



St. Lawrence College

voyageur

The Magazine for Alumni
& Friends of St. Lawrence
College

Winter 2016

The Premier's Portfolio

Recognizing grads who make us
'Proud to Be SLC'

The Difference We Made

A look back at the Cornwall campaign



DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR SLC CLASSMATES ARE?

Help us help you find them! Reconnect with your friends and former classmates by participating in the SLC Alumni Directory!

Did you get the yellow postcard in the mail? We're hoping SLC Grads will call the 1-888 number and update their information in time for St. Lawrence College's 50th anniversary in 2017.

This exciting and valuable resource will help you plan your next class reunion or get-together, or just connect with the people who were important to you in your SLC journey.

Don't miss your opportunity to be part of this important project! It has been 20 years since our last Alumni Directory, so we're well past due for an update. Watch for the yellow postcard, or call **1-888-860-0847** to update your information today*

*You can choose what - if anything - you wish to have published, or ask for your update to only be shared with the SLC Alumni Office.


Alumni
St. Lawrence College

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How to reach us:

St. Lawrence College Alumni Office
 100 Portsmouth Avenue
 Kingston, ON K7L 5A6

Kingston (613) 544-5400, ext. 1635
 Brockville (613) 345-0660, ext. 1635
 Cornwall (613) 933-6080, ext. 1635
 North America (800) 228-4664

alumni@sl.on.ca
 stlawrencecollege.ca/alumni

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On the cover

Jack Collins, our first Premier's Award Recipient in 23 years, called Union Station his home office up until his retirement at the end of 2015.

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Photo: Bernard Clark

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Contributors:
 Janine Foster
 Dick Tindal
 Kris Ward

Photography:
 Bernard Clark
 Carol Grant
 Christina Zuback

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President's Page

The (real) Social Network

For SLC's 83,000 alumni, a shared past can mean a bright future by Glenn Vollebregt

We like to think that the term 'social network' was invented by Facebook (or the movie of its making), but it's a concept as old as time. It's the presumption that the people we know – with whom we have a connection – are valuable to our health, happiness and well-being.

The newer term nowadays is Social Capital, and as its name suggests, it goes beyond an individual's social network, to propose that social networks in general, have value. For St. Lawrence College, our network of over 83,000 alumni have proven their value time and again. In this issue of *Voyageur* we have proof:

- We thank the grads who gave their time and talent to volunteer as guest speakers in our programs last year – sharing their wisdom with the students who have followed them;
- We recognize the grads that championed our successful Cornwall campaign – Peter Gault and Terry Landon – and the grads who actually built it – Frank Peras and Pino DiStefano;
- And we acknowledge the grads who agreed to represent SLC – and ALL of our alumni – as our nominees for the prestigious Premier's Awards, which recognizes the contributions of Ontario college graduates to our society.

However, if you dig a little deeper, there are even more stories below the surface. For example, our cover subject, Jack Collins (who became our first Premier's Award Recipient in 23 years), found the time mere days before his retirement to come up to Kingston to give Civil students an insider's view of the multi-billion-dollar transit project he heads up in Toronto . . . and met Associate Dean of Applied Science and Computing – Shannon Claggett – who had been an engineer on that same proj-



Glenn Vollebregt, President and CEO
@gvollebregt

ect before heading to the academic life at SLC Kingston. We also profile fellow nominee and Civil grad, John Manconi . . . who just happens to be the transit boss at OC Transpo in Ottawa, which is undergoing its own light rail project. The two men are known to each other in the small transit world, though their shared SLC history was new to both. We also profile Julia Scott, who as VP and Chief Nursing Executive at Grey Bruce Health in Owen Sound, reports to fellow grad and hospital CEO Lance Thurston. I think you get the picture.

We don't have to look far to see Alumni Social Capital at work. You, and your networks, have value to our College, to our communities, and to each other. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) recently recognized the power of Social Capital and identified three categories: Bonds (with our friends and families); Bridges (between our extended networks); and Linkages (to groups outside our social circle). With the launch of two important Alumni projects this year – the Alumni Directory, and the SLC hub on Ten Thousand Coffees – we've deepened our commitment to fostering those networks and we hope you'll reap its rewards.

Do you have a story of an unexpected SLC connection that you've made? Share it with us! @gvollebregt and @SLC_Alumni



The Premier's Portfolio

Every year, we search for St. Lawrence College Alumni to nominate for the annual Premier's Awards, and it's a tall order. With almost 84,000 SLC graduates, scattered over 61 countries, the question to answer is not *who* is worthy of the recognition with this prestigious nomination, but who to recognize *this year*. And, just as important, who best represents St. Lawrence College in its history, its diversity of programs, and the varied ways in which our graduates succeed in the world.

In this issue, we present to you two years of nominees. Our 2014 nominees were feted at the annual Premier's Awards Gala in Toronto November 2014, and our 2015 nominees were just celebrated in November – with SLC garnering our first Premier's Award Recipient in 23 years (thank you Jack Collins!). Together they represent a remarkable portrait of the experiences and pathways of the post-college life, and embody the spirit of "Proud to be SLC".

