

DC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT





Durham College is situated on the traditional lands of the First Peoples of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. These lands are covered under the Williams Treaties and rest within the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg. We offer our gratitude to the Indigenous Peoples who care for and, through the treaty process, share the lands on which we live, learn, teach and prosper today.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Dr. Elaine Popp, DC President | 4 |
| Cassie-Jean Dillon, DCAA President | 5 |
| DCAA STRATEGIC PLAN | |
| 2021-2024 DCAA Strategic Plan | 7 |
| DCAA Board of Directors' Update | 9 |
| ALUMNI OUTREACH | |
| Alumni Initiatives | 12 |
| Alumni by the Numbers | 13 |
| DC Alumni Connect App | 14 |
| ALUMNI EVENTS | |
| Opportunities to Connect, Inspire and Celebrate | 17 |
| Convocation Speakers | 20 |
| ALUMNI AWARDS | |
| 2024 Premier's Award Nominees | 23 |
| 2024 Alumni of Distinction Recipients | 24 |
| 2023-2024 DCAA Leadership Awards | 26 |
| ALUMNI AND COLLEGE NEWS | |
| Hot off the Press | 29 |
| GIVING TO DC | |
| Giving by the Numbers | 31 |
| APPENDICES | |
| 2023-2024 Board of Directors | 33 |
| 2023-2024 Advancement and Alumni Relations | 34 |
| Finance Report | 35 |

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MESSAGE FROM DR. ELAINE POPP, DC PRESIDENT

In my first year as President, I've had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the remarkable achievements of our alumni and the incredible impact of the Durham College Alumni Association (DCAA). As you explore this year's annual report, I hope you feel as inspired as I do. Our alumni serve as a testament to the quality of education at Durham College (DC) and as an inspiration to our current students and the broader community.

I'd like to warmly welcome Ariel Sully, who has joined DC as our new Associate Vice President, Advancement and Alumni Relations. She brings a wealth of experience and a deep passion for her work, and I'm confident that under her guidance, the association will continue to flourish. As we welcome Ariel, we also bid a fond farewell to Linda Flynn, who is beginning her well-deserved retirement. Linda's exceptional leadership has been instrumental in shaping the DCAA into the vibrant community it is today, and we are deeply grateful for her contributions.

This year, during our convocation ceremonies, we recognized two exceptional graduates with the Alumni of Distinction Awards: Shelby Nelson, a 2000 graduate of Sport Administration, and Adam Ruppel, a 1997 graduate of Business—Human Resources. This fall, we will also celebrate our 2024 Premier's Award nominees—Chris Cull, Shelby Nelson, Paula Sojo, Aaron Dale and Jeremy Burns.

I encourage you to delve into the inspiring journeys of alumni featured in this report. Each of them is an example of the leadership and innovation excellence that characterizes so many of our graduates. With over 114,500 members, the DCAA is a powerful force for positive change and I'm continually impressed by the difference our graduates are making. As you reflect on the highlights from the past year, you'll see just how far DC and the DCAA have come. I'm excited to see where the future takes us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Elaine Popp
President
Durham College



MESSAGE FROM CASSIE-JEAN DILLON, DCAA PRESIDENT

As my term as President of the Durham College Alumni Association (DCAA) Board of Directors draws to a close, I am filled with pride as we reflect on the successes of our alumni and the growth in engagement among the alumni association.

At the 2023 DCAA Annual General Meeting, we welcomed new Board Directors Christy Stone-Curry, Paul Fritzsich, Jesara Holla and Patrick Lyver. I want to thank them for the enthusiasm and fresh perspectives they bring to the table each meeting. In this report, you'll be able to read more about the work that has continued and new initiatives that have been launched to support our current strategic plan.

In addition, we've been able to move forward with the Alumni Engagement Plan. Data was collected through an alumni survey in early 2023 and a two-day workshop was held later in the year to analyze results. Alumni engagement has been identified as a college-wide priority and an Alumni Engagement Task Force of college representatives was created to develop a data-driven Alumni Engagement Plan. The DCAA approved funding for a one-year Alumni Engagement Officer contract position to assist with the development of this plan. This position has been filled and work will begin this September.

