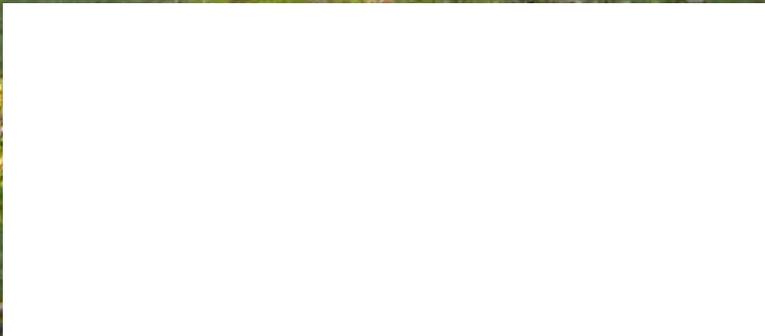
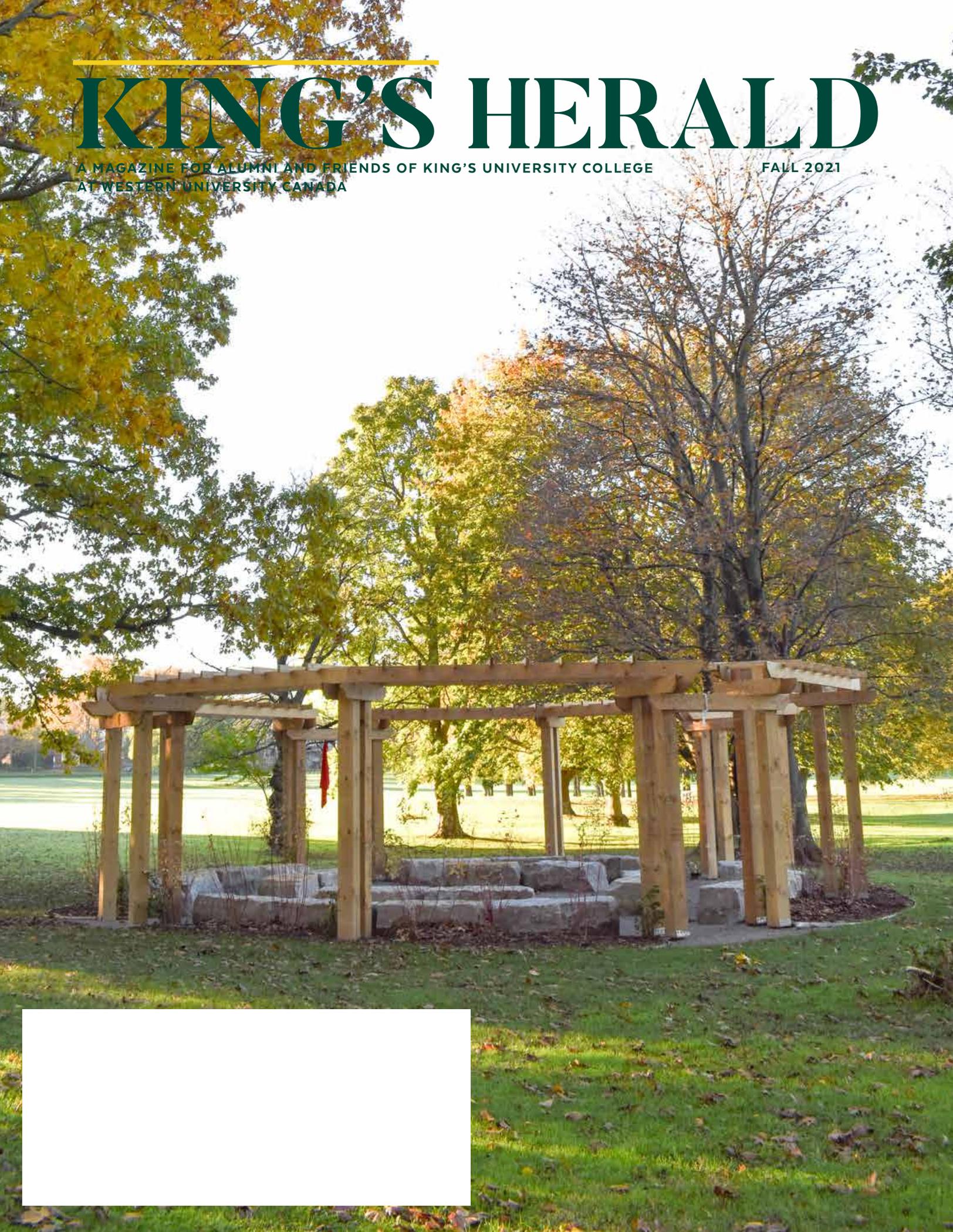

KING'S HERALD

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
AT WESTERN UNIVERSITY CANADA

FALL 2021



SUPPORT FUTURE ALUMNI

As King's students return to campus filled with excitement, an eagerness to learn, and enthusiasm about their university experience, we know that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact them in many ways.

Show King's students you care by donating today.

Visit www.kings.uwo.ca/give

Your support impacts students and their ability to achieve their academic goals.

For more information about supporting King's students, contact Kim Malcolm at kim.malcolm@kings.uwo.ca.



IT'S TIME TO DUST OFF OUR RECORDS

Don't miss any King's news or upcoming events! Make sure your alumni record is up-to-date by completing the online form at: kings.uwo.ca/alumni/address-update

Content

04. President's Corner

06. Campus News

10. Featured Profiles



The *King's Herald* is published semi-annually by King's University College Alumni and Development.

We welcome your letters, suggestions, or comments about the Association and the University. Opinions expressed in the *King's Herald* do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or the University's administration. Contact the Editor or Alumni and Development at:

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Some articles may have been reformatted to fit the style of the *King's Herald*.

Cover Image: Reflection Circle on the King's Green

Parents: If you are receiving mail for your child, we would appreciate his or her current address. Please contact Alumni and Development.

If you wish to receive the *King's Herald* in ELECTRONIC FORMAT ONLY, please contact alumni@kings.uwo.ca.

Disclaimer: Photos in this issue of the *King's Herald* were either taken pre-COVID-19 or while following appropriate COVID-19 protocols at the time.