-Janine Foster





Premier's Award Honouree

Going big and coming home

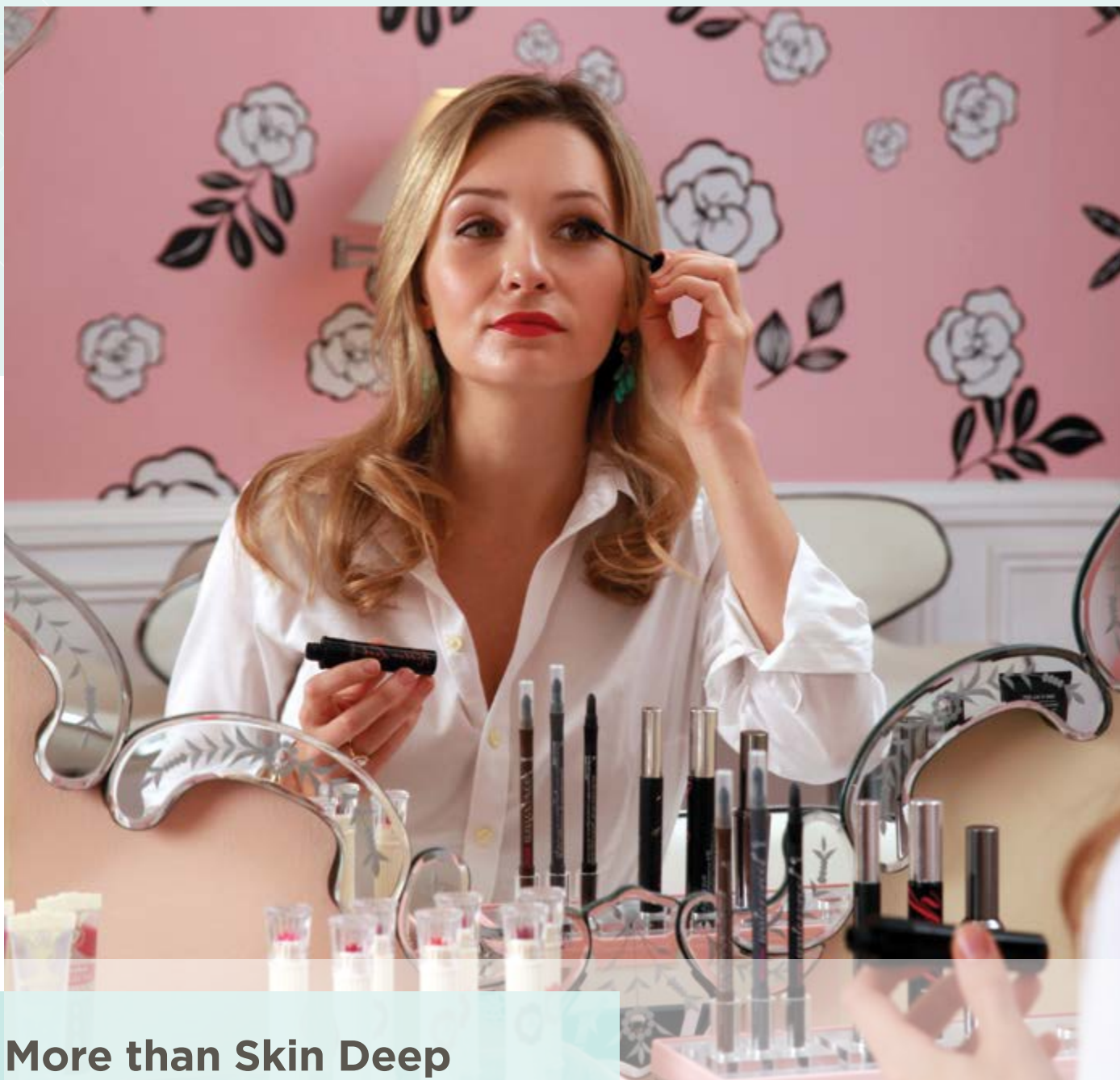
Jack Collins

(Environmental Engineering Technology, 1974)
Chief Capital Officer, Metrolinx (retired)

Jack Collins was charged with bringing in the largest urban transit project in the country with the introduction of five light rail and rapid transit lines in the GTA, and an ambitious re-boot of GO Transit commuter service. With over \$20 billion under his watchful eye, Jack returned to Canada after 28 years in the U.S., working on some of the continent's largest transit projects.

Jack's first roles after graduating were very much focused on the environment, and it was a stint in conducting an environmental assessment for a proposed transit project in Hamilton that was his entrée into the world of transit construction. The journey took him to Detroit, Portland, Los Angeles and Santa Clara California, where he made his mark when he brought in a billion-dollar light rail project ahead of schedule and under-budget. It was no surprise when Metrolinx and the Toronto Transit Commission came knocking and suggested he come back home to Canada.

When one Toronto media source pointed out Jack was the rare executive "with mud on his boots", it was a testament to his ability to combine high level operational control, with face-to-face community relations.



More than Skin Deep

Chloe McCauley Smith

(Esthetician, 2012)

National Education & Services
Manager, BeneFit Cosmetics

It was 2011, and as a third-year student at Queen's University, Chloe McCauley was having a crisis. She had invested so much already, and was only one year away from her BA in English Language and Literature, but nothing ignited her passion like esthetics. So she did the sensible – if not the most difficult - thing: she decided to enroll at SLC and con-

tinue at Queen's simultaneously. She would finish her university degree in April, and obtain her Esthetics diploma by July. During that same period, she would work two jobs, study two entirely different disciplines, continue as a colour guard with the Queen's marching band, and compete both provincially and nationally, to become the Gold Medal winner in Esthetics for the National Skills Competition (2012).

Beneath an exterior that is a combination of zen-like calm, and cool grace, is a fierce determination. Working with

her esthetics prof had inspired her, and she now wanted to inspire others. What followed was a rapid rise – from instructor at a beauty college, to National DermoCosmetic Educator at L'Oreal, to her current role at BeneFit Cosmetics – a division of luxury brand LVMH. It was a position tailor-made for her, and as the largest employer of estheticians in the world – through the Sephora brow bars and the BeneFit Boutique (which opened its first in Canada in spring 2015) – Chloe's ability to inspire is expanding exponentially.



Piinpointing success

Jim Robeson
(Business Administration –
Marketing, 2010)
CEO and Co-Founder, Piinpoint

Jim's journey to SLC is as significant as his journey since graduation. A first-generation student, he readily admits he "didn't see the point" in post-secondary education. He was fourth in line in a family of entrepreneurs, and university was not only a financial obstacle, it held no allure. He came to St. Lawrence with Voyager | St. Lawrence College | Winter 2016 | 7

few expectations, but left a changed person. "It gave me the courage and the confidence," he says. "It was my playground. I made mistakes and learned from them, and they gave me the courage to dream, once I got out of my comfort zone."

Today, Jim is moving too fast to be comfortable. The company he co-founded, Piinpoint, is the latest tech startup from UWaterloo's fabled business incubator program, and his idea to harness Big Data to provide location analytics to business has won him a stint at the pres-

tigious Y Combinator tech accelerator program in Silicon Valley, and brought together a host of tech heavyweights to invest in the company he and his partner have grown from two to 14 people in just over a year. His tech startup has already landed such retail stalwarts as Tim Horton's and RioCan. A passion for entrepreneurship founded in his family's deli business, has morphed into the Next Big Thing for businesses big and small.



Leading the leaders

Julia Scott
(Nursing, 1976)
VP Clinical, Grey Bruce Health
and Co-Founder, Dorothy Wylie
Health Leaders Institute

Julia Scott is tired, but you wouldn't know it. The day before we meet, she had made her way from Ottawa to Owen Sound by the 'scenic route' so she could visit family in Eastern Ontario on the way, and today she's paying for those

endless hours on the road. But this is a woman who doesn't know the meaning of 'down time'. Julia may oversee nursing at a six-site hospital in the sprawling Grey and Bruce counties, but she is equally proud of the work to which she dedicates her evenings and weekends.

Since 2001, Julia and her co-founders at the Dorothy Wylie Health Leaders Institute have shaped the careers of over 2,400 health care professionals, and pioneered a nursing-leader ethos of "leadership is more than a title". The organiza-

tion's two-part, seven-day institutes have been called "A National Treasure" by the Canadian Nurses Association, for its work in advancing leadership for nurses in all levels and roles across Canada.