As we enter the final quarter of the DCAA's 2021-2024 Strategic Plan, I would like to thank the Board for their hard work and support. In particular, I would like to recognize retiring Director, Brent Lessard, who has dedicated six years to the Board and has been a wonderful alumni ambassador giving back to the college in many ways. I'd also like to thank Ikra Ijaz and Ezinne Obayagbona for their dedicated service on the Board as well as the Advancement and Alumni Relations team for their support.

We look forward to engaging with our alumni to create the 2025-2028 DCAA Strategic Plan. Please stay tuned for opportunities to participate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cassie-Jean Dillon".

Cassie-Jean Dillon

Fitness and Health Promotion, Class of 2018
President, Durham College Alumni Association

DCAA STRATEGIC PLAN

2021-2024 DCAA STRATEGIC PLAN

OUR MISSION

Bringing the Durham College (DC) community together.

OUR VISION

We are a diverse global network of DC alumni that supports and encourages its members to stay connected by inspiring collaboration, engagement, giving and a commitment to success for future generations.

OUR VALUES



SERVICE



INTEGRITY



DIVERSITY



PROFESSIONALISM



INCLUSION

2021-2024 DCAA STRATEGIC PLAN

OUR PILLARS

SOCIAL INCLUSION

Goal: to adhere to a culture of open discussion, decision-making and advice based on accountability, trust and transparency.

We will:

- » Ensure our policies and constitution reflect our commitment to supporting DC, its alumni and students.
- » Define clear roles and expectations for board members to ensure effective decision-making and achieve measurable outcomes.
- » Offer and support professional development and training opportunities for board members.
- » Create a safe space for all members of the DC community, where their voices are heard and perspectives valued.

ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

Goal: to foster a culture of reciprocation, mutual support and value.

We will:

- » Find creative ways to support alumni in their lives, careers and communities.
- » Create more connection points and interactions between students and alumni.
- » Provide innovative opportunities for alumni to engage with their DC community in a variety of ways.

ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP

Goal: to focus on increasing the diversity and reach of the DCAA.

We will:

- » Provide equal access to opportunities and resources for alumni.
- » Leverage a digital platform to foster connection, support, sharing and celebration among our global community.
- » Cultivate meaningful relationships with students that will extend beyond graduation.
- » Work towards a diverse Board of Directors that demonstrates representation from each of DC's nine academic schools and across a range of industries.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Goal: to establish and/or strengthen meaningful partnerships between the college, industry, government, communities and alumni.

We will:

- » Support DC's mission and vision by providing opportunities for alumni to contribute their time, talent and resources to the college's top priorities.
- » Encourage investment in DC and its community.
- » Create an active network among industry, communities and alumni to enhance communication and encourage partnerships that seek to advance shared goals and priorities.

DCAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' UPDATE

The DCAA Board of Directors has continued to work on the execution of its Strategic Plan. With the establishment of four special alumni teams and a focus on Indigenous, International, Business and Special Projects, together with the Advancement and Alumni Relations team, the following projects were launched or developed further:

INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI

The International Alumni LinkedIn group has grown to more than 380 members and steps are being taken to establish an international alumni database to assist with communication for programs and activities of interest.

INDIGENOUS ALUMNI

In addition to the first Fall Feast organized by the Indigenous Alumni Network and First Peoples Indigenous Centre, smudge kits were handed out to Indigenous grads at Fall and Spring Convocation.

BUSINESS

Preliminary research was completed for creating an alumni engagement campaign leveraging video content to capture alumni at work as well as showcase alumni events and activities.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

This group has begun collaborating with The Barrett Centre of Innovation in Sustainable Urban Agriculture, W. Galen Weston Centre for Food, Campus Health & Wellness Centre, Social Impact Hub and DC Student Association to investigate opportunities to address food insecurity for students and grow culturally appropriate food for international students.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT PLAN

The Alumni Engagement Task Force was established in Fall 2023 and several meetings were held to determine stakeholders for alumni connections. A two-day workshop led by EAi was held November 2 and 3 to review results of the alumni survey and determine next steps for establishing the Alumni Engagement Plan.