18. Alumni Award Recipients

26. Reflection Circle Dedication Ceremony

29. Milestones / In Memoriam

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



My fellow King's Alumni:

On behalf of the King's University College Alumni Association, I would like to thank you for another successful Homecoming. I've spent some time reflecting on this past year; the many challenges we've faced, how we've persevered and overcome those challenges, how we have so much more to achieve, and of course, how we can unite as a King's community. Even during these uncertain times, we managed to come together and take part in a multitude of Homecoming events, including our first virtual cooking class, Rick McGhie's livestream performance, as well as an inspiring Fireside Chat with three amazing professors.

Although our current events continue to be virtual, we are certainly optimistic that we will be able to

return to more in-person events next year. We are planning on a combination of virtual, hybrid, and in-person events for Homecoming 2022!

As King's alumni, there are so many ways to stay connected with our King's community. If you haven't already done so, please make sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram, as well as our King's website. You can update your contact info there so that we can remain connected. Also, be sure to keep an eye out for our Bell Let's Talk virtual activities on January 26, 2022. Now more than ever, we can benefit from a strong sense of community. Together, we are strong.

Kind regards,

Colin Whitehead '06
President,
King's University College
Alumni Association



@KUCAumni

2021-22 Alumni Association Board of Directors

- Colin Whitehead '06, President
- Susan Jeffrey '82, Vice-President
- Sean Adams '00
- Jennifer Ayers '08, Past President
- Nonie Brennan '84
- Holly Clarke '22, KUCSC President
- Casey Hayward '07
- Ben Kitching '21
- Andrew Mantulak '91
- Ian McCallum '95
- Kathy Mitchell '15
- Bri Newman '13
- Matt Pepe '87
- Hailley White '20
- Dalla (Tong) Zhao '19

A Place to Be. A Place to Become.
A Place for Everyone.

We acknowledge that our campus at King's University College is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lenapeewak, and Attawandaron peoples, all of whom have longstanding relationships to the land of Southwestern Ontario and the City of London. The First Nations communities of our local area include Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee Delaware Nation. And in our region, there are eleven First Nations communities, as well as a growing Indigenous urban population. King's University College values the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations, and all of the Original Peoples of Turtle Island (also known as North America).

I would like to acknowledge that I am an allied settler here on Turtle Island (North America) whose ancestors immigrated here from Ireland at the time of the Imperial Treaty of 1752 made with Mi'kmaq people of Shubenacadie. I was born in Treaty 1 territory in Gimli, Manitoba, and grew up in within the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation in present day Ottawa. Since then, I've had the privilege of raising my family within Treaty 4 territory in Regina.

In recent years, King's has adopted the practice of acknowledging the history of the land on which our campus is situated when we come together, both in-person or virtually, for meetings, events, or other gatherings. We do this out of respect for the Indigenous people who are the traditional stewards of the land and in recognition of the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous people and their traditional territories.

Acknowledging the history of the land, and what it means to live and work here, is a first step in reconciliation. As a community, we all have a responsibility to listen, learn, and reflect on the often-difficult truths of our past. We are all responsible for making a genuine effort to move forward in reconciliation.



Elder and Knowledge Keeper Dan Smoke with Dave Malloy at the Dedication Ceremony for the Reflection Circle.

King's has a strong and growing population of Indigenous students, and we recognize that work is needed to create more pathways to education and resources for our Indigenous community members. In March 2021, King's committed to raising funds for a new Indigenous Student Award. This award celebrates the achievements of deserving Indigenous students and also provides financial assistance for tuition and living expenses. I am pleased to announce that the first Indigenous Student Award will be granted this year as part of our virtual Student Awards Celebration.

As an inclusive post-secondary institution where everyone is welcomed with respect and compassion, King's is committed to removing barriers to education for all students. Over the past two years, with thanks to our generous supporters, the College has invested in important initiatives, including mental health programming and new scholarships for mature students and racialized community members.

We stand by our motto that "King's is a Place to Be, and a Place to Become." We all play a role in ensuring that everyone who comes to our campus, whether it's students, employees, alumni, or visitors from around the world, feels accepted, safe, and encouraged to become their best selves.

As COVID-19 restrictions continue to be lifted, I look forward to welcoming you back to campus.

Respectfully,

Dave Malloy
President

Appointments



Jim Panchaud was appointed as the new Director of Campus Ministry on May 10, 2021. He comes to this role with extensive experience as a social worker, an ordained Deacon, a pastoral

counsellor in the King's Campus Ministry department, and as a Director of Diaconate Formation and Study at St. Peter's Seminary. He is known as a versatile, innovative professional leader, counsellor, and consultant focused on the psychological, social, and spiritual well-being of individuals and organizations. Along with providing faith-based and non-faith-based counselling services to university students, staff, and community members as part of the Campus Ministry Team, he has also coordinated the Veritas Lecture Series for Faith & Culture.



Father Paul Kim '08 was appointed as the new part-time Priest-Chaplain of Christ the King University Parish and King's University College as of July 5, 2021. In this role, he will provide for the

pastoral and spiritual needs of the parishioners of Christ the King University Parish, and he will serve students, staff, and faculty as well as the office of the Campus Ministry team with spiritual and faith-based support. In addition to his ministry at the Christ the King University Parish, Father Paul will also serve as Parochial Vicar of St. Michael's Parish in London. Father Paul graduated from King's in 2008 with an Honours Specialization in French Language and Literature with a Minor in History.



Tracy Cunningham '99 has been appointed Director of Enrolment Services and Registrar. Tracy has worked at King's since 1999. She began as an Admissions and Liaison Officer and was promoted

to Associate Registrar in 2001. Throughout her time at King's, Tracy has served on numerous committees with many important partners, including the London District Catholic School Board, Thames Valley District School Board, and Fanshawe College. She demonstrates the best of collegial, caring leadership. She has been a mentor and friend to many members of the King's community—both students and colleagues—for over two decades.



Emily Carrothers BSW '13, MSW '16, was appointed to the new position of Campus and Community Social Worker. In this role, Emily works with both Accessibility, Counselling and

Student Development (ACSD) and the School of Social Work to support students with complex and intersecting needs, including issues like gender-based violence, housing, food insecurity, and accessing mental and physical health care. She will develop proactive wellness supports for the King's community including presentations on a range of topics related to mental health. The COVID-19 pandemic has deeply affected the mental health of young people and, through this role, Emily will discover more about the needs of King's students in order to build preventative programming.

