

 **DURHAM COLLEGE**
SUCCESS MATTERS

Alumni



DECEMBER 2017

PREMIER'S AWARD WINNER

CANADA'S TOP 50 RESEARCH COLLEGE

GIFT GUIDE

STAY CONNECTED



ABOUT THIS ISSUE

The award-winning DC Alumni magazine is written, designed and published by the Communications and Marketing department to complement the Reflections publication prepared three times a year by students in Durham College's (DC) Public Relations program. Both are available by visiting our [Alumni publications page](#).

Do you have a story idea or something to share? Is there anything you would like to read about? We would love to hear from you!

Please [email us](#) with your comments, questions or suggestions.





IN THIS ISSUE

DECEMBER 2017

- 04** Message from the president
- 06** Message from DCAA president
- 08** Durham College alumnus wins Ontario Premier's Award
- 10** College receives recognition as one of Greater Toronto's Top Employers
- 12** 50th anniversary year recap
- 14** DC sport management students get top marks in charity event planning
- 16** Students gain experience under pressure in 48-Hour Film Challenge
- 18** Run for DC raises funds for the Building Something Amazing Campaign
- 20** Donor profile:
Elaine Mendicino
- 22** DC joins regional partners for Durham Idea Summit 2.0
- 24** Enbridge recognizes DC for energy conservation efforts
- 26** Alumni spotlight:
Melissa Geurts
- 28** Durham College recognizes student achievement at 2017 Fall Convocation
- 30** DC named one of Canada's top 50 research colleges for fifth consecutive year
- 32** DC students win student series competition hosted by Canoe Restaurant
- 34** Love at DC - call for submissions
- 35** Benefit of the month
- 38** DC's ultimate gift guide
- 40** Sport shorts
- 42** Upcoming events

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is hard to believe 2017 is coming to an end. While this year has seen its challenges, it has also been filled with achievements, especially for Durham College (DC) as we celebrated our 50th anniversary. Marking this milestone has given us the opportunity to reflect on just how far DC has come while also looking ahead to the future; a future we feel is incredibly bright for the college and our students.

That feeling of promise is one of the best parts of the holiday season; hope abounds, as does generosity. In this issue of the Alumni Magazine, you will read stories of that hope and generosity coming to life.

From donor and DC alumna Elaine Mendicino, whose touching story and charitable donation to the Building Something Amazing capital campaign is profiled, to the second-year Sport Administration and Sport Management students who raised \$15,000 for Durham Outlook, this edition is a wonderful example of all the ways DC supports its students and the broader community.

As you gather with loved ones over the coming month, do so knowing that you're also part of the extended college family. Now more than 82,000 members strong, DC alumni can be found throughout the world, proudly representing the green and gold in their professional and personal lives and sharing in each other's success.

With that said, I want to wish you the best of the holiday season and a happy New Year.

Don



DC President Don Lovisa

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE DC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

This message represents both a beginning and an ending. It is my first as president of the Durham College Alumni Association (DCAA) and the last of 2017 in this magazine.

It has been an incredible year and I am looking forward to maintaining the momentum that was achieved celebrating DC's 50th anniversary. That momentum will bolster the entire DC community, as we head into the new year looking forward with optimism and holding onto the promise of a fresh start.

The DCAA annual Alumni Night at the Oshawa Generals game will be one of our first events in 2018 and we hope to connect with our many members there. After welcoming 1,100 new members at convocation in the fall, the alumni community is now more than 82,000 strong and we hope to see some of our new members joining us. This event also sells out quickly so be sure to get your tickets early.

As an association, we frequently hear about how our members met at DC and are still together today. These stories are a shining example of how the college connects people both in and out of the classroom. In this issue, you will find a call for

submissions, asking you to provide details about how you and your partner met at DC. We will be sharing these in the lead up to Valentine's Day and hope that in reading them, you will fall in love with DC all over again!

We're also going to continue reaching out to our members to reconnect and strengthen your relationship with the college. We have many ways of recognizing our alumni, from spotlight profiles, Alumni in the Pit, our Alumni Magazine, Alumni of Distinction Awards and more. If you would like to tell your story, or know a fellow alumni that you would like to recognize, please contact us at the alumni office.

For anyone struggling with their holiday shopping, we have got you covered. Just check out the DC gift guide within this edition of the magazine for some great ideas, including alumni apparel.

Enjoy the final 2017 edition of the DCAA publication and I look forward to connecting with you again in 2018. Until then have a wonderful holiday season and happy New Year.

Elaine



DCAA President Elaine Garnett

DURHAM COLLEGE ALUMNUS WINS ONTARIO PREMIER'S AWARD

Durham College (DC) alumnus Brent Lessard has received provincial recognition for the leadership role he is playing in revolutionizing the future of transportation. The 2014 graduate of DC's [Mechanical Engineering Technology](#) program was announced as the recipient of a Premier's Award for recent graduates on November 27 at the annual gala that celebrates outstanding graduates from across the Ontario college system.

"I am incredibly honoured to receive the Premier's Award," said Brent. "I've been able to apply so much of what I learned at DC, including being exposed to diverse thinking during my studies, which has been a source of inspiration in my work. I also continue to draw on the importance of fostering a sense of community, which the college certainly did. It's something that I have carried with me as I helped create the rLoop concept."

rLoop, a non-profit, crowd-funded and sourced, online think tank and talent resource, was founded in 2014, a year after Brent graduated, and is focused on the development of a conceptual, high-speed transportation system called Hyperloop. Initially proposed by Elon Musk, chief executive officer at Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX), the system involves the propelling of passenger or cargo-boarded pods in

a low-pressure tube using sustainable and cost-efficient energy, in order to transport people from one place to another at the speed of sound.

