

DURHAM COLLEGE
SUCCESS MATTERS

Alumni



FEBRUARY 2018
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

LOVE AT DC

DC LAUNCHES AI HUB

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.



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to 2018.

While the entire Durham College (DC) community is looking forward to the year ahead, we also fondly reflect on DC's 50th anniversary celebrations as a highlight of 2017. Throughout the year, we had the opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of many of our students, employees and alumni that represent the college across the globe. As our anniversary festivities ended, the college is left with much optimism for the future.

Bolstered by the success of our students and alumni, that optimism serves as a guiding force for the years to come. In thinking ahead, DC is keenly interested in and aware of the acceleration of technological and societal change and how we respond to the challenges those advancements can bring.

With the future in mind, we are engaged in leading-edge research, investing in new technology and expanding our programs and facilities. In this issue of the Alumni Magazine, you will find an update about the ongoing construction at the W. Galen Weston Centre for Food (CFF), which includes an outdoor classroom and the installation of our brew lab and line.

You will read about our cutting-edge research, with the launch of the Durham College Hub for Applied Research in Artificial Intelligence for Business Systems.

We know our approach works. We have seen it over the course of the past five decades as our alumni have graduated and become community builders and leaders who have responded to all types of changes and opportunities in their personal and professional lives.

This issue of the magazine also includes examples of those community builders; graduates like Pat and Dave Fletcher, whose love connection was fostered at DC and turned into a lifelong relationship with the college, and Brandon Gvazdaitis, whose work as a welder brought him back to DC to work on the construction at the CFF.

We have been very fortunate over this past year to connect with many alumni to hear their stories and I encourage all our graduates to reach out and stay in touch. The college is extremely proud of our alumni and wants to know how you are doing.

All the best,
Don



DC president Don Lovisa, Louie the Lord and DC alumnus Phil Pritchard on campus with the Stanley Cup.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE DC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Happy New Year to all our Durham College (DC) alumni. I hope these past few months have left you feeling invigorated and ready for all that 2018 will bring.

The Alumni Association is marking the start of the year with a focus on connections. We've got a fresh new motto, DC alumni – a community for you, and we're going to be looking for more ways than ever to touch base with the college's grads and our alumni in the field.

Whether it's through social media or at a networking event, we would love to hear from you, which is why we're running our Alumni Update Campaign. Please make the updates to your contact details by Wednesday, March 21, to be entered into a draw to win a \$250 VISA gift card. You can do so by visiting www.durhamcollege.ca/alumni/updateyourinfo.

We are also hoping you can help by nominating a DC graduate, who is making an impact in their field or is creating change in their community, for the 2018 Alumni of Distinction award. Nominations are now being accepted and details about how to submit a name for consideration can be found on page 10 of this issue of the magazine.

Previous Alumni of Distinction winners include Brent Lessard, who also won a 2017 Ontario Premier's Award, as was profiled in our last edition of the magazine. The entire DC community is extremely proud of his achievement.

Despite the fact it is still early in 2018, there has already been many exciting things happening in the alumni community. At the beginning of January, we welcomed DC alumnus Phil Pritchard back to campus. As the Keeper of the Cup, he also brought another famous lord with him – Lord Stanley that is, in the form of the Stanley Cup.

We enjoyed another successful Alumni Night at the Oshawa Generals in mid-January. More than 130 alumni and employees came out for a night of reconnecting with the college and each other, not to mention some great hockey.

There is a lot more planned for the coming months so be sure to check the upcoming events section of the magazine for details.

As we head into the coming year, please know the entire Alumni Association is working hard to ensure 2018 is going to be successful, as we engage with our graduates at home and around the world.

Elaine



DCAA president Elaine Garnett with Practical Nursing student and scholarship recipient Rosalee Budai at the Student Donor Recognition Evening.

DC REACHES 50 ACTS OF KINDNESS TO WRAP UP MILESTONE YEAR

Riding a wave of holiday spirit across campus, Durham College (DC) reached its goal of 50 Acts of Kindness completed and shared by the end of its 50th anniversary year. Launched in April as part of DC's 50th anniversary celebrations, [the 50 Acts of Kindness project](#) was designed to capture a snapshot of how members of the campus community give back.

Whether they were volunteering, donating to a food or clothing drive, helping a neighbour or surprising someone in need of a smile, DC students, employees, alumni and retirees proved that they're both go-getters and go-givers!

Each act of kindness was submitted to the [DC50 website](#) along with a brief description of the act of kindness, participants involved and a photo. As each act of kindness was received it was then posted to the [50 Acts of Kindness webpage](#) building a virtual collage of goodwill and community.

