

# UNB

ALUMNI NEWS



# 100,000

REASONS  
TO BE PROUD





*Don't just learn to teach*  
**KEEP CULTURAL  
KNOWLEDGE ALIVE**



**Shelley Solomon of Neqotkuk (Tobique First Nation) and her daughters, Dorian and Heaven,** were among the first graduates from the UNB Wabanaki Bachelor of Education (WBEEd) program, administered by the Mi'kmaq-Wolastoqey Centre through the guidance of the UNB Elders Council. The WBEEd degree takes a unique approach, offering flexibility and hands-on learning experiences through the lens of Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqey languages and culture. Wabanaki Elders and Knowledge

Keepers are among the program instructors, and they bring a deep knowledge of the culture to the participants. We're proud to offer this program and the opportunity to connect with the Indigenous community in a way that positively impacts both the students and the work they will do.

Learn more about the Solomons' educational journey rooted in their Indigenous heritage at [UNB.ca/Solomon](https://unb.ca/Solomon).



**FALL 2024**

unb.ca/alumni/magazine/

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**W**elcome to another issue of  
*Alumni News*. As always,  
it's a pleasure to bring you stories  
highlighting the achievements,  
adventures, and contributions of our  
incredible alumni community.

As you will read in the alumni  
president's letter, the alumni association  
has launched a campaign to celebrate  
reaching 100,000 members of the alumni  
family. Four of them – John Gerhardt  
(BA'85), Ali McGill (BN'02), Maria  
Hernandez (BScENR'21), and Tyler Patles  
(BScE'09) – are featured on the cover. On  
pages 18 and 19, you'll get a sneak peek  
into a few other alumni we are featuring  
in our campaign. And, throughout this  
issue – from Noteworthy to Bookshelf  
– you'll learn about remarkable alumni,  
their journeys, and the impact  
they're making.

Over the past several months, my  
colleagues and I have been working  
on updating and improving the  
magazine's digital version ([unb.ca/  
alumni/magazine](http://unb.ca/alumni/magazine)). This version has  
been redesigned to match the familiar  
look and feel of the print issue,

while offering an enhanced reading  
experience on any device. Best of all,  
the digital issue allows you to dive  
deeper into alumni stories with videos,  
photo galleries, and direct links to  
more content. We invite you to explore  
the new digital edition and let us know  
what you think – we're always eager to  
hear your feedback as we continue to  
grow and evolve.

Twice a year, I have the privilege  
of sharing incredible stories,  
achievements, and experiences of  
fellow alumni. Through these, I'm  
reminded of the lasting impact that our  
university has on so many of us.

Thank you for your ongoing support  
and for staying connected through the  
magazine. Your stories are the heart  
of what we do, and we look forward to  
sharing many more.

Until next time,

**Natalie Montgomery (BBA'99)** ■

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# CONTENTS

## 05 Alumni President's Letter

---

### Noteworthy

---

06 News and stories you may have missed in 2024

08 Fall honorary degree recipients

### Alumni Features

---

10 A champion for workplace safety

12 A leader in N.B.'s forestry sector

14 What we learned while travelling abroad

16 Liberating health data in N.B.

18 Sewing the solution

30 A legacy of basketball

32 Forecast modelling in forest management

### Cover Features

---

20 100,000 Reasons to be Proud

22 John Gerhardt (BA'85)

24 Ali McGill (BN'02)

26 Maria Hernandez (BScENR'21)

28 Tyler Patles (BScE'09)

## Alumni Connections

---

34 Gatherings and meet ups

36 Saint John Alumni Weekend 2024

38 50 years of reunions, trees and memories for the Class of '74 civil engineers

39 Fredericton Alumni Reunion Weekend 2025

40 Volunteers in action

## 41 Donor Impact Report

---

### Support for Students

---

53 Supporting future alumni

54 Scholarships, awards and bursaries

## 56 Hither and Yon

---

## 58 Bookshelf

---

## 60 In Memoriam

---



**Y**ou might remember from my last letter that we reached a significant milestone at last spring's graduation – our alumni family now has more than 100,000 members around the world!

To celebrate this milestone, we have launched a campaign that celebrates 100,000 reasons to be proud!

While we all love UNB and are proud of our *alma mater*, our pride is not just in the institution itself; it is in the 100,000 UNB alumni who are transforming knowledge into action. We have incredible and inspiring stories to share of how alumni are making an impact in communities, in industry, and in the advancement of society. In this issue, you'll see a handful of the faces and stories that make up the 100,000 reasons we are so proud to be UNBers. You'll find even more of those stories on our website, and we'll continue to share them through newsletters and our social channels in the coming year. I think you'll agree; they all help prove that UNB alumni are making a positive difference around the globe.

If you feel inspired by these stories and proud of your alumni peers, please share them widely. Reach out and congratulate them. Share other names with us so we can share their stories too! Together, our network of 100,000 alumni is making a world of difference. Let's celebrate it!

It's been a busy few months for your alumni association. Around the same time that we kicked off our campaign, we also went live with a new and improved storytelling website. The Alumni News website is your one-stop-shop for all your alumni news and stories, including the digital version of the magazine, the UNBeknownst podcast, and our beloved UNBTalks webinars.

On Sept. 20 and 21, we held the inaugural Alumni Weekend on UNB's Saint John campus. It was such a pleasure to connect with so many alumni over the weekend, in recognition of the campus' 60th anniversary and the 50th anniversary of the first graduating class in 1974. Next year's weekend will be held on Sept. 19 and 20.

We will also have some celebrations on the horizon, including another cohort of Proudly UNB Award recipients on April 11, and welcoming alumni back to the Fredericton campus for Alumni Reunion Weekend from June 12 to 15.

This fiscal year, the Associated Alumni is completing the final year of our Alumni Engagement Strategy ([unb.ca/alumni/aboutus/engagement-strategy.html](http://unb.ca/alumni/aboutus/engagement-strategy.html)). Throughout this strategy, I've had the opportunity to connect with many of you through our cherished events and traditions, and many new programs. I look forward to updating you on the priorities of our next strategy, and the exciting and innovative ways you can get involved.

For now, I encourage you to tell your story and the stories of your classmates and peers. It's our collective stories, impact and contributions that make a difference in the world.

Together, we are over 100,000. And we certainly have **100,000 reasons to be proud.**



**Jennifer Sutherland Green (LLB'99)** ■



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**APRIL 11**

Proudly UNB Awards in Saint John

**SEPT. 19 AND 20**

Alumni Weekend in Saint John

**JUNE 12 TO 15**

Alumni Reunion Weekend in Fredericton

# Noteworthy

Alumni stories you may have missed  
Check them out in full at [unb.ca/alumni/news/](https://unb.ca/alumni/news/)



□ AI image

## Saving lives in smalltown N.B.

When Kelly Dunfield (MN'03, C-NP'03) graduated from UNB's inaugural class of the nurse practitioner program in 2003, she was thrilled to be back in clinical practice again.

After years of nursing and health care experience in occupational health, surgery and emergency nursing in Saint John and her hometown of Sussex, N.B., she moved into emergency room management and quality risk management. So when the new nurse practitioner program was announced at UNB, she jumped at the chance to do more with patients on the front line.

After working in primary care for five years as a nurse practitioner in Saint

John, she returned to Sussex and started her primary health care practice. Now, with approximately 1,400 patients, Kelly says that the number of nurse practitioners in the province has grown significantly since she began, and their contribution to health care in our current system is huge.

In addition to a hectic practice, Kelly and her husband, John Gordon Dunfield (BBA'87), also run a business dedicated to making communities safer for those who suffer from anaphylaxis and opioid overdoses by educating the public on how to respond to these life-threatening conditions while waiting for emergency personnel. Be Ready Healthcare Inc. provides alarmed cabinets for easy access to epinephrine and naloxone.

## Focused on community health

Charles A. Diab (BBA'83) moved to Fredericton in 1980 after applying to UNB on a whim. Initially unsure about returning, he came back in January 2024 as CEO of The Chalmers Foundation, the philanthropic organization that “raises funds to support healthy, caring communities by enhancing health and well-being through innovative and effective programs and initiatives in Health Zone 3, the Fredericton and River Valley area.” Charles brings with him a plethora of experience from around the world. “My bachelor's degree from UNB was the catalyst for a career that took me to 52 countries and amazing experiences across the globe and to earn an MBA and PhD in Australia. I've been very fortunate.”

He says that the foundation has big ambitions in 2024 and needs significant support with two major campaigns: one to raise almost \$2 million for a new interventional radiology suite at The Dr. Everett Chalmers Regional Hospital that will streamline patient care by reducing wait times and allow for more non-invasive vascular surgeries, and the other to raise \$1.2 million to launch a cancer survivorship program in the Fredericton, River Valley and Perth-Andover areas to help survivors with recovery and creating a healthy lifestyle.

## Providing a more sustainable alternative in the electrical vehicle market

As co-founder and CTO for Victory Advanced Technologies, Isaac Barkhouse (BScEng'19, M-TME'19), is developing rugged, high-performance, sustainable electric motors that power the green transportation transition. But before that, he co-founded and was CTO at Potential Motors, helping to develop multidisciplinary vehicle architecture that justified a \$2.5 million seed round of venture capital.

From a young age, Isaac knew he wanted a career in sustainable technology. He studied both mechanic and electrical engineering at UNB and took advantage

of summer internships, working for two summers at Bosch GmbH in Germany in its electromobility services and sensor characterization divisions. It was in Germany where Isaac met Sam Poirier (BScEng'19, M-TME'19), future co-founder and CEO of Potential Motors. In 2018, as part of their senior design project in UNB's Technology Management and Entrepreneurship program in engineering, Isaac, Sam and colleagues Nick Dowling (BScEng'18, D-TME'18) and Michael Barnhill (BScEng'18) founded Potential Motors.

Isaac eventually left Potential Motors, where he met Steve Belyea, founder and CEO of BASE Engineering, who recruited him to help with an electric vehicle hobby project. They quickly realized that sourcing components to

build electric powertrains was difficult. "The parts were scarce, so we made our own. And we realized that the market for rugged electric powertrain motors - those perfect for Canadian weather and landscapes - was big. But there was also something still weighing on me. While electric vehicles are cleaner than gas, they're still not living up to the promise for a sustainable planet. We need to do better. So that's what we've been doing. Our design choices are linked with our values, and we make the extra effort to find sustainable supply chains for parts. We make a ton of little decisions that add up to our goal of being more sustainable." They're on track. Last March, Victory Advanced Technologies received funding from ACOA's Regional Economic Growth through Innovation program.

## A blooming business

Sharp Brook Flower Farm, founded by Sophie Sharp (BA/BEd'22) and her sister Ellen Folkins in spring 2021, has brought vibrant locally grown flowers to New Brunswick. Growing on an acre of land, the farm features over 100 flower species, including 500 peonies, alongside heirloom pumpkins. Sophie's passion for agriculture blossomed while working on her family's dairy farm, where she started a garden and shared her journey on Instagram, sparking community interest.

Their first season exceeded expectations, with bouquets sold at The Posy Shed and popular u-pick events, attracting over 400 visitors. Committed to sustainability, they provide fresh, chemical-free flowers and conduct workshops on gardening and wreath making.

Sophie balances her farming efforts with her role as a grade four teacher, finding joy and mental health benefits in both passions. As a seventh-generation farmer, she treasures sharing her family's legacy and the land's beauty with the community.

## Bringing global digital transformation and humanitarian experience to UNB

Aaloak Jaswal (BScCS'93, D-TME'93) has returned to UNB as the innovation director for the new Research Institute in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (RIDSAI). With over 30 years of experience in global digital transformation and humanitarian efforts, Aaloak is dedicated to leveraging technology for social good. He draws on skills learned working for UNICEF and the WHO, in New York City, Panama, Haiti, Egypt and Botswana, where he was the digital transformation lead on behalf of the UN Economic Commission for Africa, designing the country's first SmartBots Digital Innovation Lab.

In this role, he aims to unite researchers across UNB's campuses with industry partners to address critical health, climate, and education challenges. His vision for RIDSAI includes promoting technology transfer and developing innovative solutions that drive economic growth and improve lives. Aaloak believes embracing digital

innovation and AI is essential for New Brunswick's competitiveness in a rapidly evolving world.

## Latest Season 3 UNBeknownst podcast episodes

### Episode 36

Tosin Ajibola (MTME'20) on blending social good with technology in Canada

### Episode 37

Victoria LaBillois (BA'91, MBA'04) on economic reconciliation in Canada

### Episode 38

Jen Woodland (MA'09, PhD'15) on integrated health research and the importance of knowledge translation

### Episode 39

Nicole LeBlanc (BBA'00) on sustainable communities, tech investment and women in venture capital

### Episode 40

Katie Davey (BA'17) on her own work in public policy, social innovation and social entrepreneurship in New Brunswick





□ Julie Dingwell (BA'90)



□ John Reid (PhD'76)

## Honorary Degree Recipients

Julie Dingwell (BA'90) was awarded an honorary doctorate of letters at the 42nd Fall Convocation ceremony on the Saint John campus.

She graduated with a bachelor of arts from the UNB Saint John campus in 1990 and completed the community-based research training program at Toronto's Wellesley Institute in 2006.

For the past 25 years, she has served as executive director of Avenue B (formerly AIDS Saint John) and is one of the province's leading advocates for harm reduction. Her work has taken her to Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) and beyond. She is chair of the Saint John Sex-Trade Action Committee, a member of the Atlantic Interdisciplinary Regional Network on Social and Behavioural Issues in Hepatitis C and HIV/AIDS, and a board member for the Centre for Research, Education and Clinical Care of At-Risk Populations.

Under her leadership, Avenue B has grown from an AIDS organization addressing stigma and safer practices to southwestern New Brunswick's main hub for harm reduction education, support and advocacy, while also addressing the community and its individuals' most pressing needs. Avenue B recently secured funding to open an overdose prevention site where staff will be able to intervene to prevent overdose and poisoning deaths.

She played a pivotal role in the funding, establishment and institutionalization of methadone therapy, giving community members with addiction issues the opportunity to stabilize their lives, and avoid homelessness, health risks and other issues associated with substance use. She helped establish various needle exchange projects, safe disposal policies, a parent-centred drug use prevention project; and in recent years, she has worked to ensure the widespread availability of naloxone training, both within New Brunswick.

As a result of her humanitarianism and social justice advocacy, Julie has received numerous awards, including the Saint John Common Council Commendation Award, Horizon Health's Community Health Recognition Award and the YMCA's Red Triangle Award in 2024.

John Reid (PhD'76) was awarded an honorary doctorate of letters at the 70th Convocation ceremony on the Fredericton campus.

He earned a bachelor of arts from the University of Oxford, St. Catherine's College. He crossed the Atlantic to attend Memorial University of Newfoundland, where he graduated with a master of arts. Atlantic Canada became home when John was awarded a PhD in history from the UNB Fredericton campus in 1976. This launched a career of exceptional significance to the study

and understanding of Canada's Maritime region.

The majority of his career as an academic educator and researcher was spent at Saint Mary's University (SMU) in Halifax, N.S., where he worked for some 34 years, first as an associate professor in the department of history and then as a professor until his retirement in 2019, upon which he received the designation of professor emeritus. At SMU, he was also attached to the interdisciplinary Atlantic Canada Studies program, and at Dalhousie University, he has been an honorary adjunct professor in the department of history.

Widely considered to be one of UNB's most eminent history graduates, he was an honorary research associate at UNB's School of Graduate Studies from 2011 to 2020, and for the past four years, he has served as an adjunct professor at UNB's department of history.

His research is generally regarded as having profoundly shaped our understanding of early imperial-Indigenous relations across the transborder northeast/Wabanaki territory. He has provided important insights into settler colonialism, Indigenous autonomy, settler-Indigenous interactions over time, Atlantic Canada Studies, sport history and much more. Among other prestigious awards and achievements, he was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013.

## Bringing high-performance engineering to life

From his UNB coaster derby car to creating the next generation of high-performance vehicles, Craig Wood (BScME'01) has designed a career in a field he loves. While a mechanical engineering student at UNB, he was part of a team that built and raced what would become a legendary coaster derby car that has careened down the steep hills of UNB's Fredericton campus for decades in the annual coaster derby. Craig teamed up with Chris Wilcox (BScME'01), Jason Wilcox (BScME'04) and Mike Harvey (BScME'01) in 1999 to build a car that "definitely added car flair to the event." "We built it with parts from all over Fredericton and raced it for three years. It did so well that we handed it down to Chris' brothers, Jason and then Kyle Wilcox (BScME'09). It won every year it was raced."

For Craig, it was only the beginning of a career working on cars and high-performance engines. He went on to the University of Windsor for his master's and, not long after graduating, began working with Roush Industries, an American automotive company. Most people have come to know the company for Roush Performance and the RFK Racing team, who campaign two NASCAR Cup Series cars. What many don't know is the much larger engineering services that lie beneath. "Within the engineering discipline,

there are many divisions, including body, chassis, powertrain, electrical, noise vibration and harshness, computer-aided design, computer-aided engineering and program management, to name a few. Although I work primarily on propulsion systems, I often find myself crossing into other engineering disciplines and divisions of the company. Roush encourages and trains employees to be multi-disciplined and acquire as much hands-on experience as possible."

