

UNB

ALUMNI NEWS

Change makers

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Sir Howard Douglas Scholars, including
Jasmine Eng, excel academically and give of
themselves to better the lives of others.



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□ Brent Staeben

Letters from the PRESIDENTS



“We have many incredible people who are passionate about our institution and its purpose and who continue to effect positive change.”

I have long been convinced that universities exist to change the world and UNB is a prime example of this truth. Founded more than 200 years ago as an instrument for transformative change, UNB has for generations maintained its deep commitment to advancing the social, cultural and economic potential of New Brunswick, the region and beyond.

Our world at UNB experienced major change this year, as did the entire world as we adapted to the challenges of the COVID-19 global pandemic. Indeed, this past year has been unprecedented for our university and is best characterized by the resilience and flexibility of our faculty, staff and students. Our academic community adjusted to “alternative delivery methods,” blending online, remote learning with small in-person classes where it was safe and feasible to do so. The graduates from 2020 who read this issue will fully understand the challenges associated with this transition in moving to virtual instruction, at-home exams and a virtual graduation.

Despite the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, UNB students, faculty, staff and alumni continue to thrive. We have many incredible people who are passionate about our institution and its purpose, and who continue to effect positive change within communities large and small, near and far.

This issue’s focus on changemakers is clear evidence of that. From fostering entrepreneurship to supporting newcomers and inclusion, from promoting healthy aging to tackling poverty, and enriching life on our campuses and more, UNB people are having a material impact on their communities.

Capturing how UNB is changing the world is important and is why we’ve recently launched the **UNB is here** marketing campaign (unb.ca/unbishere) to vividly

illustrate the many ways UNB is wherever its people are pushing the world forward. I encourage you to read the stories and watch the videos. I think you will find them to be a source of inspiration and pride.

Our mission to serve the public good is deeply ingrained in our history, our present and our future, as set out in our strategic vision *UNB Toward 2030*. Visit unb.ca/toward2030 to learn more. Our vision includes the importance of applying our academic capabilities toward addressing some of the grand challenges of our time including the necessity to confront our future energy needs, our need to foster healthy communities, the importance of security across our communities and our critical infrastructure, and the need to understand and preserve our water systems and courses. These challenges are to be understood in the broadest sense – interdisciplinary, multi-faceted, engaging all of our intellectual capital from the artistic to the highly technical.

With the arrival of COVID vaccines and the resolve on the part of UNB and the province that in-person classes and on-campus activities will resume in the fall, I have a renewed sense of optimism for the future. We know that life will not be exactly as it was before the pandemic, but I am confident that, together, we can work toward a better normal and create an even stronger, more vibrant and thriving University of New Brunswick.

The world needs more UNB!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Mazerolle".

Paul J. Mazerolle (BA'89)
UNB President and Vice-Chancellor

As we close an academic year unlike any other, I hope this message finds you well. On behalf of the alumni family, I want to extend a warm welcome and congratulations to the almost 2,000 newly minted UNB graduates who received their alumni pin and joined our ranks at this spring's Encaenia and Convocation ceremonies.

This summer marks the end of my two-year term as president of UNB's Associated Alumni. It has truly been an honour to serve in this role and I look forward to continuing to represent your interests on UNB's Board of Governors. While it has been an unconventional and eventful period due to the pandemic, we adapted to meet the unexpected challenge. Above all, the support and pride of our alumni has remained strong. Despite not having had the opportunity to meet as many of you in person as planned, I am extremely proud of the Associated Alumni's accomplishments, which have established our strategic position for the future.

I want to highlight a few of these important milestones. We successfully onboarded a new executive director and launched our new strategic plan through to 2025. We introduced monthly e-newsletters and refreshed this *Alumni News* magazine to continue to celebrate our alumni's many achievements. We've profiled several of them in this changemakers' issue, including Brent, Krista, Li, Tracey and Victoria. We tailored our professional development and virtual services for our alumni, while continuing to provide much needed financial support to UNB students, a group that has been particularly hard hit by the pandemic.

Thank you to our talented and dedicated councillors for their work on these initiatives, along with many others. I also would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Alumni Office staff who implemented these programs so effectively and produced

many successful online events this past year to connect our alumni and students virtually. All of this while having to navigate a new remote work reality of their own.

I'm pleased to welcome two-time UNB graduate Jill Jeffrey (BPE'82, BEd'83) as our incoming president, effective July 1. It has been a pleasure getting to know Jill over the past few years, and I know she will be an excellent leader and supporter of our alumni community. I hope you will have an opportunity to meet her soon.

I'll leave you with a few thoughts as to why I remain so #ProudlyUNB. UNB has impacted and shaped my life in many profound ways. Not just a seat of higher learning, UNB is a multi-generational community of alumni who, together with the student body, provide the heart and soul of the institution. No matter your age or the year of your class, we share the UNB experience. If you have ever considered giving back to your *alma mater* through our association as a mentor, volunteer or councillor, I highly encourage you to reach out as it is a very rewarding experience.

A moment that will always stand out to me was attending my parents' 50th golden grad reunion at Homecoming 2019. It was wonderful to hear their classmates, proudly donned in red and black, recount stories of campus life in the late '60s and describe the impact UNB has had on them.

I know that we will all savour our next opportunity to connect and reminisce in person. When that can happen safely, I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,



Peter Syroid (BScEng'98, D-TME'98, MBA'03)
UNB Associated Alumni President ■



“UNB is a multi-generational community of alumni who, together with the student body, provide the heart and soul of the institution.”

Reducing food waste one mushroom at a time

Experts estimate that \$49.5 billion worth of food is lost or wasted in Canada alone each year. Recognizing the growing concern around food safety, UNB science graduate Natasha Dhayagude (BSc'14) and her co-founder David Brown, looked to nature to find a solution.

The answer came in the form of an extract from white button mushrooms. The founders of Chinova Bioworks are pioneering the use of mushroom fiber to provide consumers and brands with a clean-label solution to food spoilage.

The technology helps to improve the quality, freshness and shelf-life of food and beverage products, reduce food waste and ensure an abundant food supply for the future generations.

Eco-friendly production. Natural in every way.

Extracted through an eco-friendly process, Chiber™ can be used in various food and beverage categories like dairy, plant-based dairy, sauces and spreads and plant-based meat alternatives.

The product is effective against spoilage microorganisms like bacteria, yeast and mold and

does not change the taste, smell or appearance of the final application.

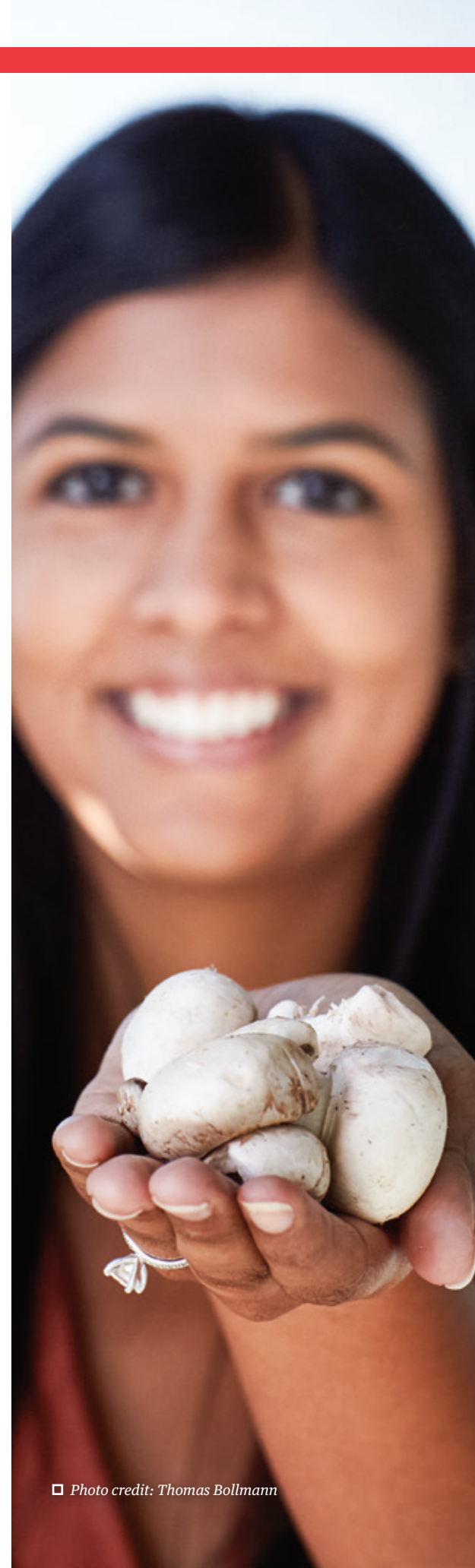
The company is growing. It has secured a patent, successfully attracted \$2.5 million in seed funding, scaled up operations and launched three products in the market in the fall of 2019.

The ingredients for success

Building on our 235-year legacy of innovation, UNB has become an entrepreneurial hotbed in the region. With class sizes that enable students to build relationships with faculty and experiential learning programming to connect with industry and community partners, UNB students are uniquely equipped to bring their ideas to life - and to market.

Thanks to UNB's central place in the region's innovation ecosystem, students from any faculty can leverage numerous programs, incubators and accelerators during any year of their degree program.

Read more about experiential learning opportunities available to today's UNB students at unb.ca/experientialeducation.



□ Photo credit: Thomas Bollmann

UNB is here.

—
Where our engineering students
help fishing crews come home safely.



When four students began their engineering journey at the University of New Brunswick, they had no idea it would lead them towards making one of Canada's deadliest professions safer. As part of their fourth-year engineering capstone course, they created a new, smart life jacket. Now UNB alumni, the team is gearing up to launch their automatically inflating life jacket with built-in marine radio emergency communications.

Stories like these confirm our belief that UNB graduates are instrumental in changing the world for the better. Wherever our people are pushing the world forward, that's where you'll find UNB. Learn more about the LifeTrack team: unb.ca/lifetrack.

IMPROVING QUALITY *of Life for Seniors*

UNB researchers have received nearly \$6 million in provincial and federal funding for research to support healthy aging for seniors in their homes, communities and care facilities.

The three-year Healthy Seniors Pilot Project will support a range of applied research initiatives to examine how governments, in partnership with the community and private sectors, can better support seniors.

Visit blogs.unb.ca/newsroom/ for more.

DANIELLE BOUCHARD is an associate professor in the faculty of kinesiology. Her research primarily focuses on aging, clinical exercise physiology, and chronic conditions and exercise; more specifically the impact of exercise for those living with chronic conditions. **MARTIN SÉNÉCHAL** is an associate professor in the faculty of kinesiology. His research on the treatment and management of individuals living with obesity and Type 2 diabetes has a three-pronged approach: enhancing the efficacy of lifestyle interventions that target increased physical activity; understanding why individuals living with obesity and Type 2 diabetes may or may not benefit from exercise; and identifying predictors and understanding why some obese individuals remain healthy despite high adiposity levels. Together, Dr. Bouchard and Dr. Sénéchal are directors of the Cardiometabolic, Exercise and Lifestyle Lab (CELLAB), located at UNB.

ZOOMERS FOR ALL

Dr. Bouchard, in collaboration with Dr. Sénéchal, will expand the *Zoomers on the Go* fall prevention exercise program across New Brunswick. Focusing on the improvement of physical function and maintenance of independence for seniors, *Zoomers for All* received \$622,044 in funding.

Zoomers on the Go is a study that educates people 50 years and older on fall prevention and has them participate in a 12-week, peer-led exercise program. Once they have completed the program, the participants are followed by the research team for up to 10 years to look for health care outcomes. “More specifically, over the 10 years, we plan to test if hospital admission, surgeries, and visits to physicians have decreased among those who have participated in the program compared with similar people in New Brunswick not participating in the program,” says Dr. Bouchard.

The expanded *Zoomers for All* program, which is now being offered in person and online, will make exercise more accessible to more New Brunswickers. “Unlike many programs that often neglect rural areas, *Zoomers for All*, will be accessible to almost any older adult in the province,” says Dr. Bouchard. “Many older adults do not exercise enough to reap the health and functional benefits.”

Dr. Bouchard is also adamant that any research she does needs to be meaningful to her participants. “Knowledge transfer is significant to me,” she says. “I love to see the results of research projects reach the community so people can have a better lifestyle because we have seen the benefits.”

THE BAND-FRAIL STUDY

Dr. Sénéchal, along with Dr. Bouchard, will explore how the combination of exercise using elastic bands and education about diabetes management



will affect the functionality among adults aged 65 and above living with diabetes and frailty. *The Band-Frail Study: A Provincial Intervention to Outweigh Diabetes and Frailty in New Brunswick* research project was awarded \$469,645.