2025-2028 DCAA STRATEGIC PLAN

Work will begin in Fall 2024 to develop the next three-year plan. An alumni focus group will be established to provide input during this process. The 2025-2028 DCAA Strategic Plan will incorporate the Alumni Engagement Plan.



ALUMNI OUTREACH



ALUMNI INITIATIVES

The DCAA Board of Directors and DC's Advancement and Alumni Relations team work diligently each year to proactively engage with alumni and our communities to build opportunities for connection and directly support the success of future graduates.

- » Relaunched the Alumni newsletter, which is sent to nearly 50,000 subscribers each month and includes college news, alumni success stories, and information about alumni events and perks.
- » To help students transition to the workforce, a total of 54 mentees from eight programs were matched as part of the Alumni Mentoring Program.
- » More than 100 alumni guest speakers returned to the classroom to share their career experience and advice with current students.
- » Presented 16 DCAA Leaders of the Future Awards to graduating students who demonstrated consistent and outstanding leadership through a variety of means, including enhancing the student life experience for their peers, acting on behalf of other students to create positive change, motivating others to become engaged in campus life, and demonstrating care for others by encouraging divergent viewpoints and multiple perspectives.
- » Established in 2024, the DCAA CICE Outstanding Graduate Award recognized two students from the Community Integration through Cooperative Education (CICE) program in the 2023-24 year who have displayed a commitment to making a positive impact on the program inside and outside of the classroom.
- » DCAA provided matching funding of \$10,000 to support the Food Insecurity Bursary, providing immediate assistance to students who are navigating unforeseen financial challenges.
- » DCAA provided matching funding of \$10,000 to support the Student Experience Fund, enhancing opportunities for students to hone new skills by helping DC refresh, expand, and acquire innovative equipment and technology.
- » Hosted the first Fall Feast for Indigenous students and grads organized by the Indigenous Alumni Network and First Peoples Indigenous Centre.
- » Partnered with DC Athletics to find new ways to celebrate alumni athletes through sponsorship of events, including the Justice Games, alumni tournaments and cross-promotion.
- » Welcomed Prachi Verma as Student Representative on the DCAA Board of Directors.
- » The DCAA supported three new events this year, including the AI in Action conference organized by the AI Hub where a first-time award sponsored by DCAA was presented by DCAA Board Director Patrick Lyver to alumnus, Sharath Kumar Prabhu. In the spring Jesara Holla, Vice President 2 on the DCAA Board of Directors, brought remarks at the second-annual Boujee Bites organized by Oshawa Tourism where community members enjoyed samples from local restaurants including Bistro '67. The DCAA also celebrated our honorary alumni at the DC Retirees Association 20th anniversary celebration, featuring alumnus guest speaker, Brent Lessard.

ALUMNI BY THE NUMBERS



ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

After the 2024 Spring Convocation, the DCAA is comprised of more than **114,500 graduates** world wide.



STAYING CONNECTED

More than **900 alumni** have updated their contact information in the past year.



SOCIAL MEDIA

As the alumni network continues to grow, so does the DCAA's audience across official DC alumni social media accounts: Instagram (**2.6K followers**), Facebook (**3.5K followers**) and LinkedIn (**4K followers**).

Numbers provided in the Alumni by the Numbers and DC Alumni Connect app sections of this report reflect September 2023 to July 2024.



2024 NEW GRAD GUIDE

During Spring Convocation nearly 5,000 career-ready graduates crossed the stage to receive their degrees, diplomas and certificates.

Included in their graduation packages was access to the updated New Grad Guide, which welcomes members to the DCAA and gives them all the information they need to start leveraging the benefits of being a DC alum. Students graduating in the fall will also receive this publication.