As the facilitator of the Institute modules on Change Leadership, she has used the Institute structure to coach and refine participants' ideas. Since its founding, they have worked through and completed 1,048 projects - with the majority focused on patient care and personal/professional team development.



Cooking on the wild side

Justin Tse
(Culinary Management, 2010)
Pastry Chef, Social, and Executive Chef, Arctic Watch and Arctic Haven Wilderness Lodges

For seven months of the year Justin Tse is a pastry chef and self-confessed 'mad scientist' who pushes ingredients to their limits to create memorable culinary concoctions for Ottawa's foodies. But for five months of the year he heads 800 km

north of the Arctic Circle as the executive chef of a wilderness lodge, where he brings fine dining to the lodge's intrepid adventurers. Whereas his day job requires an intimate knowledge of culinary chemistry, his 'summer job' requires he forage for purple saxifrage to make tea, and find a multitude of ways to catch, prepare and preserve the catch of the day. In the city, he finds new ways to give a gourmet flair to childhood favourites, while in the Arctic, he takes

camp cookery to new levels.

Selected among 3,000 applicants as one of 10 national semi-finalists for the 2015 San Pellegrino Young Chef 2015 competition, Justin – who grew up in the kitchen of his parents' Kingston restaurant – lives his craft. When he's not cooking, he's on social media and online chef hangouts, sharing his recipes and Arctic culinary hacks with an appreciative audience.

Medicine on the move

Matthew Morin

(Paramedic, 2011)

Instructor, CEGEP John Abbott

How do you continue to drive to succeed when you've reached your career high while still in College? If you're Matthew Morin, you reach even higher.

In 2011, he was a student on placement with a paramedic team in Toronto when he answered a call to assist a woman who had given birth prematurely. Matthew was confronted with a blue baby. He immediately got to work, and he saved the baby's life. "And I still haven't experienced anything better," he says. Unless you count the hundreds of patients he has helped since, and the legions of students he's training today to follow his path.

Don't let the youthful appearance fool you, because as a member of an important pilot program in Nova Scotia that put him in the hospital Emergency room, Matthew is wise beyond his years. Working with an ER Nurse, and empowered to treat and order tests, he was part of the solution to the problem of paramedics tied up in hospital Emergency departments, unable to go out on calls. He called it 'hallway medicine' and he knew a lot was riding on his ability to bridge the divide between the hospital and the ambulance. Matthew believes it's the depth of that experience in Halifax that led to his current role as an instructor in the Paramedics program at CEGEP John Abbott in Montreal.

The baby he saved four years ago will likely have started kindergarten last fall, just as Matthew welcomed a fresh new class of would-be paramedics at John Abbott, and presented them with the first edition of the Student Paramedics guide, which he co-authored. That somehow seems about right . . .





Keeping the buses running

John Manconi
(Civil Engineering Technology,
1987)
General Manager, OC Transpo

John Manconi is taking a visitor on the tour of the state-of-the-art facilities of OC Transpo's headquarters in the east end of Ottawa. Staff – from front office to bus cleaners – greet him with a wave and a smile; a courtesy he readily returns, or initiates.

Just don't call him 'sir', or 'Mr Manconi'. "It's John," he says, with a smile, and means it. He's never forgotten those days

when he just graduated from SLC and his job was to crawl around in Nepean homeowners' backyards, reviewing drainage issues as a Construction Services Assistant. Forget that he worked his way up to head of Public Works at the City of Ottawa before being tapped for his current position as transit boss at OC Transpo. Forget too that he's in charge of the province's second-largest transit operation, with 3,200 employees providing 100 million trips annually.

He may have brought the Civil grad's attention to detail and systems thinking to the role, but while he was immediately

taken with the challenge of harnessing the thousands of working parts that make the system operate, he found his strength in focusing on the working people who bring it all together.

The proof came through tragedy. After the tragic loss of six lives in the Via Rail/bus crash two years ago, the CBC filed an access to information request to obtain all of the communications and emails in the hours post-crash, and lauded John for his personal and heartfelt responses to every email.

Kicking it up a notch

Daniel Williston
(Music Theatre Performance,
2012)
Actor, Singer

As you are reading this, Daniel Williston is likely lacing up a very high, and very red, pair of boots and about to take the stage. The Toronto Star, in a caption of a photograph of the very masculine Daniel donning the boots (as Don) in the Mirvish production of *Kinky Boots*, called him a 'scene stealer'.

Daniel doesn't steal scenes, because he

owns them. He gave us an idea of what to expect when, in his graduating year, he took on the iconic role of Tevya in *Fiddler on the Roof*, and took our breath away. From there, he beat out 1000 applicants for one of 8 spots in the prestigious Soulpepper Academy, and spent a year as a paid intern, working with Canadian classical theatre's greats. He has performed in works as diverse as *The Crucible* to *Evil Dead: the Musical*, in Philadelphia and Toronto. "From Shakespeare to splatter zone," he says with a chuckle.

But he credits SLC for "introducing me

to the lunacy that is theatre", and for giving him a glimpse of the life he had chosen for himself. Prior to his Big Stage debut in *Kinky Boots* this summer, Daniel had developed a reputation for bridging the two solitudes of classical theatre and music theatre. Soulpepper gave him the former, while SLC the latter, "and both gave me opportunities that the other couldn't offer."

With a Dora Mavor Moore for best ensemble, and an extension of *Kinky Boots'* run until March, Daniel's ready for his close up.





LEANing in . . .

Dan Bergeron
(Micro Computing Engineering
Technology, 1985)
President & CEO, SigmaPoint
Technologies

Dan Bergeron is a buttoned-down guy. Modest and soft-spoken, he's most comfortable with his lab jacket on, giving tours of his company's operations at SigmaPoint. But there are two topics about which the CEO gets truly animated. One of them is breakfast. And the

other is about LEAN management. And for a guy who is a LEAN evangelist, it's no surprise that the two are related.

"I have had breakfast with 264 employees over the last five years," he said last year. At a rate of one breakfast with 6 staff per month, the number today would likely be closer now to 360 as of this reading.

"I ask them what they like, what they don't, what we can do better," he says of the format. "It's probably one of the best meetings that I have."

Since starting SigmaPoint with zero customers and zero staff in 1999, Bergeron is now at the forefront of a movement to re-shore manufacturing to Ontario. Focused on LEAN management principles in the highly competitive electronic manufacturing service (EMS) sector, SigmaPoint has been able to win business away from low-cost offshore providers, and the company has grown to 250 employees and over \$70 million in sales.