“New Brunswick has one of the highest rates of diabetes and a very high average age rate in the country,” says Dr. Sénéchal. “These two factors lead to an aging population with quickly declining health and increased chances of fatal health issues. Through my research, I have seen the impact of diabetes on the people of this province and the benefits that lifestyle interventions can have on their health.”

The Band-Frail Study is composed of exercise and education for older adults living with both frailty and Type 2 diabetes. This program is based on evidence from a trial conducted in Europe that saw improved outcomes for enhanced diabetes management and physical function in a similar population.

The 16-week program is delivered twice a week by a certified diabetes educator and an exercise specialist. One session will consist of 20 minutes of diabetes management education and 25 minutes of resistance training using resistance bands. The second session per week will consist only of the resistance training.

“We are using a pre- and post-analysis to quantify changes on some of the health outcomes our group is interested in, including physical function, glycemic control (blood sugar), nutrition, and quality of life. We will also be looking at sex and gender to catch any potential differences. In addition, we are performing a cost benefit analysis of the program to determine any long-term cost savings for the province. Finally, we will be tracking the results of our participants after five and 10 years, so we can assess the impact of the program on long-term health outcomes.” ▶

SHELLEY DOUCET (BN'05, PhD'10) will examine the improvement of how health and social care providers diagnose and support persons with dementia. The research project, *Co-designing Dementia Care in New Brunswick: Building the Future Together*, received funding of \$495,259.

Dr. Doucet is the Jarislowsky chair in interprofessional patient-centred care, associate professor in nursing, and director of the Centre for Research in Integrated Care (CRIC) at UNB. She and colleagues Dr. Pamela Jarrett (BSc'87), Horizon Health Network geriatrician and associate professor of medicine at Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick; and Dr. Alison Luke (BA'92), research associate at CRIC, are seeking to improve health and social care providers' knowledge of how to communicate a dementia diagnosis, and how to provide support in the 12 months following the diagnosis for persons with dementia and their care partners. In addition, the team wants to increase the awareness and use of existing services and supports for persons with dementia and their care partners.

This project involves a collaboration across five countries: Canada (with projects in New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec), Australia, the Netherlands, Poland and the United Kingdom. In each country, persons with dementia, care partners and health and social

care providers are involved as members of the co-design teams. The co-design process involves working collaboratively with these stakeholder groups to ensure the results meet their needs and are usable.

With public awareness as one of the main goals, the team is developing a website, resources and promotional activities, using insights from formative research with the target audiences and input from the co-design teams.

Together, the teams will use the resources they develop to launch a campaign called *Forward with Dementia*, with key messages and topics including 'find your way forward with dementia' and 'your next steps start here.'

"We anticipate that the project will enhance the knowledge and preparedness of health and social care providers," says Dr. Doucet. "In turn, this will help ensure that people with dementia and their care partners are receiving the supports and levels of care they need. In addition, we hope to improve awareness of the services and supports available for people with or at risk of dementia and their care partners. Sharing the results of our project will help other stakeholders implement similar projects in their region. Thus, this study provides an opportunity to share lessons learned and improve dementia care at a provincial, national and global level."





CHRIS MCGIBBON (BScEng'88, PhD'94) is a professor of kinesiology and a senior researcher at UNB's Institute of Biomedical Engineering. His expertise covers a broad spectrum of human movement sciences, primarily focused on mobility and balance disorders in seniors and in people with neurological and orthopedic disorders, and the study of advanced rehabilitation technologies. Recently, he's turned his attention to preventing mobility decline in seniors at risk of Alzheimer's disease and related dementia.

To accomplish this, he's working with UNB colleagues Dr. Danielle Bouchard and Dr. Sandra Magalhaes, and with Horizon Health Network geriatrician and associate professor of medicine at Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick, Dr. Pamela Jarrett (BSc'87).

Dr. McGibbon and Dr. Jarrett, along with a veritable phonebook of collaborators, are leading the *New Brunswick Brain Health Initiative: Preventing Alzheimer's by Lessening Modifiable Risk* (NB-PALM), which received \$2,697,913 in funding.

"Interventions that promote physical and cognitive activity are beginning to show evidence for slowing the progression to dementia," says Dr. McGibbon. "In our NB-PALM project, we will offer physical exercises and cognitive enhancing activities to older adults at risk of developing dementia, delivered virtually in their own home. By making knowledge of strategies to enhance brain health accessible to older adults and their caretakers, we will hopefully be able to reduce their risk for dementia, resulting in healthier and happier people and communities."

Dr. McGibbon also foresees positive impacts beyond reducing dementia risk for older New Brunswickers, and even beyond seniors and their caretakers.

"Many of the known risk factors for dementia are also associated with other health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and stroke," he says. "Reducing risk factors may also translate into less personal and overall health care costs associated with having dementia and other health conditions. So, part of what we're hoping to achieve is bringing increased awareness of how expensive and resource-intensive the lack of preventative health programs and capacity is for our healthcare systems and our society."

The diverse team working on NB-PALM includes engineers, physicians, nurses, psychologists, kinesiologists and epidemiologists, among others, and represents a strong collaboration across institutions in the province and beyond. Project partners include UNB, Université de Moncton, Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick, Horizon Health Network and Vitalité Health Network within New Brunswick, as well as Western University, Baycrest Hospital in Toronto, Université de Montréal and the University of California, San Diego's Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study, among the national and international partners.

That collaboration will allow the project to be rolled out in both official languages and across the province, as well as engaging with other experts, building capacity in New Brunswick, and sharing the unique capacities housed at UNB with other researchers.

For Dr. McGibbon, that rich tapestry of voices and skill sets is part of the appeal: "Working with a large and diverse group is always a learning experience for everyone involved, and everyone comes out of that experience with more than what they came in with. This means that everything we do together feeds forward in innumerable ways. It's a remarkable and rewarding thing to witness." ■

▶ TRACEY RICKARDS

MOVING THINGS FORWARD FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Tracey Rickards (BN'86, MN'05) considers herself among an army of 'subtle changemakers' - those who do little things on a constant basis to move the needle.

As an associate professor of nursing at UNB and the UNB manager of the Fredericton Downtown Community Health Clinic, she conducts research to identify transformative solutions to improve health outcomes for vulnerable populations in the region.

Dr. Rickards says she grew up with a sense of wanting to make the world a better place. "My mom was a nurse, my father a forestry professor and both were tree huggers. My step-mother is also an activist, so I had really good mentors. I realized early on that I had a cushy life and also had the ability to address certain injustices."

She's been doing just that.

After graduating from nursing at UNB, she worked at the Toronto General Hospital for a stint and then moved back to New Brunswick to work at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital and with the extra-mural program for years.

When she returned to UNB to study for her master's degree, she began working at the Downtown Community Health Clinic, then located in a small home on Brunswick Street.

"I loved that we worked with an interdisciplinary team - both a social worker and nurse together to provide health and mental health services and access to social development, housing, whatever the vulnerable populations we served needed. It made a real impact."

As she continued her work and got a PhD in nursing from Dalhousie University, Dr. Rickards focused more and more on research and clinical work on vulnerable populations. She's now an embedded clinician researcher in the larger Fredericton Downtown Community Health Centre and recently received \$1.5 million in funding from the Healthy Seniors Pilot Project for *Mobile Seniors' Wellness Network: Reaching Rural New Brunswickers*.

This innovative project has the potential to contribute to the ability of seniors to age-in-place. Along with team members Emily Kitts (BSc'05),

manager of the Fredericton Downtown Community Health Centre, and Dr. Karen Cross from St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, the project provides a whole-person centered approach within the homes of vulnerable and isolated older adults.

"We had done a small pilot project before applying for this funding where we went into the homes of low-income seniors in the city who were isolated because of mobility, chronic disease or mental health issues. We offered free foot care as a tool of engagement, and while there, we talked to the seniors about their health care, wellness, and any other needs they had. Over a period of six months, half were able to get out of their homes to come to the clinic for health care and we were able to connect them with other services as well. We saw appreciable differences in their understanding of their diseases and medications and we saw quality-of-life improvements."

The team saw a gap in rural services for seniors who weren't very mobile. At the same time, they connected with Dr. Cross, who has created a tool that incorporates a tiny camera on the back

“

I loved that we worked with an interdisciplinary team to provide health and mental health services and access to social development, whatever the vulnerable populations we served needed.

”

of a phone that takes infrared photos of the foot. “Teaming up helps build research for R&D of the tool, and allows us to provide foot service for free to rural seniors to help them prevent more serious problems,” says Dr. Rickards. “It puts them in touch with someone on a regular basis who can provide them with educational services and become a connector and navigator for them to find what they need to be safe, healthy and happy at home as long as they can. It can be life changing for them.”

“The change we’re trying to demonstrate is that it’s better to stay at home and offer services there instead of requiring vulnerable seniors to come to us. And that making regular visits and having a team of nurses, social workers, occupational therapists and home support workers is still cheaper than providing long-term care at a facility. We have an aging province and we need to help people remain active members of the community.”

Dr. Rickards says the study is ongoing until October 2022 and she’s thrilled to be working on the project in a multidisciplinary format. “Getting everyone working together makes so much sense. We have a great team. The success we’ve already had proves that we don’t have to do something huge to make change. What encourages me every day is that I can consistently do small things in people’s lives and make a positive impact.” ■





BOB SKILLEN

*Thirty years of **dreaming,**
building and **transforming***

On Dec. 4, 2020, Bob Skillen (BPE'79, BEd'81, MED'88) stepped down as vice-president (advancement) and retired from UNB after 30 years. Michelle McNeil (BBA'03, MBA'09), UNB's Associated Alumni executive director, sat down with him to reflect on his time at UNB, share his thoughts on the role of university advancement, and tell us what's next for him.

Tell me about your decision to retire?

In 1980, then-prime minister Pierre Trudeau took a walk in the snow, during which time he made the decision not to run in the next federal election. My walk in the snow came last August when my wife, Gisele, and I were visiting with our children and grandchildren in Halifax. I had been searching for the right time to step down from my role at UNB and found it. It was as simple as that.

What are three things that you are most proud of during your time at UNB?

I will preface my answer by saying that I am a bit of a dreamer, and I like to create and build. I believe my greatest contributions during my time at UNB have come through building. Some might think that it was establishing the first vice-president (advancement) office, building a modern marketing office or launching the strategic partnerships office that gave me the greatest satisfaction but actually, my greatest satisfaction came from seeing my academic colleagues realize their dreams, whether they be chairs, centres or institutes, and to do so with support from our generous alumni and non-alumni donors. I also consider myself to be a bit of a provocateur, someone who is not afraid to challenge the status quo in search of a better way of doing things. I would like to think that my provocations have come from a good place and that UNB is better off because I did not let inertia deter me.

What do you think is UNB's most important role in the province?

There is no institution in our society like a university. It is our mission to provide opportunities and to inspire hope for a brighter future. UNB is particularly important to New Brunswick because of our research intensity. We are effectively an engine of innovation for the province. Can you imagine a modern New Brunswick without UNB?

What are you going to miss most about your time in advancement and at UNB?

Spending time with bright minds and passionate people. This includes people on campus and amongst our alumni and donor constituency. I have been fortunate to meet so many interesting and accomplished people over the past 30 years.

As vice-president (advancement), you spent countless hours telling UNB's story to alumni and friends, what is UNB's story?

UNB's mission is important. We are a university with heart and one that has a deep sense of responsibility to the people of New Brunswick and beyond. By our nature, we are innovative, and we aim to make a difference in our communities. We are a resourceful university, having grown and prospered over the past two centuries, against some pretty heavy odds. If it were not for the resourcefulness of our people, we would not have thrived, let alone survived.

You were the Associated Alumni's executive director for 11 years. During that time, what have you learned about alumni of UNB?

UNB alumni are fiercely loyal, industrious and, for the most part, humble. Essentially, they imbue the characteristics of their *alma mater*.

Counting your three degrees, you've been connected to UNB for more than 45 years, what makes you ProudlyUNB?

UNB's purpose and its ability to transform lives and communities.

What is one piece of advice that you can give to our more than 93,000 alumni about staying connected to their alma mater?

Staying connected to your *alma mater* makes for a richer life. You are part of the UNB story. In many ways, you are the stewards of the university, past, present and future. Take full advantage of your relationship with UNB and give back when you can in whatever way you can. Your lives are richer because the graduates and university builders before you did just that.