DC ALUMNI CONNECT APP

Originally launched in 2018, the DC Alumni Connect app continues to grow, making it easy to find alumni news, perks and contests. Alumni can access discounts on attractions, restaurants, services and shopping with **more than 100 alumni perks**. Also on the app is the DC Alumni Marketplace, allowing users to browse alumni-owned businesses or add their own.

IN THE LAST YEAR

- » Number of users has grown **from 7,300 to 9,467**
- » App users **viewed more than 42K perks and redeemed more than 1,778 discounts**, this is a 43% increase from perks viewed in the previous year
- » **4,124** entries to **16 alumni-exclusive contests**
- » Some of the most popular Alumni Perks include: Bell Exclusive Partner Program, The Canadian Brewhouse, Canada’s Wonderland, Crave Doughnuts and the Campus Store



DC ALUMNI MARKETPLACE FEATURE BROOKE WARNER, OWNER, BROOKE WARNER PHOTOGRAPHY

“I have taken the things that I have learned at Durham College and transferred them into real-world skills that I use everyday in my work as a photographer. I decided to add my business to the DC Alumni Marketplace to expand my connections through the world of entrepreneurs who have the same intent as I do, to promote their business using the tools they gained during their time at Durham College, plus, you never know the connections you might come across or make!”



ALUMNI EVENTS

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT, INSPIRE AND CELEBRATE

The Durham College Alumni Association (DCAA) hosts a wide variety of events each year. From family-friendly events to on-campus opportunities for professional development and inspiration, the goal is to continually evolve DCAA's calendar of events to provide a diverse range of options to the DCAA membership.

2023 DCAA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

In addition to presenting the DCAA Annual Report, this event gives attendees an opportunity to connect with the DCAA Board of Directors, celebrate leadership award winners and socialize with fellow alum.

"The AGM is not only an alumni event to review the business operation of the alumni association but a wonderful opportunity to connect with other alumni and return to the campus to see and learn about new facilities and programs," said Sally Hillis, Senior Alumni Development Officer, DC. "Durham College, your alma mater, continues to lead the way in innovation and transformative education."

APPRENTICESHIP CELEBRATIONS

Graduates from the Apprenticeship programs are unique in that they are with the college for a short period of time and specific purpose. In 2022, alumni staff partnered with faculty to coordinate a graduation celebration for various apprenticeship programs throughout the academic year. This year, graduates were recognized at eight celebrations.

DC TALKS: ALUMNI SERIES

A hybrid event series held in The Rotary Global Classroom at DC's Oshawa campus, the DC Talks: Alumni Series invites alumni speakers from across the globe to share their career journeys and industry insights.

In November, GenAI: The Power of Infinite Possibilities welcomed DC graduates Roop Gill ('20 Chemical Laboratory Technician); Shane Graham ('13 Computer Programmer Analyst); Tejas Vyas ('21 Artificial Intelligence Analysis); and special guest Amanda Maknyik, Associate Dean of Teaching Learning and Program Quality at DC, to help attendees learn more about GenAI and its impact on the workplace and society.

During February's event, attendees celebrated The Chronicle's 50th anniversary and recognized a half-century of quality journalism from DC's campus publication. Six alumni of the Journalism program took part in a wide-ranging panel discussion. They shared stories from their time in journalism and related fields, reflected on the immense changes the industry has faced, and offered advice to today's students who are preparing for their own careers.

"We are celebrating journalism in this room today," said Professor Lon Appleby. "Who are the people who keep our leaders on their toes? Who are the ones that reflect our society back to us in the most truthful and dedicated way? Who are the fourth estate in our society? Journalists."

TORONTO BLUE JAYS COLLEGE NIGHT

More than 650 alumni, students and DC employees attended the Toronto Blue Jays College Night in September to cheer on the Jays and show their DC pride with limited edition DC gear including a Blue Jays/DC baseball cap. This event was organized by DC and the Durham College Student Association (DCSA).

