

# StFX AlumniNews

SPRING 2010

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X grad Dr. Colleen  
O'Connell '90 on the  
ground in Haiti

Caroline Alexander '85  
outfits Dancing with  
the Stars

Beyond Bubbles:  
A conversation with  
Mike Smith '93

## Carrying a Torch

Anything is Possible:  
Ask Riiny Ngot



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## On the Cover

### Bright Lights of the Olympics

12

As former StFX cross-country standout and Olympian Eric Gillis ran into the lower Bloomfield parking lot, pumping his hands in the air and proudly carrying the Olympic torch, the crowd gathered on the StFX campus went wild at the sight of the ancient Olympic flame. Gillis, an Antigonish native and StFX grad, made his way onto the stage to symbolically lift the torch high in the air and then down to light the 1.3 metre high cauldron. The torch event – hosted by StFX, the Town of Antigonish and the Municipality of the County of Antigonish – was held on campus Nov. 17.



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## Canada's most-read alumni magazine

Alumni support never ceases to be a source of great pride for the StFX community. You may recall in the last issue of AlumniNews we wrote a little about an engagement survey conducted last spring. With comparisons to other universities across Canada available, we found that StFX is untouchable when it comes to alumni engagement (as we suspected, of course!).

While the national average is 49 per cent of university alumni who read their alumni magazine regularly, the rate for StFX alumni is an outstanding 79 per cent.

The data gleaned from that survey is providing all sorts of interesting and impressive insights. One we recently discovered is that StFX has the highest readership, on a per-capita basis, of any alumni magazine in Canada.

While the national average is 49 per cent of university alumni who read their alumni magazine regularly, the rate for StFX alumni is an outstanding 79 per cent.

These figures and the feedback we often get from alumni about the magazine make it all worthwhile for the small team that puts this publication out three times a year. It may surprise you that the bulk of the work on AlumniNews is carried out by only three talented staff. And of course their work on the magazine is only one part of their far-reaching contributions to StFX.



Shelley Cameron-McCarron authors most of the engaging stories on these pages. The striking layout and design are courtesy of our graphic designer, Angela Sears. And the beautiful photography is primarily the work of our photographer/videographer John Bastin.

The other key to success for AlumniNews is you. Our readers send us news items, photos, letters and story ideas that keep our alumni magazine fresh and interesting. Please continue to share your news and ideas with us.

And thanks for reading.

Hail and Health,  
Helen Murphy '08  
Director, Alumni Affairs



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## LETTERS

### X-Rings Around the World

#### X-GRADS IN TUNISIA



L-r: Vanessa '07, Ellen '07 and Beth '77

I am sending along a picture of my daughter, her friend and myself when we were on a holiday in Tunisia. We are all StFX grads. My daughter, Ellen McGinnis (BSc, Math '07) and her friend Vanessa Read (BSc Nutrition '07) were both attending Rennes International School of Business in France. I visited them in Spring 2009, and we decided to take a sun vacation to Djerba, Tunisia. It was a great adventure and needless to say we had a wonderful trip!

– Beth (Gormley) McGinnis '77

#### RANKIN INLET

X-Ring Day was celebrated in the Great White North, Rankin Inlet, Nunavut on a sunny but crisp afternoon, -32 with the wind chill to be exact. In the picture, six alumni gathered around the giant Inukshuk for a photo op. We all stood around afterward and discussed our great experiences at StFX. In the picture are from left to right, Brenna MacEachern BSc HNU '06 and IDI '07 (regional nutritionist, Government of Nunavut), Damian MacInnis BA '06 (community economic development officer, Hamlet of Rankin Inlet), Heather Campbell B.Ed '02 (high school teacher, Government of Nunavut and vice president of the Nunavut Teachers Association), Ryan Beaton BBA '06 (accounts manager, Atuqtuarvik Corporation), Gavin Gee BBA '05 (accounts manager, Royal Bank of Canada Rankin Inlet Branch), and Don Payne M.Ed '94 (high school teacher, Government of Nunavut).

– Damian MacInnis '06



“As we continued to talk, I glanced at his hand and noticed the X-Ring. I couldn't believe it! Imagine the chance, among all the people in the park that day, of me standing in line next to an X graduate.”

Alexandra (Leger) Keedwell '92

#### X-RINGS SPARK CONVERSATION AT CHICAGO MARATHON

Dear AlumniNews,

I wanted to pass on an X-Ring story. I am a '92 graduate. I recently ran the 2009 Chicago Marathon (a race of 34,000 participants). The race starts and ends in Chicago's Grant Park. On that lovely October day, the park was filled with thousands of runners and spectators. The amount of people was overwhelming. While waiting in line to get a much-needed massage, I started talking to a guy standing next to me. Our conversation was of the usual post-race stuff – our times, the course, the weather. As we continued to talk, I glanced at his hand and noticed the X-Ring. I couldn't believe it! Imagine the chance, among all the people in the park that day, of me standing in line next to an X graduate. Had I been just a second earlier or later, I wouldn't have chatted with Blaise Dobbin '90. I guess it proves that our world is really small and that the X-Ring brings us all together.

Who knows who I'll meet at my next race? I'll wear my X-Ring, for sure!  
– Alexandra (Leger) Keedwell '92

#### ATTRACTED TO THE X-RING?



While reading the latest edition of AlumniNews, I found the section dealing with X-Rings around the world quite interesting. I thought this might be expanded to include special pictures like the attached. My daughters Lisa (BSc '94) and Lana (BSc '00 and BEd '02) have both suggested that I send it in. The hand in the photo belongs to Anne-Marie Gillis (née Head - BBA '70) while the photographer is Leo Gillis (BSc Phys Ed '72). The photo was taken in Mapleton Park in Moncton, NB.

– Leo and Anne Gillis, Moncton, NB

# Introduce StFX to the next generation



There are so many great stories wrapped up in the X-Ring. It's a touchstone, and so often a conversation starter. It's a chance to talk fondly about opportunities, and to introduce StFX to the next generation.

If you know of a high school student or someone who is interested in learning more about StFX, please contact the Admissions Office.

Help share our story.

Admissions & Recruitment  
Toll-free: 1-877-867-StFX  
Email: [admit@stfx.ca](mailto:admit@stfx.ca)  
stfx.ca



Dr. Sean E. Riley '74  
StFX President

## Overcoming life's challenges

**W**e all know how stressful the demands of university life can be on today's students. Mid-terms, exams, papers, trying to juggle school work with extra-curricular activities and having a social life – these things cause a certain degree of stress.

For many students, the natural ebb and flow of stressful times during their university years is compounded by some very serious personal challenges. Sadly, some students lose a parent or other loved one during their four years on campus. Some have to deal with serious illnesses or other health challenges.

Four years fly by, yet in some ways it's a long time. It's a time of heartbreaks and self-doubt, achievement and celebration – all the ups and downs of life squeezed into these four years of tremendous change.

One of the strengths of the StFX community is our ability to support students during the tough times, as well as the good times. Some might say this comes naturally to us, because StFX has always been that kind of place. But we've also invested in the programs and services students need in order to achieve their potential.

This issue of AlumniNews revisits the stories of two members of the StFX community who overcame significant obstacles in order to get on the path to success.

Olympian Eric Gillis '04 has battled his way to international success in cross country running. These pages also tell the very moving story of Riiny Ngot, a young man who is overcoming unspeakable trauma on his journey to success in education and basketball.

At Fall Convocation we celebrated a special milestone when Louise Burley became the first non-sighted person to graduate from the Diploma in Adult Education program.

Eric, Rinny and Louise are not alone. Every year hundreds of StFX students face serious challenges in their lives. And the StFX community is there to help.

Supporting students on the road to academic success is our Writing Centre. This is where students learn to raise the quality of their academic writing and learn strategies, including effective time management, for achieving academic success.



Students experiencing personal or health-related challenges receive support and professional services through our expanded Health and Counselling Centre. And students with disabilities achieve success with the help of the Centre for Students with Disabilities.

These are just a few of the ways in which the StFX community supports students throughout their university experience. Of course much of the support students receive in overcoming obstacles and achieving their potential comes directly from faculty. Professors invest considerable time and effort into working one-on-one with students in supporting them along their academic journey.

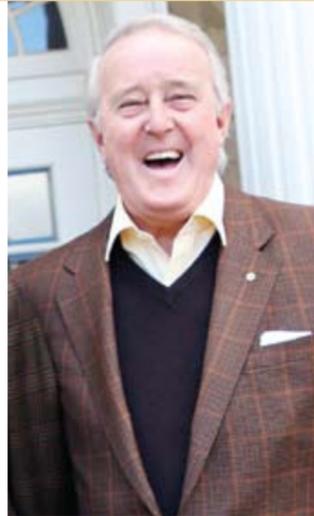
It's about giving students the right support at the right time, and that makes a lifetime of difference.

At Fall Convocation we celebrated a special milestone when Louise Burley became the first non-sighted person to graduate from the Diploma in Adult Education program.

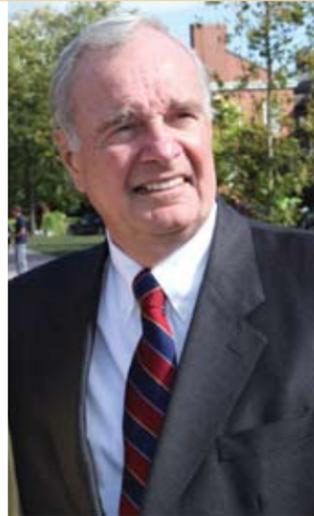
Dr. Sean E. Riley '74  
StFX President



The Rt. Hon. Joe Clark



The Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney



The Rt. Hon. Paul Martin

## Three Canadian Prime Ministers in 30 Days

What does StFX have in common with the Rt. Hon. Joe Clark, the Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney, and the Rt. Hon. Paul Martin? All three former Canadian Prime Ministers were on campus in the same 30-day span.

Mr. Clark delivered the annual Allan J. MacEachen Lecture in Politics; Mr. Mulroney attended his 50<sup>th</sup> year reunion; and Mr. Martin was a featured speaker at the Coady Institute's gala opening and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. A

fourth national leader – the Rt. Hon. Baldwin Spencer, Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, who is a Coady grad, was also a featured guest at that celebration – rounding the total out to four prime ministers in a month.

### STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

- StFX students have banded together to help Haiti. At press time, they had raised \$5,000 and counting.
- In February, **Dr. Steve Holloway** and 14 students took part in the Harvard National Model United Nations in Boston.
- English student **Adrianna Eyking's** essay received a 2009 North American Conference on British Studies Undergraduate Prize.

### FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

- In Earth Sciences, **Dr. Grant Ferguson's** expert commentary was quoted in Discovery News; his paper in Geophysical Research Letters was chosen as an American Geophysical Union highlight, a rare honour. **Dr. Alvaro Montenegro's** afforestation article was included in the European Commission's environmental news services. In **Dr. Dave Risk's** Flux Lab, where collaborations stretch from China to Havre Boucher, five major projects dealing with reducing greenhouse gas emissions are ready to take wing.
- Dr. Ricardo Scrosati's** prestigious \$500,000 Canada Research Chair in Marine Ecology was renewed for a second five-year term.
- The Aboriginal Nurses Association**, with the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing, selected StFX one of six Canadian schools for implementing nursing curriculum based on cultural safety competencies.
- Development Studies professor **Dr. Jonathan Langdon** celebrated the launch of *Indigenous Knowledges, Development and Education*.



## Apple Canada, StFX team up in national pilot project



L-r, Colton White and James Stewart, Apple campus reps for StFX, Rob Policchio, Apple Canada instruction technologist specialist, Faculty of Education Dean Dr. Jeff Orr, Karen Ritcey, Apple marketing manager, Andrew Foran, chair of StFX's B.Ed program, and Rob Proctor, manager of service and support with TSG.

The next generation of StFX teachers will be well prepared for using Apple technology in the classroom, thanks to a partnership with nearly \$100,000 between Apple Canada and StFX through its Faculty of Education and the Technology Support Group (TSG). Apple selected StFX as one of three Canadian universities (the others are UBC and OISE-UofT) to participate in this national pilot project. Apple will provide each faculty of education with equipment and training. At StFX, this means two mobile laptop labs, 40 laptops, and 15 days of professional development. "The real opportunity is that it's not just equipment, it's also professional development," says Rob Proctor, TSG's

manager of service and support. Mr. Proctor says StFX's relationship with Apple started over two years ago when chief technology officer Duncan MacPherson approached the company to have StFX officially support and bring Apple technology to campus. "This partnership came because of that relationship," Dean of Education Dr. Jeff Orr says they are very excited about the possibilities the partnership opens for faculty, pre-service teachers, and teachers and staff in schools. "This straddles the two worlds of the university and school board worlds which we live in. As we get better at using Apple technology, the pedagogy spills both ways in what goes on in schools and universities."



### StFX names Timothy Lang '87 Vice-President Advancement

StFX President Dr. Sean Riley is pleased to announce that Timothy Lang '87, has been appointed to the leadership position of Vice-President, Advancement, following a national search. Mr. Lang has extensive senior executive experience with multinational corporations, having served as Global Vice-President, Sales, & Marketing with Energy Savings Income Fund, a \$2 billion publicly traded company. He also held leadership roles at Bell and Xerox.

As Vice-President, he will lead fund development to help StFX offer Canada's premier university experience. He will also lead Alumni Relations, Communications & Marketing, and Records Management to help increase affinity to StFX.

"I am excited about the opportunity to help StFX further build our reputation as one of Canada's pre-eminent universities," says Mr. Lang.

He has a BA in political science from StFX, a Master's Degree from the University of Manitoba, and several management and executive diploma courses from institutions including the Schulich School of Business. He served on boards for the Children's Aid Society and Toujours Ensemble in Montreal. He was a candidate for Member of Parliament in the federal election of 2004. Other accomplishments include a stellar athletic career, playing varsity football with both the X-Men and the University of Manitoba Bisons where he was team captain and was twice named Academic All-Canadian. He also played semi-pro football in England. Mr. Lang and his wife Jennifer have two children, aged three and one.

### Business school slated to open in September

It's an exciting time for StFX's Faculty of Business: the \$25 million renovation and construction project to establish a new 75,000 square foot home for the Gerald Schwartz School of Business and Information Systems is nearing completion. The facility is expected to open in August with classes to begin in September 2010. The building will provide enhanced space for faculty and

about 800 students. Highlights include seven large classrooms, two computer teaching labs, four faculty research labs, 12 breakout seminar rooms, a 300-seat auditorium, a focus group lab, lounges for faculty and students, and about 40 offices. The new building is built to LEED silver standard (new green building technology), and is heated with geothermal energy.

### StFX students regional champs



StFX's Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) team has been named the SIFE Green Challenge Regional Champion by national charitable organization Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship (ACE). The StFX team stood out to the judges because of their dedication to environmental issues on campus. Accomplishments to date include supplying the 73 apartments in Somers and Power Halls, which house almost 300 students, with a kitchen compost bin, and an informational sheet with the environmental and financial benefits of composting. The next phase will be addressing the oil and electricity use in these two buildings.

### Check us out! New StFX website launched

Recent visitors to stfx.ca, may have noticed some striking new changes to the website. In late December 2009, StFX launched the first phase of a multi-phased web redesign project that is designed to offer users a cleaner structure, simplified navigation and enhanced features that better reflect the StFX brand to a worldwide audience. Enhanced features include a panoramic 3-D virtual tour of campus and a frequently updated news and events calendar.



Be sure to check us out at [stfx.ca](http://stfx.ca)!