Craig manages the advanced engineering group, the research and development wing of the company, where early-level technology concepts are proven and often end up as fully operational functional prototypes. He's worked on everything from performance road vehicles, race cars, autonomous vehicles, trains, and personal watercraft, all the way up to engines that go into space and attractions for places like Disney and Universal.

Craig has kept in touch with grads from the mechanical engineering program at UNB. He's involved as an industry professional judge with the Formula SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) competition, which challenges university undergraduate and graduate student teams to conceive, design, fabricate, develop and compete with a formula-style vehicle.

## Understanding current and future challenges for Canadian forests

Christy Arseneau (BScF'97), science director, forest health and biodiversity at the Atlantic Forestry Centre in Fredericton, supports a team developing the science and technology to assess and effectively respond to threats to Canada's forests. She and her team are addressing critical issues like hurricanes, pests, and the impacts of climate change. "New pests are killing trees, which become fuel for forest fires, and we're experiencing more frequent hurricanes, damaging huge sections of forests. We're focused on trying to understand the impacts of these events and the impacts of different decisions by governments over time, so we can make better predictions that lead to better decision making." The team also works with Indigenous communities on a seed collection program, helping with collection techniques and storing and preserving traditionally important species.

As the Canadian lead in developing a North American blueprint for wildland fire science collaboration, Christy focuses on fire science projects and initiatives. "Forest fires are a growing concern in Canada. I focus on increasing capacity and partnerships, working with both the provinces and federal departments, with industry, with academia, and with Indigenous communities."

## UNBers at 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games

UNB was well represented at the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games in August, as eight members of the community made their way to Paris to represent team Canada. Chris Belof, head coach of the UNB REDS cross-country and track and field teams, was an event coach for the marathon and race walking teams.

Catharine Pendrel (Class of '02) was the team coach for cycling. She is a former Olympic cyclist, having taken home bronze at the 2016 games in Rio.

Marcia Chiasson (BSc'03, MSc'07) refereed the wrestling events, and media attaché Nathan White (BBA'05) worked alongside Canada's swim team behind the scenes.

At the Paralympics, Desiree Isaac-Pictou (BBA'22) competed on the women's wheelchair basketball team,

and Alexandre Hayward (BScME'23) won bronze in the 3,000-metre individual pursuit in cycling. It was their Paralympic Games debut. Joining Desiree and Alexandre was Colby Hathaway (BScKin'05), who was the strength and conditioning coach for wheelchair basketball.

And David Myles, cultural fellow at UNB's J. Herbert Smith Centre for Technology Management and Entrepreneurship, performed at Canada's Olympic House. ■

# A CHAMPION *for* WORKPLACE SAFETY

*“Protecting your psychological safety is the first step in doing what it takes to protect your physical safety. Today, there is more space to talk about that.”*



□ Candace Carnahan (BA'02)



*“I work with companies and organizations to see what their challenges are, what’s working, and what’s not. Typically, these groups are already either doing the right thing or trying to do the right thing.”*

**In** a world where workplace injuries are often overlooked, Candace Carnahan (BA’02) has emerged as a powerful voice. Recognized in 2024 by *Atlantic Business Magazine* as one of the 25 most powerful women in business, Candace is a sought-after motivational speaker advocating for workplace health and safety around the world.

Candace faced tragedy in 1999, during her time as a UNB student, when a workplace incident caused her to lose a leg and confront the reality of workplace safety.

“My family and I learned a lot about the systems in place, particularly workers’ compensation. It was eye-opening to realize how common workplace injuries are.”

What began as a personal journey of healing transformed into a mission to educate others about safety rights. Soon after her university graduation, she was invited by WHSCC (now WorkSafeNB) to speak in high schools. Her message was simple. “Young people need to know their rights at work.” This initial engagement sparked her career as a safety speaker.

Over the years, Candace’s impact has grown exponentially. She became involved with Passport to Safety, a national educational initiative to

improve workplace safety culture across Canada. Previously recognized by *Maclean’s* magazine as one of the “Faces of the Future,” Candace started her own motivational speaking company and began working with various local and global companies, organizations, and government agencies.

Her work now spans the globe, with most of her speaking engagements taking place across the United States, Australia, and Europe. Recently, she presented the keynote for the Global Congress on Safety and Health at Work in Sydney, Australia, one of the largest health conferences in the world.

“I’ve always maintained that protecting your psychological safety is the first step in doing what it takes to protect your physical safety. Today, there is more space to talk about that. I work with companies and organizations to see what their challenges are, what’s working, and what’s not. Typically, these groups are already either doing the right thing or trying to do the right thing.”

Today, Candace lives in Nova Scotia and has launched a digital awareness program, Step Up Your Safety, which will be integrated into New Brunswick’s Grade 9 curriculum and has brought her full circle - educating youth and making safety education accessible.

“Twenty-five years ago, when I first began speaking, young people were really interested in my leg. Now, they’re more interested in psychological health and safety. I can see the difference made in the last 25 years through empowerment and education.”

At the heart of Candace’s mission is the belief that storytelling can catalyze change. Her newest project, a podcast titled *Sharing Stories Changing Lives*, amplifies the diverse voices and experiences of others who have faced injuries and workplace incidents.

When reflecting on her recent recognition by *Atlantic Business Magazine*, Candace says she is excited about creating a business that will become more accessible to anyone, not just organizations with the resources to implement change.

“It’s really meaningful to be recognized as a business owner in Atlantic Canada, and there are a lot of heavy hitters in that group. It’s rewarding to me to have a career that I know is truly my purpose for being here.”

As she prepares to roll out Step Up Your Safety and celebrates the launch of her podcast, Candace remains true to her belief that it’s all about empowering others to prioritize safety and inclusivity, not just for themselves but for their coworkers and families. ■

# A LEADER *in* NEW BRUNSWICK'S FORESTRY SECTOR



□ Kim Allen (BSc'07, MEM'09)

□ Submitted photo

**W**ith a background in environmental management and agriculture, Kim Allen's (BSc'07, MEM'09) journey into the forestry sector was certainly not linear - but her passion for forests and farming has driven her to become a leader in the field.

Prior to her current role as executive director of Forest NB, Kim served over 11 years in government and private sectors, and worked as a licensed seed crop inspector. Her deep understanding of resource management, gained in part

through years of environmental impact project management, has allowed her to approach the forestry sector with a unique perspective.

Kim now leads a non-profit organization that represents a critical industry in the province. Encompassing 14 producing mills that manufacture diverse products including pulp, paper, solid wood, pellets, composite panels, specialty products, and more, and 29 member companies across New Brunswick engaged in the forest sector value chain, Forest NB represents the forest products sector in dealings with government and the public.

Committed to advocacy, regulatory engagement, training and education,

Kim says her work has been equally busy and rewarding.

"I don't think the general population recognizes how well we do forestry here in the province, and that we're actually admired nationally and globally for our sustainable forest management practices. We're a small province, but for example, New Brunswick actually produces more lumber than Ontario does. Because they are carefully and sustainably managed, we have very productive forests."

Day to day, Kim is engaged in federal and provincial dialogues that impact the forest sector, like the biodiversity strategy, and on regulatory issues at national and global levels. She



collaborates closely with other provincial associations and the Forest Products Association of Canada. But one of the areas she finds most rewarding is helping to inform the public about forestry in New Brunswick and providing educational opportunities for students at all levels.

“Many people believe forestry is unsustainable, but when you explain that we only harvest a small percentage of forests, it changes the conversation. Companies utilizing forest resources are required through regulation to replant or regenerate forests at the same rate they are harvested. We only harvest slightly more than one per cent of managed forests in New Brunswick each year.”

Along with her dynamic team of two, Kim is working hard to shift this narrative, engaging the public in discussions about the vital role forestry plays in combating climate change.

“Sustainable forest management is one of the tools we can use to mitigate the risks of wildfires, for example. While we can’t manage all of Canada’s forests, we can manage those near communities, making a real difference in wildfire resilience efforts.”

Since joining Forest NB, Kim has also carried through the implementation of a new forestry curriculum in New Brunswick high schools. Initially planned as a small pilot, the curriculum was implemented in 12 high schools, reaching over 380 students in 2023-24, with plans to implement it more widely.

Developed in collaboration with industry stakeholders and the department of education, the curriculum provides students with an elective science credit focused on forestry, a subject that had not previously been included in most high school curricula. By educating the next generation about forestry, she hopes to foster a deeper appreciation for the sector and its continued contributions to our province.

*“While we can’t manage all of Canada’s forests, we can manage those near communities, making a real difference in resilience efforts. Sustainable forest management is one of the tools we can use to mitigate the risks of wildfires, and other environmental challenges.”*



There are many challenges facing the forestry industry in New Brunswick, particularly the need to balance conservation efforts with economic sustainability. The forest sector contributes to conservation through sustainable management, including protection of critical habitats, species at risk, wintering areas, and watercourses. Kim explains that the competitive nature of the global forest products markets means that New Brunswick must navigate complex regulatory landscapes and adhere to sustainable practices while other countries don’t necessarily face the same rigour.

She’s optimistic about the potential of forestry in the future, noting that the sector is embracing digitalization and new technologies to improve efficiencies in forest management and manufacturing, and adapting practices to meet the challenges of climate change. Through advocacy, education, and a commitment to sustainable practices, she is certainly helping to cultivate a deeper appreciation for the natural resources that shape the province’s future. ■





□ Athens, Greece



□ Petra, Jordan

# WHAT WE LEARNED WHILE TRAVELLING AND WORKING ABROAD

By Andrew Martel (BCS'15) and Kayla Ossachuk (BA'15)



□ Split, Croatia



□ Machu Picchu, Peru



□ Andrew Martel (BCS'15) and Kayla Ossachuk in Agra, India

**T**wo years ago, we started thinking about travelling around the world for a full year. To be fair, Kayla had been thinking about it for most of her life, but we only started brainstorming ideas back in 2022.

At the time, we thought we would save up for a year and continue to work while travelling. I'm a management consultant for a firm out of Toronto - a job that is almost fully virtual, and Kayla runs her social media and video editing company from any spot with decent Wi-Fi.

When we started to plan, we also began thinking of potential issues, risks, etc. (I love a good SWOT analysis). Looking back on that pre-planning, there is so

much that we never even thought about or knew - that has made this experience much more enjoyable and sometimes challenging at the same time.

If you're thinking about a big trip or even a small one, hopefully, you can learn from these lessons.

## THERE IS HELP EVERYWHERE

When we started this trip, we knew we would have friends and family visit us along the way, which was a great way to find companionship during the year. However, we didn't think we would need much help outside of maybe restaurant requests. We couldn't be more wrong.



□ Rome, Italy

Early on, during our second country, we hiked 12km to Machu Pichu. That was great until the last kilometre turned into a downpour. Do you know what you need to get into Machu Pichu? Your passport. This meant we all had our passports on us, and no matter how good a rain jacket or backpack is, it isn't meant to keep you dry if you're swimming in the rain.



I ended up getting minor water damage to my passport, and needed to replace it. Thankfully, the process of dealing with the Canadian embassies was easy and helpful, and has ensured continued success as we travel to new countries.

Beyond the available help and guidance of a national embassy, we've also had the pleasure of meeting up with UNB alumni along the way. All were able to provide localized guidance, help, and a warm welcome to their home. To those alumni, thank you - and if you're ever in Fredericton, look us up!

### LANGUAGE IS THE GATEWAY TO THE WORLD

When we were planning this trip, we started learning Spanish on Duolingo. While many people joke about (or disregard its capabilities), I've been very thankful for the ability to minimally communicate with locals in a third of our countries on this trip.

As we started moving outside of the Spanish world, we have now dealt with Italian, Greek, Croatian, and more recently, Arabic, and aside from Italian, none of them are as easy as we had hoped.

However, we've seen firsthand that the simple ability of learning hello, thank you, and please, and maybe how to say beer in the local language has helped us get so much further.

As New Brunswickers, we are blessed with bilingualism in a lot of our interactions, and seeing the benefits in our everyday lives is multiplied 100 times when you go somewhere internationally and no one expects you to take the time to learn. So, when you do, it opens many opportunities and experiences, from free shots after dinner to learning the mysteries of a hole-in-the-wall bar inside an old castle. The simple gesture goes a long way.

### ACCESS IS EVERYWHERE

In planning this trip, we were strategic in picking our countries and where to stay. The main concern has always been finding places that have good and accessible Wi-Fi. From scouring reviews to looking into global rankings, we did our homework.

That said, while we travel annually, we never realized the vast availability of Wi-Fi almost everywhere we've gone. From the Greek islands to the hills of Panama, we never had any problems taking Teams calls or answering emails.

Further, the rise of eSims and WhatsApp has made self-reliance and communication much more accessible when you're in another country.

In addition to communicating with work, it has allowed us to communicate with hotel/hostel hosts about recommendations, utilize live translation apps when communicating with shop vendors, and simply find directions on the back roads of Cyprus to return to our hostel.

So the takeaway is, don't restrict yourself - as many parts of the world are now connected and interconnected.

### BE OPEN TO THE UNKNOWN

A simple and final lesson learned (if you haven't gathered that already) is that not everything goes as planned. We've had to rebook hotels or hostels because they no longer exist. We've had to re-return to a historic site because they're closed on the last Wednesday of the month. Things happen, plans falter.

### OUR ADVICE IS TWO-FOLD

1

Don't wait until the last day to do the thing you really want to do. Do that day one, then if you love it, do it again. I learned that lesson the hard way when I discovered Thai iced tea a day before we had to return home. I now dream of that perfection.

2

There is a difference between trusting your gut on something that may be dangerous and testing the waters on something that could be exciting. We've fallen for our fair share of tourist scams (where we didn't listen to our gut), but we've also had the unique experience of seeing turtles nesting because we said 'yes' to an unplanned opportunity.

Overall, if we could give a final lesson, it is to please travel. To another city, another province, another country or another continent. There is so much beyond your own road that will help you understand not only the world better but also each other better. ■

*Images shown are from shutterstock.com*



# LIBERATING *Health Data* in NEW BRUNSWICK

**In** 2018, the Government of New Brunswick's department of health set a goal of improving access to digital health services to transform the way health care is delivered in the province. A key part of this commitment was giving patients and families access to their health information, allowing them to manage their health better. What they didn't anticipate was that a global pandemic would rapidly advance their efforts and push forward an evolution of their plans. A quickly-developed COVID-19 solution had become MyHealthNB, a health care 'digital front door' that provides citizens with up-to-date personal health information, such as lab results, medications, imaging reports and immunization records.

For Iuli Popescu (BCS'01, MCS'04), who led the process as director of MyHealthNB and Community e-Health, the platform has transformed how we think about citizen-centric service delivery. "Unlocking the data adds value for clinicians and citizens. It's one of the keys to equitable access to care for all, enabling them to play a more active role in their health journey."

Of course, Iuli wasn't working on this project alone. Many UNB computer science graduates, such as Heather MacIsaac (BCS'96) and Dan Fleet (BCS'95, MCS'97), played instrumental roles in the success of MyHealthNB.

The province awarded the Gateway-as-a-Service (GaaS) project to New Brunswick technology company VeroSource Solutions, led by Mark McAllister (BCS'01, WMI'11). GaaS



□ Stock image of MyHealthNB app

leverages VeroSource's VS Gateway solution to provide the foundational infrastructure for MyHealthNB.

Mark and his team have been at the forefront of the digital health revolution since 2014, providing health care solutions to jurisdictions nationwide. They were now asked to unlock data services for health care in New Brunswick. Mark remembers the excitement of being awarded the project. "We were tasked with creating a connected system that would ultimately provide better care and enable citizens to be in control of their health. It aligned well with our goal of

empowering clinicians and patients so that patient outcomes can improve."

## THE JOURNEY TO MYHEALTHNB

VeroSource provided the GaaS infrastructure and MyHealth solutions, but Iuli says the pandemic advanced the larger data project and vision by 10 years. "In technology, we often struggle with adoption – getting people to use it. Yet, within a year during the pandemic, half the province used MyHealthNB because the value was clear. This was a significant achievement. Patient empowerment is essential; it is key to transforming our health care system. By



giving patients access to their records, we enable them to take an active role in their health journey.”

Iuli says that they rode the momentum of that early success of sharing COVID-19 test results and immunization records with patients and have continued adding to the platform so that citizens have more access to their information. In 2023, a portal was added to allow patients to see their lab results, medications, immunization and diagnostic imaging reports. Even more recently, patient summary functionality was added to allow users to securely share their health records, at their discretion, with a new provider or when travelling across Canada or internationally. Iuli is now working on a project to modernize electronic medical records in physician offices. “This will further contribute to creating a connected system and ensuring patients and providers have access to the right information at the right time. The right infrastructure can help bring patients into the circle of care and be a big part of the solution.”

### UNB COMPUTER SCIENCE CONNECTION

Interestingly, Iuli and Mark studied computer science together at UNB. “There are so many computer science alumni from around our time at UNB who have been doing great work, including in health care,” Iuli says.