Within the framework of rLoop's commitment to innovation, Brent successfully connects and integrates the expertise of his colleagues, who live in various countries and time zones, speak different languages and embrace differing and unique cultures, to lead the development of a technology prototype with the potential to change the way we live and conduct business in Ontario, Canada and around the world.

His dedication has enabled him to propel the rLoop team, which is now comprised of 1,100 members from more than 50 countries, to greatness several times in the last three years.

In January 2016, he proudly guided his colleagues at the first SpaceX Hyperloop Pod Design Competition where they were awarded the Best Non-Student Hyperloop Design Award and earned a spot to compete as one of 30 teams at the SpaceX Hyperloop Pod Competition, which took place in January 2017, in California. There, under Lessard's direction, rLoop had the opportunity to test its Hyperloop prototype on the mile-long SpaceX track before receiving the SpaceX Hyperloop Innovation Award.



DC alumnus Brent Lessard (pictured second from the right) receives his Ontario Premier's Award

Lessard and his team were asked to return to the Hyperloop Pod Competition II in August 2017, where they tested the vehicle in the vacuum of the Hyperloop tube and achieved several Hyperloop firsts, including the first Hyperloop Pod demonstrating static levitation in a vacuum and the first Hyperloop Pod with pressure vessel tested at vacuum, capable of sustaining human life.

“Brent is a cutting-edge thinker who embodies the qualities that make a college education great – collaboration, innovation, entrepreneurship and learning through doing,” said Don Lovisa, president, Durham College. “As he and the rLoop team work toward revolutionizing the way we travel, DC’s students, employees and more than 82,000 alumni are incredibly proud he is representing the college and Canada on the international stage.”

Brent was one of 118 college graduates nominated for this year’s awards, including one other from DC, and is the sixth alumni from the college to win.

Each year the Premier’s Awards are presented to acknowledge the social and economic contributions that college graduates make to the province and throughout the world. Chosen from nominations submitted by Ontario’s 24 colleges, the award recipients have demonstrated outstanding career success related to their college experience and have made a significant contribution to their community.

For more information about the DC alumni community please visit www.durhamcollege.ca/alumni.

COLLEGE RECEIVES RECOGNITION AS ONE OF GREATER TORONTO'S TOP EMPLOYERS

Durham College (DC) has been named one of Greater Toronto's Top Employers for 2018. This is the seventh time the college has received this honour.

DC is proud to be acknowledged for the work being done on campus to create opportunities for professional development and personal wellness for the college's more than 790 full-time employees, including faculty, administrative and support staff. Highlights of that work recognized by the Top Employer program this year include DC's annual Retreat with the President, a forum for staff to provide feedback and share ideas for improvement as well as the college's diversity working group, which helps develop and implement strategies and initiatives related to student and employment diversity. The program also commended DC for encouraging employees to lead active, healthy lives by subsidizing memberships to the state-of-the-art Campus Recreation and Wellness Centre, which also offers massage, physiotherapy and other extended healthcare services.

"The college's success is entirely linked to our people," said Scott Blakey, chief administrative officer, DC. "We're proud to be recognized for our efforts to provide them with a workplace that supports and inspires their best work each day, which in turn allows DC to provide top-quality, experiential learning for our students."

Greater Toronto's Top Employers is an annual competition organized by the editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers. This special designation recognizes the Greater Toronto Area employers that lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work. Organizations are judged on several categories including physical workplace; work and social atmosphere; health, financial and family benefits; vacation and time off; employee communications; performance management; training and skills development; and community involvement. Employers are compared to other organizations in their field to determine which offer the most progressive and forward-thinking programs.

For more information, please visit www.canadastop100.com/toronto/.



DC'S AMAZING 50TH

From 50 Guitars for 50 Years to 50 Acts of Kindness, Homecoming Weekend to the DC Brewing Memories Coffee Tour – Durham College (DC) sure knows how to throw a party! The college's year-long celebration of its 50th anniversary brought out the very best in the campus community and well beyond. Thanks to all the proud alumni who helped commemorate this milestone year. Here's to DC's next 50 amazing years!





DC SPORT MANAGEMENT STUDENTS GET TOP MARKS IN CHARITY EVENT PLANNING

On September 13, second-year students from Durham College's (DC) [Sport Administration \(two-year\)/Sport Management \(three-year\)](#) program [presented a cheque for \\$15,000 to Durham Outlook](#), the organization that operates St. Vincent's Kitchen in Oshawa. The students raised the money by organizing a Hockey Helps the Homeless (HHTH) hockey tournament which took place on March 24 at the Campus Ice Centre at Simcoe St. and Conlin Rd. The funds will be used to support the construction of a brand-new facility to feed those in need.

Hockey Helps the Homeless is a national charity working toward a future where every Canadian has a place to call home. Although the charity has operated a collegiate division to help colleges and universities run events, the DC event was entirely unique in that it was part of the curriculum embedded in the course, [Sport & Event Marketing](#), taught by Nadine Lamarche, a professor and program co-ordinator with the college's School of Business, IT & Management.

A group of 15 of Lamarche's students ran the event and did all the work including managing logistics, securing sponsors, negotiating ice-time rates, obtaining prizes for the silent auction, overseeing the risk-management aspect, and of course, managing the flow of tournament day. As sports and charity work are so closely linked, Lamarche has seen that this kind of marketing experience is very important for the professional development of students and gives them skills and connections that they will use in their future sport management careers.