It's no secret that UNB, and universities across Canada, rely on fundraising, why does fundraising matter to universities?

Universities would not be what they are today without the generosity of benefactors. Not only does the financial support from our benefactors fuel our universities with scholarships, state-of-the-art equipment, modern facilities, research chairs and more, but their belief in us and what we are doing to change the world, inspires us to reach higher. Those who invest in our university, become our greatest advocates.

What's next for you?

My pen is poised, and I am ready to write my next chapter. I can't wait to see how my story plays out. For sure, there will be lots more time for family and friends, and for experiencing the little but important things in life. ■

COMBINING INDIGENOUS WAYS OF KNOWING

*with Western science
and knowledge*



With the guidance and support of elders from Indigenous Nations in Canada and abroad, Juan Carlos Rodriguez Camacho is working to improve collaboration and transdisciplinary research between Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers and communities.

Dr. Rodriguez, assistant professor at UNB's Mi'kmaq-Wolastoqey Centre and faculty of education, has developed a multidisciplinary approach to knowledge sharing and research with the aim of exploring the "togetherness of current challenges."

Under a community-based approach, Elder Albert Marshall's Two Eyed-Seeing perspectives and the complex dynamic systems perspectives, Dr. Rodriguez is inviting academics from faculties and departments across UNB, Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members to engage and collaborate in this new dialogue.

RELATUHEDRON

This process, referred to as Relatuhedron, is a neologism that emerged from this shared practice. "It represents the need for a place and a process to inspire and promote multilevel, multi-perspective, and multidisciplinary knowledge-action to better understand our complex and constantly evolving societal systems," says Dr. Rodriguez.

Relatuhedron is rooted in the English word relat from relat-ionship, the Latin hedra, meaning shape and together meaning the "shape of relationships." Relatuhedron has multiple meanings; as a structure, it can be built by organizing triangles in the shape of a wigwam, a maloca or "ue", thus

honouring the Indigenous homes where social gatherings with relatives and friends are common.

As a place, the Relatuhedron is where sharing knowledge is expressed by art, diagrams, data, values and narratives. Dr. Rodriguez and his team plan on building a Relatuhedron on UNB's Fredericton campus that will serve as an interactive art installation for visitors and academics alike.

Dr. Rodriguez conceives this approach as a "mangrove tree," sustaining and protecting rich environments between different kinds of waters and storms. In the Relatuhedron, the systemic-holistic perspective to research and resolve problems results in more flexible and powerful values-based outcomes.

“Relatuhedron is a place and a mindset where that collaboration can safely be explored.”

BUILDING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

“I am looking to build new opportunities, a machine of possibilities, based on differences and commonalities respecting both Indigenous and Western cultures,” he says, “like effective solutions guided by equality, sharing, collaboration protecting relationships between human-culture and nature.”

“It is a space to work revising the systems values of our age, on many dimensions of health and well-being, happiness, and productive lives. These are not utopic ‘good things to do,’ but practical and realistic good ways to resolve small everyday problems, learning together how to share and practice our knowledge and shared possibilities.”

The Relatuhedron is also a place to review our understandings and skills on collaborative work. “In a competitive world, there are few opportunities to learn how to collaborate in a supportive way. Competitive attitudes are promoted by the culture as a way to succeed, while collaborative alternatives are

less valued. I can see this in all areas of society,” says Dr. Rodriguez.

“Relatuhedron is a place and a mindset where that collaboration can safely be explored. It is a non-judgmental space where the open process of discovering and developing new ways to interconnect and work transdisciplinarily might flourish. Relatuhedron invites participants to challenge problems and discover their own understanding of what is a practical implication of the intention to collaborate.”

UNB’S RELATUHEDRON EXPERIENCE UNDER DEVELOPMENT AT THE MI’KMAQ-WOLASTOQEQY CENTRE

Dr. Rodriguez, who teaches quantitative research analysis, Indigenous perspectives in science, and Indigenous education within UNB’s faculty of education, has fostered an interdisciplinary team at the Mi’kmaq-Wolastoqey Centre that is in the process of researching and developing UNB’s Relatuhedron experience.

The team receives the guidance of Elder Dr. Imelda Perley (BA’94, MEd’02,

DLitt’19); Elder Dr. David Perley (MA’08, DLitt’19); Elder Albert Marshall; Natasha Simon (BA’98), director of the Mi’kmaq-Wolastoqey Centre; Dr. Jen Rowett (BScKin’03, MEd’11, PhD’19), counselling and leadership professor in the faculty of education; Andrea Belczewski (BSc’92), senior teaching associate at the Mi’kmaq-Wolastoqey Centre; and Dr. David Danto, program head of psychology at the University of Guelph-Humber.

The team is currently exploring funding research sources to include opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students at UNB and community members. Dr. Rodriguez aims to develop a course on this practice and share this methodology with teachers on topics of interrelated curriculum, so that they may learn collaborative skills helpful in addressing future challenges within the provincial curriculum.

Dr. Rodriguez is also in the process of finalizing two books on his experiences with the Relatuhedron in Canada and abroad, sharing lessons learned from this methodology. Those works are expected to be shared for publication and release between 2021 and 2022. ■

*Engineering students
simulate plan for*

SOLAR ENERGY

Four electrical engineering students studied the viability of implementing more solar energy in Canada using a Smart Grid Digital Twin. This project is a major step towards creating more large-scale renewable energy options in New Brunswick and reducing the country's carbon footprint.

Josh Power, Liam Hogan, Braden Haley and Alex Everett, worked with mentors to collect data and design a digital twin, which is a software representation of an electrical infrastructure/distribution system, where a solar farm could potentially be built. By creating a digital replica of the solar farm, the team was able

to scan potential risks and mitigate them before the infrastructure is physically built.

"Digital twins are one of the most popular forms of digital analysis right now," says Hogan. "This software gives us a window into the future of what potential risks might come up and allow us to avoid them without spending unnecessary money or time building the structure."

Smart Grid is part of a research initiative developing new tools and technology to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The grid detects changes in local power usage to improve efficiency, reliability, quality and safety.

Power says that the team is proud of the work it did. "We designed our plan in a way that it can easily be reproduced and hopefully used in other places."

"At the beginning of the year, I didn't know who was going to be in my group or what project I was going to have," says Haley. "When Liam came to me with a project that was so impactful and of this magnitude, I was excited to be part of it."

"The overall scope and raw impact of this project are what drew me to it the most," says Everett. "At times it was not easy, but the highs are even higher when you finally get it working and can move forward."

Power, Hogan, Haley and Everett won the IEEE NB Chapter prize for technical excellence for their project at the 2021 UNB Design Symposium held virtually in April. ■

For all of the design symposium projects and winners, visit
unb.ca/fredericton/engineering/design/symposium.html



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Measuring DEEP POVERTY AND ITS EFFECTS

Daniel Dutton sees his research into deep poverty in New Brunswick as a building block towards a future where there is more understanding and better solutions for the poorest of the poor in our society.

Dr. Dutton, adjunct professor in the sociology department and assistant

professor of community health and epidemiology at Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick, has authored a report for the New Brunswick Institute for Data, Research and Training at UNB, that shines a light on the nature and prevalence of extreme poverty in the province.

Deep poverty in New Brunswick: A description and national comparisons is part of broader research into the social determinants of health and the impact spending on social services has on the lives of the poor.

“The objective of this report was to add clarity to discussions about what it means to live in deep poverty,” says Dr. Dutton. “We are trying to preemptively avoid that academic discussion about how you define poverty by just putting the numbers out there and giving people a common language to discuss deep poverty, and also describing the state of affairs of people living under that poverty line.”

New Brunswick has struggled for generations with entrenched poverty. Dr. Dutton says the province traditionally has had low rates of social assistance compared to most other provinces.

However, he says the problem is stubborn. Dr. Dutton’s findings show that those living in deep poverty are more likely to be single, living alone, middle-aged and on social assistance. His report states that having children or being over the age of 65 are both protective of deep poverty due to the additional government transfers that target those households. For instance, receiving Old Age Security at age 65 can immediately lift an individual out of extreme poverty.

“Most of the people in deep poverty are single, meaning they don’t qualify for couples’ benefits and they don’t have children,” he says. “So now we have a target group of people where an intervention would probably alleviate deep poverty and we have a measure of what success would look like, meaning we would know how many people are in deep poverty and if that number goes down, we can call that success.”

“We wanted to shine a light on what these numbers are and ask whether we as a society are willing to say, ‘That’s okay. We are willing to tolerate that

many people living in deep poverty,’ or whether we look at that number and say, ‘We should decrease that number.’”

Using data from the Canadian Income Survey for the years 2012 to 2016, Dr. Dutton was able to construct a consistent picture of who is living in deep poverty in New Brunswick. In any given year, there are approximately 100,000 people living below the poverty line in New Brunswick, and approximately 18,000 of them live in deep poverty.

Dr. Dutton says that in New Brunswick, income poverty is measured using a number of key indicators, including the Low-Income Measure (LIM) after tax. Deep poverty is measured as having an income at 50 per cent or less of the LIM in a given year.

While recently, the amount was increased and indexed to the cost of living, Dr. Dutton says one government solution to deep poverty would be to raise single social assistance payments to a level above 50 per cent of the LIM.

For reference, he says the 2016 deep poverty threshold was \$11,328 for a one-person household.

Dr. Dutton’s past work includes studies on homelessness, a phenomenon he finds fascinating.

“In Canada, we have opportunities to intervene with people who do not have a place to stay,” he says. “That is one of the most fundamental things we can affect.”

“We can all agree that every human being should have access to food and a place to stay, yet people are still experiencing homelessness. I like studying outcomes that are policy amenable, so we could develop rules that eliminate some forms of homelessness if we put the resources into it. It is interesting to me to see how governments make decisions and how those turn into outcomes for individuals living their lives.” ■

Most of the people in deep poverty are single, meaning they don’t qualify for couples’ benefits and they don’t have children.

NOT FOR *Ourselves Alone* >>

This spring, 17 students were inducted into UNB's Sir Howard Douglas Society. Established in 2006, membership in the society is intended to recognize, promote, cultivate and encourage outstanding UNB undergraduate students who have achieved academic excellence, while actively participating in extracurricular or co-curricular activities, particularly volunteer activities, after completing at least year two of their undergraduate studies. Scholars exemplify the society's motto, *Non Nobis Solum: Not for Ourselves Alone*. The Sir Howard Douglas Society has 245 members, made up of UNB students and alumni.

In this issue, we are tipping our hats to the 2020 and 2021 scholars, and while we can't profile all of them, we are proud of these changemakers.

- > Bios of all of the 2020 and 2021 Sir Howard Douglas Scholars and the induction ceremony can be found at unb.ca/president/shd.



2020 SCHOLARS

□ Sarah Liberty (BA), Kingston, NB | Fahim Rahman (JD), Edmonton, AB | Alisha-Lynn Helen Lapointe (BSc), Florenceville-Bristol, NB | Shanece Wilson (BScEng), West Branch, NB | Mathew Gracie (BA), Fredericton, NB | Morgan Meade (BBA), Corner Brook, NL | Jackson Weir (BSc), Saint John, NB | Matthew MacLennan (BScEng), Quispamsis, NB | Dayna Alexander (BBA), Woodstock, NB



2021 SCHOLARS

□ Natasha Vatcher (BSc), Oromocto, NB | Ava Hicks (BA), Fredericton, NB | Mila Veljanovska (BSc), Saint John, NB | Sarah Kelly (BSc), Hanwell, NB | Dalton Killorn (BScEng), Charlottetown, PEI | Reid Sutherland (BA/BSc), Westville, NS | Jordan MacDonald (BA), Saint John, NB | Jasmine Eng (BSc), Fredericton, NB

➤ **FAHIM RAHMAN** from Edmonton, AB, graduated with a juris doctor from the Fredericton campus in 2020. He pursued a legal education to change lives and break down social structures. Committed to serving both local and global communities, he volunteered with Pro Bono Students Canada, on missing and murdered Indigenous women with the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples' Council and with the Fredericton Legal Advice Clinic.

“My belief in helping others stems from a sense of respect and acknowledgement towards everyone who has helped me be the person I am today,” says Rahman. “Behind every accomplishment I am proud of, I can think of at least one person who helped me achieve that. So I know that if I am able to help at least one more person, I can both pay things forward and hopefully help them accomplish their goals too.”

As the only member of his family to enter the legal profession, Rahman says that he didn't really know what lawyers did on a daily basis. “I assumed they were either preparing to go to court or were actually in court. Assisting a lawyer on a pro bono matter was a great way for me to better understand the profession, and how the law, which may seem neutral on its face, actually affects people differently.”