Excellence in Research



Dr. Robert Ventresca '93, Professor of History, is the 2021 recipient of the Hugh Mellon Excellence in Research Award. Dr. Ventresca, who was first appointed to King's in 2000, is recognized for highly impactful scholarship on the history of the Catholic Church and authoritarian governing structures during the 20th century, the contested historical legacies of 20th century popes such as Pius XII, and the role of organized religion in genocide.

He is commended for his tireless commitment to academic rigor and truth while engaging in deeply complex and controversial topics. His projects received funding through the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), and he has received multiple prestigious honours for his academic work.

He regularly provides time to various organizations and media outlets seeking his expertise. Of particular note is the important relationship he has with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, as a member of its Committee on Ethics, Religion and the Holocaust.

Dr. Ventresca's strong advocacy for meaningful Jewish-Catholic collaboration and for scholarly engagement with the Catholic liberal arts intellectual tradition were noted for their lasting impact on King's programs and culture.



Dr. Jordan Fairbairn, Assistant Professor of Sociology, is the 2021 recipient of the Early Career Excellence in Research Award. Through her research and advocacy, Dr. Fairbairn is a renowned scholar of feminist criminology, gender violence, and domestic homicide with a specific emphasis on media portrayals of these issues.

With an impressive record of academic publishing, Dr. Fairbairn is exceptionally effective in disseminating her findings. She is actively engaged with various national and international collaborative networks, including membership on the Expert Advisory Council to the Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability. She is committed to making her findings and insights accessible to academic and non-academic audiences and, as a result, is having significant impact beyond academia. Policymakers, activists, and NGOs have engaged with her work in their efforts to eliminate intimate partner violence.

Dr. Fairbairn is also recognized for her effective mentorship. Her ability to inspire King's students to realize their own academic potential and use it to improve society exemplifies King's mission and culture.



Dr. Rick Csiernik, Professor with the School of Social Work, is collaborating with Trinidadian-born author Grace Ibrahim on a series of presentations, aimed at discussing racism with Social Studies students. *White Questions, Black Answers* is a pilot project with the Waterloo Region Museum's Communities in Canada: Past and Present program. Dr. Csiernik provides background and context on issues that arise from Grace Ibrahim's talk, including bullying, drug use, white privilege, and other social issues. The program runs to December 2021.

Dr. Csiernik also appeared on Rogers TV's *Invisible: Breaking Through the Stigma of Addiction* to discuss the importance of putting the label of "addiction" aside and putting the person first.



Podcast Launch

The King's Econo-Math Society (KEMS) Club recently launched a new podcast called *MADS: Mondays for Analytics and Data Science*. The podcast will cover all things Analytics and Data Science (ADS), which is offered as a minor in the King's School of Management, Economics, and Mathematics.

Upcoming topics include:

- Introductory analytics and data science theories and problems
- Interviews with King's alumni currently working in the ADS industry
- Opportunities for employment in ADS roles
- Focus on diversity and inclusion initiatives in addressing biased data
- Real world crises issues such as COVID-19 and climate change from ADS perspective

The podcast is currently available on Spotify and YouTube.



King's Chamber Choir



Janet Loo, Conductor/Artistic Director, accepted the award on behalf of the King's University College Chamber Choir.

King's University College Chamber Choir was named "Best Classical Vocal Group/Choir" at the 2021 Forest City London Music Awards. This was the second time the King's Chamber Choir was named, having previously won this award in 2016. The win came after a year where choir members overcame physical distancing and used social media and technology to stay connected.

"I was both surprised and elated when I saw that we had won the award. It was a shining light in the midst of a very challenging year. To know that our virtual choir projects were being recognized and enjoyed by an online audience fills me with great joy," says Janet Loo, Conductor/Artistic Director, King's University College Chamber Choir and Director of Christ the King University Parish Choir.

This past Christmas, the King's Chamber Choir released two videos that are available on the King's Campus Ministry YouTube Channel.

Follow @KUCChamberChoir on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for future performance announcements.

King's University College Board Appointments

The King's University College Board of Directors appointed a new Chair and Vice Chair, effective July 1, 2021.



Nonie Brennan '84 was appointed Vice-Chair of the King's University College Board of Directors, succeeding Kapil Lakhotia. Dr. Brennan currently serves as the Chief Executive of All Chicago, which combines immediate resources with long-term strategies to address the complex issue of homelessness. She received the King's Alumni Award of Distinction in 2015.



Kapil Lakhotia '02 was appointed Chair of the King's University College Board of Directors, succeeding Rev. Mark Sargent '83. Kapil is President and Chief Executive Officer of the London Economic Development Corporation and has over two decades of educational, professional, and voluntary experience. He taught economics at King's from 2005-2010.



The King's University College Board of Directors came to the decision that, effective June 10, 2021, Dr. David Malloy's title is President of King's University College. Dr. Gillian Balfour's title is Vice-President and Academic Dean. Marilyn Mason's title is Vice-President, Enrolment Services and Strategic Partnerships. Jeff Major's title is Vice-President, Finance and Support Services. The decision was made in order to remain consistent with our colleagues at Huron University College, Brescia University College, and Western University.

MEM Insider



Students from King's School of Management, Economics, and Mathematics collaborated under challenging circumstances to publish their electronic issue of the *MEM Insider*. The *MEM Insider* is written by students about their experiences during their time at King's. Faculty and staff also contributed to the magazine. This is the sixth issue of the *MEM Insider*.



Nothing should stand in the way of your goals



Alumnus John Sherratt '21 completed his degree over 50 years after originally starting at King's

King's has changed a lot over the years. Perhaps no one knows that better than John Sherratt '21, a 73-year-old recent graduate who originally began his degree at King's in 1968 before leaving after his second year.

Fast-forward to fall 2019 when John saw a sign for King's Open House. "Something just drew me to come in and inquire about finishing that degree," he says. He spoke with Stacie Merritt '16, Admissions and Recruitment Officer, who was encouraging and assisted him with the necessary steps to be re-admitted to King's.