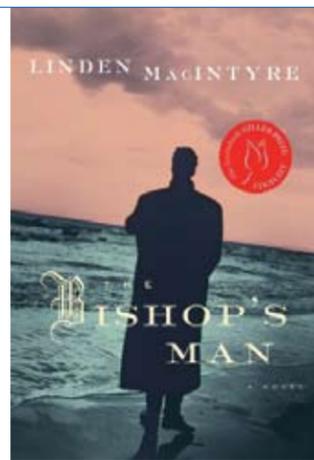
## Dr. Truis Smith-Palmer wins Science Champion Award

**D**r. Truis Smith-Palmer is a science champion. And now she has an award to recognize it. The long-time StFX chemistry professor was honoured recently at the seventh annual Discovery Awards for Science and Technology, winning the prestigious Science Champion Award at the ceremony held November 26th at The Westin Nova Scotian, Halifax. The awards honour individuals and organizations whose exemplary work in science and technology inspire. In particular, the Science Champion Award recognizes the

devotion to the promotion of science and technology to the public. The recipients of the award are role models who make science fascinating and accessible. Dr. Smith-Palmer's award is in recognition of her efforts to bring exciting and engaging science education activities to children and schools all over northern Nova Scotia and Cape Breton for over 25 years. "It is vital that young people see how important science is in our lives and how fascinating it is and how many questions it can answer, and raise," she says.

## Giller Prize for Linden MacIntyre

StFX graduate **Linden MacIntyre '64**, has taken home the Scotiabank Giller Prize, which recognizes excellence in Canadian fiction and is the country's richest literary prize, coming with a cheque for \$50,000, for his second novel, *The Bishop's Man*. A panel of three judges had narrowed down a field of nearly 100 books to a long list of 12 (StFX English professor Jeanette Lynes' debut novel was included on this list), then down to a short list of five, before picking the eventual winner, announced at a gala in Toronto in November.



## Karen Wight '79 receives Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History

**Karen Wight '79** and Alison England roped in a national history award recently for a Grades 1, 5 and 7 research project celebrating the ranching history of Longview, AB. The two teachers were among seven receiving the 2009 Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History. The project focused on ranch brands and the brand histories and helped bring the community's history to life while also creating a significant permanent documentation. The awards, established by Canada's National Historic Society, recognize teachers who have helped students explore the nation's history in a unique and interactive way.



**Victor DeGagne '03** (centre) was ordained to the diaconate in his home diocese of Thunder Bay, ON. Shown here with him at the event, held May 24, 2009 in Fort Frances, ON, are Fr. Paul MacNeil (StFX chaplain from 1996-2007) and Elisabeth Duggan '03.

## Frank McKenna awarded Order of Canada



Photos courtesy of Reuters

**F**r. Frank McKenna '70, the former premier of New Brunswick, former Canadian Ambassador to the U.S. and current chair of the StFX Board of Governors, was awarded the rank of Officer in the Order of Canada by Governor General Michaëlle Jean at Rideau Hall in Ottawa November 5, 2009. The award recognizes outstanding achievement and service in various fields of human endeavour and is the country's highest honour for lifetime achievement.



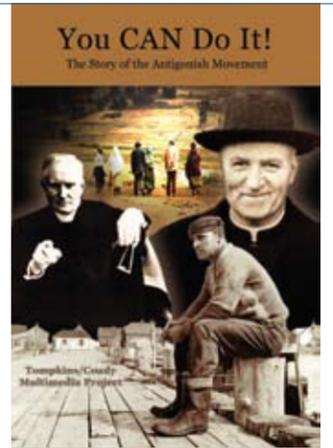
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation news anchor Peter Mansbridge (2<sup>nd</sup> L) shares a laugh with Mr. McKenna (2<sup>nd</sup> R) during the Order of Canada ceremonies at Rideau Hall. Mansbridge was also awarded the rank of Officer.



T4G Limited, a company led by Saint Johner **Geoff Flood '76** (centre), won the Pacrim Hospitality Services Inc. Online Innovation Award for its MyTrip Planner technology at the 2009 Tourism Industry Association of Canada awards. Designed for the New Brunswick Department of Tourism and Parks, the technology allows prospective visitors to the province to plan their vacation online in just a few easy steps and then modify it as their plans change. The company, established in January 1996, has grown from just 26 employees to a staff of more than 200 with offices in Vancouver, Toronto, Saint John, Moncton and Halifax. Here, Mr. Flood is pictured with company executives David Baxter (left) and John Ceccarelli.

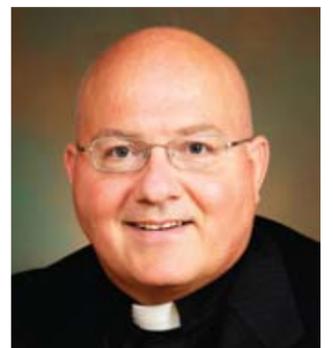
## New film on the Antigonish Movement released

**Y**ou CAN Do It!, a new documentary of the inspiring story of the Antigonish Movement, was launched Nov. 26 at The Mother House of the Sisters of St. Martha at Bethany. Through the use of archival film and contemporary video footage, the documentary tells the incredible story of the Antigonish Movement, its beginnings, its early successes and its enduring legacy. The project grew out of the education committee of the Bergengren Credit Union in the lead up to the celebration of its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Coady International Institute. The committee was concerned that while the name of Dr. M.M. Coady would be known through the work of the institute, his accomplishments and the contributions of Rev. J.J. Tompkins and the many others in the Antigonish Movement are mostly lost on the youth of today. The general interest DVD is available at all branches of the Credit Union or online from Cathy MacDonald (cmacdonald@nsbcu.ca). The educational DVD is available for schools, libraries and universities from McNabb/Connolly, 1-866-722-1522, (905) 278-0566, www.mcnabbconnolly.ca



## Bishop Brian Dunn installed as ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Antigonish

**B**ishop Brian Dunn was installed as the ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Antigonish during a special mass held at St. Ninian's Cathedral on Monday, Jan. 25, 2010.



Bishop Brian Dunn

## English prof long-listed for Giller

**T**alk about your breakout debut novel. English professor Dr. Jeanette Lynes's first work of fiction, *The Factory Voice*, was long-listed for the Scotiabank Giller prize, which recognizes excellence in Canadian fiction. Dr. Lynes is currently at work on a new novel.





# X GRAD ON THE GROUND IN HAITI

DR. COLLEEN  
O'CONNELL '90



Six days after a devastating 7.0 earthquake hit Haiti, Dr. Colleen O'Connell '90, a Fredericton-based rehabilitation doctor who has done aid work in the Caribbean country since 2003, was on a plane bound for Port-au-Prince. Dr. O'Connell graciously found time to speak with *AlumniNews*.

BY SHELLEY CAMERON-MCCARRON

As rehabilitation specialist Dr. Colleen O'Connell '90 boarded a plane for earthquake-ravaged Haiti to lend her expertise on the ground, she had one message: "Please don't give up on Haiti, they have not given up on themselves."

As the stunning devastation and shocking images of destruction captured the support and emotions of the world, Dr. O'Connell says it must continue to be all hands on deck, that we can't leave this country in crisis.

"The humanitarian outpouring of support, which includes money, equipment, human resources, security, and offers of refuge, cannot stop in the weeks following as the search and rescue and emergency care ends, and the rebuilding begins.

"The country has lost near everything, and this country was not in abundance of resources it could spare before the quake."

Rebuilding, medical care, shelter, schools, jobs, food and water access are going to be issues for months and years to come, and we cannot just pat ourselves on the back for a job well done for the emergency response, nor shake our head and walk away in defeat, she says. At the end of every story, for every person one sees on TV, it's important to remember there's an individual, a real person who needs help.

Dr. O'Connell and her husband, Jeff Campbell '88, say it is incredible how large a net the Haitian community has cast across North America and beyond. They say they have found a great coming together of hundreds of people from all walks of life, passing along information, reports, stories, needs and updates.

"The messages we have gotten from our surviving friends and colleagues, it is incredible. In this era of email, text, Twitter, the individual stories of hurt, despair, need, survival, joy, cooperation – this is so real, so now."

In Haiti, Dr. O'Connell is working with Handicap International (HI), along with four other Canadian and American Healing Hands volunteers who have offered to join this international NGO to best put their skills and knowledge to use.

"Part of HI's mission is to provide emergency medical care to those injured, with a focus on amputations and spinal cord injury. We will be based initially at one of the UN tent compounds, and will be working in tent and existing hospitals to begin treatment and longer-term planning for the hundreds of persons with amputations and potential spinal cord injuries," she explains.

For her personally and for her organization, Healing Hands for Haiti (the clinic where they work is very close to where much of the damage was done), they will need to take direction from the overall mission of the UN in Haiti.

Their expertise lies in rehabilitation care, which includes fabrication of artificial limbs and braces (prostheses and orthoses) as well as treating persons with amputations, major orthopedic injuries, and spinal cord and brain injuries.

She says they must continue to work on training of local health resources, and providing access to care for those persons with disabilities who survived the quake, many of whom lost their equipment, homes, families.

"We will work in the intermediate term to rebuild our rehabilitation clinic and hospital, staff with volunteers and Haitian health workers and therapists, and continue to train local resources. We expect and are planning that for the months to come, possibly years, there will be some shift back to hands-on provision of care in addition to training, whereas prior to the quake we had essentially transitioned to entirely a teaching/training mandate due to the progress and skills and capacity of the local rehabilitation workers."

Dr. O'Connell first began working in international development through a Red Cross program in 1986, and that experience in Kenya introduced her to both medicine and international aid/development.

Early in her practice as a rehabilitation specialist in Fredericton, she was contacted by Healing Hands for Haiti, a rehabilitation medicine aid organization in the U.S. that works to both provide care and prosthetics/orthotics to persons with disabilities in Haiti, while working to develop and train local resources.

Dr. O'Connell agreed to coordinate the first Canadian team, and 17 people went on Jan 2, 2003. "We have been going ever since, and Team Canada Healing-Hands has been its own registered charity since 2005. We continue to partner with HHH, and other closely linked local-based organizations in Haiti and other countries working to develop and deliver sustainable rehabilitation services."

When asked what spurs her humanitarian efforts, Dr. O'Connell says she believes it's a basic human instinct. "I don't think there is anything special about me; I was fortunate to have the opportunity to work internationally at a young age, and that experience has shaped my career and volunteer work. The numbers of persons who have offered in the wake of this disaster speaks volumes to the goodness of people. I strongly believe that we do have a responsibility to all our neighbours, irrespective of geopolitical borders. I know it sounds totally cliché but we are all in this together."

For those who want to help, she says there are many aid organizations providing emergency relief and care, and there are those who will be needed for the longer term for rebuilding and ongoing care.

"They will need money, and we will need to hold our governments to their commitments of aid. There will also be needs for specialized volunteers in areas of health, engineering, security, education... I would follow needs on sites such as the UN, to learn about what each organization is doing, and on a local level, support those organizations with a good track record in Haiti."

Haiti, for her, is truly a special place.

"I admire strength, I admire soul. This country has so much of both, yet has been dealt blow after blow. Remember, these people are the descendants of the first successful slave revolt in the modern western world, and they are our neighbours." X



## On The Ground

Dr. Colleen O'Connell '90 is now on the ground in Haiti. Her husband Jeff Campbell '94 updated us with this report:

"They have next to no Internet. I can sometimes get her on a phone, but even that is tough. The conversations are short and mission-driven. They are actually homeless and staying at the lobby of Handicap International's office. Colleen has seen thousands of new amputees (80-90 per cent of surgeries) everywhere. Today, she toured 6-7 hospitals throughout Port-au-Prince. She saw 10 new spinal cord injuries. Some of these patients will die in the coming days without a medical evacuation to a centre that can treat their needs surgically. On the bright side, she has seen a lot of faces of friends that have survived, some that were in dire situations (trapped, another jumped from the 6th floor of his school as it collapsed) and all of whom have lost many friends and family members."

# Carrying a Torch

Alumni Reflect on their Olympic Experience



**WHO:**  
Howard Evans '93

**WHERE:**  
Banff, AB

“It was a surreal experience and didn't really hit me full on until I was running with the torch and really felt the Olympic spirit. I also felt it even more later as I take the torch to different places for others to see and hold and the expressions it invokes on people's faces.”



“My feet have not hit the ground yet as I cannot believe that I am one of only 12,000 people in all of Canada to hold this torch. This is a very surreal moment... The faces of the people lining the route said it all; some were tearing up with pride, some wanted to touch the torch and some were simply joyous to be able to see the torch go by. I hold it high for all to see as we are all part of this proudly Canadian moment.”

– Reflections from Olympic torch bearer Evelyn Kelly '05



**WHO:**  
Amber Cooper '99

**WHERE:**  
Quesnel, BC

“This experience allows you to meet people from across the country who share a passion for Canada, the Olympic Games, and all they stand for.”



**WHO:**  
Rick Stephen '74

**WHERE:**  
Saint John, NB

“When my torch was lit, it was an instant flash of adrenalin... the experience of carrying the torch is a once in a lifetime event – one that I will treasure and remember always.”



**WHO:**  
Robert Poirier '74

**WHERE:**  
Corner Brook, NL

“Yes, tears were in my eyes as I carried this symbol of peace and if everyone in the world could feel what I felt, there would be no more wars or conflicts. We would be as one.”



**WHO:**  
Eryn Hessian '00, '03

**WHERE:**  
Asbestos, Quebec

“My roommate from X, Karen Madden was there too and she carried it two days later in Montreal.”



**WHO:**  
Julie (Mackasey) Hancin '90

**WHERE:**  
Sudbury, ON

Julie's sister Anik took her later on the day of the run to the hospital where she works in maternity. While there a woman went into labour. “She begged Julie to wait until the baby was born so an Olympic torch photo could be taken with the newborn.”



**WHO:**  
Zack Fraser '09

**WHERE:**  
Mabou, NS

“It was one of the coolest experiences of my life and perfect down to every detail as I actually carried the torch past the road to my house.”

**find out more**

To read more about the experiences of these and other X torch bearers, visit [www.alumni.stfx.ca](http://www.alumni.stfx.ca)

For more photos, see page 23.

CAROLINE  
ALEXANDER'S

# dance with the stars

Right: Olympic beach volleyball gold medalist Misty May-Treanor with her "Dancing with the Stars" partner Maksim Chmerkovskiy



**I**n 2003, Caroline Alexander '85 opened Rhythmic Rentals, an online ballroom dress rental company in Greensboro, North Carolina. Since then, the StFX math and computer sciences graduate originally from Stephenville, NL, has been outfitting amateur and professional dancers across the United States, including dancers on the hit ABC series, *Dancing with the Stars*. We recently caught up with Ms. Alexander:

**StFX:** So, how did you get from StFX to running your own online ballroom rental shop in the United States?

**Caroline Alexander:** Originally I worked as an analyst and later as a corporate development rep for DuPont Canada in Mississauga, ON. I left after getting engaged and moved to Halifax. Shortly after I was contacted by a company here in Greensboro and accepted a position. I worked for six years at this company and decided to stay at home for a bit following the birth of my fourth child. About nine years ago, we (husband Mark MacDonald '82 and I) saw a salsa group perform at a local family event and decided to take some lessons. I got hooked...Mark, not so much! The interest in the ballroom attire grew from this as I began to get more actively involved in the competitive side of ballroom dance. The business idea was planted when I first looked at the price tags of the dresses used in ballroom competitions.

**StFX:** Is there a big demand for online ballroom rental?

**Caroline Alexander:** Yes. These dresses are extremely expensive to purchase (\$2,000-\$5,000). We supply nationwide in the U.S. It kills me that we haven't been able to expand into Canada (that's another story) but rest assured, that's one of our goals.

**StFX:** How did the partnership come about with ABC's *Dancing with the Stars*?

**Caroline Alexander:** They contacted me via phone. I was a little blown away! It was a very exciting moment.

**StFX:** The show has been hugely popular. How do you feel to be associated with it?

**Caroline Alexander:** We're quite proud that our dresses met the criteria/quality they were looking for. Of course seeing the dresses on TV was awesome...my kids got the biggest thrill watching it.