FINALS FUEL FEST

New in 2023, Finals Fuel Fest is a partnership with the DCSA. During this event Advancement and Alumni Relations team members visit both the Oshawa and Whitby campuses to connect with current students and provide them with the fuel they need to crush their finals, including treats from Crave Doughnuts – a community favourite and alumni-owned business.

ALUMNI AT WORK

The Advancement and Alumni Relations team are bringing the alumni event experience on the road by visiting companies and organizations that hire a high percentage of DC grads. This event series provides an opportunity to celebrate great DC partners in industry as well as educate alumni about the benefits available to them as a DC grad. In the spring, this series was launched starting right here on campus, welcoming all DC employees who are also grads to enjoy lunch and connect with each other in the Centre for Innovation and Research.

ALUMNI END OF SUMMER BBQ

In its second year, this summer event is quickly becoming a fan favourite among alumni. On August 21 nearly 200 alumni and their friends and family returned to DC's Oshawa campus to enjoy a BBQ, outdoor games and cool treats. This year's event also featured a photo booth and caricature artist.





CONVOCATION SPEAKERS

Each year, guest speakers at DC's Spring and Fall Convocation ceremonies include notable DC alumni who, since graduating, have made significant contributions to our local and global communities. Their remarks reflect on their individual journeys and inspire the latest class of graduates as they enter the next phase of their careers.

"Today, I want to leave you with this advice – stay true to yourself. Constantly work on improving yourself and doing what brings you the most joy – this will inspire others to live a life that is genuine to them, too."

– **Brent Colmer, 2024 Spring Convocation Speaker**

FALL 2023

Lauren Bull, Human Resource Management, Class of 2006

Brandon Bird, Plumber Apprentice Certificate, Class of 2012

SPRING 2024

Chris Cull, Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Techniques, Class of 2007

Jenifer Stewart, Horticulture – Food and Farming, Class of 2021, and
Carpentry and Renovation Technician, Class of 2023

Brent Colmer, Music Business Management, Class of 2014

Stacey Fox, Human Resources Management, Class of 2000

Shelby Nelson, Sport Administration, Class of 2000





ALUMNI AWARDS

2024 PREMIER'S AWARD NOMINEES

The Premier's Awards for outstanding college graduates honour the important social and economic contribution that graduates make to Ontario and throughout the world. The awards are administered annually by Colleges Ontario. Visit durhamcollege.ca/alumni to find the nominee's full bios.



JEREMY BURNS & AARON DALE

Building on their college education and military service, Toronto police officers Jeremy Burns and Aaron Dale co-founded the Military Veterans Wellness Program (MVWP), designed to help law enforcement members support veterans in crisis. MVWP has been endorsed by organizations including Veterans Affairs Canada, National Defence's Canadian Armed Forces Transition Group, Royal Canadian Legion, and is now part of mandatory training for Toronto police officers.



CHRIS CULL

Founder of Inspire By Example, Chris Cull is a motivational speaker and filmmaker who uses his experience as a recovering opioid user to advocate for mental health and addiction recovery. He has cycled across Canada twice and produced two films to raise awareness and educate the public, transforming many lives. Chris has shared his expertise at numerous notable events, including the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs.



SHELBY NELSON

With a love for sports and community, Shelby Nelson, has dedicated 24 years to the Toronto Blue Jays organization. With a DC education as a foundation, Shelby's career trajectory has seen him rise to Vice President of Florida Operations where he leads a team responsible for Spring Training, the Dunedin Blue Jays, and the Player Development Complex. As the local face of the Blue Jays in Dunedin, Shelby is a respected community leader and a champion of diversity.



PAULA SOJO

At the age of 18, Paula Sojo was diagnosed with a severe case of Crohn's disease, resulting in 17 surgeries and a permanent ostomy. Determined to help others, she teamed up with her brother to found Ostome Fashion, a thriving business that provides fashionable and empowering options to all ostomy users. With help from family, friends and mentors, she has not only changed her life, but promoted representation and acceptance and empowered her community.