Iuli came to UNB from Romania in 1996, speaking no English, on an invitation from a family member who lived in Fredericton. “I was young and had no fear,” she laughs. “I chose the computer science program because of the co-op option, to help pay my way through school and learn something new. I liked that it was applied science and problem solving.” Her first co-op term was with a health informatics software company on Prince Edward Island. “That’s when I fell in love with health care and the impact I could make.”

She continued studying for a master’s degree in computer science at UNB

and was hired by CGI in Fredericton as a solutions architect in government services. “I was eventually given a contract with New Brunswick’s department of health, and I’ve been lingering there in various roles ever since. I moved directly into the department to make an even bigger impact from the inside.”

Mark grew up in Fredericton and followed advice from his uncle, computer science professor Andrew McAllister (MCS’83), to enrol in the co-op program. “I wasn’t a computer guy and didn’t know much about it going in, but I loved working in the real world through co-op placements.” When Mark graduated, he (like many of his classmates) was hired by Nortel and moved to Ottawa. However, when the company imploded, Mark moved home to take up consulting work, eventually being hired by CGI. “Iuli and I worked together on projects, and it was an interesting learning experience to see behind-the-curtains of health care systems. Even as we built solutions, I saw the gaps in on-the-ground health care. Money was being spent, yet nothing was improving on the front lines. I eventually quit to start a company that would try to make a real difference.”

### THE VEROSOURCE EVOLUTION

VeroSource Solutions was founded by a group of peer consultants, and Mark soon took the role of CEO. “Our first product was an app that would share information in real-time on emergency room wait times. Unfortunately, we couldn’t make money with it; no mission is without margins. So, we expanded to the professional services side of the business.” VeroSource won work with Health Canada, the Healthy Seniors Pilot Project in New Brunswick, and an app to help diabetic patients. “We became known for patient-focused health care, and that was just when the pandemic hit. The province hired us to help provide on-demand access to COVID-19 test results and vaccination records. The

evolution of that, to the bigger vision behind MyHealthNB, propelled us into the world we are in now.”

The world Mark is referring to is VeroSource being acquired by HEALWELL AI for \$24.5 million in 2024. The company has remained as part of the global health care technology company focused on AI and data science for preventative care and early disease detection. “VeroSource’s products will significantly benefit from HEALWELL’s powerful AI-powered disease detection and patient identification capabilities. This was a strategic move. By being part of a larger company that aligns with our mission, we can still maintain who we are and level up. We can make an even bigger impact here in New Brunswick and beyond.”

Mark and Iuli confirm that health care is a challenging field with complex problems that are not easily solved. However, they also agree that digital progress can empower patients and take the burden off clinicians, improving patient outcomes and prompt preventative care. “It’s an important step in solving our systemic health care challenges.”

For her part, Iuli feels good about the progress made so far. “The digital health system is a complex web of technology, patient care, clinicians, and regulations, where people’s lives are at stake, adding to the complexity. I’m proud of my role in navigating these challenges and improving the system in even a small way, though there’s always more room to grow. Every small contribution feels meaningful, knowing it can make a real difference in someone’s life.”

Mark agrees. “It feels like we’re making a difference. People here work in health care technology because it does make an impact. There is still a lot to do, but being part of the improvement feels great.” ■



□ On May 8, Connie Smith (far left, BN'83) visited *Institute Himbi*, a high school in Goma, to distribute menstrual kits and talk to students about menstrual health.

## SEWING *the* SOLUTION

### Connie Smith is fighting to end period poverty in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Connie (BN'83) can still vividly recall the moment she discovered that all eight of her Congolese stepdaughters were using old rags as menstrual products. It was her first encounter with period poverty.

It wouldn't be her last.

Having relocated from Canada to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) following her marriage to her Congolese husband, Connie quickly learned that the lack of access to sanitary menstrual products was an issue that extended far past her family.

“Many girls here just can't go to school during their periods, but that's a quarter of their school year. How

are these girls going to pass if they've missed all that school?”

Connie refused to sweep the issue under the rug and was determined to fight for accessibility to period products. Driven by determination, she and her stepdaughters founded *Espoir Goma*, an enterprise under *Days for Girls International (DfG)*. *DfG* is a non-profit organization advancing menstrual equity, health, dignity, and opportunity through teams and enterprises worldwide.

The organization supports women experiencing period poverty through a framework built on four pillars: menstrual kit making and distribution,

health education, policy and advocacy, and enterprises - like *Espoir Goma*.

Using this well-established model, *Espoir Goma* supplies young girls with hand-sewn, reusable menstrual product kits that last up to five years, enabling them to menstruate with dignity and giving them back their 'days.'

The enterprise's name, chosen by one of Connie's stepdaughters, reflects the underlying foundation of the initiative they've created. *Espoir*, in French, means hope.

The heart of *Espoir Goma* lies in the dining room of the family's North Kivu home, where an assortment of sewing machines sit on the dining table.

Connie and her stepdaughters gather here to sew the kits, piece by piece.

It's not just her family that participates in the work, though.

“We've got about 12 people sewing for us now. They just sew in their home, and they do different parts of the kit, and then when they bring them back to us, we pay them by piecework.”

Connie says that bringing in several sewers has helped them reach more girls and women with their kits, consisting of eight liners, two shields, and a leak-resistant bag.

Since its establishment in 2020, Espoir Goma has produced and distributed more than 1,500 kits to girls and women. The team also prioritizes young girls in their community by visiting local schools to hand out kits and educate them about menstrual health.

“On Menstrual Hygiene Day, May 28, we distributed 30 kits to the local high school here, where some of our grandkids go. It's not enough to just have the right supplies for your period, but you've got to know what's happening with your body too.”

Connie says that the DRC's need for menstrual products stems from the many internally displaced people within the country. Its record-high displacement rate is caused by escalating violence against civilians, with over five million displaced individuals.

Despite the long-lasting humanitarian crises in many African countries, Connie's heart was drawn to Africa long before she called it home. She says she fell in love with the continent over the summer of 1979, a few months before attending UNB.

“I went to Zambia for the summer because I had been interested in overseas missions for quite a while. I came back after those four months, and, my poor roommates, all they would hear about was Africa. I really did fall

in love with this place, and when I had returned, I went into nursing at UNB because I thought – yeah, that's where I want to be, overseas.”

After graduating from UNB's nursing program in 1983, Connie wasted no time returning to Africa, where she completed several missions before settling in the DRC and sparking her passion for menstrual equity.

While she didn't start tackling the issue until after she'd left New Brunswick, many volunteers within the province are also combatting the menstrual injustices happening around the world.

Among them is Liz Richard, an influential period poverty advocate and a close contact of Connie's.

Liz leads the New Brunswick Days for Girls Team, a provincewide group of 30 who meet twice a month to sew DfG menstrual kits identical to those at Espoir Goma. These kits are then distributed within the province or shipped overseas to girls and women in need of period products.

Last spring, Liz's team partnered with UNB's Menstrual Health Society to

distribute their reusable menstrual kits to students at the Harriet Irving Library on the Fredericton campus.

She says that the kits were well received among the students and that their partnership with the Menstrual Health Society, as well as the connection that they have formed with Connie, has been a growing step for their team.

As Connie continues to tackle period poverty overseas, she finds purpose in the impact that Espoir Goma has already made. Inspired by her stepdaughters and supported by volunteers like Liz, they push forward together in the global fight towards menstrual equity.

Connie's next hope is to enlist the help of fellow Canadian women to support their Congolese sisters who are faced with period poverty.

“We can get these products into the hands of the people who need them, and we can help them understand what's happening with their bodies.” ■

*Since its establishment in 2020, Espoir Goma has produced and distributed more than 1,500 kits to girls and women.*



## Investing in the future

TOM LISTON  
(BBA'96)

## Turning failures into Emmys

CAYMAN GRANT  
(BBA'01)



100,000 alumni. Out there, in the world, making a difference. It's an incredible milestone.

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**Helping newcomers  
find their stride**

TOSIN AJIBOLA  
(MTME'20)



**Inspiring the  
upcycling movement**

MARIA HERNANDEZ  
(BSENR'21)



**Sweating it out  
for better health**

LAURA CLENNING  
(BScKin'12)



**REASONS TO BE PROUD**

# OFFERING LUXURY AS AN ESCAPE

JOHN GERHARDT  
(BA'85)

100,000 REASONS  
TO BE  
PROUD



The world's most prestigious fashion houses, top winemakers and leading luxury retailers might be surprised to learn that John Gerhardt (BA'85), the retailing visionary and international powerhouse in luxury branding and creative direction, grew up in smalltown Fredericton, N.B. But the award-winning innovator says that his formative years, including those spent studying for a degree in English literature from the UNB, were key to helping him flourish.

When John takes our call from his Paris apartment, the city where he's based as director, global creative for Moët Hennessy (the wines and spirits division of Moët Hennessy - Louis Vuitton, known as LVMH), he speaks easily about his fascinating and very successful career in luxury branding, retail and design - and about his humble roots.

The self-described "kid from New Brunswick who used to run to the corner store to buy GQ magazine and dream of another world" made his way to Toronto to seek out the avant-garde design label, Parachute, which outfitted the biggest pop stars of the '80s. He landed the job, starting as a salesperson in the retail store in Yorkville, Ont., and quickly moving into management. He then began styling for photography, putting together magazine images, first in Toronto and then in New York City. Fairchild Publications asked him to write and style for a men's fashion periodical.

He soon became *Flare* magazine's fashion director, styling, writing and creating stories for the iconic Canadian glossy. Then, in 2004, he was found by Holt Renfrew (Selfridges Group), who tapped him for the creative director job.

"Holt Renfrew was the pinnacle in Canada at the time, and the offer was hugely flattering. But it was different from publishing: now I had to turn art into commerce. From the beginning of my career, it was about creating beauty. But in retail, you have to transform beauty into buying. I spent seven years overseeing Holt Renfrew's branding,

advertising, in-store display and communications. We were tasked with taking the brand to a new consumer, making it more relevant for everyone. We did very well. We grew from a \$400 million a \$700 million business in that time, much of it attributed to branding and the new image." (The hugely successful rebrand earned John a spot in *Time* magazine's "The Design 100—The People and Ideas Behind Today's Most Influential Design" issue.)

It was then that LVMH came calling. John became senior vice-president of branding and creative for DFS Group (one of LVMH's Maisons) from 2012 to 2019 in Hong Kong and New York, where he led the rebranding of the multi-billion-dollar luxury retailer, monetizing marketing campaigns for brands such as Estée Lauder, Tiffany, Dior, Burberry and Hermès. "Our strategy was to stop talking about being a duty-free brand and become a luxury travel brand. Travel was trending, and we began seeing people veer away from acquisitions and spend on experiences instead. We saw a great opportunity to be part of their experience. We became a global presence in retail, growing from \$4 billion to \$5 billion during my tenure."

When the CEO of DFS Group moved to Moët Hennessy (a conglomerate of 27 wines and spirits Maisons), he tapped John to come with him. John has been director of global creative for five years, joking that he's "moved from handbags to booze." "Now, I'm selling something ephemeral, sometimes experiential, that consumers equate with a special occasion. Some of the champagne houses have a lineage of over 200 years. My job is to find, or re-find, the soul of these brands and move from selling exclusivity to inclusivity, from aspiration to inspiration."

John says that the retail world is changing, making his job challenging. "With our delicate environment, economies in volatility, governments in transition, we have to find a way into people's lives that bears relevance. What we offer is a bit of an escape. That's what luxury can do in a volatile world."

He admits that keeping up with the pace of change in marketing and branding is arduous. "People's values and priorities are changing. It's not just about selling the value of the product any longer; it's about selling the values of the brand. Consumers want to buy products that are made sustainably. They're shopping through their values, not just their desires. And this trend is continuing to grow. The Earth is compromised right now, and what we need is beyond sustainability - it's regeneration. We now look for energy efficiencies in manufacturing, use Earth-friendly packaging and produce campaigns that have zero footprint on the planet. The consumer will hold us accountable. As they should."

John becomes pensive when asked what he's most proud of in his career to date. "You know, I was just talking with my dad about this a few years back, grappling with whether I'm making a difference in the world or not. We concluded that I'm giving people a distraction in life - an escape. I'm selling the ability to bring people together, celebrate, be convivial, and feel special. That makes me happy, and I think it makes a difference."

"I think maybe what I'm most proud of is that I was able to keep the dreams of that kid from New Brunswick with the GQ magazines alive. This career sounds romantic - exploring the world, working on exciting projects with famous brands and influential people. The word - and concept of - luxury always gets a reaction from people. They mistakenly think my lifestyle, with my partner Boris, must model what I produce and conceive. There's actually a lot of hard work and sacrifice to being in such a specialized discipline. It required moving out of my comfort zone, outside of what was familiar. I had to break down the stereotype of being from the Maritimes and then being from Canada. I moved and have travelled to a lot of places around the world, learning from each one of them. Now, I'm happy to live every day in that space 'outside the comfort zone,' and it's led to a sustainable career I love. I've been very fortunate." ■

# IMPROVING HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

ALI MCGILL  
(BN'02)



**100,000** REASONS  
TO BE  
PROUD

**A**li McGill (BN'02) has returned to UNB as a researcher and assistant professor in the faculty of nursing, and she's thrilled to work in a progressive, community-centred environment. Ali is working at the Fredericton Downtown Community Health Centre to study how immigrants access health care in our region and design a system that works.

She uses a systems thinking research methodology to examine, model, and analyze complex health care processes and systems. From this, an enhanced understanding of process/system functionality is gained. She says that practice and policy recommendations that better match the realities of everyday health care delivery can then be developed.

"It's important to do system mapping and modelling based on daily work on the front lines. I collect data, interview health care workers and patients, and map the system to identify challenges and gaps. We often look for problems in health care, but this methodology also looks for successes so that we can enhance them. After this system mapping is complete, recommendations can be made - but only after re-consulting with participants in the study to understand if they are accurate and achievable. This kind of research is co-designed with health care staff. It's directly based on frontline workers and patients to enhance successes and dampen challenges. We want to design a system that works."

Ali has the clinical and research knowledge to ensure her work is successful. After studying for a nursing degree at UNB, she worked as a registered nurse and nurse practitioner in emergency and urgent care for 21 years in her hometown of Saint John, N.B.

"I loved the work and seeing lots of patients. But over time, I became aware of how complex the health

care system is for patients. I wanted to do something to create meaningful change and improve how patients can access and experience care. Rose McCloskey (BN'93, MN'00, PhD'09) at UNB Saint John encouraged me to apply for a PhD - she had been conducting an interesting study with engineers at Memorial University in Newfoundland that examined health care from an engineering-systems lens. This was fascinating, so I transferred to interdisciplinary studies at Memorial to combine systems engineering and health. I immediately knew it had the potential to make a practical impact to improve efficiencies and reduce frustrations in everyday processes."

Ali says that one of the biggest obstacles in the health care system is that everyone works in their professional silos. "When we want to fix a problem, we're always looking for the simplest solution in our own area, but with complex systems, you need to confront the full complexity of it. There are no simple solutions. We need to look at the system as a whole and understand how it functions on an everyday basis to better inform decision making. This is done by involving the people who do the work, as well as those who experience the work."

Although this kind of research may be novel in health care, Ali comes from a lineage of dedicated health care professionals. Her mother, Barbara McGill (BN'74), dedicated her career to health care and served as chief nursing officer for the Saint John health region before retirement. Her grandmother was also a nurse. Ali says they encouraged her to take nursing as a way to observe all health professions and decide where she could make the biggest impact. "It was good advice. I loved nursing from the first course I took. I came to UNB to play for the basketball team, and it was challenging to excel as a student-athlete, but I knew this was the right path for me."

"Now, to come full circle back to UNB has been wonderful. It's a supportive and welcoming faculty, and the Downtown Community Health Centre is a living lab to conduct my research. I feel grateful to be able to help make a difference for people - especially vulnerable people - who deserve a good health care experience. And I'm looking forward to introducing systems thinking into teaching. The Integrated Health Initiative at UNB will provide opportunities to attract more graduate students to this kind of research. It's exciting to be here right now." ■

*"There are no simple solutions. We need to look at the system as a whole and understand how it functions on an everyday basis to better inform decision making. This is done by involving the people who do the work, as well as those who experience the work."*



# INSPIRING THE UPCYCLING MOVEMENT

MARIA HERNANDEZ

(BScENR'21)



**100,000** REASONS  
TO BE  
PROUD



□ Maria Hernandez (BScENR'21)

**M**aria Hernandez (BScENR'21), inspires others to make sustainable clothing choices and reduce their impact. The face behind the upcycled clothing line Palo Verde Designs, Maria has combined her love of fashion with her deep commitment to making the planet more sustainable.

Palo Verde grew out of a longtime love of sewing and started as a side hobby during her second year at UNB, while completing courses online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Maria, an international student from Honduras, started making bucket hats out of clothing she was no longer using and selling them to her friends and family.