### Caroline Alexander '85 on *Dancing with the Stars*:

"Our dresses were used for the title shots, profiles and the "pro how-to's." The title shots were shown at the beginning of every show with the celebrity and pro partner in a pose. The profiles were generally aired at the beginning of the season which included a blog on the celebrity and what they were known for. For example, Misty May-Treanor wore one of our gowns for her profile – they actually showed her in the dress, playing beach volleyball...She did a DIVE in it! This was pre-recorded so I didn't know until the show aired that she actually dove in a \$3,500 gown in the sand – the dress was fine when returned so we were none the wiser and no harm was done. The "how-to's" were where the pros would show you a sample of what a professional cha-cha, waltz, etc. would look like – these were pre-recorded and aired at different shows, depending on what dances were being performed. I worked closely with Randall Designs (the costume designer for the show) and his assistants who are actually on the set of the show."

**StFX:** How did StFX impact your life? Did it help prepare you for this career?

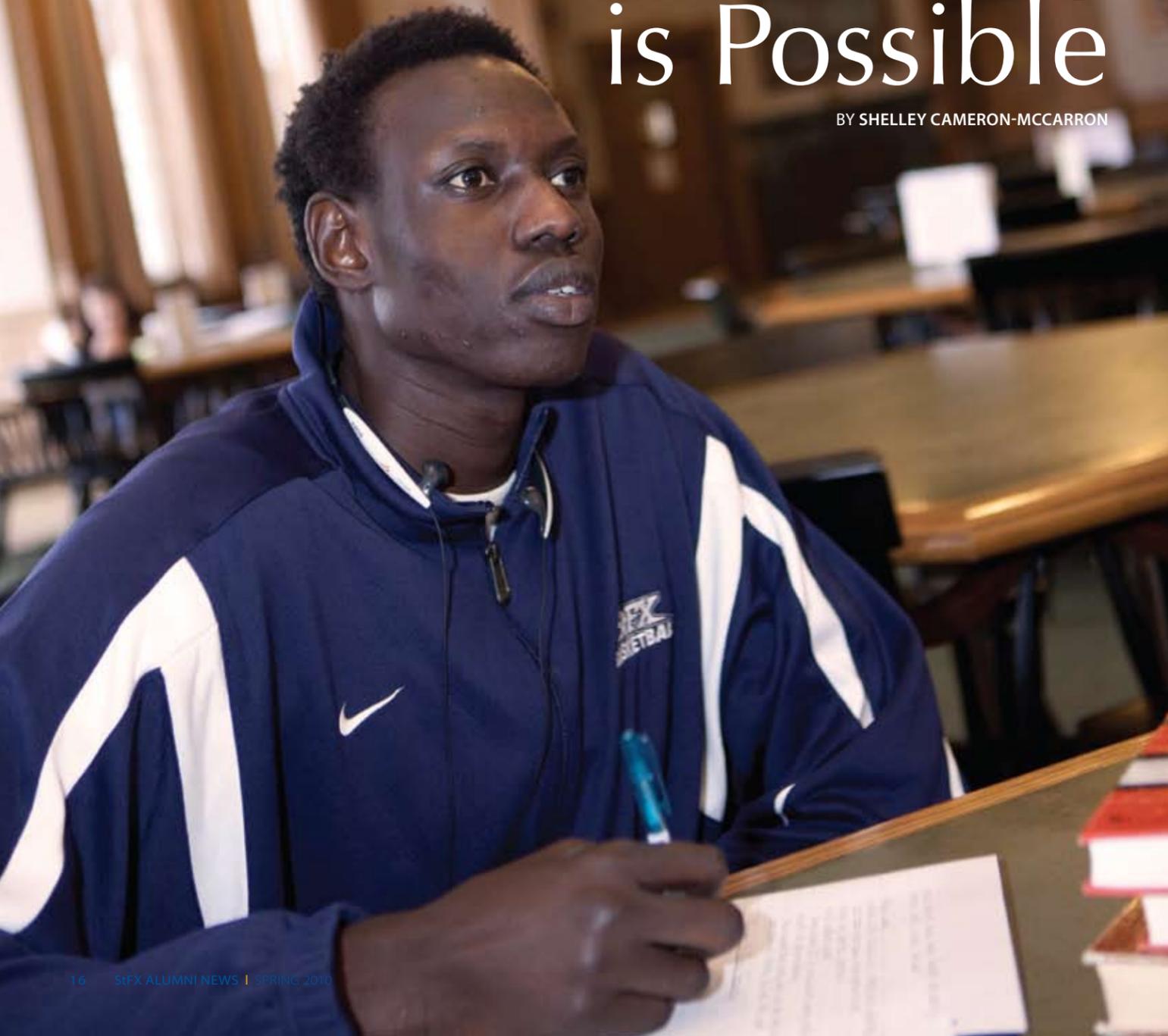
**Caroline Alexander:** Of course. StFX had a huge impact on my life...both educationally and socially. It's a warm, friendly school and I never felt like a number. My faculty was accessible and always showed me any support I needed. I'm a "people person" and StFX is a "people university" so it was a great fit for me. I married a graduate so that's obviously a huge factor in my life. I have nothing but fond memories of my years at X and love going back on campus when we visit Antigonish.

**StFX:** Would you have advice for current students?

**Caroline Alexander:** My first and most important advice is always follow the Golden Rule. It's so simple and has been said so many times... but it's amazing how often it's not followed in the real world. My personal and company philosophy for Rhythmic Rentals is to "Follow the Golden Rule... and then do a little extra." Remain humble and always put yourself in other people's shoes – for any conflicts, be sensitive to the situation, but if you know you are right, stick to your guns. If you are wrong, admit it and fix it –you'll get a client for life (or the utmost respect from your fellow employees). My proudest moments in this business are the positive feedback I receive from clients. There's nothing like it...even more rewarding than to see our products on national TV (although that's pretty close second!) X

# RIINY NGOT: Anything is Possible

BY SHELLEY CAMERON-MCCARRON



**Author's Note:** I first met Riiny Ngot, one of a remarkable group of refugees known as The Lost Boys of Sudan, on Dec. 22, my middle daughter's fifth birthday. He walked into my office on first floor Xavier Hall for an interview on the last day before Christmas break, sinking his towering 7'2" basketball frame into a blue office chair. I'd been anticipating family fun and lunch with my birthday girl when suddenly I was in Sudan with a terrified 11-year-old, separated from his parents (he believed them dead for years), a boy trying to be brave ("a man has got to be brave and do the hard stuff," he heard his father's voice in his head), making the long, dangerous walk with his eight-year-old sister from his burned-out family home to a refugee camp in Kenya; and finally four years later a chance to come to Calgary, to Canada, where new challenges waited. When I ask his age, Riiny says he will be 22 in two days. Christmas Eve. Far from family. I can't help but think of the juxtapositions of our celebrations. But Riiny is neither sad nor self-indulgent. For as much adversity as he has experienced in life, there's been hope. And if his message – an unwavering faith that anything is possible ("five years ago I didn't speak the language and now I'm a second year university student," he says with pride) – connects with others, then it is worth it.

**H**ope has been the key to my life," says the thoughtful, soft-spoken Riiny, a sophomore student who enrolled at StFX in September to study sociology and play basketball with Steve Konchalski's X-Men.

"Hope has been the thing I never lost."

He has been sorely tested. Riiny has not seen his parents since he was 11 years old, and the bloody civil war that rocked his native country, taking two million lives in the process, savagely ripped his own family apart.

Born into a wealthy family ("with a silver spoon in my mouth"), he was working at his grandparents farm when he came home to find his family's house in Wau burning, scores dead and his parents missing. He found his eight-year-old sister, and together, the two fled. For a month, they travelled with other groups of children under darkness, under constant danger, finally crossing the treacherous Gilo River – which swallowed many by drowning and crocodile attack – to reach relative safety in a refugee camp.

**“I think the sport has helped me personally as well. I've never been in counselling.”**

– Riiny Ngot

As he walked the war-ravaged country, tall even then at over six feet, the 11-year-old often carried his little sister and heard his parents' voices echoing in his head, telling him to keep faith in God, to keep going.

"The ones that didn't make it, those are the kids that gave up hope," says Riiny.

His motto, he says, has always been that come what may, he will be the last person to make it through. "If one person makes it, then that will be me."

Riiny has slowly come around to sharing his message with others, as a motivational speaker at churches and high schools, to inspire others to believe that anything is possible, to tell

them never to lose faith, that it's up to them to choose.

He remembers the first time.

"As I talked about walking in the jungle, the refugee camps, it brought back a lot of emotions and I couldn't finish it. I cried. I didn't think I would be able to do it again until I opened up my email later and found a letter from a young girl that said, 'Riiny, I want to be like you. You gave me hope. I feel like I have hope to make it.'

"That kind of woke me up," he recalls. "I said, you know what, I should not be crying. God didn't put me through this – there's still a light outside to go through the darkness, that's why I can share my story with people.

"I'm lucky to survive, lucky to be happy. That's the reason why I never give up."

After four years in a Kenya refugee camp, an uncle they had never met helped bring the brother and sister to Calgary. They didn't speak English. They didn't know the customs, had to get used to the food, to the weather, to every-



At St. Mary's High School in Calgary the long, lean kid who had never before played basketball discovered the game at age 15. As diligently as he attacked learning a new language, so did he work tirelessly to develop the skills of the game. Long hours in the library followed long hours on the court. He still marvels at how he was able to do it.

Riiny left high school in Grade 11 to attend Notre Dame Prep in the U.S., but due to language issues was unable to qualify for SATs to go on to play. He went to junior college and played NCAA Division II ball at Bridgeport University in Connecticut. When his student visa expired, and he wasn't sure if it would be renewed in time to return to the U.S. school, he started thinking about Canadian schools. Around this time he met Greg Dole at a social function in Ottawa at an embassy event for Africans living in Canada. As it turns out, Greg is a friend of Coach K's and as Riiny's says "talked to me about considering StFX if my visa didn't come. He said it offered academics and athletics, plus the coach is a legend and is a good person at the same time."

After considering several Canadian universities, Riiny in the end chose StFX. He recalls Coach K telling him "It would be good for you. You'll find a home here."

"His consistency on the phone made me think he's that kind of guy, he doesn't treat you as a basketball player, but a person, to help you succeed. I found out later that that's the truth. He looks after his players, and cares academically," Riiny says. "The team chemistry is very much a family. Coach made that possible."

Riiny says being accepted for who you are, that people take him as a human being, not just a basketball player, has helped him adjust here.

Riiny has lost no time in giving back. Already he volunteers with the Fit For Life afterschool program, with StFX's anti-bullying program, and with X-Project.

And he has dreams for the future. He'd like to play professional basketball, and he'd like to work in human rights, possibly as an interpreter with the UN. He is studying political science and sociology.

See page 27...



## X-Ring 2009: The countdown is over

The loud joyous cheer that filled the Keating Millennium Centre moments after the Class of 2010 received their X-Rings said it all. Wow.

On Thursday, Dec. 3, the Feast Day of patron saint St. Francis Xavier, senior students gazed down at their fingers in awe, took pictures holding up their rings, smiled and hugged friends, and when the 976th ring was presented, spontaneously erupted in joy.

"Each year the importance of this event seems to grow," StFX President Dr. Sean Riley told those gathered to watch the 2009 X-Ring ceremony.

Countdowns – including the one on the Students' Union website – were ticking down to the 1,000<sup>th</sup> second.

Meanwhile, several thousand proud parents, family and friends gathered in overflow rooms on the StFX campus, as more tuned in worldwide via the web, to watch the Class of 2010 proudly receive their X-Rings.

As Dr. Riley welcomed all to the much-awaited ceremony, he made mention of the charged

atmosphere of the room, festively decked with a cascade of sparkling lights. "The true source of electricity in the room comes from our X-Ring students today, to each of the thousand unique and personal journeys coming together in a spectacular and unforgettable moment."

While the Class of 2010 cannot know how the future will unfold, he urged those gathered to help others and foster good in the world.

It was a theme echoed by guest speaker Geoff Flood '76, former StFX Students' Union president, who is co-founder and president of T4G, a project-based technology services organization.

**“After 1,190 days,  
we made it!”**

Kevin Klin, 2010 senior class president

Mr. Flood's company has several times appeared on the Globe and Mail's best workplaces in Canada list.

"Citizenship is our responsibility. What I encourage you to be is better citizens. ... I encourage you to voice your opinions and to be passionate about what you believe.

"You don't hear love and business in the same phrase often, I think the power of that is something we need to hear more of."

Mr. Flood, whose history with StFX is deep (his father is a graduate and two children are currently enrolled), talked about how he helped build a company on a foundation based in the humanity and social conscience he learned while at StFX.

Loud applause and a standing ovation greeted the news from Dean of Business Leo Gallant, that former mailroom supervisor Mitch Hudson, a loyal member of the Xaverian community for nearly 40 years, was this year's honorary X-Ring recipient.

"After 1,190 days, we made it," said senior class president Kevin Klin. "To the Class of 2010, it has been a joyful 1,190 days. May the journey continue, but from now on in, with your X-Ring." X



## Fall Convocation a day of celebration

### Prime Minister, philanthropist receive honorary degrees

As friends and family waited with flowers and proud words of congratulations, a celebratory atmosphere once again filled the Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, as StFX graduated 178 students in degrees and diplomas and conferred 46 diplomas to graduates of the Coady International Institute during Fall Convocation 2009.

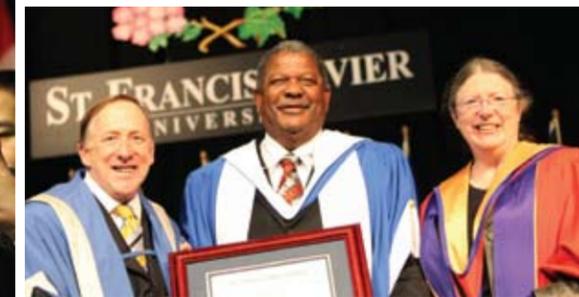
During the ceremony, StFX also honoured two outstanding individuals, bestowing the degree Doctor of Laws honoris causa upon the Rt. Hon. Winston Baldwin Spencer, Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda and a graduate of the Coady International Institute, and Canadian businessman and philanthropist Allan P. Markin of Calgary.

Dr. Nancy Forestell of the Department of History was honoured with the university's annual Outreach Award.

"Convocation is one of those great moments in university life. I can sense in the air the imminent transition to new phases of life," StFX President Dr. Sean Riley said in his opening remarks as he offered his warmest welcome to all those gathered.

The day was truly one of celebration.

Among the graduates were 10 Mi'kmaw teachers who have been part of StFX's off-campus teacher education program offered in Indian Brook First Nation. As the StFX Faculty of Education celebrates 60 years since graduating its first B. Ed. students, these graduates join the 80 StFX B.Ed. alumni of Aboriginal ancestry, who have taken on the professional role of teachers in the past decade. The Indian Brook program was a joint partnership between the StFX Faculty of Education and Mi'kmaw Kina'matewey, as a



Rt. Hon. Dr. Baldwin Spencer



Dr. Allan Markin

strategy to prepare teachers for two new band operated schools in We'koqma'q and Indian Brook. They will make "a monumental difference as leaders in shaping their communities," Dr. Riley noted.

Celebrating a special milestone too was Louise Burley, the first non-sighted person to graduate from the Diploma in Adult Education program. William Goggin, the director of the Diploma in Adult Education program, perhaps summed it best when during the year he remarked, "I have never seen a person with sight challenges not only present, but work as a team member of three. I think that everyone better bookmark this in their mental log and say wow, I saw something today that was unique."