With the success of DC's HHTH event, faculty is moving ahead to provide even more opportunities for sport management students to become involved with non-profit organizations and benefit from the experiential learning that is a highlight of the DC student experience. Their next HHTH tournament is already on the calendar for March 23, 2018! More information is available on the [Hockey Helps the Homeless website](#).



DC Sport Administration/Sport Management students present cheque for \$15,000

STUDENTS GAIN EXPERIENCE UNDER PRESSURE IN 48-HOUR FILM CHALLENGE

Here's the pitch: make a western featuring a mop and a character who is a super geek with a love for Velcro. While it may not be your typical Hollywood fare, it's the concept behind "Strung Out", the winning film of the second annual [48-Hour Film Challenge](#) at Durham College (DC). This quirky but fabulous project is the high moment of the academic year in the School of Media, Art & Design (MAD), and is the biggest competition of its kind in Canada.

Beginning at noon on October 10, more than 500 MAD students from seven programs were challenged with creating original short films in only two days. Teams were each given a genre, line of dialogue, prop and character type that had to be included in their final submissions. Films were due by noon on October 12 and then stitched together by faculty and staff for a private screening at the Cineplex Odeon Theatre in Oshawa.

The film crew for this year's best picture winner – Nicole Potter, Kendall Schofield, Ashlyn Van De Vien, Jordan Rivoire, Flynn Badgley and Navendven Loganathan – will now have their names engraved on the prestigious "Deanie Award", a trophy featuring a miniature likeness of MAD executive dean Greg Murphy.

A jury of industry professionals chose the winners in all categories. They were: John Arkelian, director, Cinechats Film Program; Andy Malcolm, Foley artist, Footsteps Studio; Eileen Kennedy, film liaison for Durham Region; Catherine Richards, director of culture and recreation, City of Oshawa; and Katie Boone, manager, International Projects and Partnerships, DC.

The film challenge brings together students from DC's programs in [Advanced Filmmaking](#), [Broadcasting for Radio & Contemporary Media](#), [Contemporary Web Design](#), [Interactive Design](#), [Media Fundamentals](#), [Photography](#) and [Video Production](#), along with mentoring staff and faculty. It is an event designed to help students meet and collaborate across program boundaries and to form a community of emerging content creators. It also provides students with an opportunity to flex their creativity and develop the so-called "soft skills", such as communication, teamwork and problem solving, which are vital to achieving success after graduation.

This year's student films can be viewed on [the challenge's website](#) and [MAD YouTube channel](#).



Participants in the 48-Hour Film Challenge gather in the lobby at Cineplex Odeon Theatre in Oshawa

RUN FOR DC RAISES FUNDS FOR THE BUILDING SOMETHING AMAZING CAMPAIGN

On October 22, under warm, sunny skies, Team Durham College (DC) once again pounded the pavement at the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon, half-marathon and 5K to raise funds for the new [Centre for Collaborative Education](#) (CFCE).

More than \$17,500 was raised thanks to the fundraising efforts of Team DC, individual participants and the kindness of the family, friends and organizations who sponsored them. Participation incentives and matching funds were generously provided by silver sponsor the Durham College Alumni Association and participant sponsor Mason Bennett Johncox.

This is the second year that employees, students and alumni banded together to participate in the Building Something Amazing campaign's Run for DC in support of the CFCE and the promise of collaboration and innovation that it brings.

"After participating last year, I was happy to join Team DC again," said participant and DC alumna Debby Allbon (Public Relations, 1998), now director, Communications, Durham College. "I got involved because I had set a personal goal of running a 5K. Being able to achieve that goal while also supporting DC just made sense.

Participating again allowed me to spend time with my colleagues on the team while also raising much-needed funds for the CFCE. It was a win-win situation."

Of her experience as a first-time participant, DC alumna Linda Flynn (Public Relations, 1988), now president of the Durham College Foundation and associate vice-president, Development and Alumni Affairs said, "I've always been a huge advocate for DC. I have also spent the last year working hard on my running skills, so I was excited to put them to the test in a real race with other people while also raising valuable funds to support construction of the CFCE. I ended the day with a sense of achievement. Not only did I manage a personal best time, I knew the money we raised will go directly to creating a space that will transform the way students learn and interact, creating endless opportunities for collaboration and community on a variety of levels."

For more information about the CFCE or to [make a donation](#) to the Building Something Amazing capital campaign please contact DC's Office of Development and Alumni Affairs.



Linda Flynn (pictured left) celebrates the end of the race with Dean Howley, entrepreneurship coordinator, FastStart

DONOR PROFILE

ELAINE MENDICINO HONOURS LATE HUSBAND WITH DONATION TO CENTRE FOR COLLABORATIVE EDUCATION

Elaine Mendicino and her late husband, Rob Hogan, met at Durham College (DC) in 1970. She was a student enrolled in the Oshawa General Hospital School of Nursing, attending psychology and sociology classes on campus twice a week, and he was a second-year student enrolled in the college's Public Relations program. They married two years later.

As time passed, Elaine and Rob often spoke about how studying at DC gave them their start as a couple; Rob always cited the time he spent in the cafeteria playing cards with putting him in the right place at the right time to meet Elaine.

They also credited their college experience with preparing them to pursue careers they loved. Rob even worked at DC. His first job after graduation was with the college's Print Shop, before he eventually landed at General Motors, where he remained for 32 years.

Following Rob's sudden death in 2011, Elaine began thinking about ways to honour his memory. She found her inspiration after reading about DC's 50th anniversary in 2017 and its plans to build the Centre for Collaborative Education (CFCE), a legacy project tied to the college's milestone.

After learning more about the vision for the CFCE, Elaine knew she wanted to contribute. It seemed fitting to give back in Rob's memory to the college that helped open so many doors for them through post-secondary education.