DC is grateful to everyone who contributed generosity and good deeds to help reach 50 Acts of Kindness. Below are some highlights:

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION THROUGH COOPERATIVE EDUCATION (CICE) TEAM: HERIZON HOUSE DONATIONS

In April, a team from DC's CICE program collected and donated items to Herizon House, a place of safety for abused women and their children.

PAM STONEHAM: WOMEN IN POWER BUILD

A team of DC women participated in the Women in Power Build event in June, supporting Habitat for Humanity Durham. \$465 was raised for a great cause.

DANIELLE HARDER: JOANNE'S HOUSE

In May, Danielle Harder, a journalism professor with DC's School of Media, Art and Design, volunteered to make and serve dinner for residents of Joanne's House, a shelter for homeless teenagers in Durham Region.

JULIET EMILY MATTOCK: DONATIONS FOR AN ANIMAL SHELTER

In May, DC student Juliet Emily Mattock, collected supplies such as dog and cat food, treats, toys, blankets, towels and leashes, to give her local animal shelter, the Arnprior & District Humane Society.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: ALUMNI OF DISTINCTION

Durham College (DC) is now accepting nominations for its Alumni of Distinction award, which recognizes graduates who make extraordinary contributions to society while also achieving career success.

Recipients are selected based on professional, community and personal accomplishments, contributions to the advancement of DC, and the geographic (regional, national, and international) scope of impact for their achievements.

“We are incredibly lucky to have more than 82,000 alumni representing the college across the globe,” said Don Lovisa, president, Durham College. “This award is our opportunity to acknowledge the incredible work they are doing professionally and personally while also highlighting their achievements.”

Since 1990, 101 alumni have received the Alumni of Distinction honour. These include Brent Lessard and Debbie Low, who are also Premier’s Award winners, as well as Philip Pritchard, who was a Premier’s Award nominee.

Nominations for this year’s award are due by Friday, March 9 at 5 p.m.

To submit a DC graduate for consideration please visit www.durhamcollege.ca/alumni distinction to download the nomination form. Once it is completed, please send it to:

Durham College Alumni office
2000 Simcoe St. N.
Oshawa, ON
L1H 7K4

The awards will be presented at Spring Convocation in June.



DCAA president Elaine Garnett, 2017 Alumni of Distinction winner Joyce Hunter and DC president Don Lovisa at spring convocation.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: NURSE CHEVROLET CADILLAC

Just as Durham College (DC) has been a part of Durham Region for the past five decades, Nurse Chevrolet Cadillac has also been a stalwart of the community since its founding in 1966. Established by W.S (Bill) Nurse, the dealership not only sells and services cars, it is engaged in a culture of philanthropy that has supported multiple charities and organizations throughout the years.

At its helm is Bill's daughter Mary Nurse, who joined the organization in 1997 and was subsequently approved as the dealer principal for Nurse Chevrolet Cadillac Ltd. Under her direction the dealership's physical footprint, operations and charitable giving have grown significantly.

As those changes have taken place, so too has the development at DC. The Nurses moved to Durham Region shortly after the Simcoe Building – the only building on campus – had first opened. Mary, who was a high school guidance counsellor prior to taking over at the dealership, also remembers bringing students to the college's Oshawa campus for tours.

From those early days onward, she has watched as the college has grown. Through forming its partnership and adding to its shared campus with the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, to expanding its Whitby campus, DC has continued to develop its facilities and programs to meet the needs of its students.

This incredible growth and development could not have happened without help from private and corporate donors like Nurse Chevrolet Cadillac, whose latest gift is helping to complete construction of the college's new Centre for Collaborative Education (CFCE).

Mary recently joined DC President Don Lovisa, student Annabelle Wilson and Senior Development Officer Jennifer Clark for a tour of the CFCE. Scheduled to open in fall 2018, she was able to see the space, including the classroom that will bear the dealership's name in honour of their contribution, as well as hear about the services, supports and spaces that will call the CFCE home.

"Being able to tour the project was a wonderful way to bring the impact of our donation to life," Mary said. "The plans the college has for the space are truly amazing and right on target with the needs of the employment market here in Durham Region. The facilities and training that will be available are truly relevant to the world of work after graduation and will certainly help students prepare for their careers."



Student Annabel Wilson, Nurse Chevrolet Cadillac dealer principal Mary Nurse and DC president Don Lovisa touring the CFCE.

When asked about why Nurse Chevrolet Cadillac chose to financially support the CFCE she noted, "as a dealership we have a number of pillars that we use to evaluate potential donations. Education is one of them and we feel it's the role of the community to support teaching and learning for the next generation. We had also made a donation towards the construction of the W. Galen Weston Centre for Food at the college's Whitby campus. Donating to this capital project seemed like the logical next step, one which would benefit both the community at large and DC students."