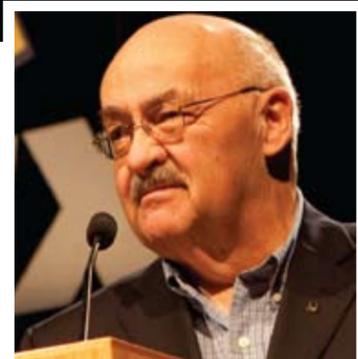
Another special joy of Fall Convocation is the graduates of the Coady International Institute, world-renowned for its professional education programming for community leaders working worldwide to build better lives for all people.

"Thank you for bringing your experience and vision to enrich our community, and congratulations," Dr. Riley told the graduates in this historic 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year class.

Both honorary degree candidates expressed their thanks for the honour bestowed upon them, and urged graduates to go forward with respect and communication with others, and to be conscious citizens.

"I'm proud and humbled. Never in my wildest dreams did I expect this honour," said Mr. Spencer, who has long been a champion of the interests of developing countries.

*continued on page 27*



Mitch Hudson,  
Honorary X-Ring recipient



Geoff Flood '76, guest speaker



**Louise Burley,  
the first non-sighted person  
to graduate from  
the Diploma in  
Adult Education  
program.**





Photo credit: www.stevesmithphotographic.com

## Beyond Bubbles

BY SHELLEY CAMERON-MCCARRON

While the Trailer Park Boys has wrapped its final season, Mike Smith, the Gemini award-winning StFX grad behind the loveable Bubbles, continues full-tilt ahead with a new TV show and several tours in the works. He took time from his busy schedule to look back at his years with Trailer Park Boys and to look ahead.

**YOU CAN THANK MIKE SMITH '93**, dime-store coke-bottle glasses, and a little improv for helping create one of Canadian TV's most lovable characters.

Back in 1999, when Mike Clattenburg started putting together an indie film that would go on to become the pop culture phenomenon and Showcase ratings hit, the Trailer Park Boys, Bubbles – the cussing, cat-loving "heart and soul" of Sunnyvale Trailer Park – wasn't even in the script.

"I was actually the sound mixer on the show in the beginning," recalls Smith, a Thorburn, NS

native who has gone on to win several Gemini Awards for his work, including the 2003 Viewer's Choice Award for Favorite Comedian.

He's also helped accept a 2009 Gemini awarded to the series for its outstanding and enduring contributions to the Canadian television industry, and Gemini's for Best Comedy Series (2004) and Best Ensemble Performance in a Comedy Series (2005).

"Mike Clattenburg hired me to mix the indie feature he was doing for the Atlantic Film Festival, which was the original black and white Trailer Park Boys movie. I had been goofing

around with the Bubbles glasses during that time, and it caught Mike's eye. He brought me over to his house one night to shoot a couple of little interview clips with the character and I didn't even realize at the time that I was kind of doing an audition.

"When the series was greenlit Mike wrote me into the show. I was in a few scenes in season 1, partly because I was still the sound mixer and trying to do both jobs simultaneously, but I definitely became a more integral part as the series went on and the character became more popular."

From the beginning, Bubbles struck a chord.

"People can relate to him. He's really just trying to get by and just trying to do it with the least amount of bullshit in his life. Trailer Park Boys is really a show about family and love. Behind all the craziness there is a family. Bubbles has cats as his family and he has (Trailer Park Boys characters) Ricky and Julian as his family, and he loves them despite the fact they are constantly f---ing up and going to jail. No matter where you are on the planet, or what culture you're born into, wanting to keep your family together is something anyone can relate to," says Smith, who graduated from StFX with an English degree.

"When you strip away the craziness of Trailer Park Boys and you look past all of the swearing and dope etc., the characters have a lot of universal human qualities that people either consciously or unconsciously identify with. It's actually a show about family and love. A lot of people don't realize that when they first watch it, but it really is."

### SO WHAT'S NEXT?

Now that Trailer Park Boys has wrapped, Smith says he and cast mates Robb Wells and John Paul Tremblay (who played Ricky and Julian) are writing and starring in a brand new half-hour comedy series called "The Drunk And On Drugs Happy Funtime Hour."

"It's quite a departure from Trailer Park Boys in that we each play around 10 characters with very intricate prosthetic make-up. We begin shooting six episodes in May of this year and it should air sometime in the fall on Showcase."

Smith says he will definitely miss playing the character Bubbles and making the show the way they did. "It was a great team and we had a lot of fun doing it."

But he hasn't left his alter-ego entirely behind.

Smith, Wells and Tremblay do a live version of the show a couple of times a year, in a completely different kind of way. The first one was called "The Ricky, Julian and Bubbles Community Service Variety Show" under the premise that the trio had been sentenced to community service, but if they did a court ordered variety show illustrating the dangers of drugs and alcohol, the show would count towards their hours. They performed this show to sold-out theaters all over Canada, and in February were starting to perform

it in the U.S. in conjunction with an appearance on Jimmy Kimmel Live.

The new live show for Canada is called 'The Ricky, Julian and Bubbles Drunk, High and Unemployed Tour' which, as of press time, they were scheduled to start performing in March.

Also in March, Smith had plans to rejoin the Guns N Roses tour in South America after recently finishing the Canadian leg. A few years ago, Smith became friends with Axl Rose "and he's taken me all over the world where I get to do a duet with him on a Bubbles song called "Liquor and Whores."

Before Trailer Park Boys, Smith enjoyed a promising music career himself. He played guitar and was one of the principal songwriters in the band Sandbox, which signed a record deal with EMI in Canada and Nettwerk in the U.S. The band was nominated for a Juno, East Coast Music awards and a Casby Award. In 1999, Smith started composing music for film and television and doing location sound recording for film.

With Wells and Tremblay, he has appeared in The Tragically Hip's music video, The Darkest One, featuring Don Cherry, and took part in a cross-Canada tour with Our Lady Peace. Smith, as Bubbles, has also played guitar and sang with Rush for a tsunami benefit concert.

Making the transition from music to acting happened relatively seamlessly.

"I had never really considered it, but in hindsight it feels like it was a pretty smooth transition. I went from being on the crew, to being on the crew and acting in a few scenes, to having a smaller role on the crew and acting in more scenes to being a full fledged cast member so it was actually kind of a natural transition."

Looking back at his university days, Smith has good memories of StFX.

"StFX had a very positive influence on me actually. I remember when I was going there I thought I knew everything about how the world worked and how to deal with people, and I realize now I really didn't know sh--. But that's partly what university is for. It's not just about academics and the degree you earn on paper but also about being thrust into this microcosm of humanity where you very rapidly need to adapt to the social and political elements bombarding you on a daily basis. I lived at MacIsaac before it was co-ed and seemingly before there were any 'rules' too so I may have had to 'adapt' to more than the average person today does."

Unlike his ne'er-do-well counterpart, Smith is a successful businessman. Along with his other involvements, he has four businesses in Halifax, two restaurants and two night clubs. He's hoping to open a chain of pizza shops in the near future.

And, of course, to continue writing and acting for TV and film. X

### ON CAMPUS

## Sam Mason, Alia Hack elected Students' Union president and vice-president



Sam Mason, a third-year environmental science student from Mermaid, PEI, and Alia Hack, a third-year psychology student from Stellarton, NS, have been elected StFX's 2010-11 Students' Union president and vice-president, respectively. They were the successful candidates in the February 2010 election, garnering 932 votes to the 541 cast for the slate of Kyle MacDonald and Jamie Roberts.

"We are very pleased with the election results," Mr. Mason and Ms. Hack said. "Elections are great experiences, though stressful at times, especially on top of our studies. We're enjoying moving forward, and working towards a smooth transition in May to ensure a successful 2010-2011 year for the Students' Union and the student body as a whole."

Other results from the Students' Union general election include:

- Sandy MacIntosh and Thomas Lattimer elected to the Board of Governors
- Brianna Hunter and Katie Archibald elected as Senior Class President
- Mariah Giberson and Patrick Phillips elected to Senate. X

### StFX PROFILE



## Sean Boyd Named One Of The Best-Performing CEOs In The World

Congratulations to StFX Board of Governors member Sean Boyd, Chairman and CEO of Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd., who has been selected as one of the 100 Best-Performing CEOs in the World by the Harvard Business Review. To compile the results for this prestigious honour, the Harvard Business Review collected data on close to an amazing 2,000 CEOs worldwide. The group represented 48 nationalities and came from companies based in 33 countries. The top leaders came from a diverse background, but they all had one thing in common: they've delivered excellent results over the long term.

# ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

20th Annual Fr. Kehoe Dinner and Auction | Classics for Classics back by popular demand | President's Receptions | and more!



Fun and friendship is the order of the night when alumni and friends of StFX gather for the annual Fr. Kehoe Dinner in Halifax.

## X Spirit in Halifax

### Annual Kehoe Dinner a rich tradition in capital

When 400 alumni and friends of StFX get together, it's guaranteed to be a lot of fun. That's what happens in late winter every year in Halifax when X-Rings come together for the annual StFX Fr. Kehoe Dinner and Auction.

Good friends – old and new – an inspiring speaker, animated auction, great food and a few surprises are part of the organizing committee's recipe for success. And that success has been going on for the past 20 years.

Started in support of athletics at X, the Kehoe Dinner now raises more than \$20,000 a year for both athletics and bursaries for Halifax-area students attending StFX. And behind that level of success is of course a dedicated team of alumni who bring their talents to the table.

"We have an incredible team working on

this event each year," says Kehoe Dinner Chair Shawn Monahan. "They span the decades of graduation from the 1950s to the 2000s, and they bring such a wonderful mix of perspectives and insight into planning this special event; the quality of our volunteers makes all the difference."

The Kehoe Dinner has grown into the largest gathering of StFX alumni outside of homecoming and it's the university's premier event in Halifax.

This year's event on March 27 features guest speaker Harris Fricker '85, GMP Securities L.P., a leading, publicly traded Canadian investment dealer.



Fr. Kehoe



Harris Fricker '85  
KEYNOTE

Raylene Rankin '82  
MASTER OF CEREMONIES

## 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FR. KEHOE DINNER & AUCTION

**WHO:** You are invited!

**WHAT:** StFX's Annual Fr. Kehoe Dinner and Auction

**WHERE:** The Westin Nova Scotia

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 27, 2010, 5:30 reception and auction viewing

**WHY:** Because the X-Spirit is alive and well in Halifax! And you're supporting a great cause.

**HOW:** Tickets are \$100 each, discounted tickets for recent grads and seniors. Get more information and purchase your tickets online at [www.stfx.alumni.ca](http://www.stfx.alumni.ca)

### Carrying the Torch



Clinton Keay '86  
Sydney, NS



Wayne Francis  
MacDonald '66, '67  
Mabou, NS



Richard McKillop '68, '75  
Campbellton, NB



Jane (Baird) Barry '65 and  
Kate Whitters '11  
Saint John, NB



Beatrice (Toner) Long '69  
Grand Falls, NB



Richard Niedermayer '91  
Enfield, NS



Trina (MacLeod)  
Doucette '93  
Dominion, NS



Paula Delorey '99  
Antigonish, NS



Wendy Kraglund-  
Gauthier '91, '94, '06  
Antigonish, NS



Colleen MacDougall '89  
Bible Hill, NS



Mary Delorey '75, '76  
New Glasgow, NS



Katherine MacLeod '04



Helena Fiore '11  
New Glasgow, NS



Mary Lou (MacPherson)  
Andrea '83, '07  
Cape Breton, NS



Margaret (Karr) Boyd '76,  
'77, '82  
Sydney, NS



Nicole Johnston '00  
New Glasgow, NS

For stories from these and other alumni involved with the torch relay, visit [www.alumni.stfx.ca](http://www.alumni.stfx.ca)



John Young '54 was a participant in True Patriot Love's Artists for Families program, which saw 50 Canadian artists transform military helmets resembling those worn in combat into works of art. The helmets, designed and donated by the artists, were part of a silent auction at the True Patriot Love Tribute Dinner last November. All helmets were auctioned off at this inaugural dinner in support of the Military Families Fund established by General (Ret'd) Rick Hillier, which provides assistance to military families when the need is great.

### Back by Popular Demand: Your Invitation to Return to the Classroom, Without Examinations!

#### The Name?

We call this program "Classics for Classics", because we study those great works that only improve with age, and we're teaching them to those great alumni who have some similar characteristics!

#### Tuition?

We will charge a modest fee of \$100, but this fee is waived for all alumni. This is our chance to do something for you!

#### Residence and Meals?

Upon request from course participants, rooms will be reserved in beautiful Governors' Hall at a (reasonable) price to be determined. Information on meal options on campus will be provided, and, of course, you are free to make meal or accommodation arrangements off campus.

#### Date?

July 5 - 9, 2010. This is the week before Highland Games in Antigonish. We expect that you would arrive on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup>, because the first class will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### Limits?

We may have to limit enrolment to keep the class size optimal for discussions. It would be advisable to reserve a place early.

#### Reserve a Place?

Please contact Alumni Affairs to reserve a place in Classics for Classics, 2010: [alumni@stfx.ca](mailto:alumni@stfx.ca), 902-867-2186 (tuition deposit of \$100 to reserve a place is refunded to alumni after completing the course.)



More Information? Dr. Steve Baldner, 902-867-2165, [sbaldner@stfx.ca](mailto:sbaldner@stfx.ca).

# President's Receptions



Sydney President's Reception

Dr. Sean Riley brought news from campus to alumni in Cape Breton and London, ON in November with President's Receptions that coincided with StFX Day celebrations. These gatherings are an opportunity for StFX's President to hear from alumni in various parts of Canada and the U.S. and for our grads to reconnect with friends old and new.

This spring President's Receptions/Dinners are planned for Corner Brook, St. John's, New York, Edmonton, Calgary, Fredericton and Moncton. Visit [www.alumni.stfx.ca](http://www.alumni.stfx.ca) for details. X



Sydney President's Reception



The London, ON President's Reception on Nov. 28 brought a large group of alumni together, including this group, to hear news from campus and celebrate StFX Day.

**DO YOU KNOW AN OUTSTANDING XAVERIAN?**

The StFX Alumni Association asks you to think about the outstanding StFX grads and friends of the university in your life. Each year, we recognize the accomplishments and contributions of very special members of the StFX family through the Alumni Awards of Excellence and the StFX Hall of Honour at Homecoming. But deserving candidates cannot be considered for these honours without nominations. That's where we need your help.

For more information and nomination information, go to our online community at [www.alumni.stfx.ca](http://www.alumni.stfx.ca) and click on "More Info."

The Hall of Honour recognizes alumni whose lives, achievements and contributions reflect the StFX tradition of helping others. The Awards of Excellence recognize outstanding achievements in the following categories:

**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS/A  
YOUNG ALUMNUS/A  
FRIEND OF StFX (non alumni)  
CHAPTER AWARD**

**NOMINATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED.  
DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS APRIL 30, 2010**

**DISPLAY WITH PRIDE  
StFX DEGREE AND PHOTO FRAMES**

For a detailed view of the frames or to order online, visit [www.alumni.stfx.ca](http://www.alumni.stfx.ca) or contact the Alumni Affairs Office at 902-867-2186 or email [alumni@stfx.ca](mailto:alumni@stfx.ca)

**MARK  
YOUR  
CALENDAR**

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY

# Homecoming

OCTOBER 1,2,3 2010

## Schedule of Events

Life Officers

**Friday, October 1**

**10 am – 9 pm  
Homecoming Registration & Information**  
Hospitality Suites, Keating Millennium Centre.

**1:30 pm  
Campus walking tour**  
Meet at Homecoming registration at 1:15 pm.

**3 pm  
StFX Alumni Association Annual General Meeting**  
All alumni are encouraged to attend. Conference Rooms, Keating Millennium Centre.