"DC is a part of my family's fabric," says Elaine. "I came back here and earned a certificate in Teaching and Training. Our oldest grandson, Austin, will be entering his second year in January at the Whitby campus. His mother has just completed her consolidation in the college's Nursing program and three of my four step-daughters are also DC grads."

For Elaine, donating to the Building Something Amazing capital campaign is a privilege and an opportunity to honour Rob's life. His connection to DC will live on as students enjoy the Rob Hogan Student Commons in the CFCE.

"I encourage everyone to consider making a donation to the capital campaign," she says. "It doesn't matter the amount. Please think of contributing whatever you can to make this project a reality. It was my pleasure to do so and I know Rob would be very proud of this choice to give back to the institution that gave us so much."



Donor Elaine Mendicino addresses the crowd during the public launch of the Building Something Amazing campaign

DC JOINS REGIONAL PARTNERS FOR DURHAM IDEA SUMMIT 2.0

The opportunity and appetite for establishing an innovation hub in Durham Region were enthusiastically confirmed by participants, including Durham College (DC), at Durham Idea Summit 2.0. The event was held on October 16 at the Deer Creek Golf Club.

“The time for action is now,” said DC president Don Lovisa, acting as a representative of the Idea Summit cabinet. “We heard that from our keynote speaker, Avvey Peters, from our innovation industry panelists and other stakeholders.”

Peters is the vice-president of partnerships for Communitech, an industry-led innovation centre that supports, fosters and celebrates a community of nearly 1,000 tech companies in the Waterloo Region.

“What Waterloo has created with Communitech is the type of hub that can help drive new innovation and jobs in Durham Region,” said Carla Carmichael, vice-president, Ontario Power Generation (OPG). “As Avvey shared, it will take time to build so we have to be in it for the long game.”

Two more important steps towards establishing an innovation hub in Durham Region were taken during the day-long event that was attended by more than 120 representatives from local business, academia, and government.

First, a newly developed innovative tech asset map was shared publicly for the first time by Kathy Weiss, director of economic development for the Region of Durham. The map highlights the cluster of innovative tech businesses, start-ups and support organizations across the region. The asset map, which is a collaborative project between Durham Region, Idea Summit, and Spark Centre, is a living document with additions to be made as they are identified. The map is available for viewing at www.ditp.ca.

Second, an Idea Summit discussion paper, Building a Durham Innovation Hub, was also shared publicly for the first time. The paper outlines the Idea Summit’s vision and proposed approach for establishing an innovation hub in Durham Region.

Leaders of the conference are eager to maintain the momentum coming out of Idea Summit 2.0.



Participants listen to a panel discussion about large industry innovation at this year's Durham Idea Summit 2.0

“We’ve taken to heart what we heard today and what we have consistently heard over the past 18 months,” said Jason Atkins, founder and CEO of 360insights. “The time to build an innovation hub in Durham Region is now and collaboration with all sectors of the community is key.”

The Durham Idea Summit is led by 10 of the region’s largest and more innovative employers including DC, University of Institute of Technology, 360insights, AECOM, GM Canada, Lakeridge Health, OPG, Search Engine People, Spark Centre and Veridian.

ENBRIDGE RECOGNIZES DC FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION EFFORTS

On October 24, Enbridge Gas Distribution (Enbridge) presented Durham College (DC) with a plaque and energy retrofit rebate cheque in recognition of the college's successful energy conservation initiatives. Matthew Cannon, energy solutions consultant with Enbridge, made the presentation at the W. Galen Weston Centre for Food (CFF), Whitby campus, to DC Facilities Management department members Tanya Roberts, sustainability coordinator; Stephen Cassar, building automation technologist; Ryan Way, facilities maintenance technician; and Doug Crossman, manager, Mechanical Systems and Energy.

The efforts recognized by Enbridge fall under DC's Conservation and Demand Management plan, which is part of the college's overall commitment to reducing its carbon footprint. To reduce energy consumption on campus, DC recently implemented Demand Controlled Ventilation (DCV) in the CFF.

DCV allows the building's systems to automatically adjust the amount of air exchange inside the CFF by controlling the amount of fresh air coming in and exhaust air leaving. This reduction in air exchange translates to lower energy usage by decreasing the amount of air that requires heating, cooling, humidification or dehumidification.

Environmental responsibility is a key focus for DC, which has been implementing changes to increase green activities and operationalize sustainability programs across the college.



Enbridge Gas Distribution presents representatives from DC with a plaque and energy retrofit rebate cheque

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: MELISSA GEURTS

For anyone who's ever doubted trusting their gut, they should look no further than Durham College (DC) alumna Melissa Geurts ([Graphic Design](#), 2008). While she confesses to choosing her program based solely on instinct, Geurts' career path is proof of just how powerful intuition can be.

As the creative director at Good Housekeeping magazine, a monthly women's lifestyle magazine with an audience of more than 38 million readers, Geurts is responsible for the creative direction of the publication including editorial conceptualization and design execution, overseeing a team of 10 designers. She also oversees all creative for digital, video and event collateral.

While it may seem light years away from her days at DC's Oshawa campus, Geurts doesn't hesitate to connect her career success to the amazing start she made at the college.

"The internship offered as part of the Graphic Design program at DC was crucial to the beginning of my career," she says. "I was able to take the tools I learned in school and apply them in the real world, while still having the support of my teachers and peers. I learned SO much in those three months and it also confirmed and solidified my passion for editorial design."

Making the most of her internship with Style at Home magazine in Toronto, Geurts parlayed it into her first full-time job. From there she moved to Chatelaine, a Canadian institution if ever a magazine was one, where she worked for five years, contributing to a major overhaul of the glossy and eventually being named design director in 2013.