At the time, Maria collected used clothing and materials from her friends' closets and set out to improve her sewing skills. Her clothing continues to serve as a fun pastime, but inspiring a sustainable lifestyle has always been the driver behind her art.

“When I came to Canada to study at UNB, I went into environmental management. I've always been very into what's happening with the planet and

the state of climate change. I had climate anxiety at one point, and I thought, what can I do? I knew I couldn't live without sewing, so I asked myself - how can I help through my art?”

The answer was committing to upcycled fashion - creating new designs using old clothing and consciously buying natural fabrics over polyester or other synthetic materials.

Still operating as a small side business, Maria says she spends her spare time on the weekends sewing and planning clothing drops on the brand's social media pages, where she is actively working on growing her presence. Last summer, she also participated in local markets in New Brunswick, selling and showcasing her unique pieces. She said she enjoys learning how to sew different articles of clothing, including skirts, tops, and hats.

Someday, Maria dreams of opening her own boutique where she can sell her designs and allow local artists to display their pieces. However, she says one of her most important goals is educating

others about what they can do to make more sustainable clothing purchases.

“The bachelor of science in environmental management program at UNB was an awakening and an enlightenment for me of what we can do to reduce our impact on the planet. It really helped me to develop Palo Verde and to know what we're lacking in the fashion industry. I want to educate others and share information in a relatable way about what we can do to better the fashion industry and what we can do to make better buying choices.”

When she's not sewing up designs for Palo Verde, Maria works fulltime as the nature-based project coordinator for Community Forest International, an organization focused on conservation, restoration, research development and education. In her personal life, she also makes conscious decisions to wear second-hand clothing, purchase locally-made products and formulas, recycle, and reduce her carbon imprint.

Maria says quite simply, “sustainability is part of who I am.” ■

# ENGINEERING VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

TYLER PATLES  
(BScE'09)

100,000 REASONS  
TO BE  
PROUD



**T**yler Patles (BScE'09) is a Mi'kmaq professional engineer and member of the Natoaganeg First Nation who feels strongly about giving back to his community. As director of technical services for the North Shore Mi'kmaq Tribal Council (NSMTC), he oversees housing, infrastructure, and emergency management programs for the Tribal Council, which provides services to seven out of the 15 First Nation communities in New Brunswick. He's also actively served Natoaganeg First Nation as an elected official on the Council since 2016.

Tyler is a devoted advocate for First Nation housing, safe and clean drinking water, and community-led economic development. "I grew up here, and working to solve problems and improve our community is a great way to give back. Being right here in the community; I see the results of my work. It's very rewarding."

Tyler has been in his position since 2013, after gaining experience in the engineering consulting field as a transportation and municipal engineer in Alberta, Newfoundland, and Labrador before returning home to New Brunswick.

"I was always strong in math and science so I went to UNB for civil engineering. I treated school as a job. I really wanted to learn as much as I could. I studied abroad for one term in Australia and had a great experience. Then, I went to Alberta to work in transportation consulting. I travelled the province and received wonderful mentorship within our small office. It was a great foundation for me to see the broader side of business and engineering."

Tyler then went north to Labrador to work in remote Inuit communities. "It was an eye-opener for me to see the struggles of doing construction in northern Canada. But there was also such a strong sense of community and culture there. I brought all of these experiences back with me."



□ Submitted photo

*"We have to think about how projects will impact natural life, the environment, communities and people."*

When he first joined NSMTC, his department had just seven people focused on housing, water, and wastewater. The team is now 24 strong, with Tyler leading them in helping communities build infrastructure, housing, public facilities, clean water, safe sanitation, and emergency management programs. He was a part of the team responsible for amongst the first two net-zero public buildings in New Brunswick. He oversaw the 2019 project that allowed for the lifting of the last long-term First Nation boiler-water advisory in New Brunswick. And he's about to see the opening of another project he's managed: the first Indigenous women's shelter on-reserve in New Brunswick.

"It's exciting to build a great building, but it's also satisfying to create a facility for those who really need it. There's a social aspect that's so important behind the projects I manage. They affect so many people."

That kind of broader purpose and perspective is something that Tyler is helping bring to the engineering faculty at UNB. "We're taught the hard skills of engineering, but it's important that students see the broader picture behind what they design and build. We have to think about how projects will impact natural life, the environment, communities and people. They have to be part of the whole."

Tyler also promotes STEM in elementary schools and sits on an Indigenous advisory committee with Engineers Canada. "It's important to mentor young people and encourage more Indigenous youth to embrace STEM careers. It's essential for resilient communities."

"The work I do is really about the future as much as about giving back. It's a passion and I love it." ■



□ Jayda Veinot



□ Jennifer Veinot (BSc'92)

## A LEGACY *of* BASKETBALL

Jayda Veinot first stepped onto the UNB basketball court in 2022 wearing the number 9 – continuing a family tradition that began with her mother, Jennifer.

“When I was little, I chose number nine and I’ve worn it ever since. I came to UNB and got to wear it here. That was very special. The first time I put it on, I thought ‘This can’t be real.’ I adore my mother for a million reasons, but basketball has been a big part of our dynamic.”

Jayda, a master of applied health services research student, has spent the past two years making her own mark on the court. “We had two great seasons with an amazing group of girls and fantastic coaches.”

In her final year, the team reached the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) final, a significant milestone for UNB after several years. “It was a big accomplishment. We hadn’t made it to the finals in a while, so it was exciting for our team.”

Jayda’s final season was marked by a special seniors’ night celebration. “There were seven of us celebrating that night. We had a big, exciting overtime win.”

During her time at UNB, Jayda’s mother, Jennifer Veinot (BSc’92) played for a powerhouse basketball program that won three Atlantic Universities Athletics Association (AUAA, now AUS) championships during her four years there.

“Once I narrowed down my university options to schools that provided science degrees, my decision became a basketball decision. The appeal of UNB was that it was a very new experience. It felt like a fresh start and a new challenge.”

During Jennifer’s career at UNB, whichever team won the league championship would host the AUAA championships and only four teams would attend.

“One year, we went on a losing streak and got to the point where we might

not even have made it to playoffs if we didn’t start winning again. But we turned it around, won all our remaining games, and ended up hosting and winning the championships.”

In her last two years at UNB, Jennifer’s sister Bonnie came to UNB to take her bachelor of education degree and joined Jennifer on the team, adding another layer to their family’s basketball legacy.

The love of basketball runs deep in the Veinot family – from her mom, her aunt, and her sister – with each woman connected through the sport. Jayda proudly mentions a symbol of this connection.

“All of the women in my family have this tree of life necklace. We all have it and wear it every day.”

Jayda’s parents met while coaching basketball camps together for Basketball Nova Scotia. They later started a basketball program in Port Williams, N.S.





□ Jayda and Jennifer Veinot

“My mom has coached me since I was three. Our whole lives we have been spending time with each other through the sport. She taught me everything I knew about basketball.”

Jennifer and Jayda have a great relationship both on and off the court. The mother and daughter grew closer through practices, games, and years of basketball together, although they tried to keep the two sides of their relationship separated.

“We got to spend a lot of time together, and while other parents had to go home, I got to experience her practices and games – really be there with her,” says Jennifer.

Jennifer is a mentor for Jayda, both personally and in the basketball environment.

“She bounces lots of things off me when she wants my opinion or a reflection on something. Jayda has always been an independent person, so she figures a lot of things out on her own, but she definitely knows I am here if she needs me.”

The two share many similarities as basketball players, especially their roles as guards. “We are both very competitive, we put in a lot of individual time developing our games and do whatever we can to make our teams successful,” says Jennifer.

Both Jayda and Jennifer love that they can share the memories of playing for UNB and wearing the number 9 jersey.

“When I came to UNB knowing that’s where my mom went to school,” says Jayda. “It was a really special way to

finish my career, in the campus and jersey that she played in when she was here. I knew that whatever happened, we would share this experience moving forward.”

As Jayda’s time at UNB comes to a close, she’s excited to continue her family’s legacy. She has joined the UNB coaching staff and coaches a youth team of under-14 girls. She’s also set to graduate with her master’s degree and hopes to stay in the area to work as a dietitian.

“We’ll see what happens from there. Maybe one day I will end up coaching basketball with my mom if we end up in the same area. I would love to do that.” ■





# WHY FORECAST MODELLING IN FOREST MANAGEMENT IS *Critical for our Future*

**I**t's early Monday morning in Victoria, B.C., when Xin Yuan (MScF'12), manager of forest carbon and climate services for B.C. Public Service, gets serious.

"It's getting real now. Climate change is affecting people's lives, whether from wildfire evacuations, dangerous air quality from smoke, drought, floods,

increasing temperatures, or forest insects affecting our forests. It's not just something we have to think about for future generations; it's something we need to tackle now."

Xin is managing a team of researchers at the Future Forest Ecosystem Centre, a new centre created to forecast ecological disruptions and

improve our response to climate change. “We’re at the foundational stage of this important work. By building climate data at the local level and increasing the resolution of data to understand how changes are impacting us on the ground and how much change has happened, we will be able to provide better guidance for B.C.’s ecosystem managers. Climate data is an essential precursor to accounting for climate risks in ecosystem management.”

She says that modelling and forecasting are essential for decision making as we adapt to climate change and work to slow it down. “For example, we are now seeing some species unable to survive after being planted under the changing climate like drought. The goal of the centre is to provide scientific guidance and tools like modelling to help local areas understand what species would work best to survive conditions in their area and future climate change.”

Xin also says that carbon modelling is a complex field of study. “It requires multiple sectors to collaborate and work towards the same goal. Our work at the ministry focuses on developing consistent carbon calculation standards in forestry, and we also have a lot of work to do to calculate GHG emissions associated with different forestry activities. It’s complicated because ministry staff must translate the emerging carbon research from academia into something that fits the operational needs. But it’s an exciting challenge.”

“Addressing climate change is the most important thing in forest management now. The right legislation and policies must be put in place, and we all must do our part. Climate data and modelling will provide a foundation and tools for addressing ecosystem challenges. It’s where we must start from.”

Xin knows what she’s talking about. She’s got the academic, research and field experience to understand the challenges and begin to address them.

She came to Canada to study in the master of science in forestry program at UNB after graduating with an undergraduate forestry degree in China. She had a passion for trees and ecology and was looking for the right graduate program to continue her studies. She found it at UNB, which has one of the country’s oldest and leading graduate programs in forestry science and environmental management.



□ Xin Yuan (MScF '12)

“I loved UNB, although it was a culture shock and a challenging program, especially with the language barrier. I specialized in ecophysiology - the interaction between forest ecology and tree physiology. I did a research project with Dr. Savidge in the Yukon all summer studying white spruce trees, and we focused on how micro-site climate changes along the timberline impacted the species. It was a wonderful adventure - I received so much support from UNB and the people there. I was so fortunate.”

After graduating, Xin moved around Canada to try to find work where she could influence public policy in forest management. That proved challenging, but she was determined to stick to her passion and found fieldwork in the industry. “When I worked for an ecology lab, I was up every day at 3 a.m. to be onsite before the birds woke up so my team could conduct our bird survey. I wanted to stay focused on gaining experience in the industry I’m passionate about.”

That experience landed her a job with the B.C. ministry of forests in the northern community of Dawson Creek as a stewardship forester. “We did a lot of field work to examine ground forestry practices and worked with industry on permitting, regulations, and protecting wildlife and waterways. We also worked with industries on land development and management.”

Xin’s next move was to Victoria with her husband, where they settled and raised a family. She continued with the B.C. ministry of forests, lands, natural resource operations and rural development, and over three years, she and her team brought forward Bill 23 - Forest Statutes Amendment Act to include more sustainable forest management that prioritizes forest health and moves forward on commitments to reconciliation. “I’m so proud that I was a part of that. Being on the ground in the district helped me understand and provide context for legislative changes.”

Now, in her forest carbon and climate services role, Xin says that all her experiences add up to give her the skillset and understanding she needs to do her job well and make a difference. “My time at UNB was integral to getting me to where I am now. I participated in the Graduate Student Association on campus, which required me to participate in group discussions and debates. I also had a required graduate seminar course where we had to make a presentation - I failed it twice! It forced me to learn to communicate better and negotiate and present - and those are all skills I use daily now. It’s very important to know how to do the work on the ground and how to do research, but also to communicate your findings and persuade people to make the right decisions. I learned that at UNB.”

Xin is smiling now. “My work makes me happy. It’s an overwhelming global challenge, but you have to begin somewhere, and it’s rewarding to do my part. It fulfils my heart.” ■





# Gatherings & MEET UPS

- 1 Alumni at Work at OSCO Construction Group
- 2 Former Aitken House residents, Dave Bryanton (BBA'77), Geoff Foster (BA/BBA'76), Peter Davidson (BBA'77), and Bill Small (BScME'77), got together this past August for a game of golf at the Stanhope Golf Course in PEI on Aug. 23
- 3 Ottawa Chapter afternoon with the Redblacks
- 4 Annual SW Ontario Maritime mingler and dinner
- 5 Halifax Engineering alumni meet up with the dean
- 6 Windsor alumni mix and mingle BBQ
- 7 Alumni at Work at Strescon
- 8 Montreal chapter alumni meet and greet at McKibbons Irish Pub
- 9 Jennifer (Mehan) Gowan (BScEng'99), Jennifer (Price) Luong, (BScEng'99), Roxanne Grant (BA'98, BEd'01), and C. Heather Reid (BBA'99) celebrated 30 years of friendship at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City
- 10 80s Aitken House reunion
- 11 Faculty of Law Class of 2004 reunion weekend in Fredericton
- 12 Annual Toronto alumni gathering at Rodney's Oyster House





*If you have organized a gathering or meet up with fellow alumni, take a picture and send it to us at [ALUMNI@UNB.CA](mailto:ALUMNI@UNB.CA).*





# SAINT JOHN ALUMNI WEEKEND 2024

Alumni Weekend on the Saint John campus was a time of connection, nostalgia, and making new memories among classmates. More than 125 alumni took part in various events, like the Red+Black Day social, campus tours, the alumni pin ceremony for the 25th and 50th classes, and the alumni campus party.

Visit [unb.ca/alumniweekend](https://unb.ca/alumniweekend)



Save the date  
for Alumni Weekend 2025  
on the Saint John campus

SEPT. 19–20







# 50 years of reunions, TREES AND MEMORIES FOR THE CLASS OF '74 CIVIL ENGINEERS



□ Class of '74 civil engineers

**T**he UNB Class of '74 civil engineers graduated as a class of “52 brothers.” Now, 50 years, seven trees and many successful careers later, the group continues to reunite every five years to share stories, memories and support for one another.

This summer marked the 50th anniversary for the class, and as they have done every fifth summer since graduating, the group reunited for a weekend, in August in Fredericton, of food and golf, and a tree planting on the UNB campus in memory of a classmate who is no longer with them.

“We plant a tree every five years to commemorate classmates lost since the last reunion, and we invite their families to participate,” says Doug Johnson (BScCE'74), organizing committee member. “Each tree on the UNB campus across from the old engineering building carries a plaque naming those who were lost. It's a special anchor event to our weekend and carries great meaning for us. Unfortunately, we've lost 12 of our 52 classmates, and it's difficult for us because we have remained quite close since graduating - we've really become even closer over the years. It's important for us to pay tribute to them.”

Doug and his fellow organizing committee members, including Ashley Cummings (BScCE'74), George Duguay (BScCE'74), Paul Morrison (BScCE'74) and Glen Wilson (BScCE'74) “have the formula for the weekend down pat” and split the work. This year was even

more special as the group received their 50-year alumni pins from the UNB Associated Alumni. “We loved this - it was actually quite emotional.”

Doug recalls that he and his classmates had a “homeroom” for the final three years of the five-year program when they attended UNB, where professors came to them for classes, and where they'd gather to work on assignments and projects, eat meals and to play table hockey and crib tournaments. The group formed an intramural hockey team, and they maintained the long traditions of those before them, including the Engineering Smoker and Engineering Week. They arranged the first joint engineering-nursing pubs, packing the SUB three or four times a year and bringing in high-profile bands. “We had a lot of fun during our time at UNB.”

After graduating, the group went on to build their own careers, many staying in New Brunswick, but quite a few moving all around the world as well. For Doug, the next step would be to continue his studies in the UNB master's transportation engineering program. “Dr. Frank Wilson approached me to think about going to grad school and told me he had money to help me attend. So, I accepted and started studying in the attic of the old engineering building, where the program was located at the time,” he remembers. “I was taken with the secretary for the program, Anne, and I asked her out. That was 50 years ago

as well, and we've been together ever since, having married in 1977!”

Doug went on to work in New Brunswick's department of transportation. “At the time, the government was changing the department of highways into the department of transportation and I got a job using all the grad school training I just finished at UNB. I spent 35 years in NBDOT and was involved with others in lots of projects in New Brunswick, the Atlantic Region and nationally. I loved my work. One of the highlights was managing the Fredericton-Moncton highway project that opened in 2001. We worked for six years day and night with over 2000 New Brunswick workers. There were many UNBers on that project and other projects over the years. We've been able to make a big impact in the province, contributing to its economic and social growth. I loved what I did and loved working with them all.”