**6 pm reception,  
7 pm dinner  
Welcome Home Dinner**  
Presentation of Alumni Awards of Excellence, Main Stadium, Keating Millennium Centre. Advance ticket sales only – \$50 each. To reserve, please contact Alumni Affairs at 902-867-2186.

**9 pm  
Homecoming Kitchen Party**  
A gathering place for all alumni and friends with musicians Rodney MacDonald and Glenn Graham, MacKay Room & Lounge, Bloomfield Centre, \$10.

**Saturday, October 2**  
**8 am  
5K Fun Run registration**  
Race begins at 9 am, Oland Centre.

**9 am – 6 pm  
Homecoming Registration continues**, Hospitality Suites, Keating Millennium Centre.

**9:30 am  
Coffee with Coady**  
An event to celebrate the alumni-Coady connection, featuring the Katherine Fleming award presentation, and breakfast refreshments. Coady International Institute.

**11 am  
Hall of Honour**  
Induction of Hall of Honour candidates and Student Alumni Recognition essays.

**1:15 pm  
Campus Walking tour**  
Meet at Homecoming registration at 1 pm.

**1:45 pm  
Ceremonial Football Kick-Off**

**2 pm – 5 pm  
Homecoming Football Game**  
StFX X-Men vs. TBA. Half price tickets will be available at the Homecoming Registration desk. Intermission & post-game receptions, Main Gym, Oland Centre.

**2:30 pm – 4:30 pm  
Mount St. Bernard College Tea**  
Everyone welcome – refreshments served.

**5:45 pm reception,  
7 pm dinner  
President's Reception and Golden Grads Dinner**  
A dinner hosted by Dr. Sean Riley, University President, to honour the Golden Grads from the Class of '60, Main Stadium, Keating Millennium Centre. Advance tickets only. To reserve, please contact Alumni Affairs at 902-867-2186.

**Class reunions are also planned for the classes of**  
1950, 1955, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, & 2005. For details visit: [www.alumni.stfx.ca/homecoming2010](http://www.alumni.stfx.ca/homecoming2010).

**9 pm  
Homecoming Inn Pub Night**  
A gathering place for all alumni and friends! Featuring Big Fish, \$10, MacKay Room & Lounge, Bloomfield Centre.

**Sunday, October 3**  
**11 am  
Alumni Mass**  
Class reserved seating. University Chapel.

**10:30 am – 1 pm  
Farewell Brunch**  
Main Stadium, Keating Centre. Advance ticket sales only – \$20 each. To reserve, please contact Alumni Affairs at 902-867-2186.

**1:15 pm  
Campus Walking tour**  
Meet in the main foyer of the Keating Millennium Centre at 1 pm.

For more information or to register, visit [www.alumni.stfx.ca/homecoming2010](http://www.alumni.stfx.ca/homecoming2010) or call 902-867-2186

**'50**  
If you are interested in helping to organize a 60<sup>th</sup> reunion, please contact Jessica Smith at 902-867-3760 or [jasmith@stfx.ca](mailto:jasmith@stfx.ca).

**'55**  
John "Smiley" Marcinov  
[john.marcinov@bell.net](mailto:john.marcinov@bell.net), 613-820-7198

**'60**  
Paul McGrattan  
[mcgrattp@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:mcgrattp@nbnet.nb.ca), 506-365-7671

Julie Chadwick  
[juliechadwick@sympatico.ca](mailto:juliechadwick@sympatico.ca), 613-730-3408

Ron "DD" MacDonald, 902-863-2863

Gus Mazzuca  
[josiemaz@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:josiemaz@nb.sympatico.ca), 506-455-5746

Bob Walsh  
[grumpywalsh2@aol.com](mailto:grumpywalsh2@aol.com), 239-793-4856

Fred Currie, 902-539-3060

Bill and Laura (Ryan) Shea  
[blsbuck@comcast.net](mailto:blsbuck@comcast.net), 617-699-4618

Bill Tobin  
[btobin7113@aol.com](mailto:btobin7113@aol.com), 613-224-7113

**'65**  
Janet Stark  
[jstark@stfx.ca](mailto:jstark@stfx.ca), 902-863-5095

Carson Duncan  
[cduncan@stfx.ca](mailto:cduncan@stfx.ca), 902-285-2602

Fran (Lindley) Haley  
[fhaley@stfx.ca](mailto:fhaley@stfx.ca), 902-863-1992

**'70**  
Karen (O'Hara) Zappia  
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Teri Brean-Arsenault  
[tgbrean@hotmail.com](mailto:tgbrean@hotmail.com), 902-863-6926

**'75**  
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George Lyons  
[glyons@coxandpalmer.com](mailto:glyons@coxandpalmer.com), 506-383-8353

Jeff Kelly  
[jeff.kelly@soundfantastic.nb.ca](mailto:jeff.kelly@soundfantastic.nb.ca), 506-855-8037

J. Harold Martell  
[Harold@blanchardgroup.ca](mailto:Harold@blanchardgroup.ca), 506-738-4254

**'80**  
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Cathy Campbell  
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902-835-3806

Anne-Marie Doherty  
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**'85**  
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Eileen MacIsaac  
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**'90**  
John Simon  
[jcsimon@yahoo.co](mailto:jcsimon@yahoo.co), 506-645-1448

Sharon Kenny-Blanchard  
[sharonblanchard@eastlink.ca](mailto:sharonblanchard@eastlink.ca), 902-477-1880

Robert "Baby K" Kyte  
[robawanda@ncf.ca](mailto:robawanda@ncf.ca), 613-729-9981

Kathleen O'Brien  
[Kathleen\\_ob@hotmail.com](mailto:Kathleen_ob@hotmail.com), 905-455-0751

**'95**  
Jim Curry  
[curryns@hotmail.com](mailto:curryns@hotmail.com), 902-446-9989

Dave Reid, [dareidnyc@gmail.com](mailto:dareidnyc@gmail.com)

Melinda Lee, [moleelee@hotmail.com](mailto:moleelee@hotmail.com)

**'00**  
Crystal Ormond  
[crystalormond@hotmail.com](mailto:crystalormond@hotmail.com), 403-541-0512

Charlene (Anderson) Kennedy  
[charlenekennedy@rogers.com](mailto:charlenekennedy@rogers.com)  
613-692-5429

Mary Rankin  
[rankin.mary@gmail.com](mailto:rankin.mary@gmail.com), 226-979-2920

Aaron "Lue" Sullivan  
[sullivana@eastlink.ca](mailto:sullivana@eastlink.ca), 902-483-2252

**'05**  
MK Feeney,  
[mkefeeny@gmail.com](mailto:mkefeeny@gmail.com) 508-733-3153

Norway Scholarship | Young Scientists off to San Francisco | 2010 Student Entrepreneur Nova Scotia Champion



Samantha Marshall

## StFX student receives fully funded Norway scholarship

**SAMANTHA MARSHALL** of Tottenham, ON, a StFX honours biology and aquatic resources student, is one of only two Canadian students awarded a fully funded scholarship to study in Norway this term. She received the Fellowship for Studies in the High North, scholarships for Canadian students to study from January to June, 2010 at Bodø University College (BUC) along the western coast of Norway. The fellowship is offered by the Norwegian government, through the Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture at BUC. It covers the cost of travel to and from Bodø, fees for attending BUC, and student housing while in Norway. Marshall will take courses that will go toward her StFX degree.

## StFX undergraduates present research at LARGEST EARTH SCIENCES INTERNATIONAL MEETING IN SAN FRANCISCO



**MARIELLE LESPERANCE** of Ottawa, ON and **SARA KLAPSTEIN** of Antigonish, StFX BSc honours students in Physics and Environmental Sciences, were among the 12 Environmental Sciences Research Centre (ESRC) researchers, graduate and undergraduate students from StFX presenting their research at the annual American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Meeting in San Francisco from Dec. 14-18. The AGU, a preeminent scientific society, is dedicated to the furtherance of research in the earth and space sciences by providing forums for scientific meetings and publications. "It is very unusual for undergraduate students to have the opportunity to present their work at an AGU meeting," says Dr. Hugo Beltrami, ESRC researcher. "Generally, presenters at the AGU are top professional scientists and students at graduate or post-doctoral levels and that is why this is a special honour for these two undergraduates. This is becoming a regular occurrence for undergraduates in our centre as we have sent several undergraduates to international conferences during the past three years."

## StFX student named 2010 Student Entrepreneur Nova Scotia Champion

**JEREMY FLYNN**, a full-time StFX business student from the Halifax area and owner of Flynnweb, has been named the 2010 Student Entrepreneur Nova Scotia Champion by national charitable organization, Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship (ACE) and program supporter, CIBC. Since 2008, Jeremy, a marketing major with a minor in history, has owned and operated Flynnweb, a web and graphic design firm, specializing in building brands and affordable marketing material for the small business owner. As a provincial champion, Jeremy moves on to represent Nova Scotia in the regional round of competition where two people will advance to the finals at the 2010 ACE National Exposition in Calgary May 12, 2010. The national champion receives a \$10,000 prize and represents Canada at the international level.



Jeremy Flynn

continued from page 19

## Day of celebration



He was elected Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda in 2004, and re-elected again in 2009.

In his remarks, Mr. Spencer said that it was during his time at the

Coady Institute that he discovered the value of humility and social leadership for the good of all. "The principles have stayed with me, and fashioned my thinking," he said as

he announced his government's annual scholarship for an Antigua and Barbuda citizen to attend the Coady.

In his address, Mr. Markin, a distinguished humanitarian, successful businessman in the energy industry in Canada, and co-owner of the Calgary Flames, urged the graduates to combine intelligence and compassion, to listen to others, to build times of silence into their lives, to be ethical and to be life-long learners. "To fill your mind with everything that is true is not always a smooth ride," he said. "Remember to listen first."

"Thank you again for this honorary degree. Know that it means a great deal to me."

Coady graduate Ann Kargbo of Sierra Leone, who delivered the acknowledgement, said she and her classmates have that good feeling that comes from within. "We have done our best. Congrats to my fellow graduates. It is the beginning of a new journey."



Dr. Nancy Forestell, Outreach Award



Ann Kargbo, Sierra Leone

## DIPLOMA IN ADULT EDUCATION

National Program of Excellence  
Canadian Association University Continuing Education

Excellence is what St. Francis Xavier University's Diploma in Adult Education is all about. It is the #1 choice among adult educators and HRD professionals. Now in our 28<sup>th</sup> year.

It is available to you in major centres across Canada or ask about our in-house programs.

Our 2009/10 schedule includes St. John's, Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, London, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary and Fort McMurray.

Limited enrollment – 30 seats per module  
[www.stfx.ca/academic/adulted-diploma](http://www.stfx.ca/academic/adulted-diploma)

Email: [dipaded@stfx.ca](mailto:dipaded@stfx.ca)  
Toll-free: 1-800-563-7839  
Fax: (902)867-2486  
Business hours: 9 am to 4:30 pm Atlantic



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## Anything is Possible

"Basketball has always been key to my education. Education means a lot to me. I kind of learned basketball is a temporary job that can be taken away at any time; use it as your key to education. If I'm able to continue after I get a degree, I call that a bonus."

He says he thinks the sport has helped him personally as well. "I've never been in counseling."

One "amazing day" about five years ago, while in Calgary, he learned from a member of the Sudanese community that his parents were alive. His mom is in Uganda and his dad in Sudan. There have been phone calls and email but not yet a visit. "I can't wait to see them," he says. "I hope this summer to be able to see them."

"My mom can't believe I'm the same person as before. She says I've turned into such a gentleman," he says.

"Every human being has a rough time. My roughness may have been more," he says "but my mom taught me from a young age that home is in your heart, where people love you, where you get accepted."

"If I chose to cry and dwell on it, then I may not make it through. I know there is still a lot of life ahead. I start from nothing to something. Being one of the Lost Boys, (it's important) my kids will not be a lost boy, they will have their father, that's my dream. That's the goal that drives me every day. One day I can be somebody people talk about."

"I look forward to the future." X

# Fabulous Fall



Cornerback Dylan Hollohan played on World Team for game against USA during NFL Pro Bowl week in Florida



The tradition of athletic X-celence continued as StFX teams captured the first four Atlantic University Sport (AUS) championship banners this fall. AUS titles were won by X-Women rugby, X-Women and X-Men cross country and X-Women soccer.

"Winning four of a possible six AUS championships marks the most successful fall on record for StFX Athletics," comments StFX Director of Athletics & Recreational Services Leo MacPherson. "Our student-athletes and coaches deserve a great deal of credit for this most impressive accomplishment."

The X-Women rugby team captured their 12th consecutive AUS title, making them the only team to be crowned AUS champions since women's rugby became an AUS varsity sport. The team advanced to the CIS championship in Vancouver, BC where they earned their second consecutive silver medal.

The X-Women and X-Men cross country teams continued to tear up the trails again this season. The X-Women won their fifth consecutive AUS title, with six StFX runners placing in the top 10. In Kingston, ON the X-Women placed eighth at the CIS championship meet.

The X-Men cross country team dominated in AUS team competition in 2009, winning every meet they ran, including the AUS championship. The X-Men placed five runners in the top 10 and despite battling the flu, managed to post their second consecutive podium finish at the CIS national championship with a bronze medal.

Continuing the AUS winning ways was the X-Women soccer team who won three tough games in cold, windy conditions in Newfoundland to claim the school's second-ever AUS banner and first since 1986. At the CIS championship in Toronto, the X-Women dropped a heartbreaking overtime decision to Queen's in the quarterfinals.

## Coach K sets national coaching milestone

Veteran X-Men basketball head coach Steve 'Coach K' Konchalski was honoured in November for his record-breaking milestone of becoming the CIS all-time career leader in wins.

Coach K earned his national record-breaking 735<sup>th</sup> career win on November 6 in a 94-83 victory at UPEI, and in doing so passed the previous record holder from Brandon University, Jerry Hemmings. At the first home game since the record-breaking event, Coach K was honoured during a pre-game ceremony at 7:35 p.m. He received a framed, commemorative print, the same graphic that appeared on posters distributed to the first 735 fans at the game.

Congratulatory messages were passed along by StFX Director of Athletics & Recreation Leo MacPherson, StFX Vice President Recruitment & Student Experience Keith

Publicover, StFX Alumni Association President Ed McHugh, StFX Students' Union President Sandy MacIntosh, X-Men Booster Club President Rob Wolf and Past President of Basketball Nova Scotia Mike Brien.

Coach Konchalski is currently in his 35<sup>th</sup> season as head coach of the StFX X-Men. His X-Men have made 33 consecutive AUS appearances, won nine AUS championship titles and three CIS national championship titles. He has been named AUS Coach of the Year on six occasions and was the 2001 CIS Coach of the Year. Coach K was the Canadian men's basketball national team head coach for four years and assistant coach for 16 years and he currently is a member of the Basketball Canada Council of Excellence.



L-r: Coach Steve Konchalski, StFX Vice President Recruitment & Student Experience Keith Publicover and StFX Director of Athletics & Recreation Leo MacPherson.