"In that time we took Chatelaine to #1 in Canada in all categories: fashion + beauty, home, health and food," Geurts recalls proudly. "Now I couldn't be more excited to work with the amazingly talented team at Good Housekeeping."

Reflecting on her DC experience from New York, where she now lives and works, Geurts does recall some pain points in her student days, particularly when it came to finding her niche in a program as diverse and versatile as Graphic Design. It was a great relief when something finally clicked.

"After five minutes in my first editorial design class, I made it my mission to work in magazines," Geurts recently told the blog *This Renegade Love*. "I literally wrote it out on the first page of my notebook and that was the beginning of this wild ride."



Melissa Geurts (pictured left) styles actress Judy Greer on the set of a Good Housekeeping photo shoot

It was similar visual representations of where her schooling could take her that helped keep Geurts motivated along the way. This included having her work featured in the end of year grad show put on annually by the School of Media, Art & Design.

“After spending endless hours on these projects it was so gratifying to see them displayed in a gallery in Toronto alongside other extremely talented designers,” says Geurts. “Having that to work towards was really a driving force in my third year to create some truly amazing pieces that I’m still proud of today.”

When asked for any advice she’d share with DC students and new grads, there’s a small irony to be found in Geurts’ recommendation to sometimes fight your first instinct.

“Say yes to (almost) everything,” she says. “Saying yes opens new doors. This not only applies to work, but also to moving to a new city for my job. Say yes to dinners, even if you’re not totally hungry (new friends!). Say yes to a difficult task at work (you will figure it out – or ask for help!). Saying ‘no’ already sets you up for failure. I try to remember this when life throws me a curve ball.”

With a trail of accomplishments behind her and endless opportunities on the horizon, all of which started with a gut feeling, it’s hard to imagine where Geurts’ journey might have taken her had she not said yes to her instinct for design.

Want to follow Melissa Geurts on her adventures in design and New York City? Find her, [@MelissaGeurts](#), on Instagram.

DURHAM COLLEGE RECOGNIZES STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AT 2017 FALL CONVOCATION

On October 26, more than 1,100 students received their credentials during this year's Fall Convocation; friends, family and the college community were on hand to celebrate the achievement. Whether beginning their career or pursuing further education, these individuals have graduated knowing they have the skills they need to succeed.

Held at the Tribute Communities Centre in downtown Oshawa, graduates from the Centre for Food and schools of Business, IT & Management; Continuing Education, Health & Community Services; Interdisciplinary Studies; Justice & Emergency Services; Media, Art & Design; Science & Engineering Technology and Skilled Trades, Apprenticeship & Renewable Technology received their diplomas and certificates.

In honour of the college's 50th anniversary in 2017, two alumni from DC's first graduating class in 1969 also attended convocation; John Krezanowski graduated from the college's Mechanical Engineering Technician program and Ron Hooper graduated from the college's Marketing program. Ron is also an Alumni of Distinction award recipient.

As part of the college's commitment to building on its positive reputation, the outstanding contributions and exemplary service of retired employee Margaret Greenley was recognized through the honorary designation of vice-president emeritus.

A [video of the entire ceremony](#) is now available.



DC Chief Administrative Officer Scott Blakey addresses students during 2017 Fall Convocation

DC NAMED ONE OF CANADA'S TOP 50 RESEARCH COLLEGES FOR FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Durham College (DC) announced today that it has once again been named one of Canada's top 50 research colleges by Research Infosource Inc., a Canadian research and development intelligence company. This is the fifth consecutive year the college has been included on the list, which is informed by data on research income, research intensity and research partnerships and projects at colleges across the country.

DC's [Office of Research Services, Innovation and Entrepreneurship](#) or ORSIE, has a mandate to solve industry and social challenges through innovation and collaboration. Operating under four research themes – cultivating healthy lives and resilient communities, advancing agriculture, agri-business and tourism, enabling technologies of the future and enhancing scholarly teaching and learning – researchers and students collaborate with industry and community partners to develop real-world solutions to challenges faced by small-to-medium-sized enterprises and community organizations.

Under the theme of enabling technologies of the future, DC is leading the way helping companies and organizations plan, develop, and implement state-of-the-art artificial intelligence (AI) systems and practices into business solutions. Through the establishment of the AI Hub, the college is assisting small and medium-sized enterprises to create products, services, and processes that have commercial value, enabling them to scale and compete through AI-enabled systems and management practices. Faculty researchers and students are working alongside industry partners in developing the solutions.

ORSIE is also offering AI workshops and a boot camp for DC students, focusing on the foundations of AI to enhance their skills.

CANADA'S TOP
50
RESEARCH
COLLEGES
2017 **RESEARCH**
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DC STUDENTS WIN STUDENT SERIES COMPETITION HOSTED BY CANOE RESTAURANT

A video exploring the Three Sisters – corn, beans and squash – and their role in Aboriginal cuisine has won five Durham College (DC) students from the college's [Centre for Food](#) (CFF) a prestigious competition hosted by Canoe Restaurant in Toronto. For their prize, the team enjoyed an exclusive dining experience at Canoe's iconic Chef's Rail, followed by an overnight stay at the Le Germain Hotel on Tuesday, November 28.

Held as part of Canada 150 celebrations, Canoe's student series competition asked entrants to create a video answering the question, what does Canadian food mean to you? Together, Casey Chessman ([Horticulture – Food and Farming](#)), Tamara Green, Khadijah Hosein and Emilie Woytowich ([Advanced Baking and Pastry Arts](#)) and Ikra Ijaz ([Hospitality – Hotel and Restaurant Operations Management](#)) created their winning submission.