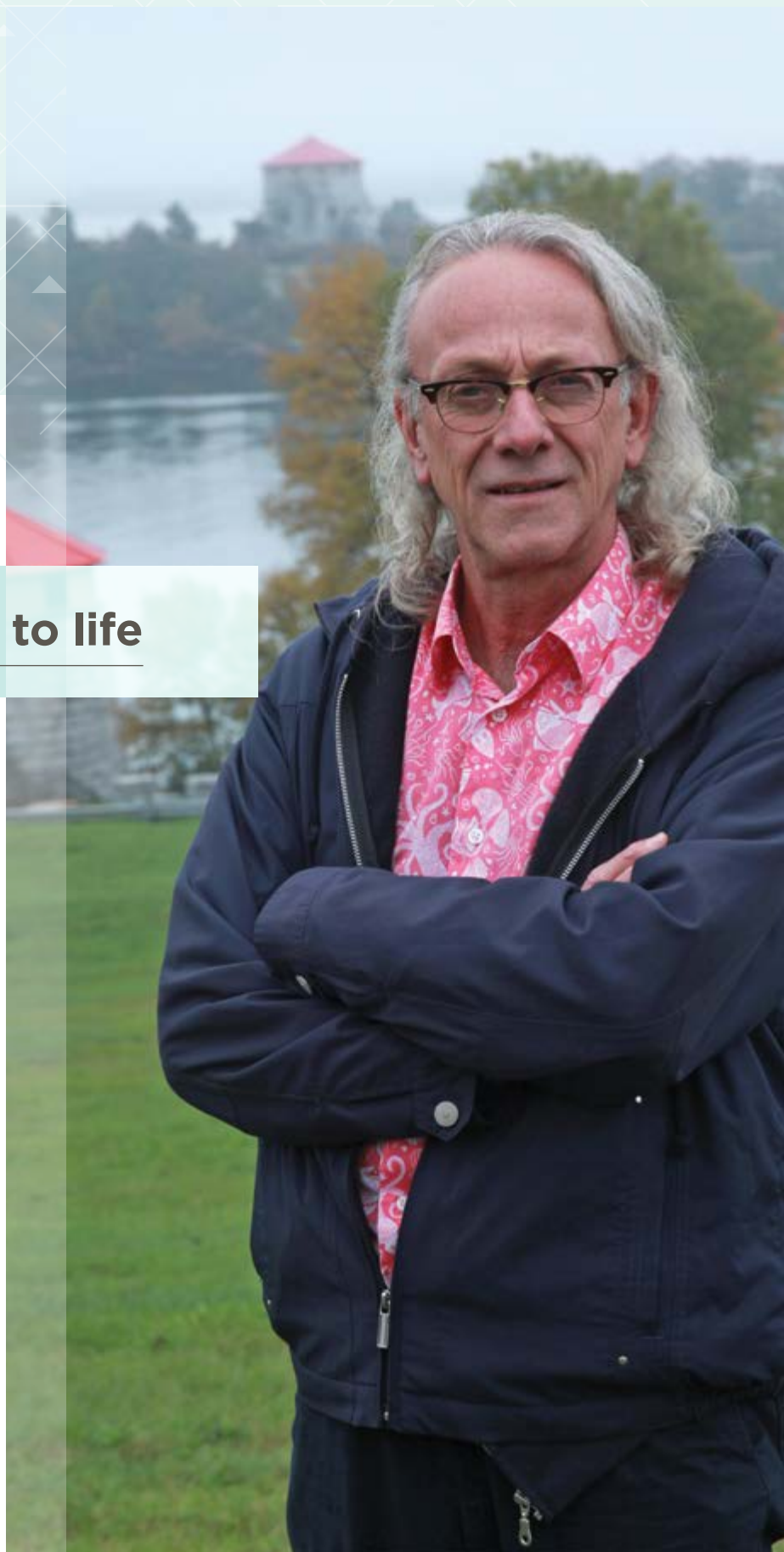
Bringing heritage to life

Craig Sims

(Civil Engineering Technology -
Restoration, 1979)
Heritage Building Consultant

Craig Sims sees beauty and history in the details. Old buildings are more than the sum of their parts, and each of those parts tells the story of the life and times of a building and its users. As a nationally recognized expert in Heritage Conservation, Craig's work on the East, West and Centre Block of the Parliament buildings - including restoration of the stained glass in the Peace Tower Hall of Remembrance - has made him a sought-after expert on some of the most important heritage projects in the country. So in demand is he, that in a bid for still more restoration of the Parliament Buildings last year, he was asked to provide his services to three of the four firms short-listed for the project.

Craig is also a faculty associate at the Willowbank School of Restoration Arts. He considers it an honour to teach at the facility - the only one of its kind in the country - and a duty to ensure the next generation of craftspeople, engineers and architects will carry on his work in maintaining and restoring the built heritage of Canada.



Giving voice to the voiceless

Amanda Rose

(Child & Youth Worker, 2006)
Senior Program Analyst, Ontario
Ministry of Children and Youth
Services

At the age of 14-and-a-half, Amanda Rose entered high school, having never attended a school in her life. As the grandchild of Indian Residential School survivors, her parents had learned to distrust the school system and all that it represented, and she was never enrolled.

So just when most teens were becoming bored with school, Amanda was getting her first taste. She jumped right in, determined to savour what she had been missing. After graduating from SLC, she got her Bachelor of Social Work and went on to get her Masters. Inspired by the two youth workers who had been her guides, she decided to follow in her workers' path by giving children a voice in their own care.

Today, Amanda is a Senior Program Analyst in the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services, and a consultant to youth organizations on youth and child engagement – with a focus on indigenous youth. She is a tireless advocate for children, and has worked with many organizations to give practical advice on how to listen and hear the needs of children in order to serve them.

In a career that has taken her from frontline work as a Child Protection Worker for Native Child and Family Services of Toronto, to Manager of Canadian programs for Save the Children Canada, and in her current role with the Province, Amanda continues to use her Child & Youth Worker training to amplify children's voices. 🌊



the
difference
we make.

ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE
CORNWALL CAMPUS

\$4.5M Raised. Thank You!

Message from the President

Reflections on the Difference We Made

In 2010 we set out with an ambitious goal - our biggest ever at the Cornwall Campus - to expand and revitalize our learning environment, support students on the pathway to success, and ensure programming continues to reflect local and emerging needs. The federal and provincial governments announced a pacesetter \$10 million in support of our capital needs and we reached out to the community to secure support for the remaining \$4.5 million.

It is heartwarming to see the effects of the successful campaign just a few short years after its inception. The generous community of Cornwall and beyond helped move us toward achieving our bold new vision. From a beautiful new façade in Moulinette Hall, to state-of-the-art classrooms and new learning environments, the campaign raised funds for capital improvements, programming and bursaries.

Over the past five years classrooms have been renovated and expanded, new chemistry, physics and paramedic labs have been added, along with a new nursing simulation lab and a personal support worker home simulation lab. A complete overhaul of Moulinette Hall's mechanical, plumbing and electrical systems also resulted in new space for student services and athletics.