### X-Men Gridiron News:

- X-Men football had a record number five CIS All-Canadians in 2009: Akeem Foster, Henoc Muamba, Tom Lynch, Dylan Hollohan and Dave Skillen
- Cornerback Dylan Hollohan played on World Team for game against USA during NFL Pro Bowl week in Florida
- Offensive lineman Gordon Sawler inked pro contract with the Toronto Argonauts
- Wide receiver Akeem Foster currently ranked in top 10 in CFL draft prospects
- Running back James Green became the StFX all-time career leading rusher with 2304 total yards

### Varsity Alumni Tidbits:

- Garry Gallimore signed with the Halifax Rainmen of the Premier Basketball League
- Sam Roberts and Danny Battochio participated in ECHL and CHL all-star games
- Will Colbert playing with the AHL Worcester Sharks, San Jose Sharks affiliate
- Rebecca Davies, Amanda Church and Lindsay Brown playing with Mississauga Chiefs (CWHL) and competed against Chinese Olympic team

### International X-Women:

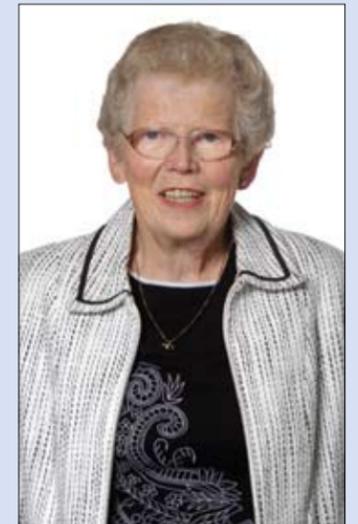
- Amanda Thornborough and Jessica Jacobs went on tour with Canadian Rugby U20 Team vs USA in Florida
- Ghislaine Landry and Lisa Gauthier named to Team Canada for 2010 World University Rugby 7's Championship in Spain

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UPDATE | ANDREA MACLEAN-HOLOHAN '59, PRESIDENT

# A year of promise in 2010

Hello alumni & friends. What a privilege it is for me to be the StFX Alumni Association's national president in 2010.

Permit me to tell you some of my background. I grew up in Moncton, NB. As a result of my Dad's connection with the Antigonish area, and he being a StFX grad, it was a given that my three brothers and I would attend StFX. Since graduation, I have lived and worked in Toronto, Boston, New Jersey and Montreal. I returned to New Brunswick with my husband, Brendan, and have lived in Quispamsis for the past 30 years. My classmates and I celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> reunion in October 2009. It was an amazing Homecoming; all of us felt at home and truly special. A memorable four days on campus.



Andrea MacLean-Holohan '59

As I assume the role of president of our national association, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge and say a special thank you to Ed McHugh, outgoing president, and his team for their commitment, expertise and selfless leadership of our association during the past three years. Ed has shepherded us through the transition to our updated constitution and the new structure of the council. This is in addition to continuing the growth and development of our alumni chapters and related activities, all done on a volunteer basis.

Our alumni association now has a council of 17 chapter representatives (including two international reps), four executive members and two members-at-large. It is important to recognize and acknowledge the alumni who are advancing our alma mater at the national and local level. My hope is that each of you becomes engaged in the strengthening of one of Canada's finest universities. It is essential that each of us help to participate in the recruitment of our "Leaders of Tomorrow."

As we look to the year ahead, it is important to recognize the continuing growth of our chapters in num-

bers and activity level. We are making a special effort to engage our recent graduates. This year promises to be a year full of opportunities to get together with old and new friends from StFX and to keep up-to-date on what is happening on campus.

We are indeed fortunate to have three extremely capable and dedicated staff working with us in the Alumni Affairs Office. Special thanks go to Alumni Affairs Director Helen Murphy and co-workers Glenda Bond and Jessica Smith. They do a phenomenal job for the university and all of us. It is worthwhile to point out that in a 2009 survey of Canadian university alumni, our AlumniNews had the highest percentage of readership by alumni in Canada at 79 per cent as compared to the national average of 50 per cent. We can attribute much of this success to our alumni office staff and a number of staff in the Advancement department. We are indeed grateful for their creativity and expertise.

Hail and Health!!  
Andrea MacLean-Holohan,  
Alumni Association  
National President



L-r: Scott Westberg '06, Ryan MacIntyre '08, Graham Webb '07, Joshua Paddon '07, Rob Warner '11, Steve Roddick '07, Currie Dixon '08, Elizabeth Mackay '10 and Megan Brady '08.

# CHAPTER NEWS

The weather might not be perfect, but that doesn't stop the biggest gathering of StFX alumni from taking place during the first week of December each year. The Feast Day of St. Francis Xavier on Dec. 3 continues to be a significant reason for our grads to gather together in celebration of the StFX spirit. The events come in all shapes and sizes, from a few alumni gathered at someone's home for good food and friendship, to masses and dinners for larger gatherings and everything in between. The celebrations stretch across Canada and around the world, connecting alumni in a special way to the 1000 seniors back on campus who are getting their X-Rings that day.

Contact your chapter presidents for upcoming X-events in your area.

## CHAPTER NEWS

### LONDON, ON

The London, Ontario alumni chapter welcomed StFX President Dr. Sean Riley on Friday, November 28, 2009. Dr. Riley's President's Reception was a hit, drawing alumni from all corners of southwestern Ontario. Xaverians assembled at the London Club for a StFX Day celebration that for our group was finally clear of foul weather. Friends from Windsor to Burlington and parts in between, recited the Xaverian Prayer led by London chapter treasurer Petra Brown-MacDonald '90. Dr. Riley addressed alumni and friends present, speaking to recent changes on our campus including the new Coady International Institute building and the new Schwartz School of Business. Dr. Riley emphasized the fact that our beloved alma mater, St. Francis Xavier, maintains its strength through a special bond linking alumni, students, faculty and staff. It was wonderful to have alumni of all different ages together to reconnect, rekindle old memories and start new friendships. Gerry Lowe, chapter vice president, thanked Dr. Riley for his presentation to our chapter.

**Drew Smith '90,**  
London Chapter President  
drdrew@drewsmithortho.com

### PICTOU COUNTY, NS

The Pictou County chapter welcomed Dr. Sean Riley at the President's Reception held Feb. 10. Close to 100 local alumni enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with friends from StFX and to hear news from campus. The chapter also hosted its 6<sup>th</sup> annual information session for high school students (and parents) wishing to attend university on Feb. 23, 2010. The next event will be a student send-off to be held in August (date TBD) at the Museum of Industry. Local alumni wishing to help out should contact Paul Fraser at (902) 695-5231.

**Paul Fraser '82, Pictou County**  
Chapter President  
paul.fraser@sobeys.com

### CALGARY, AB

Happy New Year, fellow Xaverians! Despite the challenges of our oil-heavy economy, Calgary continues to be a popular destination, especially to find work. To that end, the chapter started a Fall Pub Night that is designed to welcome Xaverians to Calgary. While attendance was relatively light, the hope is that it will continue to attract Xaverians who relocate to Calgary, so that they can network with established alumni and meet others who are in the same boat. And besides, do X alums really need to have an excuse to get together for a pint or two? To help with this new venture, the chapter executive is busily updating its alumni database to make it current, especially among newer grads. If you or someone you know has moved to the Calgary area recently, e-mail the chapter your details at its new, permanent e-mail address: calgarychapter@stfx.ca. The chapter also has a home on Facebook!

Local alumni and friends came together on December 3, the Feast Day of St. Francis Xavier, for the annual Mass and reception, organized by Leona Whitburn '62. The Calgary chapter welcomed a lot of new alumni to the area, especially more recent graduates! Many thanks to the readers,

musicians and gift bearers, and a special thanks to Fr. Bill Stephenson '57, who again presided over the Mass. Also, thank you to all who helped organize the reception.

The chapter is also putting the finishing touches on a new scholarship, in honour of the late Leone Campbell '63. Leone was an active alumna who was a foremost ambassador for StFX in the Calgary area. She was a driving force in putting StFX on the map for a lot of Calgary-area students, and her contributions were recognized with her induction into the Hall of Honour in 1999.

As for upcoming events, be sure to keep Saturdays in March and April free. The next big event is the Annual Alumni Pub Night. The chapter is currently nailing down a date and will be spreading the word via e-mail so if you're not getting e-mail from the chapter – or you're not sure if your information is current – drop us a line at calgarychapter@stfx.ca. We can always use a helping hand too, so if you can volunteer, let us know!

And finally, the chapter is thrilled to welcome StFX President Dr. Sean Riley where he'll host



LONDON, ON

a lobster boil! It all happens Thursday, May 27 with a venue to be announced soon. E-mail the chapter (calgarychapter@stfx.ca) for more information and for tickets!

**Jay Donlevy '92,**  
Calgary Chapter President  
jdonlevy@telus.net

### CAPE BRETON COUNTY

The new student send-off on August 18<sup>th</sup> saw 46 attending, enjoying jambalaya, hot dogs and strawberries, courtesy of Barbara Shaw, '61. Recent grads Ashley Heffernan, '09, Mark Inglis, '09 and Erin Neary '06, spoke to the students on what to expect as a new student at X and gave them tips from their experiences to successfully balance the many aspects of life at X. Jean Keat-

ing '09, from the StFX Recruiting Office gave the students and parents some additional tips and offers of help. Joan Chiasson, '52, one of the hardest workers in the local group, asked to have a minute to say a few words. Joan then gave a heartfelt talk encouraging the new students to love and cherish their time at StFX.

October and November saw support for recruiting and publicity for StFX student athletes from this area. On November 26, StFX President Dr. Sean Riley was here for a President's Reception, lunch with alumni assisting with recruiting and a speaking tour of local high schools.

On December 2<sup>nd</sup> the chapter held the annual Mass at St. Anthony Daniel in Sydney, celebrated by Fr. Donald MacGillivray '79 and Fr. Jake Andrea '59. After mass there was a short annual meeting followed by a Meet & Greet for local alumni.

The new executive, with representation from all areas of the county and classes from '49 to '09, met on January 3<sup>rd</sup> for a relaxing evening aimed at getting to know each other.

Fr. Jake Andrea was the celebrant for the January 17<sup>th</sup> TV Mass for Shut Ins. Local alumni formed the congregation, read, and sang in the choir.

Plans are underway to show support for StFX teams in both the men's and women's basketball championships to be held here. The women's tournament will be at CBU from February 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>. The men's will be at Centre 200 March 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>. Details will be posted on the StFX Alumni website events page: [www.alumni.stfx.ca](http://www.alumni.stfx.ca)

**John Shaw '62,**  
Cape Breton County Chapter President  
johnshaw@alumni.stfx.ca



FREDERICTON

Pictured above (l-r): Father Gerry White '74, Dale Chisholm '00, Hon. Dr. Ed Doherty '71, Honourable Graydon Nicholas '68, '94 and Sara Rothman '92 at the X-day event held at the Lieutenant Governor's mansion on Dec 3.

Pictured below are, back row: Nike Flugge '09, Corrine Chisholm, Dean MacPherson '94, Kelley Webb-Page, Danielle O'Keefe, Paul Marsh '94. Front row: Krista MacEachern '09, Kate Crossland-Page, Chelsea MacKenzie '05, Lisa Alexandra '09, Heather Marshall, Dale Brown '96 and future X-grads Dylan Buzugbe '24 and Daryl Buzugbe '27.



LONDON, ENGLAND

### X-RING DAY IN LONDON, ENGLAND

Kelley Webb-Page hosted an X-style house party in London, England with Moosehead beer. Fourteen X grads made an appearance at the event. Some brought their partners and families. The gathering lasted well into the evening.

**Dale Brown '96**  
England Chapter President  
daleinlondon@hotmail.com

### HALIFAX, NS

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Father Kehoe Dinner and Auction will be held Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Westin Nova Scotian with two celebrated alumni, Raylene Rankin of the Rankin Family as MC and Harris Fricker of GMP Investment Banking as guest speaker. This dinner is the largest gathering of X-Rings outside of Homecoming



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



TRURO, NS

and we invite all those looking for additional information and tickets to visit [www.stfxalumni.ca](http://www.stfxalumni.ca) for more details. Come as a company, come as a few friends or come on your own...you are guaranteed to meet up with Xaverians you haven't seen in a while and have a great evening while helping to raise funds for StFX student athletics and bursaries.

The Halifax alumni chapter will be hosting a pub night at Durty Nelly's Irish Pub on Friday May 7<sup>th</sup>. Come out and meet up with fellow Xaverians for an evening of music and munchies. Additional details will be available on the chapter website closer to the event day.



**Carla O'Brien Alderson '00,**  
Halifax Chapter President  
[carlaobrien@eastlink.ca](mailto:carlaobrien@eastlink.ca)

**TRURO, NS**

Close to 50 Truro & Area chapter members gathered to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis Xavier on December 3rd. Justin Fox, the university's Director of Admissions and Recruitment, was this year's guest speaker and brought an update of what's been happening across campus in the last year.



**Jeff Bishop '98**  
London Chapter President  
[bishop@eastlink.ca](mailto:bishop@eastlink.ca)

**SUDBURY, ON**

The second annual StFX Day celebration was again held at St. Patrick's parish in Sudbury, Ontario on Thursday, December 3, 2009. Over 30 alumni, special guests and some future alumni attended the event; almost double that from last year. Five priests concelebrated Mass presided by Fr. Tony Man-Son-Hing. Fr. Tony is the StFX Ministries program coordinator for Sudbury region. Following Mass the group was led by a piper to the church hall for a wine and cheese reception. One of the highlights of the evening was to present Fr. Francis Xavier Gnonhossou, a

visiting priest from Benin, West Africa with a StFX golf shirt. It was to celebrate his December 3rd birthday. A Sudbury Pub Night is being planned for some time in the spring.



**William Mackasey '59**  
Sudbury Chapter President  
email: [w.o.mackasey@sympatico.ca](mailto:w.o.mackasey@sympatico.ca)

**OTTAWA, ON**

The Ottawa chapter celebrated the Feast of St. Francis a day later on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> with a mass at St. Patrick Basilica, followed by a wine and cheese reception at the church hall. With over 70 alumni in attendance, we were pleased to have with us Leo MacPherson, StFX's Director of Athletics and Recreational Services who gave us the latest word from campus, in particular the accomplishments of the student athletes at StFX. A great and varied turn-out this year with graduates from the late 30s through to recent grads of 2009. Ottawa alumni - thank you!! You continually make our chapter events a success.



**Karri Cameron '92,**  
Ottawa Chapter President  
[karricameron@rogers.com](mailto:karricameron@rogers.com)

**MONTREAL, QC**

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 the Montreal chapter celebrated StFX Day with a roast beef dinner buffet at Molson Brewery. Molson Brewery was a new venue for the annual celebration and everyone seemed pleased with the change. It was noted that plenty of young new faces were present. Guest speaker Iain Boyd, StFX's Director of Advancement Relations, updated the chapter with news from StFX and spoke about challenges for today's students and the potential students of tomorrow. Sixty alumni and friends came to enjoy a great meal while catching up with old friends and new Xaverians to the Montreal area. Emily McKenna thanked Iain for his participation with the event. Meg McKenna welcomed guests as they arrived and organized some door prize

contests to keep the evening flowing.

Our annual Golf and Dinner Day will be held Friday June 4, 2010 at the Candiatic Golf Club. If you wish to attend or if you need more information please email Kevin MacSween at [kevin.macsween@mcgill.ca](mailto:kevin.macsween@mcgill.ca).



**Kevin MacSween '89,**  
Montreal Chapter President  
[kevin.macsween@mcgill.ca](mailto:kevin.macsween@mcgill.ca)

**TORONTO, ON**

The year 2009 ended with a bang and Wheel Pizza in Toronto, as the chapter executive hosted another wonderful reception to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis Xavier. Over 130 alumni joined us at the Newman Centre, in the heart of the University of Toronto campus for our annual event supported by some very generous alumni and friends including Agnico-Eagle Mines, GMP Capital Inc, and John and Trudy Young. A special thank-you goes out to Helen Murphy for sharing this day with us. A number of alumni also gathered for our Annual General Meeting where the executive members (Andrew Howlett, Heather Shillington and John Ratchford) were re-elected and a number of other alumni including Sarah Rieksts, Alessandro Lupo, Brian Cauley, Marc Rodrigue, Richard Chiasson, Leona Hancharek and Jacqueline de Verteuil joined as members-at-large.