Rahman adds that he was, “also lucky to work with professor Jula Hughes who taught me that lawyers can apply their knowledge of the law in ways to help the community without going to court, either by being an advocate, helping others understand their rights, or drawing attention to inequalities in the law's application to people.”

Rahman finished his clerkship at the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta in Calgary last March. He is now completing his articles at Shores Jardine LLP, a boutique law firm in Edmonton that focuses on administrative law. ▶





➤ **MILA VELJANOVSKA** from Saint John, NB, will graduate with a bachelor of science degree, majoring in biology-psychology, from the Saint John campus in 2022. She is founder and president of the UNB Saint John Chess Club, a Currie Scholar mentor, vice-president of the Golden Key Honour Society, a science tutor at the Flora Beckett Math and Science Help Centre, orientation leader, and bilingual judge for UNB STEM science fair. Outside of UNB, she volunteers as a bilingual translator with 211 New Brunswick and with the Saint John Regional Hospital.

“I volunteer because communities have to be resilient and come together to help the most vulnerable in difficult times, like during the current pandemic,” she says. “We need to come together to help each other. There are countless possibilities and ways that we can better our community.”

“Volunteering at the hospital allowed me to give back and help the seniors to have a little more fun in their day. I cherish all the memories I made at the hospital, and I am humbled to help brighten their day.”

Veljanovska says that her best piece of advice that she has received came from one of her mentors “whom I dearly cherish,” and “I often reminded myself of this advice during my journey as an undergraduate student. He told me: ‘The three keys to success are preparedness, opportunity and luck. Luck may bring you new opportunities, but in order to succeed, you must prepare and work hard beforehand’.”

As for her future plans: “I have great aspirations for the future,” she says. “Having seen the effects brought by COVID-19 in my community inspired me to pursue a new career path in research in the field of public health and epidemiology, and I will continue to share my passion for chess with the younger generations.”

➤ **JASMINE ENG** from Fredericton, NB, graduated with a bachelor of science degree in honours biology-chemistry from the Fredericton campus this spring. She got involved in her community specifically to build an inclusive and welcoming environment for everyone. “Everyone deserves the right to feel like they belong and to be treated with kindness,” she says.

One way that she has worked towards building inclusiveness was through her role as co-president of the Best Buddies Chapter, an organization that pairs students with individuals in the community who are living with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Beginning in her first year, and up until the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Eng volunteered at the University Women’s Centre. “I am passionate about gender equality and wanted to become more involved on campus,” she says. “The centre is a safe space for students of all genders.” On why she volunteers, she says: “volunteering with various community and school organizations has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. I seek opportunities to take action about things I am interested in and it makes me happy to know that I can make a difference.”

Eng credits her family for helping her become the person that she is. “Although it’s cliché, one great piece of advice that my parents had always told me is, ‘Put yourself in their shoes.’ From a young age, this instilled in me the importance of having empathy for others and to have an open mind. I believe it’s important to recognize that everyone has different experiences. This has driven me to work towards addressing the disparities that exist in our community with compassion. Understanding other perspectives and worldviews enriches the way that we see the world.”

In keeping with her dedication to helping others, Eng will study medicine at Memorial University in St. John’s, NL, this fall. “I am excited to continue learning, growing and contributing to my community.” ■



Victoria LaBillois:

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

As a Mi'gmaq entrepreneur and a female in a traditionally male-dominated field, Victoria LaBillois (BA'91, MBA'04), has faced more than her share of barriers.

Hailing from Listuguj, QC, in the traditional territory of Gespe'gewa'gi, LaBillois crossed the bridge to Campbellton, NB, to attend high school and then studied in the bachelor of arts program at UNB. After university, she landed a job with the federal public service in Ottawa, where she started attending Powwows and noticing t-shirts being worn with Indigenous designs. She jumped into the t-shirt game, but without any kind of business plan or training. "I learned the hard way that I knew nothing, but that I really enjoyed business," she recalls.

She returned to her community and began taking distance learning courses in business before making the decision to return to school full time in 2002 to study for an MBA at UNB. "It was such a positive experience for me. Having some work experience and then coming back to the classroom made me treat the MBA like it was a job." Her work ethic showed. LaBillois graduated with the E.D. Maher award for having the top average in her class.

After learning about passive income in school, LaBillois's first move was to purchase real estate, but when she went to the bank for a mortgage to buy an apartment building, she didn't qualify for an affordable down payment program because she lived on a Canadian reserve. She persevered, started a small company and sold handbags to make her down payment.



“

Barriers don't stop me. I just find ways to go over them or around them. ”

It was at that point that wind energy projects were taking off in Gaspésie and the area, and LaBillois knew this was the field to be in. “This was a new industry in our territory and I looked at the low hanging fruit - which was the heavy equipment needed to construct it. I didn't want our community to be bystanders while outside companies swept in to do the work. I wanted to bring highly skilled Mi'gmaq people to the table.”

She started writing her business plan and four months later, in April 2011, she put the first piece of equipment on the wind park. “I had to learn everything. I researched the industry from scratch. I was confident because I had the tool kit for business, and having the MBA allowed me to be taken more seriously.”

As the owner and president of Wejipeg Excavation Inc., and co-owner and president of Wejuseg Construction, LaBillois has become an integral part of excavation and contracting in wind park development across the region. “There were not a lot of women in the field at the time and no Indigenous construction companies. But barriers don't stop me. I just find ways to go

over them or around them. I walk on the jobsite like I own it, because I know I belong there. I guess growing up on a reserve setting and being treated like a second-class citizen has taught me to be resilient.”

Through her companies, LaBillois has created important employment opportunities for the Mi'gmaq workforce and has helped bridge race relations, playing no small part in creating an economic renaissance in the territory. She also served as co-chair for a national Steering Committee with the Canadian Construction Association, overseeing development of an Aboriginal Engagement Guide for small- and medium-sized enterprises.

Not only that, she also coaches others to jump into entrepreneurship as well. She's served as a mentor in the Indigenous Women in Community Leadership program at the Coady International Institute at St. Francis Xavier University and in the JEDI Aboriginal Business Accelerator Program. She mentors young women in the Women's Executive Network (WXN) mentorship program, which she says is a way

to give back after being named a WXN Canada's Most Powerful Women Top 100 Award Winner in both 2019 and 2020. She also teaches financial literacy to Indigenous youth. “I've pieced together curriculum through telling our own story about colonization and the systemic racism in business that can hold us back. This kind of teaching and mentoring fills my cup.”

This fearless leader and changemaker says she didn't set out to create change. “I just didn't want to be a spectator any longer. I wanted to be a part of the economy and create my own opportunities and help lift up others. Entrepreneurship is an amazing way to do that.”

“I didn't get here by myself. Others have worked very hard to create a path in front of me. I'm grateful for that. It's very satisfying to be part of a movement to lift everyone up at the same time. A rising tide lifts all boats.” ■



KRISTA CARR

LEADING A
MOVEMENT
FOR INCLUSION

Krista Carr (BBA'95) was no different than most young business students when she was at UNB: she dreamed of an executive career in marketing with a big salary and title. Her first full-time job after graduation changed that goal in a pretty dramatic way.

“I came home late one night after working my part-time job and there was a message for me to go to an interview the next morning at the New Brunswick Association for Community Living,” she recalls. “My name had been referred to them, but I knew nothing about the organization at all. I called people to find out what I could and showed up the next morning at their office, which was a creaky, old apartment above retail stores in downtown Fredericton. I remember thinking ‘what am I doing here?’ But I got the job as executive assistant to the executive director and I took it, thinking it would be good experience and I wouldn’t be there that long. I ended up staying 21 years.”

It was Carr’s first exposure to the people with intellectual disabilities and their families that are served by the organization. “It struck me very powerfully that these individuals were no different than I was and wanted the same things - to be included and valued, to have a job, friends, relationships and to be part of the community. It seemed so easy for me but was so hard for them. Their families were typical families that just wanted the best for their kids, but they had to struggle with so many things other families never even have to think about. It felt very wrong, and I knew I wanted to do something about it.”

Looking back, Carr now realizes that was when she stopped thinking that she wanted to be someone important and instead understood she wanted to do something important.

And she did.

She took over as executive director when she was just 27 years old. The New Brunswick Association for Community Living grew under her watch, and Carr’s values of full citizenship and inclusion were demonstrated in the real change in people’s lives in communities around New Brunswick.

“We’ve come a long way in a lot of areas. We’ve seen more people have opportunities to live in their own homes and we’ve made gains in inclusive education, inclusive childcare and in employment supports for people. We’ve worked hard to reshape those support systems to enable people to keep real jobs for real pay. We helped reform the long-term care program in the province into a whole new program with better support for their unique needs. Thankfully, we had assistance from the community, employers, hard-working teachers, early childhood educators and others who believed everyone belongs.”

Carr’s stellar record was noticed. The national federation - the Canadian Association for Community Living, now called Inclusion Canada - hired her as their executive vice-president (CEO) in 2017.

Still working out of Fredericton, Carr provides strategic vision and direction at a national level, working with 13

provincial and territorial organizations and over 300 local associations.

“My work is much the same but on a very different level. I deal primarily with the federal government on policies and awareness. Across the country, the issues around exclusion, marginalization, and lack of access to equality are the same. They’re devastating in many ways. This work is so important.”

Carr says that she likes a challenge, is not afraid of taking risks and focuses on building relationships that are key to gaining ground. She’s also not easily deterred: her former boss and mentor says that for Carr, “no is just a place to begin a conversation.”

Yet she says she doesn’t really consider herself a changemaker.

“I consider myself someone who cares deeply and just gets up every morning to work as hard as I can to move the needle for people who desperately need the world to change for them. The best part of my job is the people - the people I serve and the people that this work attracts. They’re salt-of-the-earth members of the community who are so resilient. It takes all of us to make change happen, and it can be slow and frustrating. But it’s also so rewarding. Helping to make society a welcoming and inclusive society that supports each person to reach their fullest potential is the kind of society I want to live in and I want my children to grow up in.”

Seems like Krista Carr achieved her dream of both being someone and doing something important. ■

“Across the country, the issues around exclusion, marginalization, and lack of access to equality are the same. This work is so important.”



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A portrait of Li Song, a woman with short dark hair and glasses, smiling. She is wearing a black blazer over a checkered shirt. Her hands are clasped in front of her. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a metal railing in the foreground.

LI SONG

BEING THE
CHANGE
SHE WANTS
TO SEE

When Li Song (C-TEL'07, BA'08, BEd'08) arrived at the UNB Saint John campus 20 years ago, she could not imagine that not only would it change her, but that she would become a changemaker in the community.

Born and raised in Zhangzhou in southeastern China, Song was just 20 years old when she arrived in Saint John on a cold day in January 2001, with little money, hardly any English and no idea of the customs and culture in this place called New Brunswick.

She remembers with a laugh, that when the airplane was descending over the dark forests and icy landscape surrounding the port city, she thought they were about to land in a snowy wilderness.

“The Saint John airport was so tiny – even smaller than a bus station in my hometown,” she says. “So when we landed, I felt we were landing on trees or just plain snow. Then we drove into town and someone said ‘This is the city centre’ and I thought, ‘Wow. What have I gotten myself into?’ I had a pretty good life, a good family in China, and now I was in a place where I didn’t know anyone and everything was so bare and plain. No one was out on the street on a Sunday. I thought, ‘How could that be possible?’”

Like many other international students who come to UNB, Song did not think she would stay in Saint John. Her plan was to study English, do a few years of university, then perhaps return to China and find a job in Beijing.

But Song stayed. She graduated from UNB’s Saint John campus in 2008 with bachelor’s degrees in arts and education and a certificate in teaching English as a second language. She is now a licensed realtor attracting international buyers to the city and she is a force for diversity and inclusion. Song is also the managing director at PRUDE Inc., Pride of Race, Unity and Dignity through Education, which has been promoting diversity and cultural inclusiveness in the Saint John region since 1981.

Song has never forgotten those early days in Saint John and the profound effects of culture shock. She rose above it through determination and her eagerness to learn and become part of UNB and the wider community.

“I felt I had to get through this,” she says. “My parents said, ‘Just come back.’ I said no. I needed to handle this. I had to stay and get through this and I will get English. I put up a little piece of paper on my wall that said, ‘A winner never quits and a quitter never wins.’ I don’t know where I copied that from but I had it on my wall for years. So my journey started from there.”

Song says her salvation from the start was UNB and the way it opened doors for her to enter this strange new world.