Inspired by Green's Indigenous heritage and the diverse backgrounds of all the team members, the students focused their entry on the concept of the Three Sisters, which represent the main agricultural crops of many First Nations, using their interconnectedness as an analogy for Canada's multiculturalism and its positive impact on the ever-evolving idea of what constitutes Canadian cuisine.

Kristin Atwood, a graduate of DC's Culinary Management and Advanced Baking and Pastry Arts programs, filmed and produced the team's entry and attended the celebratory dinner where Canoe chefs John Horne and Ron McKinlay will prepare a decadent, multi-course meal for the DC team using the finest Canadian ingredients from coast to coast.



“We are absolutely thrilled for the students who won Canoe’s student series competition,” said Kevin Baker, principal, Whitby campus, Durham College. “They are studying in programs that are rooted in the field-to-fork philosophy which gives them a unique perspective on the role food and farming have played – and continue to play -- in shaping Canadian culture, including cuisine. The submission that they created highlighted the traditions and diversity that make our country special. I know they are looking forward to experiencing the meal at Canoe, especially given its own unique focus on defining Canadian cuisine.”

DC’s students competed against 22 other schools in the competition, which was open to any student above the age of 19, enrolled for the academic year beginning September 2017 in a food-related program, including culinary arts or chef; hospitality management; winery and viticulture technician, distiller or brewmaster; agriculture (including fish and seafood); cheesemaker; butcher; baker/patisserie; food and nutrition management.

LOVE AT DC – CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

“We started dating in college.” It is a familiar statement when couples talk about how they met.

In anticipation of Valentine’s Day, the Durham College Alumni Association is hoping alumni who found love at DC will be willing to share their story.

Maybe it began in class. Maybe it was a glance across the cafeteria or over drinks during a night out. Either way, we would love to hear about the role DC played in bringing you and your significant other together.

The tales of romance collected may be included in an upcoming issue of the Alumni Magazine and communicated through the alumni social media channels.

We encourage you to share your story and pictures by emailing them to alumni@durhamcollege.ca.

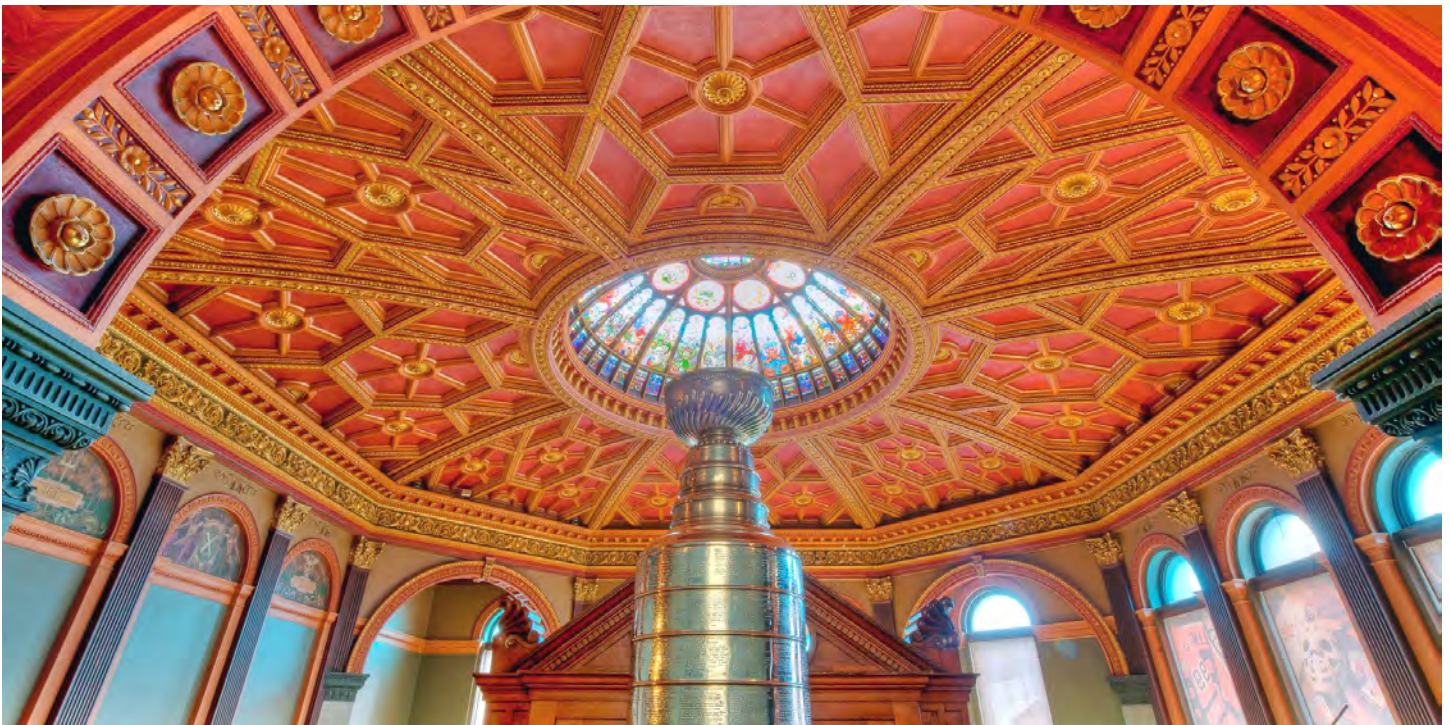


BENEFIT OF THE MONTH

HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

Durham College alumni receive 20 per cent off admission to the Hockey Hall of Fame. You can also receive 50 per cent off your photo package with the Stanley Cup.