On that very same day, StFX lost one of its most extraordinary young alumni, Lindsay Bolger of Ontario. Lindsay founded the B-Strong Campaign to raise money for brain cancer research. The Toronto chapter will be supporting this foundation through the purchase of the B-Strong "Lindsay" Bears which will be donated to children in Christmas 2010.

2010 looks like another promising year beginning with our annual Golf Tournament and Dinner on May 31<sup>st</sup>; followed by our Student Send Off Garden Party on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Don't miss out on the annual Family-Day (free Blue Jays game hopefully against the Yankees) as well as

our annual Charity-Event (Ride for Heart) on June 6th. Please check in with us at [stfxtoronto@gmail.com](mailto:stfxtoronto@gmail.com) for more details, we look forward to hearing from you.

On behalf of the StFX Toronto chapter executive and alumni, our warmest regards,



**Andrew Howlett,**  
Toronto Chapter President  
[stfxtoronto@gmail.com](mailto:stfxtoronto@gmail.com)

**SAINT JOHN, NB**

On Wednesday, December 3rd, the Saint John alumni chapter braved the snow to gather at O'Leary's Pub to celebrate StFX Day. This annual event gains in popularity each year, and continues to draw alumni of all ages from the greater Saint John region. Party-goers caught up over drinks and appetizers, and took part in raffles for StFX gear. Once again this year, we were joined by recent grads celebrating their first StFX Day as alumni. The Saint John chapter would like to thank all who helped organize another great event - especially our host Kevin Ferguson, of O'Leary's.

Our next alumni gathering will be our Golf Tournament and Student Send-off, scheduled for August 2010 at the Hampton Golf Club. Event



SUDBURY, ON

details will be available on our chapter website as they are confirmed. The Saint John chapter can also be reached at: [saintjohnchapter@stfx.ca](mailto:saintjohnchapter@stfx.ca).



**Claire Ryan '06,**  
Saint John Chapter President  
[saintjohnchapter@stfx.ca](mailto:saintjohnchapter@stfx.ca)

**SOUTH SHORE, NS**

The Nova Scotia South Shore chapter gathered at the Cranberry Inn in Bridgewater on Dec. 3,

2009 to celebrate StFX Day. This was the third event held this year for the South Shore. The South Shore has not celebrated StFX Day in a long time. The event was successful in having over 36 guests in attendance. Organizers received many positive comments from those in attendance who hope to see this as an annual event. The night was very positive with great energy, great conversation, music, food and camaraderie. We had StFX alumni musicians

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## CHAPTER NEWS



OTTAWA, ON



PRINCE GEORGE, BC

share their talent, which certainly added to the celebration. Betty-Jean Aucoin spoke to update alumni of the chapter's student send-off and that hopes that the chapter will be able to support three events a year in the South Shore area.



**Betty-Jean Aucoin**  
Bridgewater Chapter President  
bjaucoin@live.ca

### PRINCE GEORGE, BC

The Prince George Chapter got together on a snowy day on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thirteen StFX grads and some friends came out for some drinks and food at Moxie's Classic Grill. It was great to see some new faces as well as some old friends.

**Brent Arsenault '91, '92**  
Prince George Chapter President  
coachbrent@stmaryspg.org

### MONCTON, NB

StFX's Facilities Management director Leon MacLellan and his wife came from StFX to Moncton on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> to celebrate StFX Day with over 20 Monctonians at the Molson Brewery. The refreshments were good and this year's turnout was great. We got an update of the changes happening at StFX. Our next event will be the President's Reception taking place on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. We look forward to seeing you at any of our events. It's a good place to re-connect with fellow alumni.



**Claudia MacLean,**  
Moncton Chapter Co-President  
cmaclean@rdmaclean.com



MONCTON, NB

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Check out [www.alumni.stfx.ca](http://www.alumni.stfx.ca) for a complete listing of upcoming events and up-to-date event details.

### Halifax, NS

March 27, 2010  
Annual Fr. Kehoe Dinner,  
The Westin Hotel  
Tickets \$100 each  
Contact Shawn Monahan  
shawn@bruceinc.ca

### Toronto, ON

March 2010 (exact date TBA)  
Toronto St. Paddy's Day event

### Halifax, NS

May 7, 2010  
Pub Night  
Durt Nelly's Irish Pub

### Corner Brook, NL

May 12, 2010  
President's Reception

### St. John's, NL

May 13, 2010  
President's Reception

### Alumni bus trip to New York City

May 19-24, 2010

### Edmonton, AB

May 26, 2010  
Maritime Lobster Dinner

### Calgary, AB

May 27, 2010  
Maritime Lobster Dinner

### Toronto, ON

May 31, 2010  
StFX Toronto Golf Classic  
The Carrying Place Golf &  
Country Club. Contact: Trudy  
Young  
jtyoung@rogers.com

### Dalhousie, NB

May 2010 (exact date TBA)  
Alumni gathering

### Fredericton, NB

June 2, 2010  
President's Reception

### Moncton, NB

June 3, 2010  
President's Reception

### Montreal, QC

June 4, 2010  
Annual Montreal Golf  
Tournament  
Contact: Kevin MacSween  
kevin.macsween@mcgill.ca

### Ottawa, ON

June 11, 2010  
Ottawa Golf Tournament  
Contact Karri Cameron  
karricameron@rogers.com

### Vancouver, BC

July 11, 2010  
Vancouver Sent-off Picnic,  
Prospect Point picnic site,  
Stanley Park

### Class of 1996 Phys. Ed. reunion

August 14-16, 2010 in  
Antigonish. Please contact the  
reunion organizers for details:  
Dale Brown:  
daleinlondon@hotmail.com,  
Melanie Cantrell:  
melaniecantrell@gmail.com or  
Paul MacDonald:  
paulmac12@mac.com

### Halifax, NS

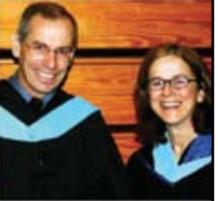
August 25, 2010  
Halifax student send-off,  
Brightwood Golf Course

### Antigonish, NS

Oct 1 - 3, 2010  
Homecoming

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Visit [www.stfx.ca/ocademic/continuinged/Graduate.html](http://www.stfx.ca/ocademic/continuinged/Graduate.html) Application deadline: March 1.





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[www.stfx.ca/academic/continuinged/nursing.html](http://www.stfx.ca/academic/continuinged/nursing.html)

We'd like you to keep in touch!

How important is it to keep in touch with your alma mater? Plenty! At StFX, there's so much going on – from an alumni road trip on the StFX bus to New York this spring to student send-offs each summer in cities and towns across the country and beyond. If we don't have your current contacts, we're not able to send out event notices, alumni mailouts or the AlumniNews magazine, mailed free of charge three times a year to StFX alumni and friends. If you're plugged into the StFX network, you can stay in touch with friends, find mentors, visit the online community, the X-Ring, and keep up to date with all the details of Homecoming, and chapter events in your area. We'd like to reconnect with some those with whom we've lost touch. If you have a current contact of or information on any of the following alumni, listed by decade, please contact:

**Ann Arsenault, Records Researcher**  
**St Francis Xavier University**  
**1-888-739-0031 • [aarsenau@stfx.ca](mailto:aarsenau@stfx.ca)**

#### 1960s

Cyril Jobe Abbass BA'63  
Lennox Michael Aquí DIPE'67  
Judith Mary (MacKenzie) Ballah BA'69 & BED'70  
Shirley Juliette (Roche) Beal BA'67 & BED'68  
Edward Wesley Bears Senior Dip Ed'69  
Beverly Glennis (Gardner) Benjamin BSCN'69  
John A Caldwell BED'68  
Gary Richard Ceppetelli BA'66  
Guy H Cyr BSC'66  
Catherine Deniverville BA'67  
Steven Alexander Deri DIPE'67  
David T Frontin BA'69  
Florence M (Gaudet) Gross HEC'66  
David Wright Hylton BBA'68  
Lizzie Jay MSC'66

#### 1970s

Naaman Nihman Abou-Mourad BBA'78  
Danielle Allard BSC'74  
Adelaide Allotey BSA'74  
Pius Joseph Burke BA'76 & BED'77  
John Charles Cameron BA'78  
Sr Brenda Jean Chandler BED'77  
William Douglas Cook BSC'72  
Helen (Coard) Davis BSC'74  
Arthur R Funke DIPE'74  
M Susan Hay BA'70  
Danielle Mary (MacAulay)Ives BSA'72  
Mary Agnes Kilfoil BBA'78  
Norman Landry BA'72 & BED'74  
Bernard MacAdam BA'74 & BED'75  
John Bernard MacDonald BA'71

#### 2000s

Conny Barbara Amlung-Manson BSCN'04  
Emily Alaine Asbell BBA'07  
Sharon Ann Barron BSCN'01  
Christina Dawn Campbell BA'02  
Carrie Frances Duggan BA'00 & BED'04  
Dana Maureen Fidgen BSCN'00  
Jean-Guy Gauthier DIPM'00  
Leslie Raymond Gorham BIS'00  
George Timothy Hunter BSCHK'00  
Jana Nicole Jackson BED'06  
Andrew Joseph Kane BSC'02  
Nadia Louise Landry BA'03  
Aime Helen MacDonald BA'04  
Jeff Young MacDonald BIS'01  
Scott Bradley McManus BSC'00

Donald Wilfred MacDonald BSC'80  
Anita Charlene MacIver BA'88  
John Jeffery MacPherson DIPJ'86  
Ira Marie McKenna BA'83 & BED'84  
Karen Louise Murphy BSCN'83  
Anthony Bruce Parker BAMUS'87  
Melvin Bernard Rankin BA'80

#### 1990s

Bassum Abu BBA'92  
Maureen Jane (Bennett)Angen BA'91  
Tracey Lynn Banfield Hillier BSCN'90  
Anthony Barclay Cameron BBA'90  
Jennifer Marie Coyle BSC'91  
Barbara Ann Fratesi MADE'93  
Brian Keeler BA'92  
Robert Maynard Kyte BBA'90  
Charles C MacIntyre BA'91 & BED'91  
Wendy Ann MacKay BA'97  
Kimberlea Frances Messenger BSCN'99  
Brian Alexander Mills DIPE'90  
Andrew Thomas Smith BSC'91 & BED'92  
Marjorie Taylor DIPADE'92  
Michelle Sara Vandereep BA'93 & BED'94

Send News Exchange items to Glenda Bond, Alumni Affairs Office  
St. Francis Xavier University, PO Box 5000, Antigonish, NS B2G 2W5  
Phone: (902) 867-2186 • Fax: (902) 867-3659 • Email: alumni@stfx.ca

## '40s

X-Gal "Right on Track" at 90 years young! Committed to staying active, winter weather doesn't slow her down. **Margaret Brown '48** regularly laces up and does her 'mile a day' at the indoor fitness track. Happy Birthday Margaret!

Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday



Margaret Brown '48  
"Right on Track"

## '60s

**Dr. Alistair MacLeod '60, HON '87** was one of two recipients of the 2009 PEN/Malamud Award for excellence as a writer of short stories presented in December 2009 in Washington, DC. Previous winners include Alice Munro, Joyce Carol Oates and John Updike.

**John McDonald '62** has retired and lives in Bedford

with his wife Pat. They summer at Melmerby Beach, spend time in N. Redington, FL in the winter and travel whenever possible.

**Dr. Joseph Petrie '65** and his lifelong companion Mark, have left Ottawa to personally manage and operate their 40 room c. 1860 mansion guest house "The Coral Tree Inn" in Key West, Florida.

## '70s

**Jean Nicol '70** is looking for former members of X-Project from 1965 - 2008. Please contact her at j.nicol@live.ca or check out this link <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=214251841231#>

**Judge John Creaghan Friel '70** has been appointed to the position of provincial court judge. He was sworn in on Oct. 2009 at the Miramichi Law Courts building in Miramichi, NB. Judge Friel was called to the bar in 1974 and worked in Grand Falls for 20 years. He spent the last 12 years in agricultural litigation but has acted as agent for the federal government for prosecutions under federal statutes, and did criminal defence work.

**Reg Jerrett '73** - After retiring from his second career, Reg and his wife have moved back to Regina, SK to be closer to children and grandchildren. Enjoying life and all the prairies have to offer.

**Mike O'Leary '76** - After 32 years with the Halifax Regional School Board, has retired, moved to the Middle East and has taken a position as principal of Qatar Canadian School in Doha, Qatar.

**Clifford J. Shaw, Q.C., '78, LLB, LLM**, is teaching business law in the Bissett School of Business at Mount Royal University. He continues to practice banking and insolvency law with Faber Bickman Leon in Calgary.

## '80s

**Teena Dawson '83** accepted the position of education advisor, Group Retirement Savings, at Desjardins Financial Security in Toronto in August 2009. Her personal email address is purple4mee@yahoo.ca.

**Bernie MacEachern '83** is married to **Sheila (MacDonald) '83** and

they have one daughter, Kathleen. Bernie completed his MEd from Dal in 1993 and has been teaching in the Halifax Regional School Board for 25 years. Bernie taught at many schools and currently he is principal of Auburn Drive High.

**Stuart Sankey '87** would love to connect with old friends - email is [stu@stusells.ca](mailto:stu@stusells.ca) or check out his web page, [www.stusells.ca](http://www.stusells.ca).

## '90s

**Chris Hamilton '92** and Tiffany Young were married on October 3, 2009 in Victoria. Chris is currently working for the Province of BC and is director of the Environmental Assessment Office. He welcomes a hello from any of his X buddies at [cj\\_hamilton@shaw.ca](mailto:cj_hamilton@shaw.ca).

**Cliff McGann '92** and his Celtic music group Tri recently released their new CD "A-measg Cháirdean" (Among Friends). [www.triceol.com](http://www.triceol.com)

**Kelly Ann Marshall '93** and **Dr. Andrew Latus '92 '93** are living in St. John's, Newfoundland with their two children, Rhys, 5,

Mairin Jeannie, July 23/09



Thea (Gillis) '96  
and Mark Campbell

and Gwyn, 4 1/2 months, where Kelly Ann works for the Eastern School District as a music specialist (though currently on maternity leave) and Andrew is completing his Residency in Psychiatry.

**James Buchan '94** finished his second masters degree in education and became director of coaching/physical education for Lake Erie College, and saved one of his players performing CPR after he had a heart attack!

**Paul McGinn '94** has been appointed executive director of the Hants Regional Development Authority.

**Thea (Gillis) '96** and Mark Campbell were happy to welcome their baby girl, Mairin Jeannie, on July 23, 2009. Thea and Mark are living in Yellowknife where she is a high school teacher with Yellowknife Catholic Schools and Mark works for BHP Billiton Corporation.

**Michael Palmer '99** has recently published a book, *Dark Side of the Sun* (non-fiction) about his grandfather's exploits during WWII.

July 11/09



Krista Hynes '97 and Darryl Cross.  
Bridesmaids (X Volleyball teammates)  
Carolyn (Spidell) Gudmundseth '97,  
Nicole (Street) Laplant '97 and Wanda  
(Griffin) Brenton

George Palmer was involved in the Battle of Hong Kong (around the time Pearl Harbour was bombed), where he was shot and captured. While imprisoned, he had plans to break out and escape across China toward friendly lines, but before long he was sent to Japan on a POW hellship. He endured brutalities, slave labour and starvations over the next few years. He and his comrades were close to death by the time the Americans rescued them. One interesting note: It's the only published book in existence containing in-depth information on that particular POW camp (called Omine Camp). The book is available at Chapters/Indigo's/Coles stores in Canada, and is for sale online at the publisher's web site ([www.borealispress.com](http://www.borealispress.com)).