2024 ALUMNI OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT **SHELBY NELSON, SPORT ADMINISTRATION** CLASS OF 2000

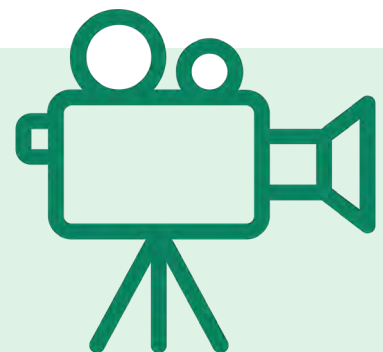
With a love for sports and community, Shelby Nelson, a 2000 Sport Administration graduate, has dedicated 24 years to the Toronto Blue Jays organization. Beginning as an Account Executive, Shelby's career trajectory has seen him rise to Vice President of Florida Operations where he leads a team responsible for Spring Training, the Dunedin Blue Jays, and the Player Development Complex.

Shelby's vision and leadership were crucial in the development of the world-class Player Development Complex and renovating TD Ballpark in Dunedin Florida. In addition to building partnerships with government to move the project forward, his collaboration with architects and management through construction phases—particularly during the pandemic—demonstrated his adeptness at navigating complex challenges. As one of the driving forces behind the project, Shelby's work is a significant contribution to the sport and the community. The Blue Jays new Player Development Complex is recognized as the best in Major League Baseball.

The local face of the Blue Jays in Dunedin, Shelby is a respected community leader, actively participating in various local charities and groups and coaching kids' sports. In recognition of his long-time contributions to baseball in Dunedin, he was inducted to the City's baseball Hall of Fame. Shelby's commitment to his alma mater is evident through student placement opportunities, hiring graduates, and participating in the DC Talks: Alumni Series.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Learn more about the most recent Alumni of Distinction recipients at www.durhamcollege.ca/alumni. Hear more about their careers as well as Shelby and Adam's advice for new graduates in the 2024 Alumni of Distinction video.





2024 ALUMNI OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT **ADAM RUPPEL, BUSINESS — HUMAN RESOURCES** **CLASS OF 1997**

Adam Ruppel’s passion, creativity and dedication have transformed the events industry. A 1997 graduate in Business – Human Resources, he began his career in event management from the corner of his bedroom, founding Chico Racing. For the past 30 years, Adam has been at the helm of this company, producing the largest 24-hour mountain bike event in North America, the 24 Hours of Summer Solstice, held at Albion Hills Conservation Area.

He co-founded Mudhero under Crazy Canuck Events in 2011, quickly establishing it as Canada’s largest obstacle race, with 40 events and over 300,000 participants. In 2018, he sold the business and shifted his focus to the automotive industry where he continued to thrive.

In 2021, Adam co-founded the Drive Festival at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, attracting over 30,000 attendees annually. This three-day outdoor automotive exhibition highlights the latest in car technology and features manufacturer displays, ride-alongs, car collections, clubs, motorcycles, and kid-friendly automotive experiences.

Adam’s commitment to community support is evident through charity runs, festivals, and a cycling fundraiser for his local hospital in Uxbridge. He actively gives back to DC by hiring graduates and offering placement opportunities. Adam’s contributions have significantly impacted tourism and economic development, establishing Clarington and Durham Region as premier destinations for automotive enthusiasts nationwide.

2023-2024 DCAA LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Durham College Alumni Association (DCAA) is proud to share the recipients of two awards, which were recognized at the 2023 Fall and 2024 Spring Convocations, and will be presented at the DCAA Annual General Meeting.

DCAA LEADERS OF THE FUTURE AWARD

This award is presented annually to graduating students who have demonstrated their leadership skills by enhancing the student life experience for their peers, acting on behalf of other students to create positive change, motivating others to become engaged in campus life, and demonstrating care for others by encouraging divergent viewpoints and multiple perspectives.