The campaign has received incredible support from staff, students, alumni, employers of our graduates, members of the community, and friends of the College. As a College, our focus is student success, and the funds raised through The Difference We Make campaign have a direct and positive impact on our students in many ways, including additional student bursaries and state-of-the-art learning labs and facilities.

Our 2014-19 Strategic Plan - *Our Future*, provides new direction for the College and highlights our aspirations.

Our Vision: *'Rooted in our communities, we will be a globally recognized college delivering innovative learning opportunities and preparing career-ready graduates to be leaders in their fields.'*

Our Mission: *'We are dedicated to student success, academic excellence, and leadership in our communities.'*

Our Values: *'Students First; Teamwork; Innovation; and Integrity.'*

The Cornwall Campaign is a great example of what we have achieved to-date and we are forever grateful for the difference made by our generous donors. Thank you!



Glenn Vollebregt,
President and CEO
St. Lawrence College
@gvollebregt

Paying it forward: Alumni make a difference

When approached five years ago to co-chair the ambitious Difference We Make campaign, Terry Landon and Peter Gault - long-time friends, respected business men and proud Alumni of the Cornwall campus (Class of '72 & '76 respectively) - stepped up and dug in their heels. They believe in their community and St. Lawrence College. Thinking back to how it all began and the results from the campaign, they are impressed at how open and caring the community is, and how it rallied in support of the Cornwall campus.

Seeking major pillars, the College looked for the community support of the City of Cornwall and Economic Development office. The right ingredients also required a strong committee who secured major gifts and commitment to the College. Including a good cross section of graduates, faculty, support staff and community members was the key to success. Individuals, organizations and business people showed they believe in the gem by the mighty St. Lawrence River, and the campus has never looked better or been so strongly prepared for the future - with state-of-the-art classrooms, a spectacular new façade in Moulinette Hall, the establishment of new programs and an influx in new and continuing bursaries.

"People played huge roles behind the scenes. They opened doors to support," says Peter, who is also chair of Team Cornwall. "Don't underestimate the impact of bursaries. The help and

support they provide the students is overwhelming. It is heartwarming to see the genuine gratitude that the students pass on to the donors, it is tremendous. We see it first hand at each year's Donor Night. It brings together bursary recipients and donors and illustrates the importance in continuing to support future students."

"Families like the Bensons, Emards stepped up in such an important way, demonstrating their belief in the College and the City," says Terry. "Looking back, we are proud of the difference we made and continue to make at this campus."

Stepping inside the doors of the Cornwall campus, students for decades to come will see the names of the organizations and individuals that came together to breathe new life into the Cornwall campus.



SLC alumni played their part in The Difference We Make campaign. Whether it was participation in our Alumni Day in 2011, like Laurel Henderson (with her student card from 1983) or actually carrying out the work – like grads Frank Peras and Pino DiStefano whose company was the project contractor. Following the lead of co-chairs and fellow grads Peter Gault and Terry Landon (above), alumni made a lasting impression.

The Difference We Made ... for our Students

The Difference We Make campaign was capped off with the single largest gift to St. Lawrence College - \$2-million in bursaries from The Joyce Foundation - providing the gift of education to students across all campuses, but with special consideration for Cornwall. Named in recognition of The Honourable Ed Lumley, a nationally recognized businessman, politician and member of the Order of Canada, the Joyce Foundation designated \$1M to be set aside for students attending the Cornwall campus. Mr. Lumley is a Trustee on The Joyce Foundation Board and friend of Ron Joyce.

The funds create an endowed bursary fund for students who reside in the three communities and counties surrounding St. Lawrence College's campuses. Bursaries of up to \$3,000 per year will be available, and may be renewed each year of study, based on eligibility requirements. Bursary recipients will be required to seek a mentor.

Standing in front of the newly established "The Joyce Foundation Student Services Centre", we caught up with the first recipient at the Cornwall campus, Jamie Flammia. "I'm honoured to receive this bursary and for the opportunity to work with a mentor. Finding out I was a recipient was a stress reliever, as it ensured I have the financial ability to continue my studies in the Business program in my hometown. It is encouraging to know that people are willing to help students they don't know personally, but believe in their strengths and their

futures" beamed the proud Cornwallite. Once he completes his three year program, he plans to continue his studies in the Bachelor of Business Administration program.

The Joyce Foundation is not alone in its support of students on campus. Thanks to the Difference We Make campaign, the campus saw a substantial boost in the number of bursaries and scholarships available to students. Over \$1M in bursaries and scholarships were created - thanks to generous local businesses, organizations and individuals. Today, over 60 bursaries and scholarships are available - many supporting more than one student and as many as 10 - in the academic year. And with most donors choosing to endow their gifts, the interest earned will support students for generations to come.



Jamie Flammia, first student recipient of the Joyce Foundation Ed Lumley Bursary.



President Glenn Vollebregt presents Ed Lumley with his own Sharks jersey.

The Difference We Made in Our Revitalized Learning Environment

A major part of the Cornwall Campus transformation is the enhanced and revitalized real world learning environments for students in Health Science including Nursing, Paramedic, Personal Support Worker and Environmental studies, as well as our Trades programs including Welding & Fabrication and Motive Power studies. By creating specific learning environments on campus,

which mirror those found in the workplace, our students are gaining the academic grounding and real world experience for student success.

Thanks to generous donations to our Cornwall Campus Revitalization campaign donors, several revitalized areas will benefit our students for years to come.

The chemistry lab renovation project was one of the goals of The Difference We Make campaign. The lab is used by students in environmental studies, nursing and sciences. The state-of-the-art lab supports the college in its efforts to provide students with the tools they need to prepare them for careers in science. A fully functioning Personal Support Worker Simulation Lab was recently introduced where students can gain

practical experience required for their program. Our health studies programs also benefit from a Nursing Simulation Lab where students gain practical skills and a Paramedic lab with space for a full-size ambulance used in training exercises.

The Cornwall campus introduced a Welding Simulator which gives both students and prospective students an opportunity to try welding in a safe, simulated situation that mirrors real world applications.

With over 20 renovated and expanded classrooms and real world learning environments, our St. Lawrence College students are poised to be career-ready graduates and leaders in their fields. 🚀



Special Thanks to our Campaign Advisory Committee:

Sean Adams
David Enns
Don Fairweather
Patrick Finucan
Paul Fitzpatrick
Peter Gault-co-chair
Tom Kaneb

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Your Legacy Gift Will Make a Difference



Maybe you didn't realize the difference St. Lawrence College has made throughout your life.

For the last 50 years our graduates have been woven into the fabric of all aspects of life in our communities. They care for you when you're sick, own a multitude of varied business throughout our region, help plan your financial future...maybe they catered your wedding! Our graduates are part of the economic and social engine of our dynamic communities.

When you're thinking about leaving a legacy, think the 1967 Society SLC Giving Circle. Your gift will help ensure that future students have access to a high quality education in our communities, and will give back to it in more ways than you can imagine.