A legacy project tied to the college's 50th anniversary in 2017, the CFCE will replace the college's aging Simcoe building, which was originally built as a temporary structure and opened in 1969. The new multi-level, 75,000-square-foot-facility will serve as an educational access point for students while bringing together local, Indigenous and global community groups and members of key business sectors.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the programs and services that will call the CFCE home.

DURHAM COLLEGE COLLABORATES WITH PARKWOOD ESTATE TO RECREATE ICONIC GEORGE TANAKA GARDENS

In celebration of the ongoing partnership between Durham College (DC) and Parkwood National Historic Site (Parkwood), students from the college's Horticulture Technician program have recreated Parkwood's iconic Japanese garden. Designed by Canadian landscape architect George Tanaka in 1963, the recreation made its debut at the Landscape Ontario Congress trade show, which took place in Toronto from January 9 to 11.

"Every year Congress offers space for students in horticulture programs to build a garden," said Shane Jones, professor, School of Science & Engineering Technology. "DC has presented garden concepts before but given the college's relationship with Parkwood, working together to develop and deliver educational curricula, and the fact Parkwood is celebrating its 100th anniversary, it was decided we would recreate the Tanaka design."

Commissioned by Sam McLaughlin, to convert the estate's existing greenhouses, Tanaka was well known for combining his Japanese heritage with elements native to the Canadian landscape. Designed to be "simple and unassertive", his Japanese garden is a staple at the historical site, occupying one of five greenhouse spaces.

McLaughlin was in his 90's when the Japanese Garden greenhouse was designed and it became a contemplative retreat for him, mere steps from his domestic spaces. He was often found wandering and enjoying the space.

Using original elements retrieved from the garden, which will be restored back to its original exterior this spring, and working in tandem with the heritage docents at Parkwood, the students put together their interpretation of Tanaka's vision.

"Parkwood Estate has thoroughly enjoyed working with the Durham College students on this recreation of Tanaka's garden," said Samantha George, Curator of Parkwood. "Not only was the greenhouse space very special to Sam McLaughlin, it has become a fixture at the estate. The students' recreation really did it justice and gave others the chance to enjoy the garden as much as McLaughlin did."

Following a two-day installation at Congress, more than 13,000 visitors to the trade show were able to take in the students hard work, while enjoying a piece of local Oshawa history.



DC and Parkwood's recreation of iconic Japanese garden designed by George Tanaka.

DC ALUMNI ENJOY A NIGHT WITH THE OSHAWA GENERALS

On Friday, January 12, more than 130 Durham College (DC) alumni and employees were on hand to watch as the Oshawa Generals took on the Flint Firebirds during the college's annual Alumni Night.

Held each year, Alumni Night at the Oshawa Generals is a chance for DC graduates and employees to come together for an evening of reconnecting and great hockey, while also enjoying a reception, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages as part of their ticket purchase.

Also on hand was DC President Don Lovisa, DC Alumni Association President Elaine Garnett and Student Governor Rahul Khanna, who represented the college during the ceremonial puck drop. Of course, no evening would be complete without an appearance by DC mascot Lord Durham, who was giving away t-shirts and hats to the crowd.

The evening was capped off with a win by the Generals, who beat out the Firebirds 5-3.



DC president Don Lovisa, Student Governor Rahul Khanna and DCAA president Elaine Garnett take to the ice for the puck drop.

LOVE AT DC

DAVE AND PAT FLETCHER

For Pat and Dave Fletcher, what started as a love story featuring two college sweethearts has turned into a lifelong connection with Durham College (DC), which is particularly fitting given Dave's own familial roots within the DC community.

It all began when they met in 1981. Pat was in the second year of the Registered Nursing program and Dave had just enrolled in the college's Mechanical Engineering Technology program. Introduced by a mutual friend, he eventually asked her out only to be challenged to a squash game in response. Their first date took place on the court at the college's athletic complex where Pat insists she let Dave win.

He must have won her heart as well because after graduation the couple married and began their careers shortly thereafter; Pat as a nurse at the Oshawa General Hospital and Dave as a design engineer at Norapco Ltd.

However, as many alumni know, just because you have graduated does not mean your connection with DC ends and in 1986 Dave heard the college was hiring. His application was successful and he became a professor in what is now the School of Business, IT and Management, which signaled the start of his 30-year career with the institution.

DC was not just special to Dave and Pat. Dave's parents had a history with the post-secondary institution as well. In 1969, his father was hired as Director of Plant and Planning to design, build and maintain the Gordon Willey building. This was followed by numerous other wings; including the athletic complex. Dave's mother became the Director of Nursing at Durham College in 1975, making Keith and Virginia the first married couple employed at DC.