Now 50 years later, the Class of '74 civil engineers have created a class scholarship that helps more UNB engineers graduate and make an impact. “We are giving out our sixth scholarship this Fall and have now built the endowment to over \$50,000, so that we can award two \$1,000 scholarships every year in perpetuity. Some individuals in our group have also created their own named scholarships as well. It just makes us feel so good to pay it forward. UNB was good to us, and we want to share that experience with others.” ■

JOIN US IN  
**Fredericton**  
 FOR **Alumni**  
**Reunion**  
**Weekend** 2025

**JUNE 12 TO 15**

Come back to the Fredericton campus June 12 to 15, 2025, to reconnect and reminisce with former classmates. The weekend will be filled with events and celebrations that will bring you back to 'the good old days' at UNB, including our All Classes Meet and Greet, faculty open houses, Golden Grad Breakfast, 25-year and 50-year alumni pin ceremony, Senior Classes Dinner, UNB at Picaroons, Maritime Lobster Boil, class gatherings and more!

**For assistance with organizing events for your class, team, faculty, residence or club during Alumni Reunion Weekend in Fredericton, please contact:**

Shonda Irving at [reunions@unb.ca](mailto:reunions@unb.ca).

For schedule details, information about hotel room blocks, and to register, visit us at [unb.ca/reunionweekend](http://unb.ca/reunionweekend).



# VOLUNTEERS *in* ACTION



□ Ottawa Alumni Chapter

**W**ith a shared love for their *alma mater*, the dedicated volunteers of the Ottawa Alumni Chapter Network are committed to fostering connections and creating fun experiences for fellow alumni living ‘afar.’ At the heart of this group is committee chair Craig Haynes (BA’94), along with members Werner Disselkamp (BBA’92) and Janice Wopling (MBA’13).

Craig’s journey as a volunteer for UNB began around 2017 when he attended a UNB recruitment event in Ottawa and expressed his desire to give back. As a former students’ representative council (SRC) president on the Saint John campus, Craig already had a deep-rooted connection to UNB. He was eager to keep the UNB spirit going in Ottawa.

So, he got to work!

Since then, Craig, Werner and Janice, along with several other committee volunteers, have been instrumental in organizing several annual alumni events in the city. As chair, Craig gathers the committee together twice a year to review previous events, plan their upcoming schedule and determine priorities based on the wants and interests of their alumni.

Whether it’s Ottawa Redblacks games, museum tours, or bowling and brewery nights, the committee has welcomed many alumni and friends to socialize and celebrate.

“The highlight for me is seeing the repeat attendees,” says Craig. “Whether it’s at the football game or the art gallery, it’s a way of seeing people who wish to come out and find that connection to the university. It’s really nice to meet people in Ottawa who feel a connection to UNB.”

The success of the Ottawa Alumni Chapter Network is a true testament to the committee’s hard work and commitment. A team effort, Craig describes his fellow volunteers Werner and Janice as the ‘stalwarts’ of the committee and is grateful to UNB for bringing them together.

Beyond his involvement with UNB, Craig’s passion for community engagement extends to other organizations. Among other things, he is active in his church and serves on the National Capital Sommelier Guild board. For him, volunteering is not just about giving back; it’s about forging connections and contributing to the community in a meaningful way.

“Volunteering serves a lot of purposes. A lot of us want to socialize and have fun and connect with people. In organizations like UNB, you have that ability to connect, you have a shared experience with others, and you have the opportunity to contribute to a place that you want to keep in touch with.”

A legacy of UNB alumni in his family, Craig reflects on his love for the university and his student experience. During his SRC presidency from 1992-1993, he strived to advocate for students and grow Saint John’s music scene by bringing high-calibre concerts to campus, such as Blue Rodeo. These experiences laid the groundwork for his continuous involvement today as an alum.

Craig’s commitment to UNB and his local community will not slow down anytime soon. With upcoming signature events approaching in the new year, there’s much to look forward to for the Ottawa Alumni Chapter Network. ■



2023-24

# Donor **IMPACT** Report

## Message from the President

**T**hanks to your foundational investments in our university, UNB students and researchers really hit their stride in 2023-24.

Your transformational gifts are enabling UNB to construct world-class facilities that will support the translation of knowledge into innovation while educating the next generation of technological entrepreneurs and health and social service professionals.

In Fredericton, construction of a new Engineering Commons is underway at Head Hall. In Saint John, a Health and Social Innovation Centre is rising, which will house new collaborative health research clusters and educational programs. On both campuses, the McKenna Institute is contributing to the digitization of New Brunswick society and forging new ties between UNB, other universities and the private sector.

Growth and renewal in the faculty of law is also well underway, thanks to the generous support and leadership of supporters like you.

Our students have achieved remarkable success this past year, from the classroom and lab to playing fields and hockey arenas. Whenever they test their knowledge or their prowess, they do so knowing that you have faith in them and in their capacity to make a difference.

I take this opportunity to thank Jeff Wright, former executive director of Development and Donor Relations. His dedication and expertise have been consistently demonstrated in the role and his efforts have helped to strengthen our community. I wish him all the best in his future endeavours. Marcie Nixon, associate director of principal gifts, has stepped in as the acting executive director. She brings a wealth of experience and a deep



commitment to our institution and is very well placed to lead the team during this transition period.

Thank you for being a supporter and friend to UNB. The world needs more people like you. The world needs more UNB.

**Paul Mazerolle**  
UNB President and Vice-Chancellor ■

## Your **GIFT** makes a **DIFFERENCE**

*Join us in our ongoing effort to define excellence at UNB.*

If you have questions regarding making a donation, please contact us:

### DEVELOPMENT AND DONOR RELATIONS

PO Box 4400 Fredericton NB E3B 5A3	PO Box 5050 Saint John NB E2L 4L5	devdr@unb.ca unb.ca/giving
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(506) 453-5053 (506) 638-2441

## Find the **DONOR HONOUR ROLL** online

Support from donors like you is critical to the mission of UNB. We celebrate those who give in the Donor Honour Roll (May 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024), recognizing each donor at:

[unb.ca/dhr](https://unb.ca/dhr)



We are grateful to each of our alumni and friends who step up to empower our students and help us tackle society's challenges for a better tomorrow.

# IMPACT *of Giving*

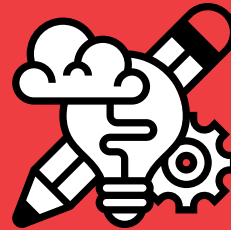
2023-24

## STUDENT SUPPORT: \$14,842,350



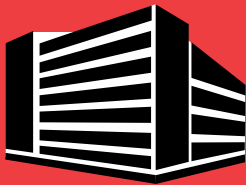
Donors supported **2,379** students in 2023-24, ensuring access to a UNB education and the opportunities that foster the next generation of engaged and educated citizens.

## RESEARCH AND CHAIRS: \$1,074,850



Thanks to our donors, UNB is tackling society's great challenges head-on. With the guidance of our research chairs, the industry-leading work done at more than 45 major labs and centres at UNB has the power to change the world.

## CAPITAL MAINTENANCE: \$362,142



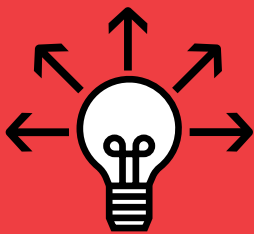
UNB strives to preserve architectural heritage while upgrading energy efficiency and accessibility. Through donor support, UNB maintains our spaces, ensuring every student has access to experiential learning in an inclusive environment.

## TEACHING PROGRAMS: \$2,156,613



At UNB, our 14 faculties manage more than 75 undergraduate and graduate programs for thousands of students on our campuses. With support from our donors, we continue to lead the way in providing quality education.

## OPPORTUNITIES FUNDS: \$658,356



Gifts toward the Opportunities Funds on each of our campuses, and for the university as a whole, allow us to support new initiatives, pursue emerging priorities and help students with unforeseen needs.

## ATHLETICS: \$448,047



A gift to athletics allows us to attract and retain talented student-athletes to our teams. In 2023-24, donors supported **170** athletes across our campuses, recognizing their hard work on the field of play to showcase UNB.

## OTHER PURPOSES: \$2,550,485

# TOTAL: \$22,092,843

**THANK YOU!**



## HARMONIZING DREAMS:

*How a scholarship struck the right chord for a French horn virtuoso*

□ Lessa Thornton

**M**usic, art and computer science: these are the three passions that drive Lessa Thornton.

This may seem to some like an unlikely combination, but Lessa explains how they connect for her. “The great thing about computer science is that if you want to get farther in the industry, it really is about having those creativity and problem-solving skills, which can come from things like doing music and art. And I feel like that helps me broaden my horizons and vision.”

Lessa is a 2023-24 recipient of the **John Khoury Scholarship**, established through a gift from John Khoury via the McKenna Institute. Valued at \$15,000, and with preference given to women and Indigenous students, the scholarship is awarded annually to four students enrolled in an undergraduate computer science degree program.

There are few students at UNB who are as busy as Lessa, and few students

who are as passionate about their endeavours. In addition to her full-time course load in computer science at UNB Saint John, she plays French horn for both the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra and the Saint John Youth Orchestra, both of which require hours of practice each week. She is an artist who has been working in recent years to publish her own comic and sell her art. And when she can, she likes to act in local theatre productions.

Lessa’s full schedule and regular orchestra travel make a part-time job nearly impossible, so she is grateful to have received this scholarship to help her make ends meet. “I would not have had time to get a job; things would have started falling through the cracks. I grew up really poor, and this money really helped.”

Looking forward, Lessa is excited about refining her focus on computer science in her upper-year courses. “I came to UNB for computer science courses!”

she says. But she’s equally excited to take a comics course, and to continue honing her orchestral skills. Lessa’s diverse talents weave together in an extraordinary way, opening countless doors for her future. ■

### DIGITAL INNOVATION

*You can find the  
2024 McKenna Institute  
Impact Report online:*



[unb.ca/mckenna](https://unb.ca/mckenna)





# DOUG AND ANNE JOHNSON: *A UNB Love Story*

**T**he University of New Brunswick has always been much more than an institution of higher education for Doug (BScCE'74, MScCE'79) and Anne Johnson. Since they first met on the Fredericton campus 50 years ago, UNB has been instrumental in shaping their lives, their careers, their world view and their legacy.

For this long-married couple, UNB is something of a love story.

**The Doug and Anne Johnson Transportation Scholarship** for graduate students in civil engineering, focused on transportation, is a \$1,000 award given annually to students from New Brunswick, Ontario, British Columbia, or Newfoundland and Labrador – the provinces with ties to the Johnson family. It is based on a \$25,000 bequest from Doug and Anne to help students get the most out of their time at UNB.

Doug and Anne met at UNB in 1974 when he was a graduate engineering student in the newly formed

transportation group, and she was the administrative assistant for the group's principal founder – Dr. Frank Wilson.

Anne caught Doug's eye right away.

"I used to go into her office a lot to see if I could use the phone and it was really just a way to get into her office to see her," he says with a laugh. "That was the start of our life together. We got married in 1977, but we really consider 1974 the beginning of our story. We have been hanging out together now for 50 years."

Doug and Anne have kept in touch with most of the graduates from the Class of '74. There is a reunion in Fredericton every five years with their colleagues, many of whom went on to become CEOs and leaders in engineering and design across North America.

Thirty-nine of the graduates are still living, Doug says, and 22 of them were able to make it to the 50th reunion this year.

"They are like family to me," Doug says. "They are like my brothers."

Doug worked in the New Brunswick department of transportation for years. Among other things, he was project manager of the Fredericton-Moncton Highway Project, the largest transportation construction project in New Brunswick history. Doug was assistant deputy minister in transportation from 2001 until his retirement in 2010.

Doug says he and Anne created the scholarship to give back to an institution that has meant so much to them. The couple also has decided to donate a bench to UNB to be placed by the old engineering building, engraved with the words Rest, Reflect, Remember.

"We wanted to create the scholarship because we went to UNB, we enjoyed it, and it helped us with our lives and our work. Our hope is this will help students get as much out of their time at UNB as we did." ■

# Young Scholar leads team's **IMPACTFUL RESEARCH** in infant health



**M**aryam Kebbe is leading groundbreaking research into how maternal nutrition and physical activity relate to the composition of breast milk and infant health.

Maryam joined UNB as an assistant professor in 2023 after earning her medical doctorate at the University of Alberta and completing postgraduate studies at the University of Oxford and Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Louisiana.

“I was drawn to UNB because of its strong commitment to research and innovation, particularly in the fields of health sciences, pediatrics and nutrition. The university’s collaborative environment and state-of-the-art facilities provide an ideal setting for conducting impactful research and advancing knowledge in pediatric health.”

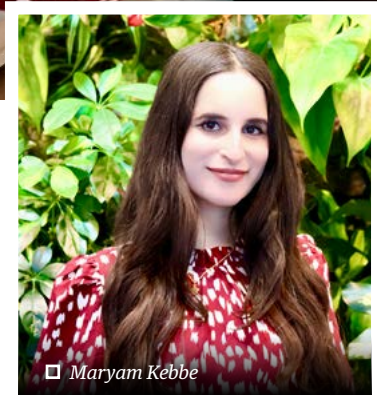
Maryam was awarded a 2023-24 **Harrison McCain Young Scholar Award** to pursue research into the

interaction between breast milk and the development of the infant gut microbiome.

“Understanding how the gut microbiome evolves in early infancy can provide valuable insights into factors influencing microbial composition and their potential long-term effects on obesity and metabolic health. This research can contribute to the development of targeted interventions and strategies to modulate the microbiome for improved health outcomes.”

Maryam is continuing her research as director of UNB’s Perinatal-Pediatric Health & Developmental Studies (PEADS) Lab.

“The PEADS lab is one of the few in Canada that works with vulnerable populations such as pregnant women and infants/toddlers. Our research projects include characterizing the nutritional quality of commercial infant feeding products and the overall



□ Maryam Kebbe

nutritional status of young children in Canada, investigating the effects of different types of foods and dietary patterns on the infant gut microbiome, and exploring the connections between maternal diet, fitness and mental health on breastfeeding practices and infant health. We aim to develop strategies to improve health outcomes for mothers and children.”

*The Harrison McCain Young Scholar Awards provide special support to tenure or tenure-track faculty members who received their PhD less than 10 years ago and whose employment at UNB does not exceed six years. ■*



# Fellowship **FUELS** autism studies

**In** her many years as a teacher, Gail Francis has imparted a great deal of knowledge about the Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq languages, cultures and traditions to her students and the readers of her popular children's book, *Moonbeam*.

But Gail is also a student herself, broadening her knowledge and understanding of early childhood through the opportunities offered by her PhD studies at the University of New Brunswick.

Gail is the two-time recipient of the **Webster Fellowship in Early Childhood Education**, a \$35,000 award made possible by the R. Howard Webster Foundation. She says the fellowship has helped enormously, especially in her focus area of autism in early childhood.

"I was very honoured to get it," Gail says of the Webster fellowship. "It gives me the freedom to attend events and programs I would not have been able to attend. Back in June, I went to an Indigenous autism conference in Alberta. That was really awesome and I learned a lot. So I now have the opportunity to go to different places to experience what other communities are doing in terms of autism, especially in the early years, which is what I'm doing my PhD on."

Among other things, Gail is looking into the possibility of travelling to Australia and New Zealand – two countries that have made strides in helping Indigenous students with autism. "It's something I'm thinking about and without the fellowship I wouldn't have the means to go."

Gail says that when she worked in the school system, she realized there were significant gaps in terms of services



□ Gail Francis

for autistic students and their parents. She is working on a toolbox for autism in the early years. "I want to make their educational journey a little easier for them."

In addition to her studies, Gail, who is originally from the Neqotkuk (Tobique) First Nation and now lives in Miramichi, is building on the success of her first children's book, *Moonbeam*, which is published in English, Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq. A second book, *Moonbeam*

*Meets the Medicine Man*, was released in November in English, French, Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq.

The books are a labour of love for Gail.

"I was a resource teacher, and we didn't have a lot of culturally relevant books to work with in the schools. I guess this is one way of getting the language out there, utilizing it and, you know, just having it there for the kids to choose to read." ■





## OF CFUW FREDERICTON

**F**or eight decades and counting, the Canadian Federation of University Women Fredericton (CFUW Fredericton) has had strong ties to UNB and its students.

The group's 80th anniversary this year happens to align with another milestone: over \$400,000 in donations from the group to CFUW scholarships at UNB.

The national CFUW was founded in Winnipeg in 1919. The Fredericton CFUW chapter – or *club* – is one of 94 CFUW clubs nationwide. It was founded with the aim of enlarging and deepening educational interests, promoting friendship, and stimulating interest in and action on the problems of the day. The goals of CFUW Fredericton continue to be those established in 1944 while encompassing a broader community of women. Social justice is at the forefront of the club's advocacy today.

Promoting women's education through scholarships is a priority for CFUW Fredericton. Through the group fundraising efforts – primarily comprised of an annual spring book fair – scholarships are funded at several post-secondary institutions. The vast majority of these awards are through UNB.