To discuss our Planned Giving program please contact:

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Long distance: 1-800-228-4664
Email: foundation@sl.on.ca



St. Lawrence
College

Deal recognizes SLC credits at Carleton

Carleton University and St. Lawrence College announced December 21 they are making it easier for students to transfer between institutions with new agreements that will apply to all college graduates.

Recipients of three-year advanced diplomas at St. Lawrence will be eligible

to receive up to seven credits in a Carleton Bachelor of Arts program, while two-year diploma holders who gain admission to Carleton will get five credits.

Fourteen specific programs at St. Lawrence have also been assigned a minimum of five credits at Carleton in the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Social Work programs. Five credits represent one year of full-time

study. Students must complete their programs with an overall average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 GPA scale to be considered for admission.

The programs include social service worker, police foundations, law clerk, environmental technician, early childhood education and veterinary technology, among others. ❧

Joint biotech program launched with Queen's

Queen's University and St. Lawrence College are collaborating on a new joint Bachelor of Science (Honours) advanced degree/diploma in biotechnology that will produce career-ready students to work in the emerging field of biotechnology.

Students enrolling in the new Biotechnology Specialization Plan at Queen's University can earn credit towards the Advanced Diploma in Biotechnology at St. Lawrence, and vice versa.

Students may transfer academic credits between the two institutions, resulting in the accelerated completion of both programs (a four-year BSCH in biotechnology, and a three-year advanced diploma in biotechnology) in just five years.

Students can start the degree/diploma at either institution, and will spend between 2.5 and 3.5 years at Queen's, with the remaining time at St. Lawrence. The Bachelor of Science (Honours) biotechnology specialization will also be

available as a stand-alone four-year degree program for Queen's students. This program received approval at the same time as the joint program.

This is the second joint agreement with Queen's. The first is the joint Bachelor of Music Degree/Music and Digital Media diploma program. This five-year program also combines the theoretical knowledge of a Queen's degree and the technical skills of a St. Lawrence diploma. ❧

Vikings coach and SLC Alum is National Women's Basketball Coach of the Year

Vikings women's basketball head coach, Remy Simpson, (Arts & Science 2006, Civil Engineering 2011) was named the Canadian Collegiate Athletics Association (CCAA) National Women's Basketball

Coach of the Year at the 2015 National Basketball Championships at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo BC.

In just four years with SLC, Simpson has guided the Vikings to three consecutive Ontario Colleges Athletics Association (OCAA) Provincial Championships and three fourth place finishes at

OCAAs.

Last year, the Vikings finished the regular season with a near perfect 15-1 record and finished first overall in the OCAA East, and was ranked third in CCAA National Rankings at the end of the regular season. ❧

New year, new face in Cornwall

The Cornwall Campus has welcomed Debbie Stava as the new dean. Debbie takes over from Don Fairweather – who retired at the end of the year. Debbie is an accomplished community college administrator with over 25 years of progressive experience in post-secondary education.

While most recently working as an Associate Vice President at Northwest Community College in Terrace, British Columbia, Debbie has almost a decade of direct experience as a Campus Principal (Western Region) for that institution. Her career includes working as an Instructor,

Coordinator, Program and Project Manager, Registrar, and Director. "She has provided leadership in a mix of academic programs and in an environment that mirrors our Cornwall campus," says VP Academic, Lorraine Carter. "She brings a rich history of forging partnerships which linked her college's services and programming with community and economic development. She served on various local boards and served multiple terms as the President for the Prince Rupert & District Chamber of Commerce." Welcome Debbie! ❧



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Getting along swimmingly

From Lakehead to St. Lawrence, Rob Zuback settles in as SLC's director of Alumni & Development

Rob Zuback likes to remind people that he's only been here a year, but the honeymoon is still going strong. The veteran alumni relations pro – with 15 years at his alma mater Lakehead University – brings a fresh outlook and a deep respect for the grads who are SLC's ambassadors to the world.

What made you choose St. Lawrence College?

St. Lawrence College appealed to me for a number of reasons. Firstly the location in Kingston was quite attractive to me. Kingston is a city similar

to my hometown of Thunder Bay, but with many additional amenities such as OHL hockey, great nightlife, restaurants and entertainment. It offers a relaxing lifestyle close enough to the big cities to get away when one desires. Also the size of the College was right for me coming from a small/mid-sized university in my prior life. The presence of St. Lawrence College in the communities of Cornwall and Brockville was also intriguing to me. It really demonstrated that SLC has a great value proposition for the people of the region. One that we can be proud to promote to donors, alumni and friends of education.

What was your biggest surprise about SLC?

I instantly felt at home here at the College. The people were welcoming and cordial and really welcomed me with open arms. There is an energy at SLC which I hope to leverage to continue to do great things building on the foundation of my predecessor, Frank Lockington, and the team here at SLC Alumni and Development.

What alumni projects are on the horizon that you're most excited about?

The 50th Anniversary is fast approaching in 2017 and with that brings many opportunities for our graduates to get involved and re-engaged with SLC if they aren't already connected. We will be producing a 50th Anniversary Alumni Directory with our partners, Harris Connect (watch for the information). I encourage all of our alumni to participate by ensuring your update is included in the directory and purchasing a copy as a memento of SLC's 50th. We are also launching some new alumni engagement initiatives such as Ten Thousand Coffees. Of course, the College has a number of potential new and exciting capital development projects on the radar and we hope that alumni will support these through their charitable contributions. SLC is on the cusp of some significant developments that won't be possible without our alumni involvement.

What value do you see for the College from having Alumni remain engaged?

I'm excited by the fact that Alumni are already engaged in many ways academically with the College. In this issue we're thanking grads who have been guest speakers in our classrooms or volunteered in other ways, and I'm always meeting grads who host our students on placements or have created bursaries and scholarships in support of our students. I'm especially excited by the support shown so far to our new SLC Alumni Fund, which is already making a difference on campus. The College has always had opportunities for alumni engagement, and I think we'll continue to see that grow. 

Beware the Post-Election Letdown

SLC Retiree Dick Tindal's new book a call to action for democracy



By the time you read this item you will already have voted, or you will have followed the advice of one who claimed that he never votes “because it only encourages them!” Either way, you are probably tired of politics and politicians after the extremely long election campaign and its often negative messaging. But your active involvement is more important than ever if we are to keep the focus on an issue that received very little attention in the election campaign – and that is the accelerating erosion of Canadian democracy.