The Fletchers have been ardent supporters of the college and its students. This includes their daughter Jennifer, who is currently enrolled in the Early Childhood Education program. In fact, within Dave's immediate family they have over 60 years of combined experience with DC as both students and employees.



DC alumni Pat and Dave Fletcher.

Throughout his DC career, Dave had many memorable highlights as President of the Durham College Student Association (DCSA), Alumnus of Distinction Award winner, President of the DC Alumni Association and Guest Speaker at the year 2000 Convocation. In addition to his love of teaching, he enjoyed volunteering numerous years as the Advisor and Parliamentarian for the DCSA and coordinating the Operations Management Society students with outside agencies.

Pat has enjoyed seeing how the campus has grown and become more integrated since her days studying in the Simcoe Building and at the hospital.

From the family members that came before them to a seemingly innocuous first date on the squash courts, Pat and Dave not only fell in love at DC, they formed a deep bond with the college that helped launch their careers and lives together. Through their family's expertise and donations of time, bursaries and capital contributions, they played an important role in shaping DC into the top-quality post-secondary institution it is today.

LOVE AT DC

JANET AND CURTIS MOLLON

It was two fedoras and being in the right place at the right time that brought Curtis and Janet Mollon together. Theirs was a love connection years in the making and at the heart of it was Durham College (DC).

Despite having run into each other before, it wasn't until DC's Spring Convocation in 2009 when the pair really took note of each other. Curtis's graduation from the Emergency Management program was scheduled for that morning and Janet, who had completed the Human Services Counselling program, was crossing the stage in the afternoon. Her sister however, was also graduating in the morning so she was on hand to cheer her on.

Janet's outfit of choice for the occasion? A pinstripe pant suit and fedora. Coincidentally, Curtis and his best friend had also chosen fedoras to dress up their convocation gowns. As Janet watched the ceremony from the stands, she spotted their fedoras and decided she had to find an opportunity to speak with the men sporting the stylish hats.

After the ceremony concluded, Curtis was outside taking pictures with family and friends when Janet began her approach to say hello. Unfortunately,

her attempt was cut short by the realization Curtis had a girlfriend, who was also posing for pictures, so instead eye contact, a shared smile and a tip of their hats was all they could do to acknowledge each other.

Fast forward to life after graduation and both Janet and Curtis were busy trying to find their footing in their work and personal lives. It quickly became apparent they shared a mutual circle of friends, which led to reconnecting at a party months after their fedora-driven convocation moment.

Curtis, who was now living close to DC, began working in the security field and Janet found a job at the college's Office of Campus Safety. She also enrolled in DC's Child and Youth Worker program, which signaled the start of a balancing act between going to class and working eight-to-12 hour shifts.

This meant Janet often worked all night and then headed straight to class in the morning. To save time, she began staying with Curtis, which was a much easier commute. Both single by this time, Janet strived to find the balance between school and work and Curtis became her number one support: "no matter how tired or ready to give up



DC alumni Janet and Curtis Mollon.

she was, I kept reminding her this was the road to success."

As the days turned into weeks and the weeks into months, they naturally found their rhythm as a couple and while there was never an official boyfriend/girlfriend discussion, their friendship evolved into what is now a loving 10-year relationship.

Their wedding took place in October 2013. Daughter Kayline arrived 10 months later and their second child is due in September 2018. Curtis is now working as a material handler at

Lakeridge Health and Janet is an access facilitator for the Durham Children's Aid Society.

Despite the twists and turns along the way, the Mollons truly did find love at DC. Curtis sums it up best when he says, "I still thank Durham College for the roller-coaster ride that gave me the reason I get up in the morning and the reason I do what I do. I can't imagine my life without my girls and I have the college to thank for being involved in a variety of ways to help to make my family whole."

A WHITBY CAMPUS HOMECOMING: HOW ONE ALUMNUS IS HELPING SHAPE THE NEXT PHASE OF DEVELOPMENT AT THE W. GALEN WESTON CENTRE FOR FOOD

For Brandon Gvazdaitis, work on his latest welding project has also been a homecoming of sorts, bringing him back to Durham College's (DC) Whitby campus, where he graduated from the Welding program in 2014, to contribute to the next phase of development at the W. Galen Weston Centre for Food (CFF).

For many, when they think of the CFF, the college's hospitality, culinary and horticulture programs come to mind, along with the centre's award-winning restaurant Bistro '67 and retail store, Pantry. The fields, greenhouses and orchard that surround the building have become synonymous with the field-to-fork philosophy those programs are based on and serve as a natural extension of what is being lived every day in the classrooms, labs and kitchens.

However, it is more than just the gardens that are growing at the CFF. The physical spaces and structures have also undergone many changes since the centre opened in 2013 and its evolution is now continuing with three new capital projects underway.