“If not for UNB, it would have been hard for me to adapt,” she says. “UNB opened that door for me. I became hugely involved in everything going on at UNB. So that’s where I learned that participation in social activities is so important.”

Song worked at UNB Saint John’s International Recruitment Centre as a student assistant, a job that not only helped her understand Saint John, but allowed her to help other students struggling with the same sense of bewilderment and culture shock she experienced. She also volunteered in numerous capacities and, over time, she came to love Saint John and New Brunswick.

“This is a magical place,” she says. “I now help people come here and settle. I love nature to begin with, especially the trees and water. We are so lucky, almost anywhere in Saint John, New Brunswick, you are within a five-minute drive of reaching the water – lakes, rivers and the ocean. What more could you want?”

Song has always remembered advice given to her by Dr. Elizabeth McGahan (PhD’79) at UNB Saint John who told her to “be the change you want to see.”

“If I can help to influence people, that would be great,” says Song. “If I can’t, I will still do the work I believe in and make positive changes. My dad told me, ‘you have to be a good human being first before you do anything else. Build a good character for yourself and then you will do well.’” ■

“ *If not for UNB, it would have been hard for me to adapt. UNB opened that door for me.* ”

Graduating STUDENT

Forty-two graduating students from the UNB Saint John campus have earned Graduating Student Leadership awards for 2020 and 2021 for the remarkable initiative they've taken during their time at UNB.

For bios on each of the student leaders, visit unb.ca/alumni/awards/students/leadership.html. ■



□ 2020 Graduating Student Leaders

Dayna Alexander (BBA), Alex Allison (BBA), Joelynn Annoh-Kwafo (BSc), Bailey Boyer (BSc), Ashley Cook (BN), Kendra DeMerchant (BSc), Emma Green (BBA), Catherine Hall (BSc), Chantel Henderson (BBA), Madison Herrington (BSc), Justin Leslie (BA), Kathryn Magee (BBA), Montanna Meyer (BBA), Abigail Morgan (BN), Marie Elisabeth Nombro (BA), Gabrielle Gibbons Salib (BBA), Luke Watson (BSc) and Allison Woodman (BN).

HAROLD
OH



LEADERS



▣ 2021 Graduating Student Leaders

Ariel Arthurs (BBA), Jessica Cook (BN), Maria Cummings (BBA), Chloe Dallon (BSc), Janet Debly (BSc), Emily Fitzpatrick (BBA), Brianna Forbes (BSc), Hanna Grossman (BSc), Lauren Hartland (BSc), Patrick Hickey (BSc), Max Lahey (BSc), Allyson Lamont (BSc), Jennifer Lord (BA), Sobana M (BSc), Jordan MacDonald (BA), Kathleen MacNeill (BN), Kimberly Mazerolle (BSc), Harold Oh (BSc), Logan Perry (BSc), Lauren Purdy (BBA), Wendall (Keshawn) Skeir (BBA), Sarah Smit (BSc), Hannah Thorne (BBA) and Ryan Walsh (BAM).

An outstanding and well-rounded student citizen, Harold Oh (BSc'21) has proven his athleticism on the field as a member of the soccer team, in addition to being very involved on campus and in the local community. He is a two-time recipient of the Canadian

Collegiate Athletics Association's (CCAA) National Scholar Award and was recognized for his campus contributions with the UNB Saint John SRC Student Leadership Award in 2020. Oh values opportunities to inspire his mentees as part of the Promise Partnership program

and to represent his sport on the Student Athletic Advisory Council. Throughout his time at UNB Saint John, Oh has continuously shown himself as a leader, whether it be on the field, in the classroom or in the community. ■



BRENT STAEEBEN

FREDERICTON'S IMPRESARIO

He is Fredericton's impresario and a founding force behind the city's beloved Harvest Jazz and Blues Festival, an annual event that has opened New Brunswick and its capital to the world of music, and its power to inspire.

Brent Staeben (BSc'88, BA'89, MA'91) has done a lot for his adopted city and province since he first travelled to Fredericton in 1983 to compete in a swim meet. The Corner Brook, NL, native stayed at the home of UNB professor emeritus Bill Seabrook on University Avenue, and even though it was the dead of winter, Staeben fell in love with Fredericton and the UNB campus.

"It became a combination of an incredible campus, great people and a great swim program," Staeben says of his decision to attend UNB. "I always say I got a bachelor's degree in swimming from UNB, and I got some education while I was here as well."

Staeben was a force to be reckoned with in swimming, blazing up and down the lanes of the Sir Max Aitken pool and winning AUS titles, especially in the difficult but elegant butterfly, a legacy his son Erik, UNB's current AUS champion in the 100-metre butterfly continues today. Even in those early days, Staeben stood apart thanks to his drive for excellence and his interest in volunteering, particularly in coaching young swimmers.

After graduating from Queen's University in the early '90s, Staeben returned to Fredericton with his soon-to-be wife Sonya Hull (BA'90) and started working for the provincial government in communications.

By this time, friends of his had launched Harvest, and Staeben was happy to volunteer, putting his communications and marketing skills to good use. He is the longtime chair and current music director of the festival - a role he seems to have been born for.

Staeben's ability to lure big names to the increasingly popular Harvest festival is nothing short of magical: Robert Plant, Mavis Staples, the Blind Boys of Alabama, Taj Mahal, John Hiatt, Levon Helm, Steve Earle, and Buddy Guy just to name a few. One of Harvest's greatest gifts has been the development and promotion of Atlantic Canadian talent, especially New Brunswick stars like David Myles and Matt Andersen.

Staeben says that he has also enjoyed watching how Harvest helped grow volunteerism in Fredericton. Volunteers are at the heart of the festival, which relies on as many as 1,000 to keep the event rolling smoothly.

"We were starting to hear from the social development agencies within the United Way and the YMCA that Harvest was making volunteering cool and bringing new people out and helping to build a capacity in the community," he says.

"Then what happened is, of course, our people and people who had put down roots in Harvest started branching out and doing other things, and being leaders in other areas of the community."

Staeben also puts an emphasis on encouraging future Harvest fans. He spearheaded the Blues in the Schools program, which has exposed jazz and

blues to more than 40,000 local school children. Last year, Staeben worked with blues legend Fruteland Jackson of Chicago to produce workshop videos that have been shared with music teachers in the province. These videos offered children a glimpse into the rich history and moving stories of the blues. He has also been instrumental in developing grant programs for young musicians and in providing opportunities for first-time stage performers.

"The intention has always been for it to be something cultural, but it was also for the kids to feel that Harvest was part of them and they were part of Harvest," Staeben says.

Last year, Staeben's contributions were recognized with an Order of New Brunswick (ONB), the province's highest honour for its citizens, "for his steadfast dedication to cultural enrichment and economic development, and for empowering our youth to build their capacity to positively contribute to society."

"To have the chief justice of New Brunswick call me and say 'You are being honoured with the ONB,' I was flabbergasted," Staeben says. "I'm just so proud to say that I'm a part of New Brunswick in that way."

His recipe for success in life is the pursuit of excellence and never settling for "good enough."

"How do we reach for something that is better than what we have today and better than just good enough? That has followed me through my professional career. When we do something, I want it to be as good as it can be done, I want it to be excellent. It's part of what drives me." ■

"The intention has always been for it to be something cultural, but it was also for the kids to feel that they were part of Harvest."

UNB ALUMNI Book Club

We've started a UNB alumni book club!

In this online community, alumni can connect with each other and enjoy books from a range of genres.

There is no cost to participate - you just have to get a copy of the book to enjoy.

Sign up at pbc.guru/newbrunswick.



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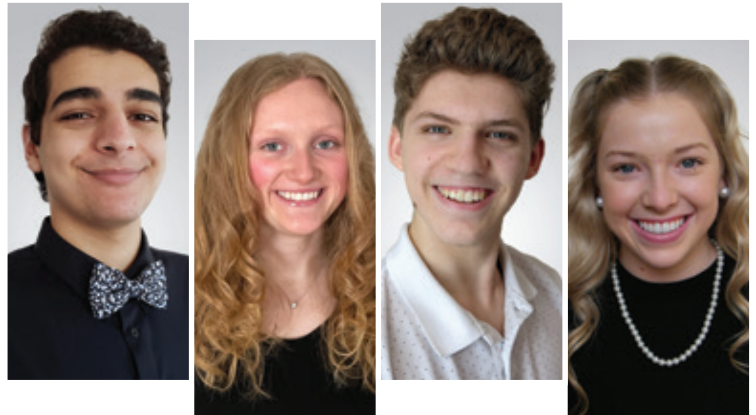
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Congratulations 2021 CURRIE SCHOLARS

The Currie scholarships recognize high school students for their leadership skills, community involvement, and academic success, and are made possible by the generous support of Dr. Richard J. Currie (OC, ONB, CBHF, MBA, LLD, PEng).



□ The 2021 Scholarship Recipients

Safe AbuJaryab, Simonds High School, Saint John, NB; Jordan Cole, Riverview High School, Riverview, NB; Declan Hartery, Harbour View High School, Saint John, NB; and Megan Kinch, Westisle Composite High School, Elmsdale, PEI.

Travel by Ferry

Saint John to Digby in just over two hours

UNB Alumni sail with Bay Ferries and receive 20%* off round-trip fares with a vehicle in 2021.

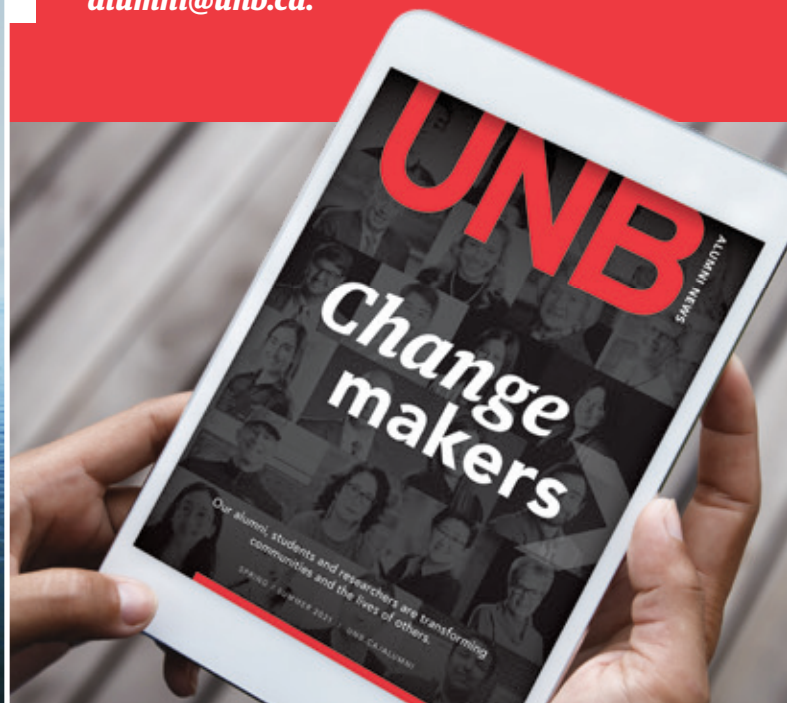
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using promo code **UNBAL**.



* Terms: Vehicle must be less than 7' high and 20' long. Offer valid to December 31, 2021. Cannot be combined with other offers.

CHECK IT OUT AT unb.ca/alumninewsmagazine

If you want to start receiving your magazine as an emailed link to the web version, let us know at alumni@unb.ca.



BEAVERBROOK SCHOLAR EXCELS IN UNUSUAL FIRST YEAR

Rose He takes a lot of walks. The Beaverbrook Scholar, who has just completed her first year in the engineering program, has found walking around Fredericton to be an ideal way to cope with an unusual school year. “I typically start my day by going out for a quick walk in my neighbourhood in order to really clear my head and get a fresh start to the day,” she says, adding that she often takes multiple walks throughout the day to help her reset between classes.

Rose has found several other ways to make the most of COVID-era virtual learning. She finds time to chat online with close friends and relies on her day planner to keep track of her daily tasks. Still, the transition to university life without on-campus interaction had its challenges, and she credits her professors with helping her adjust. “I struggled quite a bit with virtual learning at first, and it was especially difficult for me to reach out to people since I hardly knew anyone in my classes,” she says. “When I reached out to my math professor, she was incredibly welcoming and understanding.”