The democratic system that we have long taken for granted has been eroding for a long time. In part this process was unavoidable. The size and complexity of government today has essentially outgrown the parliamentary system that was developed hundreds of years ago for the compact island nation of Britain. But that erosion has been increasing at an accelerating rate over the past decade. Among the problems we face today are:

1. An increasing concentration of power in the position of Prime Minister and the staff who support that position from the Prime Minister’s Office.
2. Increasingly devalued and demoralized members of Parliament, who are expected to support the party line whatever their personal views or those of their constituents.
3. The increasing use of closure to end debate and the combining of a dozen or more pieces of legislation into an unwieldy omnibus bill – actions designed to limit the ability of Parliament to examine legislation adequately and exercise its watchdog role.
4. A scandal-ridden Senate that cannot be reformed in any substantial way without a constitutional amendment that has very little chance of ever being approved.
5. A growing tendency to base decisions on ideology rather than on evidence and, in consequence, a downgrading of expertise, and especially scientific expertise.

However disillusioned and fatigued you may be about government and politicians, understand that sitting on the sidelines as a mere spectator makes you an accessory to the downward spiral of Canadian democracy. The more the public tunes out, the easier it is for those in power, of whatever party, to abuse their position. An engaged public, demanding change, is the best hope for a revival of Canadian democracy. We need to insist on:

- more openness in government operations,
- more public consultation when policies are being developed,
- more respectful consideration of alternative points of view,
- more civility and common courtesy in the House of Commons,
- more freedom and independence for those we elect, and
- more respect for the democratic traditions and practices that once defined this country.

Now that the Liberals have formed the government, we need to ensure they do not continue the democratic abuses that have become increasingly prevalent. We heard lots about economic issues during the election campaign and about the need to guard against terrorism. It is time we paid more attention to the Canadian democratic system that we have for too long taken for granted. We need involved and engaged citizens who will demand from their MPs (of whatever party) a renewed commitment to Canadian democracy.

The decline of Canadian democracy, and what can be done about it, is the subject of my latest book, *Reviving Canadian Democracy*. It is available from the publisher at www.friesenpress.com/bookstore/title/119734000017537013 and from most on-line retailers. In just 100 pages it outlines what has been happening to our democracy, what changes need to be made, and why our participation is essential if they are to happen. ☞

Please note that if you are a retired College employee, staff or faculty, and interested in joining the SLC Retirees Association, just contact Dick Tindal at tcl.kingston@gmail.com. You can also check out our new website at www.slcretirees.weebly.com.

Submitted by Dick Tindal



Old Friends, New School: Recently retired Alumni director Frank Lockington (APR 1983) joined former SLC president Bill Cruden for lunch in the restaurant run by the culinary students at Nova Scotia Community College last February. Frank moved to Halifax after retiring from SLC in 2014. So far no word on a hostile SLC/NSCC takeover.

Tales from the real world

A great big THANK YOU to the grads who bring learning to life in our classrooms.

Alumni continue to be an active part of the learning at SLC. We thank the following volunteers for devoting their time as class speakers, competition judges and student conference participants in the 2014-15 Academic Year. We couldn't do it without you!



Premier's Award winner Jack Collins shared the joys of tunneling under Toronto with three years of Civil Engineering students who had more questions than time.

1979

William Shoniker

1980

Deborah Ryan

1988

Gerald Bernicky

1991

William Allen

1995

Tara Hammond
Pierre Spenard

1997

Cynthia Tindal
Angela Watson

1999

Michelle Calder
Jared Barter

2000

Heidi Molenaar
Sean Pere

2001

Stacey Dowling
Mohamed Hussain
Nicky Lesarge
Lisa Lund

2002

Amanda Hulton
Megan Cochrane

2003

Sarah Harper

2004

Alynn Boyle
Samuel Asselstine

2005

Rachel Brace
Diana Foreman
Hendrik VanderLinde
Ryan Boles
Adam Coulombe
Derek Rowcliffe

Leigh Brunton
Norman Hart

2006

Kimberly Graham
Tanya Theriault
Amanda Brisson
Angela Grivich

2007

Kelsy Flewitt
Shawna Robinson
Elisabeth Knechtle-Jerkiewicz
Heidi Wallace

2008

Jessica Nickason
Emma-Jane Ethridge
Colette McKinnon
Doug Van Der Horden
Andrew Kent

2009

Shannon Blackley
Lisa Lynch
Melissa Shorrock
Christopher Carvalho
Courtney Den Otter
Teresa Drummond
Joanne Sands
Sonia Bell
Tammy Wright
Carolee Maskell-Wood

2010

Brooke Gibson
Tamara Ciccarella
Otilia Vides-Alfaro
Andrew Bissonnette
Jarrie Wood
Alex Snook
Alexis Fernetich
Danielle Greek

2011

Meagan Kitts
Darcy Voutt
Brittany Coleman
Shauna Brooks
Melvin Skeete
Spencer Dossett
Michael Graves
Aaron Bailey
Jamie Brinkert

Kristen Sommers
Jeffrey Davis
Jacob Beatty

2012

Julia Emmerton
William Miranda
Barbara Hall
Ryan Lewis
Michael Brown
Ivanka Franjkovic
Stephanie Iwaszko
Katie Seal
Kyle Valpy
Ashleigh Fortune-McKeil
Rowena Jordan
Melissa Sheldrick
Elizabeth Peterson
Callea Baese
Deborah Kerr

2013

Morgan Davis
Adam Wood
Christeen Valiquette
Olga Dolia
Zach Stead
Vanessa Nicol
Jeffrey Seguin

2014

Suzanne Calverley
Brittany Dolan
Nikolaus Pankow
Merina Johnston
Jared St. Pierre
Nicole Donnelly
Justen Roy
Kristen Oke
Kelly Terwilligar
Erin Siksay
Victoria Stinson
Jessica Bertin
Brett Doig
Cody Johnston
Douglas Vankoughnett
Jeffrey Nolan
Celine Fitzgerald

2015

Xiaoyi Huang
Jordan Orr
James Vinkle

Coffee and Conversation for SLC Grads



slc.10kcoffees.com

Tap into the network of SLC grads by joining us on Ten Thousand Coffees – an online platform that connects students, grads young and old, employers, and industry professionals to have mutually beneficial conversations over coffee (real or virtual)!

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www.stlawrencecollege.ca/conferenceservices

Echoes

1971

Malcolm Coburn, Chemical Engineering Technology – K

"I was in the first year of Technology before the College was built. It was called OIT and instructed at Loyalist Collegiate. I subsequently moved to Ottawa and took part-time classes at Algonquin."

1984

Suzanne Brown-Stevenson, Business Administration - Finance – K

"I am the proud mother of three, Kaitlyn, Rebecca and Matthew. Rebecca is SLC alumni pre-fire fighter certificate-Brockville 2008 and Matthew is a recent graduate of SLC Kingston (2014) Control Engineering - 3year program, Kingston. Matthew obtained a job in his field right after graduation. I also have a beautiful grand daughter, Olivia Snarr (born April 2013). Life is good."

1991

Kelly Stock , Animal Care Technology – K

"I have been working for the Picton Animal Hospital since 1992, married since 1998."