Funded through the generosity of a gift from the W. Garfield Weston Foundation, the vision for the CFF is being further implemented with the creation of a covered walkway and canopy running between the greenhouses to the building, an outdoor classroom and outdoor seating area for use by students and the public alike. Which is where Gvazdaitis and his company Pitted Metal come in.

"Being contracted to work on this project feels like things are coming full circle," he said. "It's been really rewarding to work at the campus where I did my training and took my classes and I'm proud to be part of all of the positive changes and development at the W. Galen Weston Centre for Food."

Work on the canopy was recently completed, while the outdoor classroom and seating area are scheduled for completion for spring 2018.



An artist's rendering of the new outdoor classroom at the W. Galen Weston Centre for Food.

LET'S STAY IN TOUCH! ALUMNI UPDATE CAMPAIGN

With over 82,000 members in our community, our records need a refresh from time to time.

By updating your contact information, you are ensuring that you receive all the latest news from DC, including our quarterly Alumni Magazine, information on benefits and special offers exclusive to our grads.

Please make the updates to your contact details by Wednesday, March 21 to be entered into a draw to win a \$250 VISA gift card. You can do so by visiting www.durhamcollege.ca/alumni/updateyourinfo.

We encourage you to make this an annual part of your new-year routine so we always know how best to reach you.

Here's to staying in touch in 2018 and beyond!



UPDATE YOUR DC ALUMNI CONTACT INFORMATION

DURHAM COLLEGE LAUNCHES FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND APPLIED RESEARCH AI HUB

Durham College (DC) recently announced the launch of the Durham College Hub for Applied Research in Artificial Intelligence for Business Systems, to be known more commonly as the AI Hub. Housed within the college's Office of Research Services, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (ORSIE), the AI Hub offers small and medium enterprises (SMEs) a much-needed access point to the rapidly growing field of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

"The promise of AI is bold, but for the 98 per cent of Ontario businesses that identify as SMEs the challenges of AI adoption are significant," said Debbie McKee Demczyk, dean of ORSIE. "SMEs need help understanding this complex field, accessing resources and data, and figuring out how they intersect with their business. The AI Hub was born out of our team identifying the need to bridge this gap between AI and the organizations who stand to benefit from it."

DC's AI Hub offers industry partners access to technical expertise, state-of-the-art facilities and learning platforms, and students who are emerging leaders in their fields, so that through applied research projects they may uncover business insights and implement intelligent and autonomous solutions to increase their

companies' productivity and growth.

AI is transforming the ways in which business systems, consumer interactions and devices are being developed and used. By building upon Canada's established lead in AI scientific research, DC's AI Hub aims to ensure this emerging and vital competitive advantage for business can be understood, developed and adopted by SMEs.

The AI hub is focused on how "narrow AI" can be used to help SMEs unlock competitive advantage through the adoption of AI. Narrow AI refers to any software that uses technologies such as machine learning (ML), decision support, natural language processing and automation to recommend strategic options, make decisions autonomously and act in a manner that would be considered intelligent.

In addition to supporting SMEs, the AI Hub also provides DC students and alumni opportunities to gain highly sought-after AI and ML skills and experience to improve their competitiveness in today's job market.

"DC was early to recognize the importance of embracing AI both on campus and within the region's business community," said DC president Don Lovisa. "In response, our leadership team



moved quickly to provide direction and financial support to help establish the AI Hub and its outreach efforts."

As part of the AI Hub's establishment, DC also launched three internal projects to accelerate the college's adoption of AI and commissioned a new GPU Accelerated AI Systems Lab for research and teaching purposes.

The college has also just announced its eighth AI applied research project that launched in 2017. DC and Toronto-based flitePLAN International (flitePLAN) are partnering on a project using AI and advanced development techniques to address the financial and ecological benefits of fuel optimization in commercial aviation.

"Fuel is the single largest variable expense for an airline and its efficient use often is the difference between profitability and loss for a carrier," said Bernard Gonsalves, founder and CEO, flitePLAN. "Using AI and predictive modeling, our proprietary platform will create unique fuel-saving profiles for each commercial flight, providing expert recommendations to the captain on ways that fuel can be saved while still maintaining safety and conforming to regulatory requirements. We are excited to work with DC's AI Hub to advance our adoption of AI and mobile application development."

Companies interested in how AI and digital transformation can enhance their businesses are encouraged to visit www.durhamcollege.ca/theAIHub or contact the AI Hub team directly at theaihub@durhamcollege.ca or 905.721.3223.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: MANJULA SELVARAJAH AND BRANDON NOLAN TALK CAREERS AND LIFE AFTER COLLEGE AT ALUMNI IN THE PIT

From life as a Toronto marketing executive to telling the city's stories on the radio and from a career in the NHL to running three successful businesses, two Durham College (DC) graduates returned to campus on February 6 to share stories about their careers and life after graduation during the annual Alumni in the Pit event.