When asked for advice for those thinking about coming back to finish their degrees, John has two words to share: "DO IT!" He adds there are absolutely no reasons not to come back to

school. "Whether someone is 30 or 70, nothing should stand in the way if you really want to do it," he says.

John says it was an incredible feeling to complete his Bachelor of Arts degree. "When I started this last bit, I set myself a goal to complete the remaining courses in time to graduate exactly 50 years after I should have graduated in 1971. I am utterly thrilled that I managed to meet that goal!"

After working as a professor at DeVry Institute of Technology for nearly 30 years, John found a familiar comfort in returning to an education environment. However, he still found it a bit unnerving to return to the life of a student. "Some of that might be a level of concern about whether I still had the ability to learn at a university level," he says. The first few

weeks were “rather nerve-racking,” but at the same time “it felt like coming home.”

During an Orientation Tour of the campus, John marvelled at the changes he saw, while also being overwhelmed. “One of the first things I noticed was the number of buildings that now make up the campus, as well as the change of use in some areas,” he recalls.

In addition to being a men’s only college in 1968, King’s was a lot smaller. The only buildings that existed were Wemple Hall (which included a section then used for the school library), what is now Dante Lenardon Hall, and the townhouse residences along Meadowdown Drive. John lived in Wemple Hall during his first year before moving into the townhouses in his second year.

John was born in Birmingham, England, and raised in the Brantford, Ontario, area. It was there where he attended St. John’s College. The priests and principal recommended King’s to John, as well as to many other St. John’s students; King’s was a Catholic men’s school at that time. With three priests in his greater family, John’s mother hoped he might enter St. Peter’s Seminary.

“I am not certain I was ready for university and would much rather have trained as an artist,” John admits. Instead of picking a major, he took courses that “were all over the map from Economics to Business to Philosophy and Psychology.”

John has many fond memories of his initial time at King’s. He remembers sitting in the cafeteria with Paul Werstine ’70, now Professor of English and Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. As King’s began admitting women during his second year, he attended University Students’ Council (USC) meetings with a young woman who later became Deputy Prime Minister of Canada, Sheila Copps ’74.

Upon his return to King’s, John was “particularly taken aback” to see the building formerly referred to as “the Mansion” was renamed after “a wonderful chap who taught me French (or tried to) in my first year back in ’68, Dante Lenardon. I have only wonderful memories of him,” he says.

“Back in the 60s I was more involved in extra-curricular activities than in my studies. There are pictures in the old yearbook, *Regalia* ’69, of me helping to build a giant purple dinosaur for the Homecoming Parade. I also have a picture of me, the KUCSC president, and London Mayor Jane Bigelow

kicking off the annual canned food drive. The newspaper article says I was chairman of the food drive.” John received a “Citation Award” in recognition of his participation in King’s activities that still hangs proudly on his wall.

John admits that he was not the best student and was “invited” to take a year off from his studies. While he later took a Psychology course at the University of Waterloo, he decided to enter the job force. He worked in the accounting field, both in London, Ontario, and in Europe (England, France, and Germany.) In 1980, he worked for what was then called the Department of National Revenue, rising to department supervisor of the Appeals Division.

“About 1982 or ’83, I began to realize that computers were becoming more important and that perhaps I should learn something about them,” he recalls. He enrolled at DeVry Institute of Technology, earned a BSc in Computer Information Systems, and was offered a teaching position as an Associate Professor at the DeVry campus in Toronto, where he remained until his retirement in 2014. He was also a part-owner of a software development firm in St Louis, Missouri, focusing on developing database software for the medical community for several years.

Although he was significantly older than many of his classmates, John says he did not feel too out of place. Having spent a good portion of his life teaching young students, he feels he was able to maintain a younger outlook.

The benefits of his life experience also gave him a better understanding of how to deal with challenges. However, he wants to recognize the encouragement he received from Stacie Merritt, Dorotea Gucciardo, Lecturer of History, and the “extremely kind and helpful” faculty including John Heng, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Dr. Erika Katzman, Assistant Professor of Disability Studies, and Dr. Oleksa Drachewych, Assistant Professor of History at Western University.

While John has completed his degree, his time at King’s is not over just yet. “The experience of completing a degree has been fascinating. It has rekindled a love of learning, so much so, that I have enrolled to do another degree at King’s. I have in mind to complete a four-year Philosophy degree and then do graduate work thereafter.” he says. Before starting his classes this past September, John served as a mentor to other mature students who came to campus this fall.



Teaching children to feel beautiful and confident

Second-year student Marcy Gallant provides mentorship to children with Alopecia



When Marcy Gallant was just six years old she was diagnosed with Alopecia Areata, an auto-immune disease that causes hair loss. When she was 10, she lost 90% of the hair on her head, and by 19, was fully “Universalis,” meaning she had lost all the hair on her body.

Growing up, there was little awareness about Alopecia Areata, leaving Marcy without the proper resources, support, or, most importantly, an individual with the same condition to look up to and help her along.

“I struggled for a long time due to society’s stereotypes of beauty and what I needed to look like to fit in,” says Marcy who is now in her second year at King’s.

While not having a mentor herself, Marcy decided to be that person for others with Alopecia. Her goal was to help children with Alopecia build their confidence early on, teaching them that bald is beautiful and represents strength.

“I want to normalize baldness and raise awareness,” she says. “It is important to me to be a voice for those children, and to advocate for, support, and inspire them in any way possible.”

After obtaining parental consent, Marcy initially mentored children with Alopecia whom she had met through social media. She says being a mentor is important in actively supporting people within the community to feel beautiful and confident within their own skin. “You are acting as a guide, a light as some would say during a terribly traumatic time.”

Marcy considers herself fortunate to be studying at King’s, a school that offers a wide variety of classes to help improve her mentorship efforts. She was drawn towards Childhood and Youth Studies because of the advocacy courses that will strengthen and enhance her skills. “Seeing children as active agents in our community is very important in moving forward towards a more inclusive society.”

“I want to normalize baldness and raise awareness. It is important to me to be a voice for those children, and to advocate for, support, and inspire them in any way possible.”