Congratulations to the 2023-2024 recipients:

Christine Barretto

Andrew Neary

Isabella Cardillo

Daniel Opasinis

Amelia Eric-Markovic

Jenn Rose-Storey

May Friedman

Meghan Scanlon

Alexis Joyce

Jessica Sorichetti

Jonah Marks

Lydia Stewart

Amanda Morrison

Abigail Tobin

Shun Naito

Brooke Warner

DCAA CICE OUTSTANDING GRADUATE AWARD

This first-time award is presented annually to graduating students from the Community Integration through Cooperative Education (CICE) program who have displayed a commitment to making a positive impact on the program inside and outside of the classroom.

Congratulations to the 2024 recipients:

Katrina Scaffidi

Jacob Sweetman



ALUMNI & COLLEGE NEWS

HOT OFF THE PRESS

- » The official [Presidential Installation of Dr. Elaine Popp](#) was led by the Board of Governors and held during the first Convocation ceremony on Monday, June 17. Since taking on the role of President on March 1, 2024, Dr. Popp has been guided by her clear vision of DC as a sustainable, future-proof, people-focused, equity-driven and community-connected college that meets the needs of students and anticipates industry expectations.
- » The DCAA is a proud supporter of [Enactus DC](#). For the second year in a row, Enactus DC has been declared one of the Central Regional Champions for its Founders Drive podcast project. This year, DC competed in the Desjardins Youth Empowerment Challenge and presented Founders Drive: Season Two, a global podcast aimed at inspiring young Indigenous entrepreneurs to overcome barriers and become their own bosses.
- » [DC's Social Impact Hub helped alumna Chris Cull launch Surviving Addiction docuseries](#), which shares different perspectives of those touched by addiction and the humanity behind people's individual experiences.
- » PR News named DC professor and alumna Matisse Hamel-Nelis one of their [2023 People of the Year in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Champion](#) category, recognizing her tireless commitment to accessibility in communications. In 2024 she made the list again in the Educator category.
- » This spring [James Stockwood](#), former DC men's rugby standout, made his debut with the Canadian men's national rugby team.
- » As co-owner of Oshawa-based All or Nothing Brewhouse, [DC alum Jeff Dornan has continued to nurture a relationship with the college](#), finding new ways to connect and give back. In addition to serving on DC's Board of Governors, Jeff helped launch Durham Lords Ale, with a portion of sales contributing to DC's Student Experience Fund.
- » DC's new, state-of-the-art electric vehicle (EV) lab has been named the [Vanhaverbeke Family EV Training Centre](#), in recognition of the generous support of philanthropists Edmond and Sylvia Vanhaverbeke. The centre educates motive power technicians on EVs with programs centred on hands-on, experiential learning.
- » The remarkable contributions and impact of DC's past President Don Lovisa were formally recognized with the [naming of DC's Whitby campus' main building: the Don Lovisa Building](#).

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Get the latest college news, alumni success stories, and information about alumni events and perks. Ensure your contact information is up to date to receive the monthly alumni newsletter in your inbox.



GIVING TO DC

2023

GIVING BY THE NUMBERS



CAPITAL & PROGRAMMING CONTRIBUTIONS

\$3,557,652



STUDENT AWARDS

\$661,245



TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED

\$4,218,897



NEW PLEDGES

\$4,365,600



TOTAL ENDOWMENT

\$20,827,418

Amounts on this page reflect the 2023 calendar year.

ALUMNI LEADERS

In 2020, a category of donors was created to recognize alumni who generously give back to DC through financial contributions to the college. Thank you to our Alumni Leaders:

Brandon Bird, Olinda Casimiro, Kyle Douglas, Kirstine Farmer, Dorothy Fitzgerald, Linda Flynn, Lorraine Fuller, Allen S. Gates, Sally Hillis, Barbara Howe, Vanessa A. Hughes, Suzanne Land, Stew MacDonald, David J. Mackovets, Jason Rinaldi, Drew Samuels, Nancy Shaw, Lee Terry, Paul J. Vessey, Vaso Vujanovic, Mary Weller, Michael R. Whittaker