“Historically, there has been a strong connection between the CFUW and UNB, with many members being UNB faculty members,” says CFUW Fredericton's past president, Baukje (Bo) Miedema (BA'87, MA'90, PhD'96). Today, the group welcomes and advocates for women from all educational backgrounds, whether or not they have attended university.

One of the CFUW's earliest scholarships was established in honour of the club's co-founder,

Bea Phillips (1901-1985), who worked tirelessly to establish a thriving library at Fredericton High School. Today, the **Bea Phillips CFUW Fredericton Scholarship** is valued at \$2,000 and awarded annually to a graduate of a high school in Fredericton.

CFUW awards run the gamut of women students at UNB, with awards for undergraduate students, graduate students, part-time students and adult learners juggling many responsibilities. The 10th UNB award to be added to the CFUW roster is the **CFUW Fredericton 80th Anniversary Adult Learner Scholarship**, which comes into effect in the 2024-25 academic year.

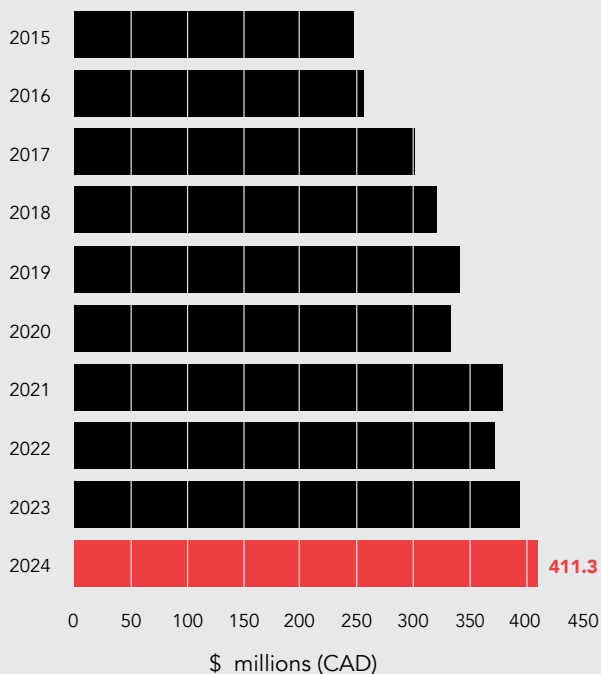
More than 200 women's lives have been changed through scholarships funded by CFUW Fredericton. Hundreds more will be changed in the decades to come. ■

# UNB'S TRUST AND ENDOWMENT FUND

Read the full report online: [unb.ca/giving](http://unb.ca/giving)

## PRINCIPAL GROWTH 2015-24

AS OF APRIL 30, 2024



## CHANGES IN TRUST AND ENDOWMENT

### Balance 2023-24

(Market value in millions)

Balance April 30, 2024 **\$411.3**

Balance April 30, 2023 **\$395.7**

**Net increase during the year \$15.6**

### INCREASE DUE TO:

Donations and other additions to capital **\$21.9**

Investment income **\$26.7**

Spending **-\$33.0**

**\$15.6**



Members of UNB Saint John's Students' Representatives Council at the campus food pantry.

## UNB GIVING DAY

**On** Feb. 29, UNB held its first annual Giving Day, a fundraising initiative that shows support for our students at a time of year when they need it most.

The winter semester is often especially difficult for students; the increased cost of living and the challenges that come with an Atlantic Canadian winter mean that many are forced to make difficult financial choices.

No one should have to choose between paying a heating bill and affording their next meal. That is why UNB's Giving Day fundraising efforts have been directed to our campus food banks to support the ongoing effort to combat food insecurity amongst our student population.

Thanks to the generosity of hundreds of donors, more than \$45,000 was raised. The funds allowed our student-run food banks to stock their shelves and provide more options for fresh produce, ensuring the UNB community has access to a variety of supplies to meet their needs. ■



Fredericton's Student Union members at the campus food bank.

# Bursary helps **BUILD A DREAM**

**L**ike many newcomers to Canada, Hussein Al Ali is making the most of the opportunities available to him in his new home in New Brunswick.

Hussein, 20, a third-year student in the bachelor of health in biomedical sciences at UNB Saint John, moved to the province with his family in 2016. They arrived from Lebanon, where the family had fled following the political upheaval and civil war in their native Syria.

Hussein, who wants to be a physician, is the recipient of the **Johnson Undergraduate Opportunity Bursary**, made possible by the Johnson Scholarship Foundation. It is awarded on the basis of financial need to students enrolled in an undergraduate degree program on a full-time basis.

Hussein, like all recipients, participated in the UNB Saint John Promise Partnership program in order to qualify. The program helps kids in poorer neighbourhoods by giving them educational help offered by UNB student volunteers.

“The partnership program was awesome,” Hussein says, adding he was involved in the program throughout high school and then as a volunteer himself once he was in university.

“If there was something I didn’t understand in school, I would go to [the UNB volunteers] and they would sit me down with a tutor and they’d teach me. It was fantastic help and made a big difference in my studies.”

It’s difficult to tell that just eight years ago, when the Al Ali family arrived in New Brunswick, Hussein could not speak English. He is now completely fluent, but the adjustment has not been easy for the family.



□ Hussein Al Ali

*“It’s unimaginable how much support a bursary or a scholarship gives a student. ... I can focus on my studies without that worry. It lifts a huge weight off my shoulders. It’s a blessing.”*

“It was a big adjustment. It was moving into a whole different world because, first of all, we didn’t know the language or the people. There were no guarantees – it could have been good or it could have been bad, but thankfully, it has been a very good experience. We are very thankful.”

Hussein says the \$10,000 annual bursary has helped enormously in making his dreams come true. He hopes to begin medical school next year and, at this point, is considering becoming a general practitioner.

“It’s unimaginable how much support a bursary or a scholarship gives a student knowing they don’t have to focus on getting money. I can focus on my studies without that worry. It lifts a huge weight off my shoulders. It’s a blessing.” ■

## HEALTH AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

You can find the 2024 Integrated Health Initiative Progress Report online:



[unb.ca/integrated-health](http://unb.ca/integrated-health)



# BEAVERBROOK SCHOLARS

SINCE 1920



□ Beaverbrook Scholars dinner — Oct. 1, 2024.

## Beaverbrook Scholars Award reaches **\$4M MILESTONE**

**A**fter more than 40 years of fundraising, the **Beaverbrook Scholars Award** has reached \$4 million in total donations.

The gift that pushed the fund over the \$4-million mark was made by the family of the late Dr. James (Jim) King, who was a Beaverbrook Entrance Scholar in 1950 and a Postgraduate Overseas Scholar in 1957. Jim passed away in August 2023.

Jim came to UNB very sure of his future as a chemist, and here he found a world-class department of chemistry.

After completing his bachelor of science and PhD at UNB, Jim went on to postdoctoral work with future Nobel laureates at both Imperial College London and Harvard University. He ultimately spent his career in the department of chemistry at Western University, continuing his work as professor emeritus after his retirement in 1999. “Chemistry was more than a job for Jim; it was really a vocation,” says his wife, Diane King.

The family’s \$50,000 gift was made because it was always important to Jim to give back.

“When we met, we both realized we were each regularly giving money to our alma maters,” Diane says. They continued these gifts throughout their marriage because they believed in the transformative potential of education.

“Giving to UNB – I had always assumed we would do that in some way,” says Diane. “I think Jim would have approved.” ■

# Innovation fund **BOOSTS** entrepreneurs

**G**etting a persuasive new product in front of investors can be a challenging process. It's not enough to have a promising idea: investors want to see that the product can be built in a cost-effective manner and meet consumer expectations.

Enter UNB alumni benefactors Kelly (BBA'79) and Mary Lou Shotbolt (BPE'80) and the **Shotbolt Technology Management and Entrepreneurship (TME) Seed Fund**.

Before attending UNB, Kelly had worked at St. Stephen wood products company Flakeboard. After graduating, he continued with the company, working his way up to president and CEO. He led Flakeboard's transition from a commodity producer of raw panels to an integrated manufacturer of decorative panels. When Flakeboard was acquired by Arauco, Kelly became president and chairman of Arauco North America before retiring.

"It was building a business from St. Stephen into a North America-wide business that got me interested in creating entrepreneurial opportunities," Kelly says. "When we saw what UNB was doing with the TME program, it just felt right.

"When I went to UNB, I was hungry to connect the dots between what I was learning in the classroom and running a real-world business. That's what we hope this seed fund will help students to do."

The Shotbolt TME Seed Fund provides monies to assist individuals and teams in moving from a concept to a prototype. Grants from the fund are awarded on a competitive basis, starting with an online application. Funding is allocated in three phases: first in the fall, then winter and finally the summer term.



□ Brycen Munroe, left, at the 2023 Engineering Design Symposium.

The first student to benefit from the fund is Brycen Munroe, who received \$10,000. His company, Mulli Swing Solutions, has already been able to leverage the funding through Canadian innovation accelerator MITACS. Mulli is developing an intelligent golf training aid to help beginning and intermediate players become more consistent in their swing. Their product aims to collect data from a player's swing to help them see what works best and then provide prompts that help build good habits.

The company was incorporated by four engineering students in UNB's TME 4025: Product Design & Development course, and two of its founders have already completed their master's degrees in technology management and entrepreneurship. Brycen just started the Masters in Technology Management and Entrepreneurship (MTME) program. He plans on using his background in electrical engineering to further develop their product.

"The leveraged funding we have been able to access through MITACS has been essential for our team, helping

bridge the gap between academia and the professional world," Brycen says. "Contributions made by donors like the Shotbolts will have a lasting, positive impact on my professional career. Whether it's through my own venture or other endeavours, the knowledge and experience I've gained will serve me well."

The Shotbolts have also created a **TME Special Projects Fund** to support student participation in pitch competitions across the region, attract global entrepreneurship leaders to visit campus and mentor students, and increase access to online startup and business venture resources including giving students access to investors and startup competition landscape.

It's all about giving entrepreneurial students more opportunities to develop the skills and mentorship networks that will help them succeed, so entrepreneurs like Brycen can take a swing at securing investment and land that hole in one. ■



□ 2017 Margot Roach Scholars

# A \$2.2-MILLION Legacy

**As** a student, two gifts shaped the life and career of Margot Roach.

The first was an internship program that enabled high school students to explore studying science in university. The second was the Chestnut Scholarship at UNB because it ensured she could devote her energy to studying and participating in university life without financial pressures.

Margot Roach (BSc'55, DSc'81) went on to become a leading researcher into the structure and function of blood vessels and a professor of biophysics and medicine at Western University. But she never forgot her formative experiences at UNB and vowed to create new opportunities for undergraduate science students here.

UNB awarded Dr. Roach an honorary degree in 1981. She created her first named scholarship at UNB in 2005. She continued to create new awards and grow the value of her scholarships until her death in August 2023.

In September 2024, the estate of Dr. Margot Roach and UNB announced her final act of generosity: a bequest of \$2.2 million. The bequest includes support for paid high school internships in UNB's physics department, undergraduate scholarships in physics, and scholarships for students graduating into Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick's physician education program.

"Dr. Margot Roach exemplifies the impact that UNB can have on young scholars,"

says Dr. Paul J. Mazerolle, UNB's president and vice-chancellor. "These scholarships represent a perpetual legacy that will benefit students and society far into the future."

The **Dr. Margot R. Roach Summer Student Program** will support paid internships for three high school students per year in UNB's physics department. **The Dr. Margot R. Roach Scholarship in Physics** will support a minimum of four undergraduates per year with individual scholarships valued at \$20,000 each. **The Dr. Margot R. Roach Scholarship in Medicine** will support two \$10,000 scholarships per year for students graduating from UNB into Dal Med NB's physician education program.

Dean of Science Sanjeev Seahra says "The Dr. Margot R. Roach Scholarships may be the largest awards for undergraduate physics students in Canada. Matched with her support for high school internships and post-graduate studies in medicine, this bequest affirms UNB's place as a destination university in science."

Ann Wildish, a long-term friend, recalls Dr. Roach's closing remarks in the speech she gave when she received her doctor of science degree from UNB in 1981. She believes it is a message Dr. Roach would have wanted students to hear today. She says, "As long as you think learning is fun, and you are willing to look at both sides of the question, and try hard enough to do it, you will never cease learning, and so you too will be truly educated." ■

## Ways to GIVE



### SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

Support the next wave of innovative thinkers at UNB.



### MEMORIAL GIFTS

Dedicate an award in a loved one's name.



### ANNUAL GIVING

Join alumni and friends in supporting UNB.



### BEQUESTS

Build a legacy: leave a gift to UNB in your estate.



### RESEARCH

Support the innovative work being done at UNB.

Explore all the ways you can give and donate today:

[unb.ca/giving](http://unb.ca/giving)



# SUPPORTING FUTURE ALUMNI

The Alumni Student Leadership Award is presented each year to undergraduate students who have demonstrated outstanding leadership through involvement in extracurricular activities on campus and in their community.



## CAITLIN GROGAN (BA'19, JD)

Caitlin has been deeply involved as a student leader since her days as an arts undergraduate student on the Saint John campus, and now as a current student in the faculty of law in Fredericton. Aiming to create an inclusive and equitable environment, she was elected law faculty councillor on the UNB Student Union in 2023, receiving the Faculty Councillor of the Year award. An ambassador and committed volunteer within her faculty, Caitlin has served as associate editor for the UNB Law Journal, as the mental health ombudsperson through the Law Students Society, a law peer supporter, law orientation peer mentor, president of the UNB Health Law Society, and co-founder of the Running from the Law club. These experiences have provided her with opportunities to support the well-being of fellow students.

Caitlin's involvement in the competitive moot program has also been particularly rewarding, highlighted by winning the 2023 McKelvey Cup and earning multiple advocacy awards at the national level. Engaged in many corners of campus life and in the community, Caitlin also serves on the UNB Board of Governors and volunteers with the UNB chapter of Pro Bono Students Canada.



## KARAN ANAND (BBA)

Karan's leadership and commitment to the faculty of management student community during his three years at UNB have been exemplary. Transitioning from academic director to vice-president and finally to president of the Business Administration Undergraduate Society, Karan has enhanced the society's national presence and led significant constitutional reforms. His participation in various conferences and national competitions has showcased his competitive spirit and dedication to professional growth.

Throughout his academic journey, Karan has demonstrated a commitment to fostering an inclusive and supportive student environment. Through his ongoing role as a student assistant at the Harriet Irving Library Research Commons, Karan has strived to optimize student accessibility and the usability of library resources. He's advocated for regional business students in his roles as eastern board representative for the Canadian Association of Business Students (CABS) and at the CABS National Roundtable. Across campus, Karan has been a dedicated leader and volunteer as emcee for the UNB Business Awards Celebration, as student representative on the dean's search committee, as a resident assistant and as captain of the intramural soccer team.



## LAUREN LOCKHART (BScKin)

Throughout Lauren's UNB experience, she has worked tirelessly to make a difference in the lives of others, contribute to campus life, and promote student and community inclusion. Progressing from volunteer to co-president of UNB S.P.R.I.N.G., Lauren now leads over 90 UNB student volunteers in facilitating inclusive, interactive programming for over 30 children with disabilities. As an active member of UNB Best Buddies, Lauren also volunteers her time, providing companionship to adults with disabilities. These two experiences, among many others, have greatly supported the success of children and adults in the community, while also impacting her own life aspirations.

Across campus, Lauren has also served as a notetaker for the Student Accessibility Centre, as a volunteer RedShirt for the UNBSU Orientation Program and as a student ambassador for the faculty of kinesiology, while also working as a student fundraiser for the UNB Office of Development and Donor Relations. Lauren is active in her community, volunteering with the Fredericton Rotaract Club in support of their mission to make positive and long-lasting change for the community through hands-on service projects, networking and social activities, and professional development opportunities. ■

# SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS *and* BURSARIES

*Thanks to our generous donors, the following student awards are just a sample of the many established in the past year that will support UNB students during their studies and beyond.*

## **SUZANNE G. KIRBY AND MARK R. KIRBY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**FIELD:** Business or Management

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

**DONOR:** Gina and Derek Kirby, parents of Suzanne G. Kirby (BBA'89) and Mark R. Kirby (BBA'95)

Awarded to students who are enrolled in the bachelor of business administration program. Preference will be given to students pursuing entrepreneurial studies. The recipients must be New Brunswick residents, according to the definition of the Provincial Government's Student Financial Services guidelines. Selection will be based on academic achievement.

## **ANDREW HYSLOP AND BARBARA ZINTER AWARD FOR SWIMMING**

**FIELD:** Unrestricted

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

**DONOR:** Barbara Zinter and Hope Hyslop

Awarded to members of the UNB swim teams on the Fredericton campus. Selection is based on financial need. The recipients must be Canadian citizens and full-time students with a 2.0 grade point average in the previous year at UNB. Preference is given to students in the final year of their undergraduate degree.

## **SUSAN LACY ASPIRING SCIENTIST UNDERGRADUATE AWARD**

**FIELD:** Science

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

**DONOR:** Susan Lacy (BSc'91)

Awarded to a Fredericton campus student enrolled in the bachelor of science program. The recipient must be a Canadian citizen. Selection will be based on academic achievement and financial need.