– Marcy Gallant

More recently, Marcy was contacted by the Canadian Alopecia Areata Foundation (CANAAF) and asked if she would be interested in being part of their new program that matches mentors with people of all ages with Alopecia.

CANAAF promotes awareness and education, and offers a network of support groups across Canada to those diagnosed with all forms of Alopecia. Since 2012, they have hosted an annual national summer conference that allows adults, teens, children, and their families to gather, learn about alopecia, share experiences, and make new friends.

“Of course, I jumped at the chance to continue my mentorship on a larger scale,” says Marcy. “To be a mentor, you have to be able to listen and support. Being a mentor involves time, patience, and displaying an optimistic and friendly attitude.”

Marcy has many things to pass along to the young people she mentors. She says she loves telling them “they were given this for a reason as they were born with so much strength and love to conquer the hard times and help change the world’s perception of beauty. Alopecia has a beautiful way of providing a fresh perspective. It makes us more empathetic towards others and gifts us with extra resilience.”

Marcy’s efforts have been appreciated by the children she has mentored, as well as their parents. “Our family is so thankful to have been connected with Marcy through CANAAF. She is an incredible young woman who is unwaveringly generous with her time. Her positive attitude and caring spirit make her a wonderful role model for our 11-year-old daughter who was recently diagnosed with Alopecia,” says the parent of one of the children Marcy has mentored.

Fire Keeper, student, community leader



King's student Russell Green building the fire at the Reflection Circle Dedication Ceremony.

Indigenous community members were integral in creating the Reflection Circle at King's, so it was fitting that the Fire Keeper who maintained and watched over the sacred fire at the recent Dedication Ceremony was third-year King's Sociology student, Russell Green.

Invited to participate in the ceremony by Elders and Knowledge Keepers, Dan and Mary Lou Smoke, it wasn't until the day before the event that organizers made the connection that Russell is a current student. "It made the event even more meaningful," says Jana Gordon, Executive Director, Alumni and Development. "The Reflection Circle was designed with Indigenous students at the forefront, so Russell's involvement was not only important to the ceremony, but also to the intended purpose of the space."

Russell, who has known Dan and Mary Lou Smoke for many years, says he was honoured to be Fire Keeper at this important event. At Indigenous ceremonies or sacred events, fire is traditionally used as a respectful way to open the gathering. The Fire Keeper is responsible for building, maintaining, and keeping watch over the fire so that it is never unattended. Sacred fires have long been a part of Indigenous culture and wellness, and there are many lessons associated with fire, including remembrance, healing, and togetherness.

In the London community, Russell, who is Anishinaabe/Metis, is involved with the Indigenous Fellowship of Hamilton Road, a community group that was established in 2017. "The group attends to the needs of the urban Indigenous people who reside in the Hamilton Road corridor," explains Russell. "Our goal is to collaborate with community organizations to educate all people, urban Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike. One of the principles of the Indigenous Fellowship of Hamilton Road is to reduce food insecurity through community meals, gardening, and cooking classes that teach healthy food choices and meals on a budget.

While providing information about the Indigenous Fellowship of Hamilton Road, Russell shared the story of Mushkeeki Gitigan, an Indigenous medicine and teaching garden that he created in 2018. The first of its kind in the City of London, the garden is located in the South Branch Park near Hamilton Road and Trafalgar Street and took 19 months to bring to life. It serves as a space

for Elders to educate younger generations and a place to grow traditional plants with healing properties. The name Mushkeeki Gitigan means "medicine garden" in Ojibway.

"It was a late summer's evening walking with my partner and our dog. It was one of those cool evenings just before sunset - it was the perfect light jacket weather. We had just had several days of rain, and you could still smell the sogginess of the rain the evening before on the grass path, despite the temperature being in its 30s all day.

"Unbeknownst to me, this path, on this day, would change the way I viewed the transmission of Indigenous culture. I smelled a sweetness in the area. My senses recalled this smell from a rural experience - a medicine walk to Walpole Island some years ago - and I was astonished being in urban London, more specifically South Branch Park, to experience the identical smell. Once you smell fresh sweetgrass for the first time, you will always recognize that smell.

"Albeit not a traditional approach, I had a vision of a place where urban Elders and grandparents could transmit their culture privately or ceremonially. This space would remove barriers of transportation and mobility, allowing them to still share a role in teaching for the next generation.

"That is how Mushkeeki Gitigan came to be."

Tragically, in April 2021, Mushkeeki Gitigan was completely destroyed by a fire. "The damage to the garden was a huge loss," Russell recalls. "The garden was intended and created to be a positive space." Cleanup of the garden began in May 2021. Russell and his family smudged the area with sage and a smoking pipe, which is a ritual practiced by Indigenous people to release negativity from a space.

As work to restore and rebuild the garden continues, Russell and the Indigenous Fellowship of Hamilton Road are looking for ongoing support from the community to ensure that the garden is a safe space for members of the Indigenous community, as well as a place for people from other walks of life to learn about Indigenous cultures.

VIRTUAL



Western University · Canada

HOMECOMING 2021

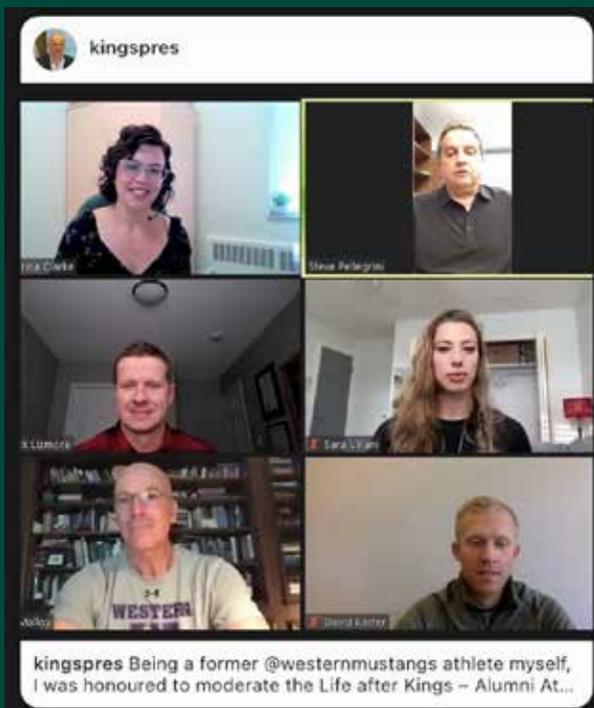
Traditional events like the Friday Reunion with Rick McGhie, Alumni Association Annual General Meeting, Alumni Awards Ceremony, and faculty reunions were also attended and enjoyed by many. We hope to gather in person next year for Homecoming 2022.