To buy tickets visit the Hockey Hall of Fame [special offers and group sales website](#) and use promo code DCA11.



DC'S ULTIMATE GIFT GUIDE

The holidays are fast approaching but there is still time to find the perfect gift for friends and family. Need to buy for a Durham College (DC) alumni? Maybe there is a DC student on your list or you need to buy for someone who is simply a fan of the green and gold. Either way, the college has you covered thanks to our ultimate gift list!

FOR TRIED, TESTED AND TRUE DC ALUMNI

Stylish and comfortable, DC alumni apparel are a great choice for those who want to show their school spirit after graduation, not to mention a portion of the sales from certain items go back to the Alumni Association to help fund student programming and scholarships and bursaries.



FOR THE FOODIE IN YOUR LIFE

For those who savour good food, whether it's preparing or consuming it, DC has a number of gifting options.

If you're looking for an experiential gift, why not purchase a spot in one of the college's many cooking classes and demonstrations? Offered through DC's School of Continuing Education, these sessions range from exploring international cuisine – did someone say Thai or sushi – to discovering wines from around the world.

You can view the full list of classes and demonstrations [here](#).

If you want to give the gift of an amazing meal, why not purchase a gift certificate to DC's full-service, teaching-inspired restaurant Bistro '67? Located inside the W. Galen Weston Centre for Food and recently named on the 150 best neighbourhood gems, the restaurant is based on the field-to-fork philosophy and celebrates local produce.

Gift certificates can be purchased at Bistro '67 and Pantry during operating hours. Until Wednesday, December 20, spend \$50 on a gift card and \$60 will be loaded onto it. Spend \$100 and get \$120.

If you're looking for a hostess gift, stop by the Pantry for a variety of student prepared meals, jams, compotes, sweets, soups and so much more!

FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO GIVE BACK

Everyone has one; the person that is hard to buy for, the person that seems to have everything or someone who prefers to give rather than receive during the holidays.

If so, donating to DC's [Building Something Amazing](#) capital campaign in a loved ones name, is a great way to contribute to future student success by helping to fund completion of the college's new [Centre for Collaborative Education](#) (CFCE).

You can learn more about the CFCE and how your donation would help here. You can get information about making a contribution [here](#).



An artists rendering of the new Aboriginal Student Centre, which will be part of the Centre for Collaborative Education

SPORTS SHORTS

AMAZING FALL FOR DURHAM COLLEGE STUDENT ATHLETES

This fall, Durham College's student athletes had one of the most successful semesters in its 50-year history.

On the field

The DC women's softball team secured their third straight Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) championship, after beating the St. Clair Saints 9-0 in the gold medal game. The last time the team won three titles back-to-back was from 2002 to 2004.

The win was also marked the team's 19th title since OCAA softball started in 1981. Out of the 37 championships held since its inception, the Lords have won just over half. By comparison, the Seneca Sting, who have the second most titles in OCAA history, have won six times.

The men's baseball team had a final four appearance at both the OCAA championship and Canadian Colleges Baseball Championship, as head coach Sam Dempster approached his 400th career victory behind the bench.

On the pitch

The Lords men's soccer team won their first OCAA title in 20 years, beating the Algonquin Thunder 2-1 in the gold medal game. More details can be found in the story below.

The women's soccer team had a rebound year, qualifying for the OCAA championship for the first time since 2009 after a 4-0 win over the Sheridan Bruins in the crossover round of the playoffs.

On the green

Rounding out the medal haul was the golf team who won an OCAA bronze medal. The third-place finish marked their first time reaching the podium since 2014.

Acting as host

In addition to achieving success on the field, the athletic department also hosted two national events including the PING Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association Golf Championship and the second annual Canadian Colleges Baseball Championship.



Lords make history by winning first men's soccer championship in 20 years

The DC men's soccer team won their first OCAA championship title since 1997 by defeating the Algonquin Thunder 2-1 at Fleming College. On-hand to witness the victory was Tony LaFerrara, who was the last men's soccer coach to win gold at DC.

"It's an unbelievable accomplishment for the players and the team and we were lucky to be able to share it with the last winning soccer coach, Tony LaFerrara," said Dave Ashfield, current head coach. "To see the support from our alumni and past coaches today was absolutely outstanding. I cannot say enough about our team. It was probably our best game of the weekend. As coaching staff, we're incredibly proud of the team. It's an unbelievable feeling to be OCAA gold medalists."

The winning match was hard fought with standout performances from many Lords players. Jeremy Bangala scored the opening goal while Colin Reilly's score on net gave DC the early lead.

The Lords maintained the momentum as they outshot the Thunder 6-3 heading into halftime however, Algonquin held the shots on goal advantage in the second half, 7-4 over the Lords, with the game poised to go to extra time, until DC broke the stalemate with a game-winning goal by Kevin Thibodeau.

After the match, DC player Dylan Yeo was named the player of the game and a tournament all-star. Nicholas Axhorn was also named a tournament all-star.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT BISTRO '67

Sunday, December 31

**Bistro '67, W. Galen Weston Centre for Food
1604 Champlain Ave.
Whitby, ON**

Ring in the new year at Bistro '67. Guests will enjoy a five-course meal, which includes various starters, your choice of main course and dessert.

Tickets are \$90 per person (plus applicable taxes and gratuities) and reservations can be made between 5 and 9 p.m. Please note, there are a limited number of seats available.