With her first year now under her belt, Rose says her favourite thing about UNB is the community she’s found. She is grateful for the guidance she’s received from upper-year engineering students, especially via online

platforms like Discord, and for the virtual study sessions she takes part in. “I find that COVID has created a strange situation where we’re all socially distanced, yet the Internet has the ability to nonetheless connect us together,” she says. “Although interacting with others would definitely be easier in person, I’m still lucky enough to have made friends this year through social media and various activities.”

Those activities are plentiful. She was the first-year representative for the Diversity Within Engineering Society, outreach director of the Engineering Undergraduate Society, and co-events director for the Atlantic Student Research Journal, where she helped to organize ENGspire 2021, a virtual mini-conference focused on engineering research.

In January, Rose was part of a team that competed and placed second at the Atlantic Engineering Competition, earning them a chance to compete at the Canadian Engineering Competition, where they placed second again.

Rose has a busy summer and school year ahead. Thanks to the Beaverbrook Scholars Award, she met a former scholar who helped connect her to Dr. Jon Sensinger at UNB’s Institute of Biomedical Engineering (IBME). She has since received funding from the NSERC Undergraduate Student Research awards to allow her to work with the IBME for the summer. She has been named vice-president communications for the Atlantic Council of Engineering Students (ACES) and vice-president internal of UNB’s Engineering Undergraduate Society. And through it all, she will still be taking time for her daily walks.

“After a long day of spending hours and hours on my computer,” she says, “my favourite thing is to walk to a small park right by my neighbourhood, sit on the swings and look at the clouds and the river while the sun sets. That’s my favourite part of the day.”

Visit unb.ca/beaverbrook to learn more about Rose He and her first-year UNB experience. ■

□ Rose He



ALUMNUS ENABLES STUDENTS TO INVEST IN STARTUPS

□ *Fazley Shabab Chowdhury*

UNB students are learning firsthand the importance of venture capital investments to small businesses and the wider economy - and they're doing it by investing real money in real startups.

The Fraser Student Venture Fund, established in 2019, allows students in the faculty of management's venture assessment course to research and analyze startups, and invest up to \$50,000 in startup businesses with a UNB connection.

Like other venture capital funds, the Fraser Student Venture Fund seeks to earn returns on its investments, so the fund can grow and become self-sustaining.

UNB alumnus and retired wealth manager Charles (Chuck) Fraser (BBA'68), whose half-million-dollar gift makes the program possible, was impressed by the entrepreneurial spirit at his alma mater. "I see this fund eventually helping UNB play a more supportive role in the province's

economic growth," he says. "It is also my hope that this fund inspires others to support the faculty and its students." Already, other alumni have begun to step forward with support of the fund.

Venture assessment students follow a rigorous process in selecting businesses to support, including receiving pitches from eligible companies, interviewing CEOs, and working alongside co-investors at the New Brunswick Innovation Foundation to share due diligence.

To date, the students have funded two New Brunswick startups. In the first round of funding, in December 2019, Fredericton-based 3D Planeta Inc. (3dplaneta.com) received support from the fund. 3D Planeta provides high-fidelity 3D images, created by fusing images from air, space, and underwater sources and layering these images with existing geographic data. The result is an actual 3D image created in near-real time.

In December 2020, the class invested in Saint John's TrojAI Inc. (troj.ai/)

TrojAI develops solutions to protect artificial intelligence platforms from adversarial attacks, such as poisoning or embedded Trojan and evasion attacks. Focused on computer vision platforms, the techniques developed by TrojAI protect AI platforms from malicious attacks in multiple ways.

Venture assessment student Fazley Shabab Chowdhury (MBA'21) was involved in the TrojAI investment and says the process has inspired him to become a venture capital and private equity investor.

"It was tense knowing this is a real company and you're working on real numbers that can make a significant difference in the return potential to the fund. The outcome can be huge on the upside and things can go south on the downside," says Fazley, adding that the experience was invaluable. "It cannot be better than this. You only expect to get this type of experience working for an actual venture capital firm." ■

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS *and* BURSARIES

Thanks to our donors, the following scholarships and prizes not only support students during their studies, but throughout their lives.

MARJORIE BASTOW SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD: Nursing
VALUE: \$1,000 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year
DONOR: Estate of Marjorie Bastow (BA'47)

Awarded to a student who has completed at least the first-year requirements for the bachelor of nursing degree program. Selection will be based on academic achievement and financial need.

ED AND BERNADETTE BIDEN SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD: Engineering
VALUE: \$500 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year
DONOR: Friends and family of Ed (BScEng'78) and Bernadette (BSc'81) Biden

Awarded to a student enrolled in the bachelor of science in engineering (any discipline) degree program. Selection will be based on academic achievement. The recipient must demonstrate community involvement.

DIANE BRENNAN CAMPBELL SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD: Nursing and Mathematics
VALUE: \$4,000 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 3 years PhD, 1 year Master's
DONOR: Friends and family of Eddy and Diane Campbell

Awarded to an outstanding full-time graduate student studying in the field of mathematics and statistics or nursing on either of UNB's Fredericton or Saint John campuses. Selection will be based on academic achievement and significant contributions to the recipient's academic or professional field. Award recipients will alternate between the mathematics and nursing fields.

CFUW MONCTON SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD: Nursing
VALUE: \$1,500 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year
DONOR: Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Moncton and the New Brunswick University Opportunities Fund

Awarded to a female student from Westmorland, Kent or Albert county who is enrolled in the bachelor of nursing advanced standing degree program in Moncton. Selection is based on academic achievement and financial need. The recipient must be a New Brunswick resident, according to the definition of the Provincial Government's Student Financial Services guidelines.

DANIEL F. AND MICHELE M. COLEMAN MERIT AWARD

FIELD: Business Administration or Earth Sciences
VALUE: \$3,000 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year
DONOR: Daniel F. and Michele M. Coleman and the New Brunswick University Opportunities Fund

Awarded to a Fredericton campus student who graduated from a New Brunswick high school and has completed at least two years of the bachelor of business administration or the bachelor of science (earth sciences) program. Selection will be based on academic achievement and financial need. The recipient must be a New Brunswick resident according to the definition of the Provincial Government's Student Financial Services guidelines and must demonstrate significant volunteerism in the community and/or sports.

BERTHA HIGGS SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD: Education
VALUE: \$1,000 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year
DONOR: The family and friends of longtime educator, Bertha Higgs, who with other educators dedicated their careers, often from a one-room schoolhouse, towards ensuring rural areas of New Brunswick had access to high quality primary education. Support was also received from the New Brunswick University Opportunities Fund.

Awarded to a student in the bachelor of education program on the Fredericton campus. Selection will be based on academic achievement and financial need. The recipient must be a New Brunswick resident, according to the definition of the Provincial Government's Student Financial Services Guidelines.

J.D. IRVING, LIMITED NB LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP AT UNB

FIELD: Unrestricted
VALUE: \$10,000 **NUMBER:** Up to 6 **DURATION:** Up to 4 years
DONOR: J.D. Irving, Limited

Awarded to students who are beginning an undergraduate degree program with preference to those studying Business, Computer Science, Engineering or Forestry. Selection is made on the basis of leadership ability, academic achievement and community/extra-curricular activities. Consideration may be given to financial need. A shortlist of candidates will be interviewed by representatives of UNB and J.D. Irving Limited. The recipients must be New Brunswick residents and may also be offered employment opportunities with J.D. Irving Limited throughout their degree program and/or upon graduation.

MALINA MAHANTI MEMORIAL COMPUTER SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD: Computer Science

VALUE: \$500 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year

DONOR: Scholarship created in memory of Malina Mahanti, by her sons Dr. Aniket Mahanti (New Zealand), Dr. Anirban Mahanti (Australia) and husband Dr. Prabhat Mahanti, professor of computer science at UNB Saint John

Awarded to a Saint John campus student who has completed at least the minimum requirements for the first year of the bachelor of science in computer science degree program. Selection will be based on academic achievement. Preference will be given to a female student.

DR. MARY MCCARTHY-BRANDT BURSARY

FIELD: Unrestricted

VALUE: \$500 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year

DONOR: Black Lives Matter – Fredericton

Awarded based on financial need to a black student on the Fredericton campus who is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program. The recipient must demonstrate successful academic performance.

MARY RIOUX BURSARY

FIELD: Unrestricted

VALUE: \$400 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year

DONOR: Stephen (BScEng'82) and Sherry (BEEd'81) Rioux in honour of Mary Rioux, a longtime employee of UNB's Residence Services

Awarded on the basis of financial need to a Fredericton campus student in an undergraduate degree program with preference to entering students. The recipient must demonstrate successful academic performance and live in residence.

THE SAINT ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SAINT JOHN SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD: Unrestricted

VALUE: \$2,000 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year

DONOR: The Saint Andrews Society of Saint John

Awarded to a Saint John campus student who has completed at least the minimum requirements for the first year of an undergraduate degree program. Selection will be based on academic achievement and volunteer activities. Preference will be given to a student enrolled in a bachelor of arts degree program, majoring or honouring in history.

TD INSURANCE INDIGENOUS BURSARY

FIELD: Unrestricted

VALUE: Variable **NUMBER:** Variable **DURATION:** 1 year

DONOR: TD Insurance

Awarded based on financial need to part-time or full-time, undergraduate or graduate Indigenous students. The recipient must demonstrate successful academic performance.

DWAIN AND SHARON WILSON ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD: Unrestricted

VALUE: \$1,000 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year

DONOR: Sharon (BOM'88) and Dwain (MScEng'90) Wilson

Awarded to a Fredericton campus student who has completed at least the normal requirements for the first year of an undergraduate degree program at UNB. The recipient must be a member of the UNB Reds men's hockey team and have achieved at least a 3.0 grade point average in the previous year. Preference will be given to a student enrolled in the bachelor of science in engineering or the bachelor of science degree program.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD: Unrestricted

VALUE: \$5,000 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year

DONOR: Friends of UNB Reds Women's Hockey

Awarded to a Fredericton campus undergraduate or graduate student who is a member of the UNB Reds women's hockey team. The recipient must have achieved a 2.0 grade point average for continuing students or an 80 per cent average for high school students, as per U SPORTS regulations. This award is open to transfer students as well as students who are enrolled in a minimum of 9 credit hours. ■

DONALD MACFADYEN BSCSE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD: Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering

VALUE: \$2,250 **NUMBER:** 1 **DURATION:** 1 year

DONOR: Jean, Malcolm, family and friends of the late Donald MacFadyen.

Awarded to a student from the Maritime provinces who is entering their final year in the bachelor of science in engineering (geodesy and geomatics) degree program. The recipient who has at least a B- average will be selected on the basis of financial need, involvement in student and community activities.

Established in 1986, the scholarship has awarded over \$30,000 to 31 deserving engineering students.

VISIT UNB.CA/GIVING

for information on creating scholarships.

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Thank you to our alumni for generously supporting Alumni News

We'd like to recognize the following UNB alumni for their generous support of *Alumni News*. The costs of producing and mailing the magazine are significant and increasing annually. As such, we are seeking your support through *FRIENDS OF ALUMNI NEWS*. We encourage you to become a member by making a tax-deductible contribution. Whether you choose to

contribute at the Reader's, Editor's or Publisher's Circle, all gifts are appreciated.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the following *FRIENDS OF ALUMNI NEWS* for their support between Jan 1, 2019 and Dec 31, 2020.