Save the date: September 23-26, 2022

Although we were unable to gather in person again this year, the King's community still came together virtually to connect and celebrate in the spirit of Homecoming. With both new and traditional events, this year's virtual Homecoming provided something for everyone!

New this year was the **Faculty Fireside Chat**, featuring faculty experts who provided different academic perspectives while answering questions and sharing their opinions on topics related to COVID-19. Moderated by **Colin Whitehead '06**, Alumni Association President, the engaging and informative conversation was led by **Professors Alison Meek, Felipe Rodrigues, and Eunice Gorman** who discussed topics like conspiracy theories, predictive modelling, and emotional challenges faced during the global pandemic. Look for the Faculty Fireside Chat to be a feature of Homecoming 2022!

A delicious new addition to this year's lineup of events was a **Virtual Cooking Class with Growing Chefs! Ontario**. Executive Chef Katherine Jones guided participants through a course on modern Italian Classics with a menu of Risotto Alla Carbonara and Antipasto Salad.



The **Life After King's - Alumni Athletes** panel featured four former student-athletes who discussed their professional experiences since graduating from King's. Thanks to this year's panelists **Stephen Pellegrini '87**, NHL Executive; **Sara Villani '19**, Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton; **Mick Lizmore '10**, Head Coach, Canadian Wheelchair Curling Team; and **David Easter '14**, Teacher, London District Catholic School Board, for sharing their experiences and advice with alumni and current student athletes. The event was moderated by **Dr. Dave Malloy**, King's President and former Mustangs Athlete.

Back for its second year, the **#KingsHoco5K** had alumni, their family members, and even many pets, running, walking, or cycling in their communities. Thanks to everyone who shared pictures of their 5K on social media.



2022
King's University College
Alumni Awards

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
DEADLINE: JUNE 30

RECOGNIZING
Outstanding achievements
Professional accomplishments
Community service
Inspiration to others

Nominate a deserving graduate for the Alumni Award of Distinction or Recent Graduate Award
NEW online nomination form:
kings.uwo.ca/alumni/events-and-chapters/awards/

KING'S
Western University - Canada

Nancy Sutherland '85

President and CEO,
The Sunshine Foundation of Canada

2021 Alumni Award of Distinction Recipient

Nancy Sutherland is a highly respected business leader, coach, and mentor, who serves as President and CEO of The Sunshine Foundation of Canada, a national charity that changes lives for Canadian children and youth living with severe physical disabilities or life-threatening illnesses. Through this role, Nancy has built connections with local and national politicians, business owners, corporate leaders, labour organizations, and community influencers, to educate and advocate for the underserved and underrepresented disability population. Engaging the community and maintaining these relationships remains a key pillar in her life as she strives to facilitate meaningful connections that put the needs of others above her own.



Nancy describes her King's experience as one that shaped her into the person she is today. "King's allowed me to meet a diverse range of inspirational people during some of the most life-changing years of my youth," she recalls. "In my first year at King's in 1982, I formed



Nominated by the Sunshine Foundation of Canada, Nancy Sutherland '85 was presented with her award by Jim Cassidy, Sunshine Foundation Board Chair.

friendships with many people that would go on to have such an impact in my life." Now, 39 years later, Nancy still gets together monthly with her "King's gals." "We have followed different career and life paths, but our time together at King's forged such a special bond. This is just one example of how the different connections that I made in my time at King's helped reinforce the person I am today."

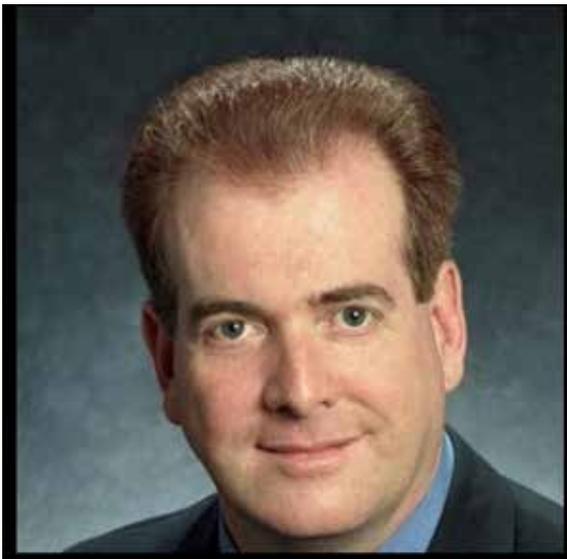
After a career on the front line with young offenders, and then in human resources, Nancy pursued an opportunity to work in not-for-profit leadership that fulfilled both her professional goals and personal values. "In my role, I work with kids and youth living with severe physical disabilities. Helping young people see their abilities is truly a privilege."

Nancy also remains connected with King's through networking opportunities and mentorship with current students and fellow alumni. She has served as a field supervisor with the School of Social Work and shared her experiences with future alumni by participating in Life After King's speaker panels. She says, "If I were to offer one piece of advice to current students, it would be this: explore everything, try new things, set big goals. As somebody who spends her days helping others fulfill their dreams, I know that you can achieve anything you set your mind to."

Joseph MacDonald '80

President, Monticello Capital Partners

2021 Alumni Award of Distinction Recipient



Joe MacDonald was a loyal alumnus and passionate ambassador who exemplified his deep caring for King's by giving back as both a dedicated volunteer and a generous donor. In what she described as a bittersweet moment, Joe's daughter, Lauren Kain '08, accepted the Alumni Award of Distinction on his behalf, thanking Dr. Grigori Erenburg and the School of Management, Economics, and Mathematics (School of MEM) for nominating Joe, and also the Alumni Association for recognizing him with the award.