## **MARJORIE ALLISON SEARS SCHOLARSHIP IN EDUCATION**

**FIELD:** Education

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

**DONOR:** Family of the late Marjorie Allison Sears (BA Class of 1929)

Awarded to a student who is entering the bachelor of education degree program on the Fredericton campus. Selection is based on academic achievement.

## **SEAWOLVES VOLLEYBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

**FIELD:** Unrestricted

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

**DONOR:** Gil Breau (BA'05), alumni and friends

Awarded to a member of the Saint John campus Seawolves volleyball team with a genuine talent in the sport of volleyball and who has demonstrated leadership, volunteerism within their sport, and campus involvement. Preference will be given to athletes in their 3rd or 4th year of play. The recipient must achieve a minimum scholarship GPA of 2.0 as a returning student.

## **MARK A. CAMPBELL BURSARY**

**FIELD:** Computer Science

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

**DONOR:** Family, Friends and classmates of Mark Campbell (BCS'97)

Awarded on the basis of financial need to a Fredericton campus student who is enrolled in a degree program in the faculty of computer science. The recipient must demonstrate successful academic performance and preference will be given to a student from Prince Edward Island.

**GREGORY ALEXANDER YOUNG  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP****FIELD:** Business or Arts**VALUE:** \$6,000    **NUMBER:** 1    **DURATION:** 1 year**DONOR:** Family and friends of Gregory Young (MA'84)

Awarded to an outstanding Fredericton campus student who is enrolled in the faculty of management or the faculty of arts pursuing an honours or concentration in economics. Selection is based on academic achievement and financial need.

**DOUG AND ANNE JOHNSON  
TRANSPORTATION SCHOLARSHIP****FIELD:** Civil Engineering**VALUE:** \$1,000    **NUMBER:** 1    **DURATION:** 1 year**DONOR:** Doug (BScCE'74, MScCE'79) and Anne Johnson

Awarded to a graduate student in the master of science in engineering (civil engineering) degree program studying in the transportation and planning program. The recipient must be a resident of New Brunswick, Ontario, British Columbia, or Newfoundland and Labrador. Selection will be based on academic achievement and financial need. The recipient can only receive the scholarship once.

**VALMORE L. STEWART SCHOLARSHIP IN N.B.  
LAND SURVEYING****FIELD:** Engineering**VALUE:** \$4,000    **NUMBER:** 1    **DURATION:** 1 year**DONOR:** André J. Boissonnault

Awarded to a student who is a graduate of a New Brunswick high school and has completed at least the minimum requirements for the first year of the bachelor of science in engineering (geomatics) degree program. Preference will be given to students who intend to become a New Brunswick land surveyor and are specializing in or intending to specialize in cadastral studies. Recipients must be members of the Association of New Brunswick Land Surveyors. Selection will be based on academic achievement.

**MCNALLY FAMILY LAW SCHOLARSHIP**

This scholarship, valued at \$2,000, is awarded to a New Brunswick student entering or in the JD program with demonstrated financial need. The student must have graduated from a New Brunswick high school and have demonstrated good academic standing or strong leadership-character type qualities. Preference may be given to a student who graduated from a New Brunswick Francophone high school. The scholarship is funded by Stephen J. McNally (LLB'84), Dr. Suzanne Drapeau-McNally (DDS), Patrick McNally (LLB'11) and Meredith St. John (JD).

**THOMAS AND HANNAH JORDAN SCHOLARSHIP****FIELD:** Forestry and Nursing**VALUE:** \$4,000    **NUMBER:** 1    **DURATION:** 1 year**DONOR:** Glenwood A. Jordan (BScF'71, MScF'73)

Awarded to a student entering the bachelor of science in forestry degree or the bachelor of nursing degree. Recipient must be a New Brunswick resident, according to the definition of the Provincial Government's Student Financial Services guidelines, and a graduate of a rural high school, with preference being given to graduates of Nackawic High School. Selection will be based on academic achievement and financial need.

**FRANCIS MCGUIRE & ELIZABETH WEBSTER BURSARY****FIELD:** Computer Science**VALUE:** \$3,000    **NUMBER:** 1    **DURATION:** 1 year**DONOR:** Dr. Francis McGuire (DLitt'17) and Elizabeth Webster (MBA'95)

Awarded on the basis of financial need to a student enrolled in the bachelor of computer science, bachelor of science in computer science, or bachelor of science in software engineering degree program who has demonstrated successful academic performance. Preference will be given to women and/or Indigenous students.

**UNBF HOUSING AND UTILITIES EXPENSES BURSARY****FIELD:** Unrestricted**VALUE:** Variable    **NUMBER:** Variable    **DURATION:** 1 year**DONOR:** The UNB Fredericton Student Union

Awarded on the basis of financial need to students on the Fredericton campus to provide financial support to help cover rent, utilities and other essential costs to ensure students have a stable living situation while pursuing their studies. ■

**VISIT [UNB.CA/GIVING](http://UNB.CA/GIVING)***for information on creating scholarships*



# 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/alumni/magazine/](http://unb.ca/alumni/magazine/)

*Submissions between March 15 and Oct. 15, 2024, have been included.*

Share your milestones and achievements with us at  
[unb.ca/alumni/alumni-news/hither-yon.html](http://unb.ca/alumni/alumni-news/hither-yon.html)

'68



**HEATHER PATTULLO** (BN) of Delta, B.C., attended the UNB Vancouver reunion on May 7, and was thrilled to meet two dear nursing friends whom she hadn't seen in several years! She was glad she decided to go .... the first time without her husband Gary, who died in late 2020. They have been supporters of UNB since graduating in 1968 and have attended many Vancouver reunions over the years. She finally got back to a Fredericton reunion a few years ago and hopes to go again, possibly next year.

'72

After a career in education, **DONALD HYSLOP** (BA) of Kingston, N.S., has taken a position of chairperson of the Mid Valley Region Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee and the position of secretary of the Soldiers Memorial Hospital Foundation.

**KAREN O. TAYLOR** (BA, MPA'88) of Woodstock, N.B., was invested into the Order of New Brunswick for "her lifelong dedication to addressing injustice, improving other people's lives and supporting initiatives that make her community, province and country better."

'80



**MARC PEPIN** (BEd) of Toronto, Ont., reached a milestone on April 8, 2024, by reaching no. 1 in the world in Masters ITF rankings for the third time in his career. This time, in 65 mixed with Jeannie MacEachern from Canada.

'85

**SYLVIE MALO-CLARK** (MEd) was inducted into the Atlantic Salmon Museum Hall of fame in Doaktown, N.B., in November 2023. Sylvie, expert fly-tyer and angler was inducted in recognition of 46 years involvement in the sport of fly fishing. She fishes mainly the rivers of New Brunswick and Gaspé. She has caught Atlantic salmon from four pounds to one well over 40 pounds and many were caught on her flies that she tied. Sylvie has participated at fly-tying shows in United States and Canada.

'87



**WALTER CONSTANTINE** (BScCS, left) of Reston, U.S. and **ROBERT 'BOBBY' FIELDING** (BScCS, centre) of Quebec City, Que. (and friend François Bélair (right) of Montreal, Que.), completed a 21-day bicycle ride on Sept. 28, riding over 1,300 km together from capital, Washington, D.C., to capital, Ottawa, Ont. They were blessed with ideal

weather almost the whole time and the honour of being the first customers when the ferry crossing resumed from Cape Vincent, U.S., to Wolfe Island, Canada, after the previous captain passed away suddenly.

'89



After graduation, **JOSEF PACH** (BScGE), of Ottawa, Ont., moved to Toronto to begin a career in environmental consulting with the seven former Golder Associated Ltd. He earned a MSc in physical hydrogeology from Waterloo in 1994, then moved to Vancouver in 1999. He transitioned to industry, taking on environmental adviser and executive roles with TELUS Communications Inc. A subsequent move to Ottawa in 2008 resulted in another career change wherein he joined the federal government. Starting out in greening government, he soon found himself working in industrial security at Public Services and Procurement Canada until 2021. He is currently working for Housing Infrastructure and Communities Canada, where he leads a small team dedicated to engaging the Atlantic provinces through the Canada Public Transit Fund.

'96

**ALI GHORBANI** (PhD) has been recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Artificial Intelligence Association (CAIAC). CAIAC is the Canadian arm of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence, an international scientific society dedicated to advancing scientific understanding of AI. He was one of only two recipients of this award for 2024.

He is a professor of computer science, Canada Research Chair in Cybersecurity, and director of UNB's Canadian Institute for Cybersecurity (CIC). With more than 30 years of research and innovation experience, Ghorbani has been a trailblazer in the cybersecurity research space, including in the application of AI toward these goals.

'97

**CHRIS MACPHERSON** (BBA'92, MASRA) of Fredericton, N.B., is now retired after a 45-year career with the City of Fredericton after having been CAO for the last 11 years of his time at the city. He recently completed his term on the International City and County Managers Association board of directors (USA) as a senior vice-president. He is now working as a consultant with his own company doing work in various parts of the country as a management consultant, conducting senior executive training and guest speaking; and recently published a chapter in a management text for the University of Toronto Free Press.

'00



**SHANA FRENCH** (LLB) of Toronto, Ont., was recognized in the 2025 edition of *The Best Lawyers in Canada*<sup>™</sup>.

'08

**NICOLAS VUCEKOVIC** (BBA), of Paris, France, has joined Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA) as executive director. As part of the corporate & investment banking department, Nicolas is developing the debt capital markets activities in France and BeNeLux,

advising corporate clients on their funding needs.

'20

**JOHN LEROUX** of Fredericton, N.B., was invested into the Order of New Brunswick for "his outstanding vision, dedication and commitment to the future of the province's architecture and to the protection of historic buildings, and for his passion for building an improved quality of life for generations to come."

'24

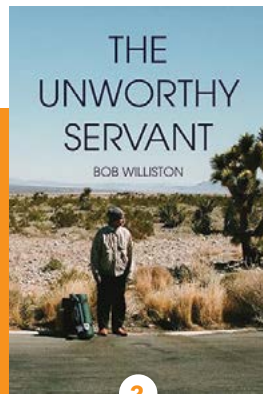
**JOHN MATCHIM** (PhD), of Eastport, N.L., was awarded the 2023/24 Roy Porter Essay Prize, a prestigious international award offered by the Society for the Social History of Medicine (UK) for student work in the history of medicine, health care, and related fields of study. John's award-winning essay, *From the Mecca of Civilization to a Place like Labrador: The Physicians' and Surgeons' Club of Columbia University and reordering health and space on Spotted Island, Labrador, 1912-1960*, derived from his dissertation on health care provided by ships in northern Newfoundland and Labrador.

In the months following his graduation in May, **DIRK LOCK** (BA) of North York, Ont., has been spending his summer experiencing Toronto, living and seeing the places he mentioned in his research studies. Suffice to say, he has been engaging with the community and professionals in the field in a networking capacity. Recently, he has been invited to speak about his work, experiences, and research avenues at a Green Summit and Social Impact Business as a Design Anthropologist and Researcher last August. ■

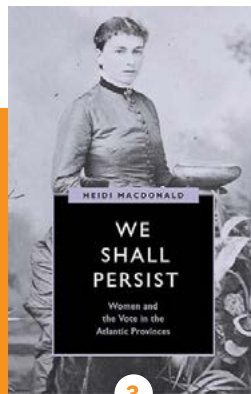
# WINTER READING



1



2



3

## 1 The Misfit Crew

By: Aimee C. Trafton (BA'97, BEd'99)  
 Publisher: Outpost 19/  
 The Shortish Project  
 ISBN: 9798987839812

## 2 The Unworthy Servant

By: Bob Williston (BA'73 BEd'76)  
 Publisher: Go to Publish  
 ISBN: 978-1-64749-960-0

## 3 We Shall Persist: Women and the Vote in the Atlantic Provinces

By: Heidi MacDonald (PhD'00)  
 Publisher: FriesenPress  
 ISBN: 9780774863186

## 4 The McNair-Flemming Years: A Public Record of Uncertain Times, New Brunswick 1930–1960, Volume 2

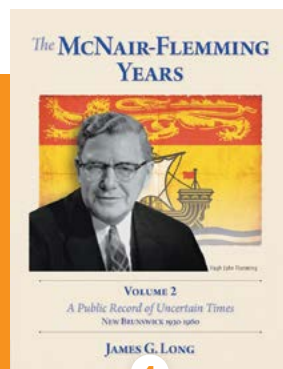
By: James G. Long (BA'71)  
 Publisher: Georgetown  
 University Press  
 ISBN: 978-1-03-830194-9

## 5 She is Hope for Wildlife: The Story of Wildlife Rescuer Hope Swinimer

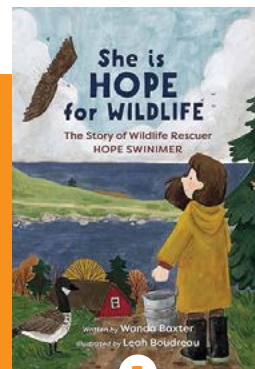
By: Wanda Baxter (MA'95)  
 Publisher: Nimbus Publishing Ltd.  
 ISBN: 1774713322

## 6 Fire, Disease and the Pump House: What had to happen before Fredericton has running water

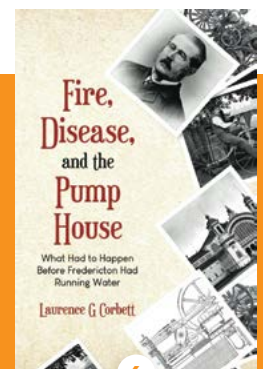
By: Laurence Corbett  
 (BScCE'78, MCE'96)  
 Publisher: Tellwell Talent  
 ISBN: 0228835410



4

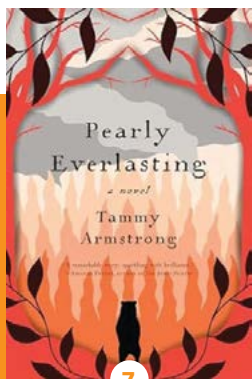


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6

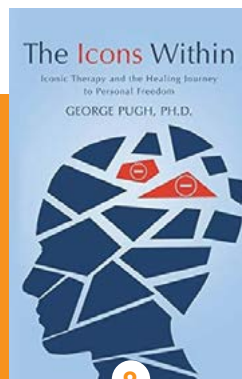




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8



9

**7 Pearly Everlasting**

By: Tammy Armstrong (PhD'14)  
 Publisher: HarperCollins  
 ISBN: 9781443471138

**8 Memories of Me**

By: Andrea Pomeroy (BN'10)  
 Publisher: FriesenPress  
 ISBN: 978-1-03-831224-2

**9 The Icons Within: Iconic Therapy and The Healing Journey to Personal Freedom**

By: George Pugh (BA'69)  
 Publisher: iUniverse  
 ISBN: 2015907103

**10 Rewired, Not Retired: Embrace Life as a Digital Independent**

By: Glen Hicks (BScCS'90)  
 Publisher: TecZen Digital Inc.  
 ISBN: 978-1-7779340-0-2

**11 I'm Florally Challenged: And Other Mostly Humorous Tales and Poems**

By: David Colpitts (BA'64, MA'65)  
 Publisher: Pagemaster Publishing  
 ISBN: 978-1-77354-479-3

**12 Trusted: The Proven Path to Customer Loyalty and Business Growth**

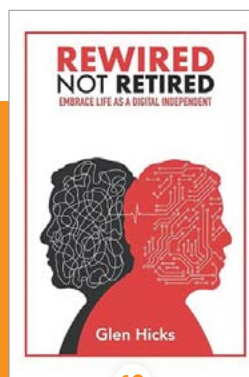
By: Natalie Doyle Oldfield (BA'90)  
 Publisher: Selfpublishing.com  
 ISBN: 979-8-89316-760-3

**13 My Life with Sailing**

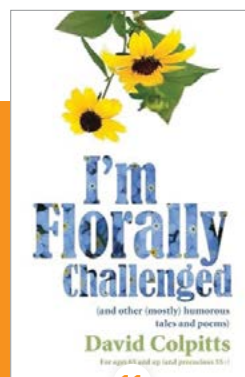
By: Clifford Fraser (BScCS'81)  
 Publisher: YaYaYa  
 ISBN: 1778010776

**14 Good Man: Memoir of a Primary Caregiver**

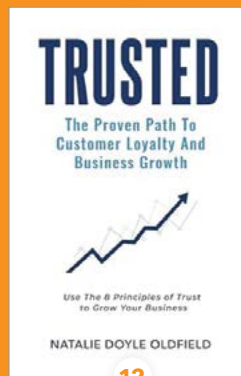
By: Peter Shirley (C-BA'03)  
 Publisher: Self-published  
 ISBN: 979-8877654112 ■



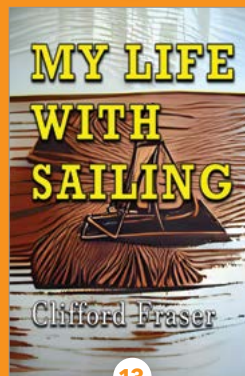
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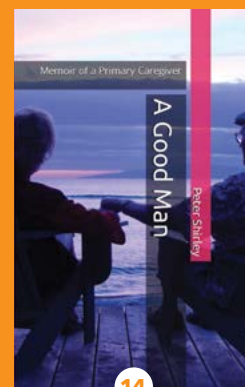
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14

We welcome submissions about recent books by our alumni. If you have been published, send us the name of your book, the publisher, the ISBN and a cover image to [alumni@unb.ca](mailto:alumni@unb.ca). Don't forget to include your UNB degree(s).