APPENDICES

2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cassie-Jean Dillon, President

Fitness and Health Promotion, Class of 2018

Drew Samuels, Vice-President 1

Paralegal, Class of 2011

Jesara Holla, Vice-President 2

Journalism – Print, Class of 2006

Kyle Douglas, Director

Business Administration – Human Resources, Class of 2011

Paul Fritzsich, Director

Horticultural – Food and Farming, Class of 2023

Ikra Ijaz, Director

Hospitality Management, Class of 2018

Brent Lessard, Director

Mechanical Engineering Technology, Class of 2014

Patrick Lyver, Director

Graphic Design, Class of 2022

Jennifer McCool-Closs, Director

Advanced Care Paramedic, Class of 2011 & Primary Care Paramedic 2007

Ezinne Obayagbona, Director

Human Resources Management, Class of 2016

Christy Stone-Curry, Director

Human Resources Management, Class of 1997

Prachi Verma, Student Representative

Project Management, Class of 2024

Linda Flynn

Associate Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni Relations, Durham College

Sally Hillis

Senior Alumni Development Officer, Advancement and Alumni Relations, Durham College

2023-2024 ADVANCEMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

Ariel Sully / Linda Flynn

Associate Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni Relations

Jennifer Clark

Senior Development Officer

Sally Hillis

Senior Alumni Development Officer

Peter Garrett

Senior Development Officer, Strategic and Community Initiatives

Mary Weller

Alumni Development Officer

Heather Bulman

Communications and Development Officer

Adriana Hajdari / Holly Tyson

Development Officer, Operations

Anabel Reyna / Abbi Longo

Development and Stewardship Officer

FINANCE REPORT

| REVENUE | BUDGET | PROJECTED 8/31/24 | VARIANCE |
|--|----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| AFFINITY PARTNERS | | | |
| TD Insurance incl. sponsorship | 166,500 | 203,130 | 122% |
| Manulife | 2,500 | 2,893 | 116% |
| EVENTS | | | |
| Alumni Hockey Night | 4,000 | 3,496 | 87% |
| OTHER | | | |
| Tax rebates | 5,000 | 4,568 | 91% |
| Convocation flowers | 4,400 | 5,255 | 119% |
| GIC interest revenue | 8,600 | 8,557 | 100% |
| TOTAL REVENUE | 191,000 | 227,899 | 119% |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| GIVING | | | |
| Scholarships | 12,000 | 15,000 | 125% |
| Campaign Pledge: CSTT YR 3/5 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 100% |
| Enactus DC | 5,000 | 2,899 | 58% |
| Sponsorship | 5,000 | 3,804 | 76% |
| DCAA Leaders of the Future & CICE awards | 5,500 | 4,500 | 82% |
| DCAA Indigenous Leader Awards | 1,500 | 0 | 0% |
| Matching donations for Food Insecurity Bursary & Student Experience Fund | 20,000 | 20,000 | 100% |
| ALUMNI SWAG | | | |
| Orientation gift | 5,000 | 7,495 | 150% |
| Graduation gift and other inventory | 19,000 | 24,785 | 130% |
| EVENTS AND PROGRAMS | | | |
| DC Talks: Alumni Series | 1,000 | 734 | 73% |
| Alumni Hockey Night | 11,000 | 10,408 | 95% |
| Convocation | 10,000 | 12,874 | 129% |
| Countdown to Grad | 8,500 | 3,090 | 36% |
| AGM & Hail and Farewell | 4,500 | 3,300 | 73% |
| OTHER | | | |
| Alumni engagement | 27,000 | 31,263 | 116% |
| Advertising | 2,000 | 1,859 | 93% |
| Annual Report | 2,000 | 2,000 | 100% |
| Miscellaneous | 2,000 | 2,141 | 107% |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 191,000 | 196,152 | 103% |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | | 31,747 | |
| Estimated bank balance a/o 8/31/24 | | 275,000 | |

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