Joe was nominated posthumously by faculty from the School of MEM who were inspired by his passion for his work in the fast-paced finance sector, his love of sharing knowledge with King's students, and his ability to be a role model for so many. Joe served on the Finance and Investment Committee of the King's University College Foundation Board, where his professionalism and knowledge of the investment management industry



Dr. Trevor Hunter '92 (right, with Dr. David Malloy) represented the School of MEM, which nominated Joe MacDonald posthumously for the Alumni Award of Distinction.

helped safeguard the funds used to build the Darryl J. King Student Life Centre, as well as those endowed to scholarships and bursaries.

Lauren described her father as a great public speaker who especially loved speaking at King's. "His years at King's shaped the rest of his life, with his degree setting him on the path to his many professional accomplishments," says Lauren. "He truly loved King's and all that it stood for, which is why he consistently returned and gave back to the College and the King's community."

For more than 20 years, Joe participated annually in the School of MEM (formerly EBM) Career Day, sharing his wisdom and experience with countless students. His final Career Day speech was shortly before his passing in February of 2020. Lauren recalls that her father spoke about resilience, integrity, perseverance, and faith.

"To him, these values, along with a shoeshine and a smile, were the keys to success. I can say as a King's alumna myself that these core values are central to what we learned at King's, not just in the library and lecture halls, but in the relationships that we built and the communities that we are all so fortunate to be a part of. One thing I think that we can all learn from my father is the importance of our years at King's, no matter how fleeting they may seem to be, and that this place remains a touchstone for all of us as it was for him."

Monica Ciriello '09

Director, Licensing and Bylaw Services,
City of Hamilton

2021 Recent Graduate Award Recipient



In just 12 short years since graduating from King's, Monica Ciriello has already reached high levels of achievement in her career, and she is well on her way to breaking the glass ceiling. As the Director of Licensing and Bylaw Services with the City of Hamilton, Monica uses her expertise as a municipal and planning lawyer, legal author, certified mediator, and Member of the Ontario Bar Association to provide leadership for a multi-functional workforce. She manages a team of over 100 employees, a multi-million-dollar budget, and some of the most challenging issues facing her community today. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, she demonstrated leadership by establishing local priorities, regulations, and operating procedures to keep her community safe.



Monica Ciriello '09 was presented with the Recent Graduate Award by her nominator and father, John Ciriello.

Crediting her experience at King's for helping to shape and solidify her aspirations to fight for women's leadership and empowerment, Monica is a role model to many who strive to balance higher educational pursuits with a steep career trajectory. She provides mentorship to King's students through Life After King's speaker panels, contributes to lectures at McMaster University, has published numerous articles in national and international journals, and was recently appointed to the Tribunals Ontario Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

"I've had so many wonderful, inspirational people in my life that have helped me along my path," she says. "They've inspired me to study harder, to apply for that job, to give back, and to help others. Although my skills have been sharpened through my experiences, at the foundation of it all has been my education from King's, and for that, I am truly grateful."

While accepting her award, Monica shared the following advice with King's students: Don't give up when the times get tough. The things in life that challenge you the most are the very things that will give you the greatest strength. They build character, so take those challenges as they come and use them to become a better version of yourself.

Along with her family, friends, colleagues, and husband Greg, Monica specifically thanked the late Professor William McKercher, Professor Carolyn Gibson, and Professor Graham Broad, who together challenged her to become the best version of herself, and showed her anything is possible when preparation meets opportunity.

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Fall 2021 has brought some return to normalcy at King's – almost. It has been so exciting to see students back on campus! Though Homecoming 2021 was again virtual (I hope you were able to attend), the King's Golf Classic returned to Highland Golf & Country Club as an in-person event, and we are slowly making the switch from all virtual to some other in-person events as we are able.

One very special event was the dedication of the Reflection Circle on October 7. Made possible as part of a generous donation by long-time King's friends Joanne and Peter Kenny, the Reflection Circle is open to all members of the King's community, though one of its primary purposes is to serve as a place for Indigenous ceremonies. To officially "open" the Reflection Circle, Elders and Knowledge Keepers Mary Lou and Dan Smoke led a ceremony to honour the space, which included the sacred fire, smudging, and song. This was a very meaningful experience, and we are grateful to Dan and Mary Lou for sharing their knowledge. You will read more about this on page 26. On page 14, you will also meet King's very own Russell Green, who is not only a King's Sociology student,

but also the Fire Keeper for our dedication of the Reflection Circle. If you are on campus, please stop by this beautiful new space.

We are pleased to share highlights from Homecoming, including more about the Alumni Awards of Distinction and the Recent Graduate Award on pages 18-20. We look forward to upcoming events, including a special Bell Let's Talk event on January 26, 2022, featuring guest speaker Mark Henick. This event will be virtual so that anyone can attend from wherever they are in the world. One positive outcome of the pandemic is that we now have the ability to include alumni from around the globe, an aspect we hope to keep as we eventually return to "normal."

Wishing you a wonderful remainder of the calendar year, and a Merry Christmas and happy holiday season.

Jana Gordon, MA, CFRE
Executive Director,
Alumni and Development



RESILIENT CLASS OF 2021 CELEBRATED

The Class of 2021 was honoured virtually at spring and fall Celebrations of Graduates. In June, the valedictorian address was presented by Rebecca Francis, and a Last Lecture was presented by **Dr. Trevor Hunter '92**. During the fall Celebration of Graduates, the Class of 2021 received special remarks from alumna **Siham Elkassem BSW '15, MSW '16**. Congratulations to the Class of 2021!



2021 KING'S GOLF CLASSIC

The 26th annual King's Golf Classic took place at Highland Country Club on September 13, and it was our first in-person event with King's alumni and friends since March 2020. Although rain tried to put a damper on part of the day, it didn't stop golfers from enjoying a great round of golf.

We are pleased to announce that this year's tournament and virtual silent auction netted over \$38,000, the highest net revenue from this event all thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, golfers, donors, and auction participants. These funds will ensure the King's Golf Classic Award will continue to support mature students with financial need, as well as other priorities of the College.

Congratulations to this year's top foursome of Andy Spriet, Frank DeCicco, Paul Spriet, and Jarrett Spriet '09 (pictured on page 23).