*(Multiple submissions will be spread among issues)*

# IN MEMORIAM

The Alumni Association notes with sorrow the passing of the following alumni  
(based on information received between April 12 and Oct. 22, 2024).

*We included Joanne E. Barrett (BN'74) in the Summer 2024 issue in error. We apologise for our mistake.*

## FREDERICTON

### 1940s

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**JAMES R. MACMILLAN (Class of '47)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**VERNON A. ACKER (BA'49)**, St. Stephen, N.B.

**C. F. NOEL 'CHUB' BAXTER (BA'49, BEd'57)**, Stoney Creek, Ont.

### 1950s

---

**EARL 'SKIP' N. FIDLER (Class of '52)**, North Hatley, Que.

**STIG HARVOR (BScCE'52)**, Toronto, Ont.

**RAE DAWKINS (Lakes, Class of '53)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**GORDON E. BOURNS (BSc'55)**, Calgary, Alta.

**KENNETH N. WALKER (BScCE'55)**, Sarnia, Ont.

**HELEN C. CRAIG (Nielsen, BA'56, BEd'57)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**PETER H. KNOWLTON (BScME'56)**, Kanata, Ont.

**BRUCE G. CHRISTIE (BScEE'57)**, Tillsonburg, Ont.

**DOUGLAS C. FRASER (BSc'57, MSc'60)**, North York, Ont.

**EDWARD M. 'MAC' BARRIE (BScCE'58)**, Sydney Mines, N.S.

**FRANK D. CAMPBELL (BScCE'58)**, Wolfville, N.S.

**KENNETH 'KEN' M. MACNEILL (BBA'58)**, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

**EDWIN A. MCCAVOUR (BScCE'58)**, Pointe-Claire, Que.

**EDWARD 'TED' RAMSAY (BScEE'58, BEd'63)**, Rockcliffe, Ont.

**ROBERT SMITH (BA'58, MA'61, BEd'63)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**EDWARD 'EDDIE' A. GEORGE (BA'59)**, Houston, U.S.A.

**JOHN POHANKA (BScF'59)**, Fort Frances, Ont.

**GORDON M. VANWART (BBA'59)**, Quispamsis, N.B.

### 1960s

---

**MARILYN R. CALDWELL (French, BPE'62)**, Toronto, Ont.

**LORNE R. MOASE (BEd'62, MED'72)**, Stratford, P.E.I.

**BARRIE A. RIGBY (BSc'62, BEd'65)**, Saint John, N.B.

**SHERWIN RAY BROWN (BSc'63)**, Kingsville, Ont.

**KENNETH T. BRODERSEN (BScCE'63)**, Ottawa, Ont.

**J. LEROY MCGINN (BPE'63, BA'65)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**G.M. KEITH DOW (BA'64, BEd'65, MED'76, PD-Ed'76)**,  
Long Reach, N.B.

**IAN W. GILCHRIST (BScME'64)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**DARRELL K. STAPLES (Class of '64)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**MARY F. FLAGG (Class of '65)**, Douglas, N.B.

**MURRAY A. LLOYD (Class of '65)**, Shediac Cape, N.B.

**HELEN C. MARSTEN (BA'65, BEd'68)**, Riceville, N.B.

**GEOFFREY G. BELL (BA'66, BEd'67, MED'74, PD-Ed'74)**,  
Moncton, N.B.

**RON E. BUTCHER (BA'66)**, Madoc, Ont.

**NANCY M.L. DAVIES (Brown, BEd'66)**, Calgary, Alta.

**B. GARETH ESTEY (BScEE'66)**, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

**DONALD 'DON' E. GEMMELL (BSc'66, MSc'75)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**DAVID H. THORNE (BScEE'66, MScEE'71)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**BONNIE NICOL (Bowron, BN'67)**, Moncton N.B.

**DAVID A. WALSH (BPE'67, BA'71)**, Renous, N.B.

**RICHARD 'RICK' E.D. WHITE (BPE'67, BA'69)**, Saint John, N.B.

**ROBERT 'BOB' A. WHITE (BT'67, BEd'73)**, Florenceville-Bristol, N.B.

**GARY O. ANDREWS (BSc'68)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**MARY F. MCILLWRAITH (Doyle, BA'68, BEd'70)**, Carleton Place, Ont.

**GILBERT MICHAUD (BEd'68)**, Edmundston, N.B.

**C. MARILYN OLIVER (BA'68)**, Nepean, Ont.

**THOMAS 'TOM' J. PILE (BBA'68)**, Halifax, N.S.

**APRIL ELIZABETH REID (Brooks, BT'68)**, Upper Knoxford, N.B.

**M. MORLEY RINZLER (BA'68, LLB'72)**, Moncton, N.B.

**RICHARD G. THORNE (BA'68, BEd'74, MA'81)**, Hampton, N.B.

**ALLAN A. ANDREWS (BPE'69)**, Canoe Cove, P.E.I.

**CHRIS GORDON-CRAIG (PhD'69)**, Edmonton, Alta.

**MARGARET J. MACDOUGALL (BT'69)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**JAMES 'JIM' W. MACKAY (BEd'69, BPE'69)**, Halifax, N.S.  
**J. JAMES 'JIM' MCEACHERN (BScEE'69)**, Guelph, Ont.  
**BRIAN L. MERSEREAU (BScEE'69)**, Nepean, Ont.  
**TANYA DAWN ORSER (BN'69)**, Halifax, N.S.

**HARRY H. PALMER (BT'69)**, Fredericton, N.B.  
**MALCOLM G. SMITH (BPE'69)**, Saint John, N.B.  
**JACK SYROID (BA'69)**, Fredericton, N.B.

## 1970s

**LEO M.D. BURNS (BSc'70)**, Fredericton, N.B.  
**HOLLY E. HAINES (BT'70, BA'74)**, Saint John, N.B.  
**MICHAEL JOHN THIBODEAU (BScME'70)**, Fredericton, N.B.  
**MYRLE VOKEY (MED'70)**, St. John's, N.L.  
**LESLIE 'LES' A. BOWSER (Class of '71)**, Omemee, Ont.  
**BRUCE R. MULHOLLAND (BScCE'71, MScCE'95)**, Fredericton, N.B.  
**CHARLES 'CHUCK' G. PRESCOTT (BEd'71, BA'71)**,  
 New Maryland, N.B.  
**JAMES 'JIM' A. WILBUR (BScEE'71)**, Moncton, N.B.  
**DIANA L. AUSTIN (BA'73)**, Fredericton, N.B.  
**C. SUZANNE BALL (Crockett, BA'73, LLB'82)**, Saint John, N.B.  
**DALE CLARKSON (BA'73, BEd'74)**, Saint John, N.B.  
**ROGER JOSEPH GRANDMAISON (BScME'73)**, Moncton, N.B.  
**DAVID K. LEGASSICK (BA'73)**, Willow Grove, N.B.

**G. PETER MACQUARRIE (BScF'73)**, Halifax, N.S.  
**GERALD 'JERRY' J. BREAU (BA'74, MA'79)**, Cambridge-Narrows, N.B.  
**WILLIAM 'BILL' R. CROWHURST (BA'74, BT'74, BEd'76, MED'84)**,  
 Florenceville-Bristol, N.B.  
**DONALD J. LEBLANC (LLB'74)**, Caraquet, N.B.  
**MAURICE L. MACDOUGALL (BScME'74)**, Debert, N.S.  
**LYNDA A. DOIGE (Curwen, BA'75, BEd'76, MED'78)**,  
 Fredericton, N.B.  
**FAYE K. EDGAR (BT'77)**, Island View, N.B.  
**AUDREY L. DOYLE (BA'78, MA'80)**, North York, Ont.  
**DAVID B. TOUCHIE (BBA'78)**, New Maryland, N.B.  
**SUZANNE L. BURNHAM (BEd'79)**, Wetaskiwin, Alta.  
**PERLEY W. HAYES (BEd'79)**, Bloomfield-Kings County, N.B.  
**MARILYN A. WYNN (Anderson, BT'79, BEd'85)**, Sussex, N.B.

## 1980s

**GARY J. OWENS (BScCE'80, MScCE'83)**, Moncton, N.B.  
**ANDRE W. BOUCHER (BScChE'81)**, North Bay, Ont.  
**J. GREG LAWLOR (BScEE'81)**, Riverview, N.B.  
**EMILY S. PALMER (Smith, LLB'81)**, Sussex, N.B.  
**ROGER PAUL NASON (MA'82)**, Fredericton, N.B.  
**JOHN WAIT (BA'82)**, Hanwell, N.B.  
**RONALD R. DESAULNIERS (BScF'83)**, Longlac, Ont.  
**SUSAN 'SUE' ELIZABETH NICHOLS (MScSE'83, PhD'92)**,  
 Bridgewater, N.S.  
**JAMES 'JIM' ROBERT BUGGIE (MED'84, C-DA'86)**, Rothesay, N.B.  
**LORRAINE A. NEILL (Carson, BEd'84)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**MICHAEL DEANE (LLB'85)**, Kitchener, Ont.  
**GOTTFRIED KONECNY (DSc'85)**, Hannover, Germany  
**LORRAINE STILES (Knox, BEd'85)**, Carlingford, N.B.  
**WENDY LEE WALLACE (MED'85)**, Fredericton, N.B.  
**GEORGE R. WILLIAMS (BScSE'86)**, Fredericton, N.B.  
**NADINE ELIZABETH GAREAU (Cvetanovic, LLB'88)**,  
 Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.  
**GAIL MACLEOD (Carver, BN'88)**, Long Creek, P.E.I.  
**H. BRUCE MCDONALD (BA'88)**, Calgary, Alta.  
**J. ALLAN SHAW (LLB'88)**, Bloomfield Station, P.E.I.

## 1990s

**MARIA ASUNCION OANCIA (MA'91)**, Montreal, Que.  
**DAVID ALLAN WILSON (MA'92, PhD'97)**, Fredericton, N.B.  
**ANN MARGARET ESTABROOKS (Shipley, BA'93)**, Moncton, N.B.  
**RONALD 'RONNIE' R. ROBICHAUD (BA'93)**, Calgary, Alta.  
**ELLIOT VICTOR JACK SULLIVAN (MCS'94, BA'08)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**CALLUM BRUCE MACPHEE (MED'96)**, Dalhousie, N.B.  
**THOMAS PAUL RUBEC (BBA'96)**, Fredericton, N.B.  
**SEAN ROBINSON GIVAN (BCS'97)**, Fredericton Junction, N.B.  
**DANIEL DUGUAY (MED'99)**, Sussex Corner, N.B.



**2000s**

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**TARA L. NEWCOMBE (Matheson, BN'00)**, Moncton, N.B.

**CHRIS S. WEAGLE (MA'02)**, New Maryland, N.B.

**JILL E. MAHAR (Jackson, BA'04)**, St. Stephen, N.B.

**RONALD W. HOGAN (LLB'05)**, Campbellton, N.B.

**MICHAEL S. CRAWFORD (MEd'06)**, Portugal Cove-St. Philips, N.L.

**DEBORAH L. HOLLINGWORTH (Saunders, BN'08)**,  
Fredericton, N.B.

**2010s**

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**MEGAN R. KELLY (BN'10)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**CHARLY C. PARKER (BN'16)**, New Bandon, N.B.

**MICHAELA R. WHYNOT (BN'19)**, Camperdown School, N.S.

**SAINT JOHN****1970s**

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**ROBERT 'BOB' B. MABEY (BBA'74)**, Grand-Barachois, N.B.

**J. RAYMOND ROY (BBA'74)**, Saint John, N.B.

**JOAN B. BEATTEAY (BT'75, BEd'80)**, Saint John, N.B.

**1980s**

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**DONNA C. JOHNSTON (Hamilton, BT'80, BEd'85)**,  
Saint John, N.B.

**CLAUDETTE M. KING (Gautreau, BSc'80)**, Lincoln, N.B.

**BARBARA H. L. MANZER (Munroe, BT'80, BEd'84)**, Rothesay, N.B.

**DALE J. HOOD (BSc'81)**, Fredericton, N.B.

**SHANE ROBINSON (BA'84)**, Rothesay, N.B.

**PATRICIA 'PATTI' ANN STEPHEN (BBA'84)**, Quispamsis, N.B.

**JAMES K. IRVING (LLD'87)**, Saint John, N.B.

**2000s**

---

**EDNA B. DYKEMAN (Gowan, BA'00)**, Nerepis, N.B.

**DAVID A. LUMINI (BBA'01)**, Saint John, N.B.

**JASON J. RICHARD (BSDA'01)**, Saint John, N.B.

**EMMANUEL C. BASQUE (BBA'03)**, Rothesay, N.B.

**HELENA B. HOOK (Breen, C-TEL'09, BA'09)**, Quispamsis, N.B.

**ARTHUR IRVING (DLitt'09)**, Saint John, N.B. ■

## Parents establish a **LEGACY OF REMEMBRANCE**

**G**ina and Derek Kirby are not UNB alumni, but both of their children, Suzanne Kirby Violette (BBA'89) and Mark Kirby (BBA'95) were. When the time came for the Kirbys to consider their estate planning, they felt it was fitting to create a scholarship at UNB in memory of Suzanne, who died in 2009, and Mark, who died in 2021

**The Suzanne G. Kirby & Mark R. Kirby Memorial Scholarship** is to be awarded annually to two students enrolled in the bachelor of business administration degree program on the Fredericton campus. Preference is given to students pursuing entrepreneurial studies.

Suzanne and Mark were entrepreneurs themselves, starting Kirby Cheese at Fredericton's Boyce Farmers Market when Suzanne was 15 and Mark was just 11. "He could just see over the counter," Gina says. The cheese stall was a great success, and the siblings kept it going for nine years, funding both of their degrees with their earnings.

The family was very close and shared a spirit of adventure, travelling widely together even after both children had grown. "If we went on holiday, they would say, 'Can't we come too?'" says Gina, laughing. Derek draws a connection between their family's love of travel and their history as a couple – he and Gina emigrated from England to New Brunswick in 1966, when they had been married just six months. "I suppose it's because we left our homes behind us, and we knew very little about Canada."



□ *Mark Kirby and Suzanne Kirby Violette*

Suzanne took Spanish classes at UNB and, after graduating, attended Spanish school in Costa Rica before working as an au pair in Paris. Mark took Japanese classes at UNB, which inspired him to move to Japan for three years after graduation. He then moved with his young family to British Columbia but returned home to New Brunswick when Suzanne became ill with cancer. "The bond between them was very, very strong," Derek says.

The Kirbys decided to make their gift to UNB in two stages so that students can start benefiting right away. During their lifetimes, they will support the scholarship with annual gifts; the first scholarships were awarded this year. Their bequest will fund the scholarship in perpetuity, helping countless more students in the years to come.

"Because we can't take it with us," Derek says, and Gina adds, "and we can't spend it all!" ■

## PLAN YOUR ESTATE, SUPPORT THE UNB OF TOMORROW

It's easy to have an impact: A \$50,000 gift in your will creates an annual \$2,000 scholarship in perpetuity.



To learn more about planned gifts  
and the UNB Legacy Society, visit:  
[UNB.ca/legacysociety](http://UNB.ca/legacysociety)

### DEVELOPMENT AND DONOR RELATIONS

[bequests@unb.ca](mailto:bequests@unb.ca)  
[UNB.ca/giving](http://UNB.ca/giving)

Fredericton: (506) 453-5053  
Saint John: (506) 638-2441



□ Student Union members in the food bank on the Fredericton campus.



□ Students' Representative Council members in the food pantry on the Saint John campus.

# UNB GIVING DAY

03 - 14 - 2025

The cost of living has skyrocketed in recent years, and it can be difficult for students to focus on their studies when they're worried about making rent or affording a nutritious meal.

Since 2023, the UNB Fredericton food bank and the UNB Saint John food pantry have helped relieve the burden of hunger for hundreds of students. Join us on March 14 for our second annual UNB Giving Day, a fundraising effort to support these student-led and student-run initiatives. Together, we can help battle food insecurity on our campuses.

## Give each year.

Create opportunity for students every day.

At UNB, we believe every student who has the will to succeed at university should have the opportunity and encouragement to do so. You can help students meet unplanned needs and expenses by investing in UNB through the Opportunities Fund or initiatives like Giving Day.



Learn how you can invest in students, teaching, research and other priorities at UNB: 1-844-968-0039

[UNB.ca/annualgiving](https://unb.ca/annualgiving)