This year's event featured Manjula Selvarajah, a 2014 grad of the college's Journalism – Print and Broadcast program (now known as [Journalism – Mass Media](#)), and Brandon Nolan, a 2013 Business Administration – Marketing grad (now [Marketing – Business Administration](#)), who offered insights into how they've achieved success for the students and employees in attendance.

MANJULA SELVARAJAH:

Now a Toronto-based freelance journalist and occasional on-air technology columnist and producer for CBC Radio, including the popular radio show Metro Morning, Selvarajah left her career as a marketing executive and headed back to school after being inspired by a story she heard on the news about Tamil refugees arriving in Canada.



Driven by a desire to tell real stories that would not necessarily be told by mainstream media, she urged students in the audience to treat each day in class as if it is already their job and emphasized the importance of doing amazing work, regardless of whether it's your dream role or not.

She also credits her DC professors and the field placement she completed as part of her program with preparing her for her current role. It's a job that has taken her to the front lines of reporting the news and has given her the opportunity to give back, including co-founding the non-profit organization Tamil Women Rising.

BRANDON NOLAN:

Nolan has enjoyed a diverse career both on and off the ice. A proud Ojibway from the Garden River First Nation in northern Ontario, he grew up spending the winter months playing hockey on an outdoor rink, beginning his love for the game and eventually earning him a spot with the pros. After a stint in the Ontario Hockey League, he enjoyed a five-year professional hockey career that took him all over the world before being cut short by a serious concussion suffered while playing for the Carolina Hurricanes.

After recognizing a college education would give him the skills he needed to succeed in his post-hockey career, he headed back to school.

Upon completing his studies, Nolan began down the path that now sees him running successful businesses with his father and brother, including 3N Clothing Apparel and the 3|NOLANS First Nation Hockey School, as well as the Ted Nolan Foundation, which supports and encourages Aboriginal youth to pursue academic growth for a better future.

He shared his story of graduating from DC and taking jobs that, though not ideal, were integral to getting his foot in the door. He also encouraged students to remember that all the steps they take in their career can lead to their goals, echoing his co-panelist's emphasis on doing good work and providing good service.



Alumni in the Pit is part of DC's [backpack2Briefcase program](#), a series of events designed to help students and recent alumni make a smooth transition from college to the workplace. Events and workshops are held throughout the year to offer opportunities for both personal and professional development that will enhance the skills and training students learn in the classroom.

BENEFIT OF THE MONTH

SMILE VIEW DENTAL

DC Alumni receive 25 per cent off services at [Smile View Dental](#) plus a free at home whitening kit.
Call 905.571.0001 to book your appointment. Offer valid when DC Alumni membership card is shown.



SPORTS SHORTS

FORMER LORD, LINDSAY PANCHAN, GOES PRO IN GERMANY

Former Durham College (DC) women's basketball player Lindsay Panchan has made the jump to professional basketball in Germany after signing to play with Bergische Loewen of Damen-Basketball-Bundesliga's (DBBL) second division.

Panchan goes to Europe after leaving her mark in Oshawa, finishing her college career as one of the greatest women's basketball players in DC Lords history. She rewrote the record books as the college's first three-time Canadian College Athletic Association (CCAA) All-Canadian and broke the Ontario College Athletic Association (OCAA) single-season scoring record in 2016-2017 with 439 points. She was also the OCAA scoring champion in each of her three seasons; her 1,109 career points place her second on the Lords all-time scoring list and she broke the Lords single-game scoring record with 41 points against the Algonquin Thunder on November 20, 2015.

"I think that playing in the OCAA definitely gave me confidence and leadership skills," said Panchan. "I played all over the court so I could sense the game in a lot of different situations. Having the Durham College community believe in me was an amazing feeling too."

The move from her home in Ajax, Ontario to Europe has been a major transition, in addition to adapting to the international level of play. Based in Bergisch Gladbach, the team is situated in a city with a population of 110,000, just 10 kilometres east of the major city of Cologne in the country's most populated state.

"I feel honoured and lucky to have this opportunity because not many women can get over here," said Panchan. "I love this game so much, I love being on a team, feeling exhausted and winning. I also love learning from my mistakes and becoming a better player and person each day."



Former DC women's basketball player Lindsay Panchan makes the jump to professional basketball in Germany.

DURHAM LORDS IN THE COMMUNITY

The 13 varsity teams at Durham College (DC) strongly believe it is important, as student-athletes, to be involved in the community. Each year they committee to getting involved in the community and helping fundraise for non-profit organizations.