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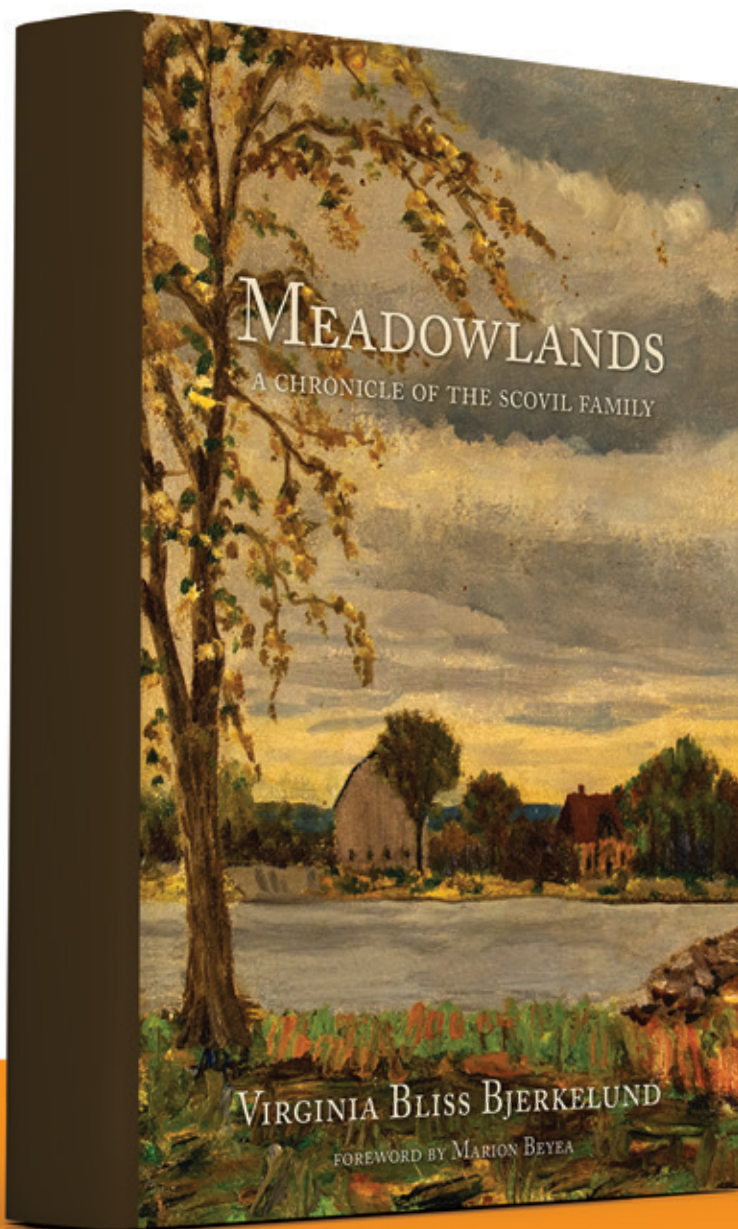
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Summer 2021 Reading BOOKSHELF



We welcome submissions about recent books by our alumni. If you have been published, send the name of your book, your name, the publisher, the ISBN and a cover image to alumni@unb.ca.

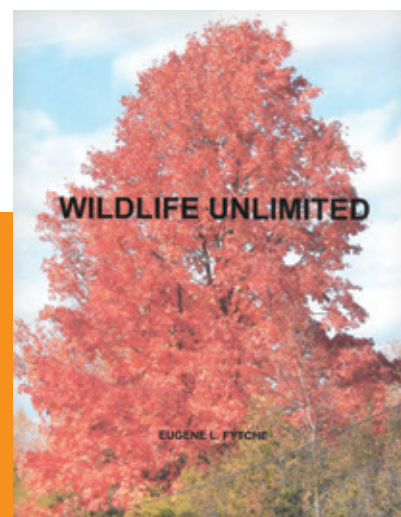
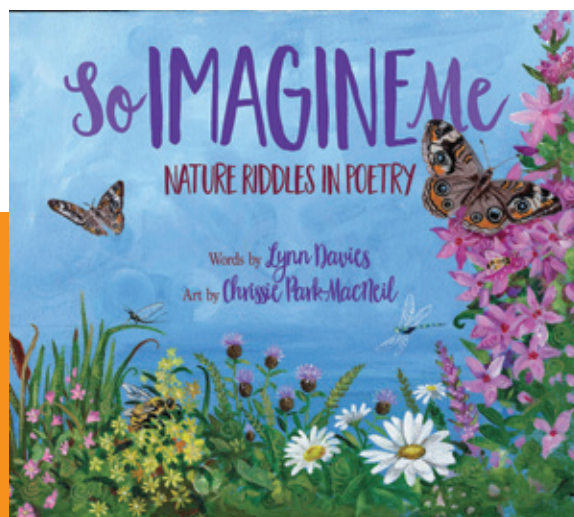


□ Photo credit: Peter Bjerkelund

At 91, Virginia Bliss Bjerkelund (BA'51) published her first book, *Meadowlands: A Chronicle of the Scovil Family*. Her second book is in the works.

From the publisher Chapel Street Editions: “*Meadowlands* portrays the perils of the soul and the great commonplaces of human life in a way that will endure. The textures of family life, the ever present natural world, and the surrounding community will resonate with readers for generations to come.”

“Bliss Bjerkelund has created a family chronicle with the flair of a novel. *Meadowlands* captures the heart and engages the imagination. It’s a strange and exhilarating experience to have no knowledge of a family and then, by reading a book, come to know its members and the trajectory of their lives in a way you will not likely forget.”



The Company We Keep: A Novel

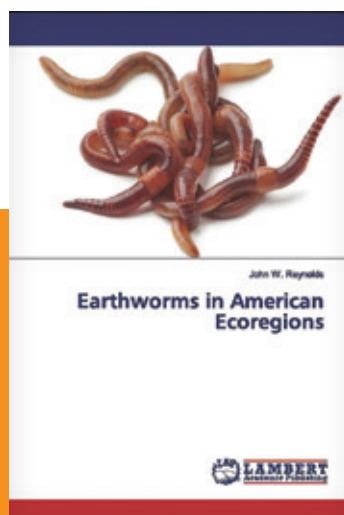
By: Frances Itani (née Hill, MA'80)
 Publisher: HarperCollins Publishers
 ISBN: 978-1-4434-5753-8,
 1443457531, 978-1-4434-6264-8

So Imagine Me: Nature Riddles In Poetry

By: Lynn Davies (C-TEL'08)
 Publisher: Nimbus Publishing
 ISBN: 978-1-77108-867-1

Wildlife Unlimited

By: Eugene L. Fytche (BScEng '47)
 Publisher: Self-published
 ISBN: 978-0-9809420-3-3



Earthworms Of American Ecoregions

By: John W. Reynolds (LLB'81)
 Publisher: Lambert Academic Publishing
 ISBN: 978-620-2-80893-4



The Gaff Topsail Encounters: Facing The Wind

By: Floyd Spracklin (MEd'95)
 Publisher: DRC Publishing
 ISBN: 9781988358437 ■

HITHER & YON

Here is what some of our *Alumni* have been up to this year

Entries may be edited for length. For a complete Hither and Yon, visit unb.ca/alumninewsmagazine.

'66

JOHN BOILEAU (BA) of Bedford, NS, on completion of 10 years as the honorary colonel of The Halifax Rifles (RCAC) and two years as the chair of the National Council of Honorary Colonels, was awarded the Commander Canadian Army Commendation in November for his work in the establishment of honorary colonel lines of communication across Canada, and seizing every opportunity to engage in community outreach, “thus bringing great honour to the Canadian Armed Forces.”

'67

ALFRED BRIEN (BBA, LLB'69) of Saint John, NB, a New Brunswick provincial court judge and founder of one of Canada's first mental health courts, retired in November 2020, after 32 years on the bench.

'69

GREGG SMITH (BBA) of Bedford, NS, is retired and living in Bend, Oregon, since 2010. Beautiful city with many things like Fredericton of old.

'70



BARBARA SEAGRAM, née Williams, (BN) of Toronto, ON, along with her friend, Patti Lee, has built and sustained four schools in remote villages in Cambodia. They also build toilets and drill wells, and teach sanitation. Toilets are so important as they decrease the incidence of sexual abuse of women and allow young girls to not have to miss any school. They also build toilets at government schools and supply menses kits to young girls. They build handwashing stations at government schools as well as at their own. They also have supplied thousands of water filters to remote villages in Northern Laos, thereby improving quality of life through improved health. All fundraising is done through bridge events, now online, but usually in person. There are no administration fees. All volunteers pay their own airfare, accommodations and meals. She continues to teach bridge all over the world and has now authored 32 published books on the game. If you want to learn bridge (free online) or wish to help with our Cambodia/Laos projects, email barbaraseagram@gmail.com.

'74



GEORGE HAMILTON (BScEng'74) of Peterborough, ON, on Feb. 19, 2021, along with members of the UNB contingent of the Canada Games 1971 New Brunswick downhill ski team (and a few non-UNB team members) gathered together for a virtual reconnect to commemorate 50 years since they competed together. Members from both the men's and women's teams and their coach joined from five time zones (NB, QC, ON, MB, AB, BC and US) to share memories. The team, and reconnected members, are looking forward to hearing from old ski and university friends, and contact can be made through George Hamilton at ghamiltoncobourg@live.com.

'77

CAROLE ESTABROOKS (BN) of Edmonton, AB, updates from the last few years: in 2016, she became a member of the Order of Canada; in 2018 her Tier 1 Canada Research Chair (knowledge translation in elder care)

was renewed and she received UA's J Gordin Kaplan award for research excellence; in 2020 she was made a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a fellow in the Canadian Academy of Nurses.

'78

BRIAN PECK (BScEng) of Vancouver, BC, as of Oct. 30, 2020, has retired from HSBC where he had been global head of trade floor voice and compliance technologies. Brian is re-discovering the feeling of freedom and is looking for better balance in life, including getting back into (modest) endurance sports activities. Brian is located in downtown Vancouver, BC, and can be reached at brianpeck88@gmail.com.

'79

SUMMER COYLE, née Earl, (BA) of Rothesay, NB, has completed her fourth literary novel *Summer is a Short Season*, which is the third book in her Soulless Trilogy. *Scorpions Hunt By Night* and *Sandcastles in the Rain* are the first two books in the trilogy. She has also written *Daisies From Ashes*, which is a stand-alone novel. All of her novels are available worldwide in paperback and digital formats through multiple distributors.

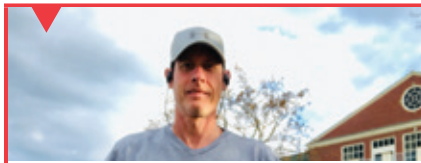
'82

DAVID LEBLANC (BBA) of Ottawa, ON, retired from the federal public service in August of this year, after spending 35 years working for Statistics Canada, the last six months having to work from home due to the pandemic. David hopes everyone is staying healthy. David hopes to see a lot of you in 2022 for our 40th reunion.

'87

DERRICK STANFORD (BA) of Rothesay, NB, joined Brunswick News Inc. as the head of national partnerships.

'89



RAMSAY ANDERSON (BA) of Fredericton, NB, after 30 years in the travel and tourism industry as a flight attendant, a reservations agent with Air Canada Vacations and front line travel agent with Harvey's Travel/Carlson Wagonlit, American Express and the past 19 years with CAA, has returned to UNB. In January 2021, Ramsay started as client services representative at the Office of the Registrar at Sir Howard Douglas Hall (he always called it the Old Arts Building). Lots of things have changed from his time on campus, but many things are so familiar. He has so many fond memories from his academic years 1985 to 1989, with two of those years in residence at Bridges House. These past months have been difficult. With the initial COVID-19 lockdown in March and April 2020, he spent many days walking the empty UNB campus, and photographing each building and the three entry gates (it was his COVID project). Soon the campus will come back to life with fun, laughter and friendship to make fond memories for many generations to come.

KEN WENTWORTH (BScEng) of Calgary, AB, after having spent 17 years with NOVA Chemicals in Sarnia, ON, and 15 years at Petrogas Energy Corp. in Calgary, AB, (the company was purchased by AltaGas Ltd. in December 2020), he accepted the position of SVP - energy exports with AltaGas Ltd., having commercial responsibility

for the Prince Rupert, BC, and the Ferndale, WA, LPG export terminals. He continues to reside in Calgary with his wife Diana of 32 years.

'93

TERRENCE RICHARDS (BCS) of Toronto, ON, as lionscanada.ca celebrated 100 years of service in Canada from 1920 to 2020, Kittitian Lion Tebo (Terrence) was elected to serve as the A-711 District Governor in Ontario (Toronto, Peel, Halton, Hamilton-Wentworth) to oversee 85 Lions Clubs from Scarborough to Stoney Creek, in Canada's most populous district. Lion Tebo was the first black person to graduate with a bachelor's degree in computer science as UNB Fredericton made history as Canada's first faculty of computer science in 1993.



UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

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'95

STACEY STAIRS, née Calhoun, (BEEd) of Sussex, NB, received the 2020 Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence. ►

LORIE TRACEY, née Dee, (BEd) of Grand Falls, NB, completed her education degree at UNB. After more than 20 years in the public school system teaching, she completed her master's of education degree in leadership studies from Memorial University.

'98

MELANIE PERRY, née Boulé, (BA, LLB'04) of Halifax, NS, has accepted a position as a senior crown attorney in special prosecutions as a cybercrime prosecutor. Melanie will continue to be based in Halifax, but will prosecute offences from across the province of Nova Scotia. Watch your online activities, folks!

'02

ANDREA BALDWIN (LLB) of Halifax, NS, has joined Barteaux Labour and Employment Law Boutique to add immigration law practice. Immigration law is now a core practice area at the firm and Andrea could not be happier. "Immigration law is a natural fit with employment law," says Baldwin who represents employers across Atlantic Canada and beyond.