1999

Emily Jossinet Singh, Business - Advertising and Public Relations – K

"I am Self Employed: Keen Balance ekjoss.wix.com/keenbalance and have 3 children"

1999

Melissa Mason, Hotel and Restaurant Management - Co-op – B

"Me and My husband of 9 years welcomed our first child in April."

2000

Donna Girvan-DiSalvo, Hairstylist – K

"I am a Consultant and Technical Educator at Defined Beauty Systems. Owner of Beauty and the Barber. I have a phenomenal husband, two amazing kids now 19 and 20 and two terrific step kids ages 14 and 16. My education at SLC prepared me not only with marketable skills but the guidance to expand on my strengths and rapidly progress in my career."

2001

Nadia Fitzgerald, Advertising and Public Relations – K

"In December 2013 my family sold our Learning Centre in Barrie and, in June 2014, I took over the position of Executive Director of the Oro-Medonte Chamber of Commerce."

2003

Patricia Moore, Child and Youth Worker – K

"I have my Bachelor Degree in Social Work and my Masters Degree in Social Work, both from Carleton University."

2008

Steven McGillis, Human Resources – C

The sporting life: Cornwall Sports Hall of Fame Inductee 2012, South Stormont Sports Hall of Fame Inductee 2014, Cornwall Men's Flag Football Hall of Fame Inductee 2014

2009

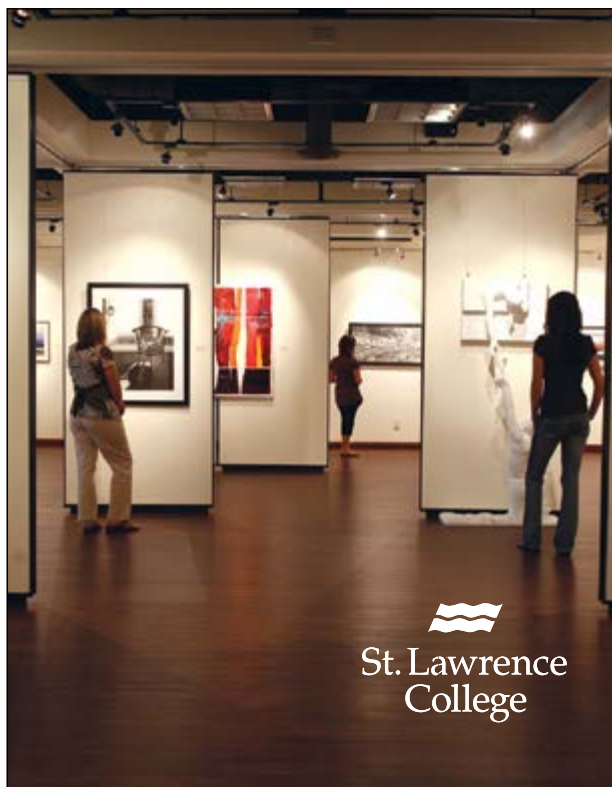
Madelon Crothers, Business Administration - Marketing – K

"I recently graduated from Ryerson University's Masters in Digital Media Program (August 2014). Graduated with top academic status amongst the 2014 cohort; nominated for the Governor General Gold Medal Award at convocation; successfully completed two academic publications in the Clute Journal of Business Case Studies; social media strategist for Ryerson Futures Inc. (accelerator program housed in the Digital Media Zone) throughout the academic year."

2012

Evelyn Kembel, Advertising – K

"I Continued my education by transferring my credits to Griffith University in Australia. Completed my BA in Communications. Came back to Canada upon my visa expiration and found two entry level positions I could not say no to." 🌊



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www.stlawrencecollege.ca

Passings

Farewell to the grads and faculty who have left us in 2015

1971

Richard Pelkey - Appraisal and Assessment - C

Michel Levac - Data Processing - C

1972

Bernard Tekamp - Industrial Management - B

Velma Vosper - Early Childhood Education - K

1975

William Daly "Bill" - Data Processing - K

Delzira Lindo - Health Care Aide - K

Hubert Dore - Industrial Management - C

1976

Heather Caskey (Dewhurst) - Diploma Nursing - K

George Warren - Industrial Management - B

Merice Boswell - Correctional Worker - K

1977

Barbara Chamberlain - Early Childhood Education - K

1979

Kim Yuille - Nursing Assistant - K

1980

Ian Widzinski - Nursing Assistant - B

Suzanne Bauder - Municipal Administration - K

1983

Eileen Fitchett (nee Hildreth) - Home Support - K

1984

Michael Pitre "Mitch" - Visual and Creative Arts - Fine Arts - K

1985

Beatrice McRae (nee McArthur) - Registered Nurse - Management Skills - C

Andrew Burns - Mechanical Engineering Technology - K

Deborah Gould - Nursing Assistant - K

1987

Bruce Liscumb - Basic Employment Training - C

Catherine Cowan (nee Shaughnessy) -

Gerontology - Multidiscipline - B

1988

Monica Whittingstall - Fine Arts - K

1989

Gerald Martin "Gerry" - Food Preparation General - C

1990

Lyla Devreeze - Health Care Aide - B

1999

Sterling Cooper - Industrial Mechanic Millwright - K

2000

Anthony Smythe - Social Service Worker - C

2005

Reginald Langsford - Assistant Cook - K

2010

Robert Marshall - Computer Networking and Technical Support - K

2013

Scott Gibbons - General Machinist - K

Heidi Gross - Early Childhood Education - K

** Passings is compiled from publicly available obituaries. To add or correct a listing, please email alumni@sl.on.ca 📧*

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jamie.benn@f55f.com



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Doing the Math

Bruce Tessier returns to the halls he once haunted – but this time he’s doing triple duty.

Q. You’re both a graduate (Finance, 1983) and a double volunteer – on the SLC Foundation board, as well as the Board of Governors. How does being a grad inform your work with both?

A. Although I graduated some time ago, the knowledge and experience I acquired from SLC has allowed me to enjoy a prosperous and rewarding career in the Financial Services sector. Having the opportunity to represent the college, keeping students’ needs front and centre, has been very gratifying.

Q. You were also a part of the volunteers behind the successful “The Difference We Make” campaign to revitalize the Cornwall Campus. When you were speaking with people about supporting the College, what surprised you most about their reactions?

A. The College’s role in a community the size of Cornwall is very important to local businesses, residents and students. It plays an integral role in supporting the community! Everyone reacted very positively about the campaign, allowing us to achieve our goal.

Q. As a professional manager of money, what’s the one piece of advice you would give your fellow grads about planning for their financial future?

A. No matter how tough times might be, make sure to always set aside a reasonable amount of funds for your future. Time flies, and your strongest ally will always be the magic of compounding your money. Get started early!



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St. Lawrence
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