## '00s

**Barbara Fry '03** says thanks to the excellent guidance received in the M. Ad.Ed program she has written and published: Fry, B. (2010). *Fast facts for clinical nurse managers: Managing a changing*

Rowen Sylvester-Sangster, Jan. 10/08



Jennifer Sylvester BBA '98  
and Wayne Sangster

*workplace in a nutshell.* New York: Springer.

**Kathryn Danielle Turner '05** married Shawn Johnson in Gray, ME on August 8, 2009. Katie is the youngest of 10 children of **Peter J. ('64) and Marion E. Turner.** Katie and Shawn will reside in Naples, ME. Katie is a managed disability analyst at Disability RMS in Westbrook, ME and Shawn is an architectural engineer with Monaghan Commercial and Residential Construction, Portland, ME.

**Kyla (Kennedy) Abraham '07** graduated from the University of Calgary in June 2009 with a Bachelor of Education with a concentration in secondary physical education. Kyla married Blair Abraham on July 18, 2009 in Main-A-Dieu, NS.

**Joanna Kirton '07** and Dennis Maplazi were married on July 25, 2009 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Three Xaverians, **Joy Dawkins '07, Anna Beth Campbell '07, and Kirsty Whelton '07,** made the trip to Africa to be bridesmaids in the wedding. Joanna and

X-Family Gathering



Back l-r: Craig Genior '99, Michelle (Boyle) Drysdale '91,  
Kevin Murphy '69, George Vickers '71, Erin (Murphy)  
Hingley '03, Brian Murphy '71 '73 '84, Danielle (Vickers)  
Pitts '03, Shane Pitts '00. Front l-r: Helen (MacInnis)  
Murphy '84, Krista Genior '04, Carmella (Campbell)  
Murphy '60, Melanie Genior '00, Aileen (Murphy) Pitts  
'75 '93, Patricia (Murphy) Muzyk '78.

Dennis both work at a non-governmental organization in Botswana that provides care and support to orphans and vulnerable children.

**Brian Cauley '08** is currently pursuing a masters degree in media production at Ryerson University. Continuing from one leading school to another, Brian is using his time to become a visionary in the podcasting and media world. Check out the podcast he started at StFX on CFXU at [www.wellversed.org](http://www.wellversed.org)

**Janet McMordie '08** - Many of you participated in my undergraduate thesis "Pump Up the Volume" where I tested how your exercise intensity was affected by the volume of your exercise music. The study has been mentioned on MSNBC.com and is written up in the January / February 2010 issue of Women's Health magazine (page 27). I am completing my master's degree at the University of Western Ontario (and unfortunately that is the institution that gets mentioned in the article, not StFX where the study took place.)

L-r: Annika Jousaume, Benjamin Whitehead, Paul Toth, Beckett and Charlotte Steeves



Children of Maryste Tetrault: Jousaume and Ed Jousaume '97, Susan Down '98 and Steven Whitehead '97, Hayley Lueke Toth and Mark Toth '96, Kara Kilfoil '98 and Oliver Steeves.

July 25, 2009



Anna-Marie Roper '99  
and Kebede Ebrahim

Bo Anthony, March 17/07 and  
Jonah Miller, Sept. 30/09



Dale Chisholm '00  
and James Schiesz

Kai Xavier Arnold, August 9/09



Kris Arnold '00  
and Nanda MacNeil-Arnold

X-Recruitment Booth in Toronto



Joan (MacDonald) '48, '50  
and Fraser Muir '52

50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, Sept. 27



Congratulations to Anne and  
Diker Campbell '58 '59

Three generations of X-grads



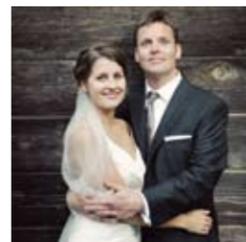
Edward Russell '59, granddaughter  
Marieke Brouwer, 1<sup>st</sup> year, and  
daughter Denise Russell-Brouwer '84

Retired



John McDonald '62, with grand-  
daughter, Makayla McDonald

October 3, 2009



Chris Hamilton '92  
and Tiffany Young

Gwyn Annie Tallulah, July 25/09



Kelly Ann Marshall '93  
and Dr. Andrew Latus '92 '93

Alli (6 wks) and Nate (2) Gillis with  
cousin Mairin Campbell (5 mos.)



Children of Sean '93 and Carla Gillis &  
Thea (Gillis) '96 and Mark Campbell

Reed (15 months), Jack (4 years)  
and Lex (15 months)



Nadine Day Boutillier '95  
and Ian Boutillier

Xavier Winston Donald, Aug. 25/09



Donna Best '01  
and Brian Warner

Lily Rebecca (3) & Elliott James (4 mos)



Melissa (MacDonald) '01  
and James '03 LeBlanc

Climbing a glacier in Iceland



Shannon Bonenfant '01, '03

August 8, 2009



Erika (Robinson) '02  
and Todd Nauss

Lowen Brock, March 22/09



Katherine '02  
and Jason Orlik '02

Andrew Ernest David (4) and Olivia Mia Ana Lee, April 19/09



Mariana (Capbert) Thibaudeau '02 and Andy Thibaudeau '97

August 23, 2008



Jen (Kellock) '04 and Leigh MacLennan

Adrienne Michele, May 2/08



Diana (MacDonald) and Jamie Hayne '05

Jacobus Charles, May 16/09



Lindsay Richmond '06 and Gregory Ross '06

July 18, 2009



Kyla Abraham '07 and Blair Abraham

Krystian Gregory, May 15/09



Joanna (Gulayets) '03 and Greg Altimas

Brody Robert, August 3/09



Jen (Kellock) '04 and Leigh MacLennan

August 8, 2009



Kathryn Danielle Turner '05 and Shawn Thomas Johnson

August 7, 2009



Vanita (Hoar) '06 and Jason "Flex" Svenningsen '06

July 25, 2009



Joanna Kirton '07 and Dennis Maplazi with bridesmaids Joy Dawkins '07, Anna Beth Campbell '07 and Kirsty Whelton '07

Burke Alexander, Jan. 19/09



Patricia (Burke) '03 and Robert Aucoin '00

Doctorate in Medicine (M.D.), May 2009, University of Ottawa



Sarah Lesperance '05 and Raylene Sauve '05

BScN grads in Grande Cache, AB



Wilma Buchanan '06, Yolanda Baker '06, Naomi Perry '04 and Lisa Burke-Edwards '04

October 4/08



Jennifer (Boudreau) '06 and Ryan Fougère '05, '07

Masters degree in Media Production



Brian Cauley '08 studying at Ryerson University

## DECEASED

- Msgr. Conrad Polycarp Giroir '39  
 John D. McCormick '40  
 Margaret "Peggy" (Landry) Breaun '44, wife of former Director of Development and Alumni Affairs, Berkley Breaun.  
 Dr. George Battcock '46  
 Mary (Campbell) Cameron '46  
 Robert Hugh Lynch '46  
 Léonide H. Cyr '47  
 Ronald A. J. Tompkins '48  
 Ouida Ann (MacLellan) Touche '48  
 Helen Katherine (Davidson) Tracey '48  
 Alexander A. Knickle '49  
 Rev. Wilfred Borden '49 '52  
 Luigi Lawrence Centa '50 '51  
 Remo Gatto '50 '54  
 Margaret "Peggy" (Power) Kontak '50 '78  
 William "Bill" F. Curry '51  
 Angus Anthony MacDonald '51 '53 '63  
 Rev. Richard A. McGarrity '52  
 Rev. James MacDonnell '53  
 Myles Dunn MacKinnon '54  
 John J. Nicholson '54  
 Agnes "Claire" (Purcell) O'Keefe '54 '55  
 Edmond J. Burns '56  
 Eugene Edward Gillespie '56  
 Jean Marie (Kiely) Liniger '58 '80  
 Elward DeVine '59  
 Col. Douglas Fraser '59  
 Robert "Bob" MacNaughton Lennox '65  
 James Patrick Collins '66 '69  
 Sr. Mary Agnes Nash '66  
 Andre Desjardins '67  
 Joanells M. Corbett '68  
 Thomas Murrin '68  
 Wallace Bernard Gillis '69  
 Roberta (Stephenson) Hughes '69  
 James "Jim" Arthur Benton '71  
 Madonna (Howell) Gallant '71  
 William Q. Harper '73  
 Howard Meechan '73  
 Sr. Marilyn Curry '75  
 Arlene Marie (Melanson) Clarke '77  
 Deborah Ann McRobie '78  
 Colleen Anne (Gillis) Siller '79 '80  
 Wendy Hazel (MacEwen) Hughes '80  
 Douglas D. MacDonald '80  
 Lorraine D. (Bagnell) Duchesneau '81  
 Josie (Swinkels) MacLellan-Drake '82  
 Gregory Charles Nearing '82  
 Deborah Lynn (Boudreau) Parsons '86  
 Mary Helen (Duggan) Barkhouse '91  
 Raymond "Ray" Perry Foote '91  
 Phillip Hughes '91 '92  
 Muriel Helena Duckworth, Hon. Deg. '97  
 Robert William Hearn '97  
 Lindsay Mary Catherine Bolger '06  
 Sharon S. Hogan '07  
 Margaret Violet (Ratchford) Vickers, MSB grad  
 Ronald Keith Berry, former staff  
 Jerome Archibald Chisholm, former staff  
 Aloma Hawley (keeper of the X-Ring, Cameron's Jewellery  
 Note: the following death was inadvertently missed from our listing in previous issues: David Forbes '71



## Athletic Renewal

### WE NEED YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

Renewed athletic and recreational facilities will be a valuable asset to the university community and an impressive recruitment tool in today's increasingly competitive post-secondary climate. Most importantly, your support for StFX's athletic facility renewal plan will give you the lifelong satisfaction of having invested in the future of StFX, its students and the local community. Your support will make this ambitious vision a reality and touch the lives of every member of the Xaverian community.

For information or to donate by phone please call 902-867-5144 or toll free 1-888-222-0227

### When completed, renovated athletic facilities will include:

- New artificial turf playing surface
- New eight-lane, all-purpose track
- New lighting and fencing for the outdoor stadium
- New grandstands for the outdoor stadium
- New sports medicine and rehabilitation centre
- New and renovated locker rooms for home and visiting teams
- New high-performance strength and conditioning room
- Additional gymnasium space
- New basketball floor and stands
- New Sports Hall of Fame area
- National championship display area



“It will help future students benefit from the same learning experience that I enjoyed.”

Mark Bowler '80

Time and time again, alumni describe their days at StFX as one of the most important and transformational experiences of their lives.

Have you considered including StFX in your estate planning?



For information about Planned Giving and the StFX Legacy Circle, contact: Maria Hartery, Planned Giving Officer St. Francis Xavier University, (902) 867-3380 mhartery@stfx.ca

# Update

Have you moved, changed careers, been promoted? We'd like to hear about it.

Update online at [www.alumni.stfx.ca/updateinfo](http://www.alumni.stfx.ca/updateinfo)

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Is spouse an X'alum? \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ADDRESS

Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Homepage: \_\_\_\_\_

#### EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Homepage: \_\_\_\_\_

#### EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION FOR SPOUSE

Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Homepage: \_\_\_\_\_

#### WHO CAN ALWAYS REACH YOU?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Homepage: \_\_\_\_\_

Information you would like to have published in the 'News Exchange' section of our Alumni News.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

#### RETURN YOUR X-UPDATE TO:

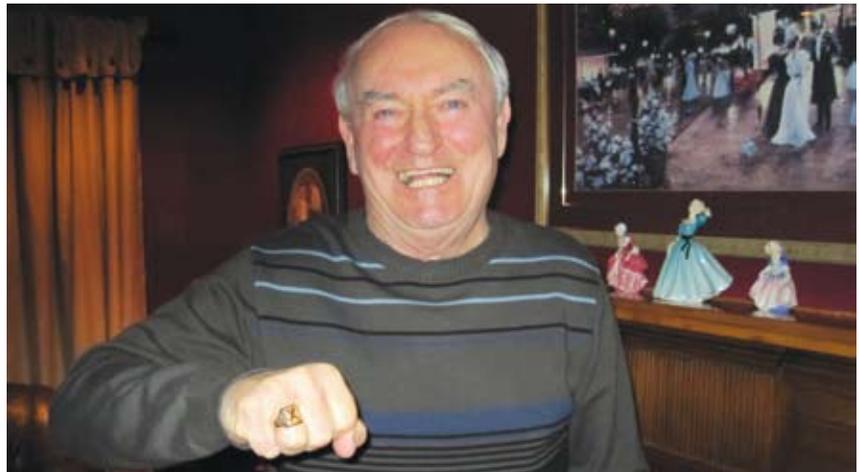
St. Francis Xavier University, Advancement Records  
 PO Box 5000, Antigonish, NS B2G 2W5  
 Phone: (902) 867-5327 • Fax: (902) 867-3659  
 Toll-free: 1-888-739-0031  
 Email: [alumni@stfx.ca](mailto:alumni@stfx.ca)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Kelvin's X-Ring

### Detective work pays off with missing ring



*Kelvin MacPhee*

**A**round the end of August or first of September, Kelly noticed his X-Ring was missing. We searched the house high and low and went through every bit of garbage and compost before we let it go for pick up. I put a report in to the police as a lost ring. I also put a notice on Kijiji and offered a \$100 reward. We heard nothing and the police department had called and said they were closing the file.

We had given up. My husband would not think of a new ring; he said it was not the same. Then, in mid-October I get this call from StFX to say someone in the Halifax area had picked up an X-Ring and Kelly's initials and class year matched. Thank you so much (Alumni Affairs Assistant) Glenda (Bond) for taking your time to track us down. There was not a current address on file as we had moved from Cape Breton to Halifax in 1998. Some detective work was done on your part for sure.

When my husband Kelly came home I told him the story and he could not believe

it. The girl who found the ring was the front end manager at Sobeys on Mumford Road in Halifax. She found it on her way into work that Monday at the entrance of the store. It was in perfect condition.

We figure he had put the ring in his gym pants pocket at exercise that day. As usual I had asked him to go to a grocery store on his way home. The pockets are not deep so it could easily fall out.

It was so much fun to go over to the store to meet this wonderful lady and to get the ring back that he worked so hard for. We offered her the reward and she did not want to take anything as she was as happy as we were. Her mom had done the detective work for her so we asked her to use the money to do something nice for her mom. It was so worth it to us, her honesty meant everything to us.

Kelly said he will never take the ring off again.

– Anne and Kelvin (Kelly) MacPhee '62

## LOST & FOUND

**LOST**  
 Man's '60  
 Man's '71  
 Man's '95  
 Man's '98  
 Man's '00

**FOUND**  
 Woman's '00  
 Woman's '04  
 Woman's '07  
 Man's '08  
 Man's '09





*There is a timeless quality to this award-winning photo of a StFX student studying by candlelight. It was taken by the late Jacques Juneau of Drummondville QC, a grad of 1950. This image reflects the firm lights-out policy of the day, when options for illumination of books and notes were limited late at night. Three decades later, a similar depiction graced the cover of AlumniNews, but at that time electric lamps made the job a little easier.*

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Due to provincial legislation, our auto insurance program is not offered in British Columbia, Manitoba or Saskatchewan.

<sup>1</sup>Certain conditions and restrictions may apply.

\*No purchase required. Contest ends on January 14, 2011. Total value of each prize is \$30,000 which includes the Honda Insight EX and a \$3,000 gas voucher. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Skill-testing question required. Contest organized jointly with Primium Insurance Company and open to members, employees and other eligible people of all employer and professional and alumni groups entitled to group rates from the organizers. Complete contest rules and eligibility information available at [www.melochemonnex.com](http://www.melochemonnex.com). Actual prize may differ from picture shown.

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