition and showcase the school's remarkable journey, as told by those who've shaped its history.

Our distinguished panel—including founding faculty, parents, and alumni—will share their stories, memories, and insights into the legacy that has made Collingwood such a vibrant community. This is a unique chance to connect with those who helped create the dynamic environment we all cherish.

Join us for this unforgettable event, featuring panellists such as Wendy Nielsen, Dave Speirs, Dr. Bob Corbett, Sue Barker, Ali Pirbhai '96, and Ariana Sairafi '11, and hosted by Lisa Evans, Head of School, and Alumni Host Sasha Faris '05.

Date: Friday, April 4, 2025
Time: 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM
Venue: The Vancouver Club – Georgian Room

As space is limited, please **RSVP** as soon as possible. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with you!

Homecoming 2025

We are thrilled to invite you to be a part of Collingwood's 3rd Annual Homecoming, a celebration that also marks our 40th Anniversary! This is your chance to reconnect with your classmates, cheer on the alumni in the Alumni vs. Students Basketball Game, and enjoy a



fun, family-friendly BBQ.

When: Friday, May 2, 2025 | 5:00 pm

Where: Morven Campus, [70 Morven Drive, West Vancouver](#)

Entertainment: Alumni vs. Students Basketball Game

Food: Family-friendly BBQ

Please [RSVP](#) by **Friday, April 18**, through our registration page. If you have any questions or need more information, please email alumni@collingwood.org.



30, 20, 10-year Reunions!



Join us on **Saturday, May 3**, as we celebrate the **30th, 20th, and 10th** reunions for the **1995, 2005, and 2015** graduating classes!

Reconnect with old friends, former faculty, and members of the Collingwood leadership team for an unforgettable evening of nostalgia, laughter, and celebration.

When: Saturday, May 3, 2025 | 6PM

Where: Morven Campus, [70 Morven Drive, West Vancouver](#)

Food & Entertainment: Canapés, drinks, a special treat, and a fun photo booth to capture memories!

RSVP by **Friday, April 18**, through our registration pages. We can't wait to see you there!

[1995 - 30 Year RSVP](#)

[2005 - 20 Year RSVP](#)

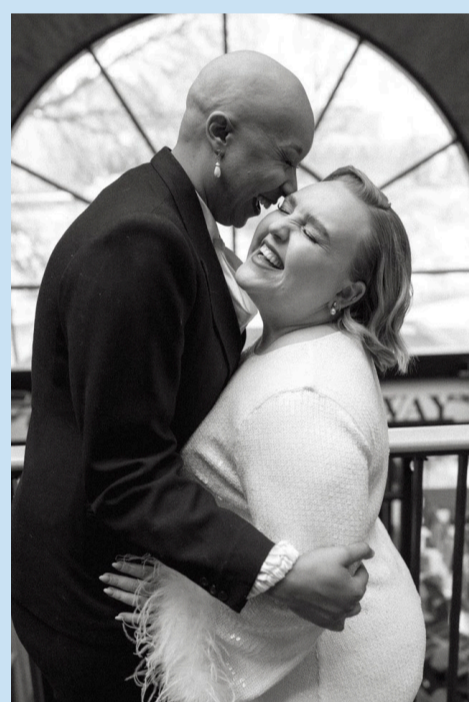
[2015 - 10 Year RSVP](#)



Can't Make It in Person?

We'd still love to include you in the celebration! Please send us a recent photo and a quick update on what you've been up to at alumni@collingwood.org, and we'll share it during the event.

ALUMNI NEWS



A Love Story: Sam Loren and Alicia Ogoms

Sam Lorens '12 and Alicia Ogoms—an athlete for Team Canada Women's Volleyball—recently tied the knot on their 3rd anniversary, celebrating with close family and friends, including Sam's maid of honour, Morgan Spence '13. The couple's journey together began long-distance while Alicia was playing volleyball in Italy, and Sam joined her in France in 2022. After living in France and Santorini, they moved back to Canada in December 2024 after Alicia's diagnosis of stage 3 breast cancer. Sam relays that Alicia is on a curative path to recovery and expects to return to full health by the end of 2025. They look forward to more celebrations this summer once Alicia is fully healed. We wish you both health and happiness, congratulations!

A hole-in-one for Lexi and Riley!

Lexi '12 and Riley are thrilled to announce their engagement! In January 2025, Riley popped the question in the most unforgettable way—right after Lexi scored a hole-in-one during a fun round of mini golf in Palm Springs. The couple first crossed paths in 2019, thanks to an introduction by their parents! Lexi is back at Collingwood School, where she's inspiring young minds as a Grade 1 teacher, while Riley serves the community in another way as a paramedic with BC Ambulance. Congratulations to this wonderful couple on their exciting next chapter!

Besties since the 2000s, Sam and Lexi were engaged a week apart!



Congratulations to Megan O'Neill '10 and Zac Wood

Megan and Zac got engaged in October 2024! The couple is excited to begin planning their wedding, set for July 2025 in West Vancouver.

We wish Megan and Zac all the happiness in the world as they prepare for this wonderful journey together!

Wonderful News from Tyler Elkington, class of 2008!

Tyler and his husband are overjoyed to announce the adoption of their beautiful baby girl in February 2025! Congratulations to the happy family as they embark on this fantastic journey filled with love and joy!

STAY CONNECTED

We're Hiring

We are seeking a **Spring Intern** to join our school at either our **Wentworth** or **Morven Campus**. The successful candidate is a current university student looking to join a vibrant teaching and learning community. This position is a Temporary Contract. The candidate will support students and the school during **May and June 2025** for approximately 40 hours a week from Monday to Friday. Open until March 31. [Apply here!](#)

Alumni Visits

We'd love to have you visit the school to reconnect with faculty and see some familiar faces! If you would like to visit, please contact us beforehand. With our updated visitor management system, all visitors—including Alumni—must be accompanied by a faculty or staff member at all times while in the building. Please email alumni@collingwood.org and include the date and time of your planned visit and any faculty members you'd like to see while you're here! Arriving without making an appointment may require returning on an alternate day.

We can't wait to see you soon!

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



'Like' us on Facebook.



Follow us for throwbacks and updates on upcoming events.



Join the Alumni Network Group on LinkedIn.