“It is amazing to see our athletes get involved with the community,” said Ken Babcock, athletic director, Durham College. “It’s not something they have to do, they enjoy it. Each year they display incredible creativity in their fundraising efforts and are able to achieve their goals, both at new and existing events.”

Below are some of the events the Durham Lords have participated:

Survival Bags to Salvation Army

The women’s softball team prepared 24 “Winter Survival Kits” for the Whitby Salvation Army to give out to people in need. Each bag contained a voucher for a free extra value meal and hot coffee from McDonald’s, a toque, toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, a wash cloth, a pair gloves, a scarf, hot feet warmers, a pair of socks, granola bar and a pack of gum.

Pickering Mayor’s Gala Event

Six players from the women’s soccer team were in charge of selling gift bags at the 13th annual

Pickering Mayor’s Gala Event. The girls set a new record for the event, selling 200 gift bags in 2017. To-date the Mayor’s Gala has raised over one million dollars and the women’s soccer team is excited to work with them again.

Holiday Food Drive

The volleyball and basketball teams encouraged spectators who came to each home game to bring non-perishable food items for the holiday food drive. Fans who did this received a free bag of popcorn to enjoy while watching the game.

YWCA Holiday Gifts

The YWCA raises money for women, youth and children in Durham Region. During the holiday season, the women’s volleyball team purchased unwrapped gifts and non-perishable food items and donated them so the YWCA could distribute them to families in need.

Habitat for Humanity Durham

Members of the softball team raised money for the Habitat for Humanity Durham Region and volunteered for a day, helping paint and put up trim on a build in downtown Oshawa.

Breast Cancer Fundraiser

The men’s and women’s volleyball teams worked together throughout the month of October, which is also Breast Cancer Awareness Month, to



Softball team volunteers for Habitat for Humanity Durham (left), men’s and women’s volleyball teams participate in Breast Cancer Fundraiser (right).

support Durham College alumnus Cheryl Dustin (Barkley) in her personal battle with breast cancer. Each member of the volleyball teams wore a pink shirt with the name of the person they wanted to support and raised over \$500 for Cheryl.

Play Global! Fundraiser

Throughout their season, the baseball team raised money for Play Global! at each home game by selling hot dogs and holding raffles. Play Global! is a non-profit organization that teaches coaches and youth how to play baseball in developing countries. They work in Uganda, Israel, Kyrgyzstan, and India. Their future plans are to expand to the Ukraine and South Africa.

Rugby – High School Championship

Members of the women’s rugby team volunteered at the high school championship hosted at the Oshawa Vikings Rugby Club in Raglan.

Special Community Days

The Durham Lords host a number of community days at their regular season home games, where minor sports team or choirs perform before or during a game.

School Visits

Members of the varsity teams visit elementary schools in the Durham Region and talk about the importance of education, healthy living and what it’s like to be a student-athlete.

Minor Practices

The Durham Lords are helping lead practices throughout the Durham Region. Whether it is club teams or school teams, the Lords have been lending a hand, giving tips to coaches and the players.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ETIQUETTE DINNER

Monday, March 19

6 to 9 p.m.

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

Offered as part of DC's backpack2Briefcase (b2B) program, attendees will have the opportunity to learn business dining etiquette and enjoy a great meal.

Etiquette consultant Fatima Di Valentin will conduct a practical lab where you will learn how to properly navigate a three-course meal through to dessert. You will be provided valuable tips and dos and don'ts throughout the experience.

As space is limited, please purchase a ticket to reserve your seat. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased at the following locations:

Durham College Alumni office

- Campus Corners, 2069 Simcoe St. N.

Whitby campus

- Pantry, W. Galen Weston Centre for Food

Oshawa campus

- School of Business, IT & Management, room C223
- School of Justice & Emergency Services, room F211