Please contact Kaitlyn Dover, service manager, to make reservations.

kaitlyn.dover@durhamcollege.ca
905.721.3312

COME SEE THE STANLEY CUP

Monday, January 8, 2018

The Stanley Cup – North America's oldest and most revered championship trophy in professional sport – will be on campus with DC alumnus and Keeper of the Cup Phil Pritchard. Alumni, students and employees are invited to come out to get your picture taken with the one-and-only Stanley Cup and meet Phil. You'll also enjoy free butter tarts, hot chocolate and giveaways!

Oshawa campus

The Pit, Gordon Willey building
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Whitby campus

Student Lounge, main building
2 to 4 p.m.

DC ALUMNI NIGHT AT THE OSHAWA GENERALS

Friday, January 12, 2018

Tribute Communities Centre
99 Athol Street East
Oshawa, ON

7 to 10 p.m.

Durham College will cheer on the Oshawa Generals as they host the Flint Firebirds.

Tickets are \$25 (suite level tickets) and include a reception, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages.

Please contact the Alumni Office to purchase tickets.

alumni@durhamcollege.ca
905.721.3035



A suite of services and expertise for every stage of your business.

No matter what the size, stage or specialization of your business, you need direct access to advisors and service providers you can trust. You need an adaptive team that works alongside you to provide the experience, support and training your business requires for where it is today and where it wants to be tomorrow.

Durham College (DC) Solutions for Business offers a variety of innovative business services. Our teams of professionals work together seamlessly to provide customized solutions to meet your business interests and needs, including talent acquisition, skills training and upgrading, research and development, meeting and banquet facilities, funding procurement and charitable giving.

DISCOVER NEW TALENT

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

The foundation of any successful business is its people. Let us connect you with the right individuals to support your vision. We produce top-notch talent in more than 140 areas of study who are well-prepared for today's workforce and know what it takes to succeed.

Contact us for assistance with your recruitment efforts for full-time, co-op, part-time, contract or seasonal staff, visit www.durhamcollege.ca/careerdevelopment or call 905.721.3034.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Let our experts assist in growing your business. DC offers employers resources and support through Employment Ontario and can connect you with qualified job seekers including experienced professionals, new grads and seasonal staff in their communities. Funding is available to hire and train new staff, and educational and training grants are available for professional development.

Connect with a job developer at Employment Ontario to get started at www.employmenthelp.ca or 905.438.1041.



solutions for business

UPDATE EMPLOYEE SKILLS

SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Continuing Education (CE) offers approximately 80 programs and over 1,000 courses at all levels for part-time learners. Whether seeking academic or professional development opportunities, CE courses can help people at all levels build the knowledge and skills needed for both immediate and long-term career success. Courses are run in-class, online or via correspondence (depending on the course). For select professional development courses, badges/e-credentials are issued upon completion, allowing participants to earn formal recognition for their learning.

Discover all of the options available at www.durhamcollege.ca/coned or call 905.721.3000.

CORPORATE TRAINING SERVICES (CTS)

Our training programs will help your emerging leaders and seasoned veterans alike build their skill sets.

LEADERSHIP ESSENTIALS CERTIFICATE
Program (five modules): starts Thursday, January 25, 2018

- Communicating in Today's Organization
- Creating and Leading Effective Work Teams
- Performance Development
- Understanding Workplace Change and Transition
- Creative and Critical Problem Solving Techniques

ONE-DAY WORKSHOPS

- High Impact Presentations for Business (Wednesday, February 21, 2018)
- Expert Negotiation and Conflict Resolution (Wednesday, March 14, 2018)

- Setting Smart Goals (Wednesday, March 21, 2018)
- Strategic Leadership (Wednesday, May 23, 2018)

Visit www.corporatetrainingservices.ca or call 905.721.3347.

SHAPE CAREERS

STUDENT FIELD PLACEMENTS

Offering a student a field placement opportunity with your organization is a terrific way to re-energize your business, provide a student with a valuable unpaid work experience, develop your mentoring skills and help build the workforce your organization needs. View your business through a student's eyes and see it from a fresh perspective.

Visit www.durhamcollege.ca/fieldplacement or call 905.721.2000 ext. 2808 to learn more.

STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES

CATERING AND EVENTS

DC's meeting centre at the W. Galen Weston Centre for Food at the Whitby campus offers 7,500 square feet of contemporary space to accommodate any event including intimate board meetings, team planning days, presentations, celebrations, corporate functions and trade shows. Catering is provided and prepared by executive chef Raul Sojo and his team of skilled staff and students. Let us help make your event a success.

To find out more, visit www.durhamcollege.ca/catering or contact Nicole Gibbens at 905.721.2000 ext. 4242.

INNOVATE AND EVOLVE

OFFICE OF RESEARCH SERVICES, INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (ORSIE)

ORSIE helps small and medium-sized enterprises access grants and collaborates with them on applied research to develop solutions to meet the challenges facing their business. ORSIE also oversees the college's new AI Hub, which works with industry to uncover new business insights and develop intelligent, autonomous solutions that increase productivity and growth, and the Centre for Craft Brewing Innovation. This unique facility supports craft brewers in addressing and finding solutions to technical gaps in their processes. The ORSIE team will work directly with yours, so you can enter a new innovative era.

Visit www.durhamcollege.ca/research or call 905.721.3223 to begin your evolution.

ENGAGE AND SUPPORT

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI AFFAIRS

Donations to DC are investments in both the future of your business and the community. Support from our partners is vital to deliver the innovative programs that will educate the future workforce and important research that can advance your business or industry. With your support, anything is possible.

Visit www.durhamcollege.ca/giving or call 905.721.2000 ext. 2112 to support post-secondary education in your community.



WWW.DURHAMCOLLEGE.CA
905.721.3000