'03

CHRISTOPHER BOYSE (BA, BBA'04) of Calgary, AB, has recently taken on the role of director of compliance at Flahmingo Investments, a fintech startup business that is enabling micro-investing for Canadians. He is also founder and CEO of Brain Bar, a plant-based protein bar brand in Western Canada.

DARCEY LYNCH (BBA) of Dieppe, NB, was appointed director of human resources with Midland Transport in May 2020.

'04

GRACE PIERCY (BScEng, JD'14) of Tennessee, USA, as the Customer Services Program (CSP) principal

engineer, customer delivery with Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), has been named External Relations Engineer of the Year. Grace came to TVA in 2016 and quickly earned the respect of her co-workers and local power company customers for her engineering acumen, leadership, and teamwork. Her desire to develop others led her to train engineers across the valley this year on complex projects such as arc flash hazard analysis. Grace worked with the principal engineering committee to help draft engagement guidelines and procure COVID-19 personal protective equipment to reassure other power utilization engineers that their protection and safety are the priority. Grace's management of the CSP program in the district helped boost CSP program customer satisfaction from 77 per cent in 2019 to 96 per cent in 2020, based on the Voice of the Customer Survey results. Grace also contributed to the external relations team through her participation in the Employee Advisory Group, where she was selected to a leadership role as the chair of the Communications Committee. She did all of this while keeping her CSP Effective Recovery Rate above 100 per cent, on boarding a new engineer in January, and continuing development of two other engineers who had been in their roles less than one year. She received the TVA External Relations Rising Star Award in February 2019. As part of her selection as Engineer of the Year for External Relations, Grace is also a candidate for TVA's Engineer of the Year.

'10

SOURAJ SALAH (PhD) of Dubai, UAE, is proud to be a mechanical engineering PhD grad of perhaps the first co-supervised grad by business and engineering faculty members at UNB (Dr. Rahim and Dr. Carretero). My best co-authored paper reached over 350 citations and resulted in Springer publishing my first co-authored

book on company wide management systems all with the help of my supervisors. Winner of the American Society for Quality UAE Quality Professional Qward.

'17



Photo courtesy of Washington Capitals

PHIL MAILLET (Class of) made his NHL debut with the Washington Capitals on Feb. 7.

'19

SAM POIRIER, (BScEng, M-TME), CEO and co-founder of Potential Motors, was recognized as a national **changemaker** by the *Globe and Mail* for "leading Canada into the electric vehicle revolution." ■



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A LASTING IMPACT FOR OUR STUDENT ATHLETES

Geoff (BSE '94) and Rachele (MEd '18) Colter feel it's important to give what they can, whether it is a modest sum today or a planned gift for the future.

After many years of annual giving, the Colters decided a few years ago to make a lasting impact by including UNB in their wills. "We were in a position to increase our annual philanthropy, and we both really wanted to support the causes that are near and dear to us not only on an annual basis, but we also wanted to provide legacy gifts," said Geoff.

Having played volleyball during his time at UNB, Geoff has supported the UNB Reds men's volleyball team for over twenty years. He knows first-hand the dedication required of these athletes, recalling his own rigorous training schedule and the lifelong friendships he made thanks to the volleyball program.

As time went on, the increasing success of UNB Reds men's volleyball under coach Dan McMorran inspired Geoff and Rachele to create a scholarship. The Geoff and Rachele Colter Volleyball Award was established to initially support the volleyball program on a modest basis, with a goal of increasing the award amount as the fund grows, and ultimately providing a larger sum through a bequest.

The Geoff and Rachele Colter Volleyball Award is awarded each year to a member of the Reds men's volleyball team. The 2020-21 recipient, Eduardo Lúchese of Brazil, is a Reds Outside Hitter entering the fourth year of UNB's bachelor of business administration program.

Geoff says his goal for the bequest is that the scholarship fund ultimately provide the support to help the Reds win a national championship. Go Reds Go! ■

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Remembering

Lady Violet Aitken and Dr. Fredrik Eaton

UNB lost two of its former chancellors in February. Lady Violet Aitken (LLD'90), who served as chancellor from 1982 to 1992, and as chancellor emerita thereafter, died on Feb. 18, at the age of 94. Fredrik S. Eaton (BA'62, LLD'83), who succeeded her from 1993 to 2003, died two days later at 82. Both were known for their exceptional dedication to the university.

Lady Aitken, fondly known to the UNB community as 'Vi', was the third member of the Aitken family to hold the chancellorship, which began in 1947 with the appointment of Lord Beaverbrook as UNB's first modern-day chancellor. He served until his death in 1964, and was succeeded by his son Sir Max Aitken, who was chancellor from 1966 until 1976, when ill health prevented him from continuing. His wife, Lady Aitken, took up the role six years later.

Dr. Eaton, scion of the T. Eaton department store family, enrolled in UNB in 1958. Memorable among his classmates, his many activities included the Students' Representative Council, winter carnival, the Red 'n' Black Revue and management of the men's hockey team. He was the first in his family to earn a university degree and went on to become president and chairman of his family's business.

Despite their privileged backgrounds, both Lady Aitken and Dr. Eaton were modest about and appreciative of their association with UNB. At the awarding of her honorary degree in 1990, Lady Aitken observed, "As

chancellor, I am merely the icing on top of what is a pretty large cake. I get all the glory while the president does the real work."

Three years later at his installation, Dr. Eaton remarked, "I am happy to say that UNB made me. Like many young people, I came here expecting everything to go my way. Not surprisingly, it did not. By the time I left, I knew that we are what we make of ourselves. In the end we have no one to blame but ourselves. Many people to thank, but only one to blame."

During the 20 years of their chancellorships, support for the university was paramount to Lady Aitken and Dr. Eaton.

In 1982, in keeping with the family's past benefactions, Lady Aitken announced a \$1-million gift from the Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation, of which she was a trustee, to the Third Century Fund Campaign representing 10 per cent of its goal. Many gifts followed to the faculty of law, Ethel Singer Hall, the libraries and scholarships.

In 1994, Dr. Eaton stepped up to chair The Venture Campaign, which raised \$43 million for the university. Over the ensuing years, gifts from his family and their foundation supported UNB'S Gregg Centre for the Study of War and Society, the Eaton Multimedia Learning Centre, the UNB-Queen's Belfast Exchange Program, the libraries, various scholarships and rings for members of the championship men's hockey team. ■



□ Photo credit: Dorothy Scott/Daily Gleaner



□ Photo credit: Joy Cummings-Dickinson

Images courtesy of
UNB Archives & Special Collections

IN *Memoriam*

ALTHEA MACAULAY, née Warren, (BA'39, LLD'90),
Fredericton, NB

C. DOUGLAS CARTER (BScEng'46), Dartmouth, NS

MADLYN PHILLIPS, née Bailey, (BA'47), Fredericton, NB

HELEN STRASSER, née Little, (BSc'47, BEd'57),
Sudbury, ON

MAY OLEY, née Kileel, (Class of '49), Fredericton, NB

ALLEN MITCHELL (BA'51, BCL'53), Ottawa, ON

PATRICK RYAN (BA'51, BCL'56), Fredericton, NB

EDWIN SPENCER (BA'51), Fredericton, NB

G. BARRY SULLY (BScF'52), Woodlawn, ON

EVERETT BOYLE (BScF'53), Beaconsfield, QC

GORDON 'VIC' SHEARSMITH (BScF'53), Gore, QC

PAUL COLLINS (BScF'54), Halifax, NS

J. GEORGE FULLARTON (BA'54), Nepean, ON

E. JOHN BLISS (BScEng'55), Fredericton, NB

JAMES BORCOMAN (BA'55), Ottawa, ON

JAMES CROCKET (BSc'55), Ancaster, ON

J. VICTOR STEWART (BScF'55), Gagetown, NB

JOHN MINER (BSc'57), Ottawa, ON

WILLIAM SEARS (BScEng'57), Stoney Creek, ON

JOHN WILLIAMSON (BSc'57, BA'59, MA'60),
St. Andrews, NB

JOHN WILSON (BScF'57), Montreal-Ouest, QC

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NEIL COY (BScEng'58), Douglas, NB

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ANTOINE RICHARD (BScEng'58), Fredericton, NB

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Singhampton, ON

J. RICHARD BOISSONNAULT (BScEng'60),
Campbellton, NB

WAYNE GUPTILL (Class of '60), McLeod Hill, NB

ROBERT MCGUIRE (BScEng'60), Lachine, QC

GORDON STONE (BScF'60), Sault Ste. Marie, ON

C. DOUGLAS WOOD (BScEng'60, MScEng'61),
Broken Arrow, OK

JAMES FRASER (BScEng'61), Fredericton, NB

GERARD LAVOIE (BScEng'61), Upper Kingsclear, NB

JOSEPH WHELTON (BEd'61), Verdun, QC

LORRAINE ARTABANE, née Mazerolle, (BEd'62), South
Abington Township, PA

ROBERT NESBITT (BScF'62), Richmond, ON

JOHN CHURCH (BScF'63, BEd'65, MEd'70),
Fredericton, NB

ROBERT RICHARDS (BPE'63, BA'67), Elgin, NB

PAUL WANG (MScEng'63), Chapel Hill, NC

RAYMOND WOODWARD (BA'63, BEd'65, PD-Ed'74),
Fredericton, NB

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JOHN GODFREY (Class of '64), Kirkland, QC

PIERRE HEBERT (BScEng'64), Moncton, NB

MICHAEL NOWLAN (BEd'64, MEd'86), Oromocto, NB

J. EDWARD DORION (BScF'65), Vernon, BC

C. EMERY BRISON (BCL'66), Moncton, NB

JAMES GOLDING (Class of '66), Rothesay, NB

E. DIANE RICHARDS, née Gould, (Class of '66), Barrie, ON

EDMUND CREARY (BEd'67), Brandon, MB

GEORGE HALEY (MA'67), Fredericton, NB

GARNET STAIRS (BBA'67), Fredericton, NB

ANDREW SUTHERLAND (BA'67), Woodstock, NB

HAROLD DYKEMAN (BT'68, BEd'73), Fredericton, NB

MARION 'SISTER MARY JANET' GARNEAU (BSc'68,
BEd'69), Saint John, NB

JAMES HENDERSON (MScEng'68), Ottawa, ON

G. DOUGLAS JOHNSON (BScEng'68), Calgary, AB

JOHN TURNER (LLD'68), Toronto, ON

DOUGLAS MILTON (BScEng'70), Hillsborough, NB

R. ALLAN O'BLENIS (BT'70), Riverview, NB

CLEMENT POWELL (BT'70, BEd'75, PD-Ed'77), Sussex
Corner, NB

RONALD BURRELL (BScF'71), Campbell River, BC

LOIS JOHNSON (BA'71, BEd'78), Saint John, NB

DONALD MACBEATH (BA'71, LLB'74), Marystown, NL

JOSEPH 'BARRY' O'REGAN (BScEng'71), Gloucester, ON

M. THERESA BALL (BA'72), St. Albert, AB ►

- ELIZABETH MCLEOD (BA'72, LLB'76), Saint John, NB
- PHILBRICK CRAIN (BA'73, BEd'75, MEd'83),
Haneytown, NB
- KAREN CRANDALL-STROUD, née Crandall, (BA'73),
Moncton, NB
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Fredericton, NB
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- DEBORAH SMITH, née Malley, (BEd'83), Moncton, NB
- J. CLIFFORD SHEA (MA'84), Saint John, NB
- DAWN BATES, née Shannon, (BA'85, BBA'86),
Saint John, NB
- JEFF CARR (BSc'86, MBA'90), Fredericton, NB
- TRACY FOLSTER (BA'87), Saint John, NB
- HEIDI O'KEEFE (BBA'87), Saint John, NB
- RICHARD VAUGHAN (BA'87, MA'91), Montreal, QC
- JEWEL WILSON, née Pollock, (BN'89), Rothesay, NB
- BARBARA FISHER-TOWNSEND, née Fisher, (MA'90,
PhD'06), Green Mountain, NB
- EDWARD GRAY (BEd'90), Terrace, BC
- CAROL HARRIS, née Hatt, (BEd'90), St. George, NB
- SCOTT MACDONALD (BBA'91), Toronto, ON
- PETER WAITE (DLitt'91), Halifax, NS
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- KAREN MCEVOY (BA'05, BEd'05), Fredericton, NB
- ROBYN SWEET (BEd'05, MEd'14), Dieppe, NB
- BRENDA ROBERTSON, née Tubb, (LLD'07), Riverview, NB
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