SPRING OPEN HOUSE

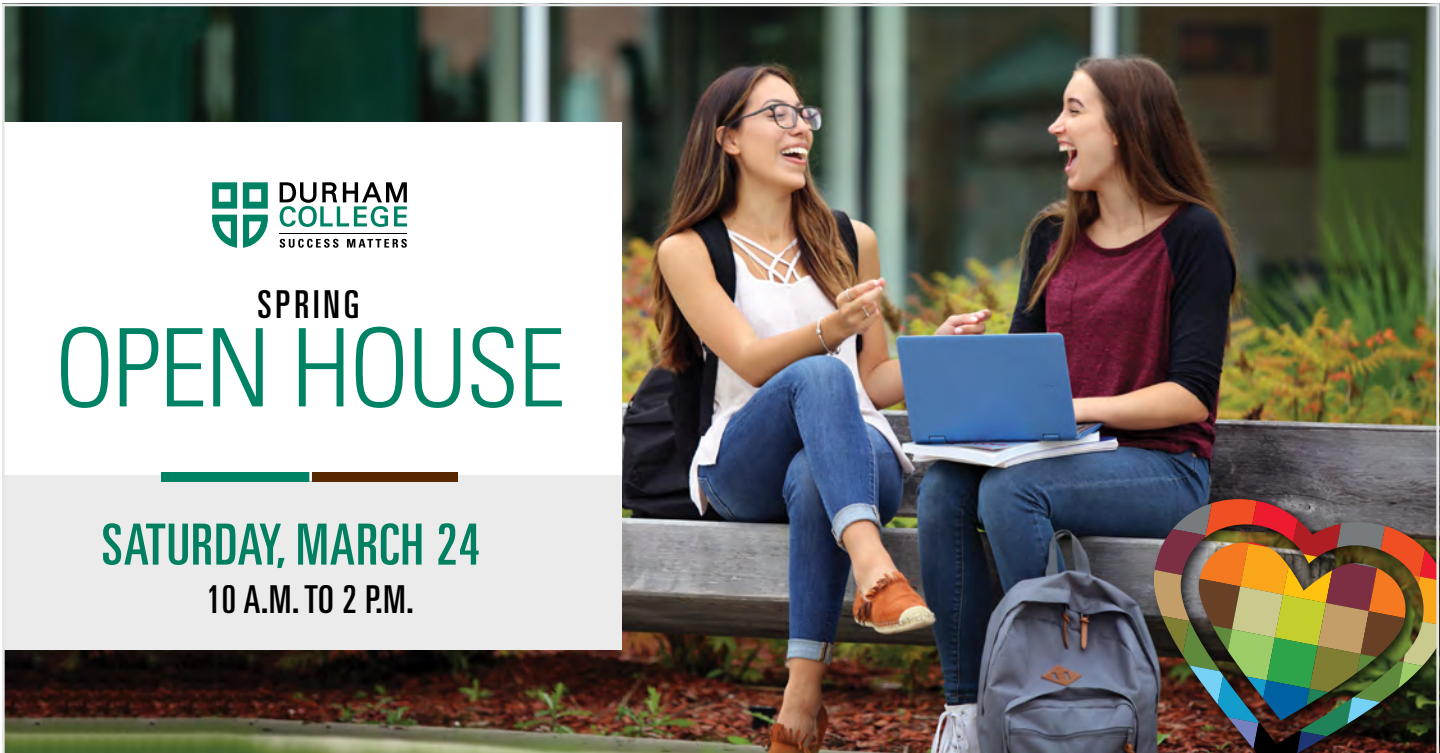
Saturday, March 24, 2018

Oshawa and Whitby Campuses, Pickering Learning Site

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Drop in anytime between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to gain more insight about your educational and career choices from the people who know best: our students and faculty. You will also have the chance to explore our numerous services and amazing facilities.

www.durhamcollege.ca/openhouse



AT DURHAM COLLEGE, THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE COMES FIRST AND YOU CAN HELP MAKE IT EVEN BETTER

WHY GIVING MATTERS :

Durham College (DC) offers more than 140 full-time, market-driven programs in a variety of fields, providing students with an opportunity to excel in their chosen area.

Whether DC students are inventing new ways to implement sustainable practices; writing, designing, filming, or animating; utilizing their caring nature to contribute to the health and social wellness of others; or advocating on behalf of the law – they are successful!

With your support, anything is possible.

CHOICES FOR GIVING:

Having grown rapidly over the past decade, renewed and expanded space designed to meet the needs of our students is our top priority. A gift to the Building Something Amazing campaign will help DC deliver on the vision behind the new Centre for Collaborative Education (CFCE). The CFCE will offer students a new perspective on their futures and what they can achieve; inspire cultural comprehension and connection; drive entrepreneurship here in Durham Region and beyond; and establish deep connections between DC, our students and the communities that we serve.

DC is pleased to be able to provide more than \$2 million in scholarship and bursary funding each year. While building inspiring space for students is our highest priority, gifts supporting scholarship and bursaries are also welcome.

Donations are eligible for tax receipts and donor recognition is provided to honour your generous contribution.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please contact [Linda Flynn](#), associate vice-president, Office of Development and Alumni Affairs if you have any questions.

READY TO DONATE NOW?

There are two ways to make a donation:

Online:

Giving online is a fast, efficient and secure way to support our students and projects. To give online now, [click here](#).

Mail:

Donations may be sent by cheque, money order (made payable to Durham College Foundation) or credit card. Please complete and mail the [giving form](#) to:

Durham College Foundation,
Office of Development and Alumni Affairs

2000 Simcoe St. N.
Oshawa, ON
L1H 7K4
Canada

For more information about giving to DC visit www.durhamcollege.ca/giving





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