Pictured top: BMO foursome
Pictured bottom: McCormick & Co. Inc. foursome



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Step into Christmas

Friday, December 3, 2021
4:30 - 7:30 pm

Join us in supporting members of our community by donating shoeboxes filled with items of need. Bring your unwrapped shoebox gifts to the drop-off table located in front of the Alumni Court residence, Wemple parking lot. Shoeboxes will be wrapped and distributed at the St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre by King's Campus Ministry.

Step into Christmas Wish List*

- New wool socks
- New hats, waterproof gloves/mitts, scarves
- New masks/hand sanitizer
- New toiletry items such as hand lotion and soap
- New hairbrush/comb
- Lip chap, lip gloss, nail polish
- Flashlights
- Chocolate, candy, cookies
- Gift cards for Tim Hortons etc.



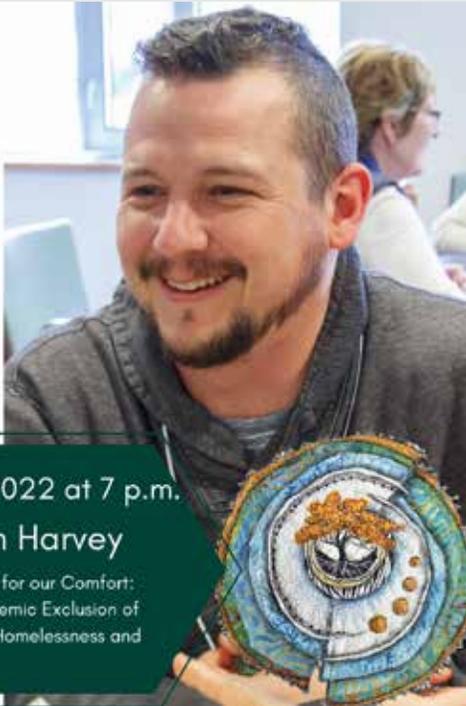
*Shoeboxes do not need to include all of these items, and you are not limited to items on this list!

Bell Let's Talk Day - A virtual presentation featuring Mark Henick

Wednesday, January 26, 2022, at 11:00 am EST

Mark Henick is a mental health advocate and strategist who captured global attention when he shared his story of searching for "the man in the light brown jacket" who saved his life from a teenage suicide attempt. With over six million views, his TEDx talk, "Why We Choose Suicide," is among the most watched in the world. He has dedicated his life to opening minds and creating change. Mark's talk is informed by his direct experience with stigma and the mental health care system, and he brings his diverse and unique perspective as someone who has been a patient, a professional, a policy influencer, and a public figure in the mental health system. This virtual event is open to everyone. Registration is required. Go to www.kings.uwo.ca/alumni to reserve your spot.





February 10, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Christian Harvey

Criminalizing Others for our Comfort:
Confronting our Systemic Exclusion of
Those Experiencing Homelessness and
Marginalization.

Criminalizing Others for our Comfort: Confronting our Systemic Exclusion of Those Experiencing Homelessness and Marginalization

Presented by Christian Harvey,
Minister, St. John's in Peterborough, Ontario
Thursday, February 10, 2022, at 7:00 pm EST

This virtual lecture is part of the Veritas Series for Faith and Culture: Seeds of Hope. All are invited to attend. For more information or to register for this virtual lecture, go to www.kings.uwo.ca/veritas.

Sunday Eucharist

Chapel at Windermere on the Mount, 1486 Richmond Street



Masses are at 9 am, 11 am and 5 pm. The 11 am Mass is livestreamed to the King's Campus Ministry Facebook page and YouTube Channel. For capacity and contact tracing purposes, advanced registration for in-person Mass is required. Visit www.kings.uwo.ca/campus-ministry/ for more information.

Reflection Circle on the King's Green

The Reflection Circle is situated on the King's Green, the land located at Waterloo and Huron Streets. Work began on the Reflection Circle in June 2021 and by early July, the space was complete and ready to welcome the King's community for private reflection and group gatherings.

In October 2021, members of the King's community gathered for a special ceremony to dedicate the Reflection Circle and to honour Joanne and Peter Kenny for their generous support of this new space.

The dedication ceremony, led by Knowledge Keepers and Elders Dan and Mary Lou Smoke, included songs, prayer, smudging, the hanging of flags of sacred colours, and lighting of the fire by Firekeeper Russell Green. Attendance at the ceremony was limited due to COVID-19 restrictions.

A simple, circular structure with natural stone seating and an earthen firepit in the centre, the Reflection Circle is an inclusive space that is accessible by King's students, faculty, staff, community members, and people of all faiths and backgrounds. This space specifically supports the needs of the Indigenous community at King's by providing an outdoor location for sacred gatherings and Indigenous ceremonies.

The Reflection Circle was created thanks to the generosity of Joanne and Peter Kenny, long-time supporters of King's. A portion of their \$500,000 gift was allocated to establish the Reflection Circle. The Kennys value the small, caring, and inclusive community at King's, as well as the College's leadership role as a Catholic undergraduate liberal arts institution of higher learning in Canada. They have also focused their support to Indigenous issues across Canada for many years and believe in the importance of designated spaces for use by the Indigenous community. A plaque recognizing their generous support will be placed at the Reflection Circle.

Pictured top: President Dave Malloy with Peter Kenny, long-time supporter and friend of King's.

Pictured middle: Peter Kenny with son John Kenny (far left), Denise Gervais Regan '82, and Larry Regan.

Pictured bottom: Fire Keeper Russell Green, Dan Smoke, and Mary Lou Smoke prepare the fire for the Dedication Ceremony.





June 13, 2021



June 20, 2021



June 27, 2021



July 3, 2021



"When Joanne and I first discussed how we might support King's in relation to this land, it was important for us to include a way to honour the heritage of the land as well as to honour and support students, in particular members of the Indigenous community. We were aware that there was no dedicated space for Indigenous ceremonies, so we are pleased to have contributed to such a space on campus. We are glad to know that anyone at King's will be able to use this beautiful space for reflection, conversation, education, and special ceremonies."

**Peter Kenny ,
King's Supporter**



"Joanne and Peter Kenny have a long history of supporting King's students and the King's community as a whole. This generous donation further shapes and improves our campus by helping our Indigenous community access their right to practice and manifest their cultural and spiritual traditions and customs as we work towards reconciliation. This gift of a Reflection Circle will be used as a dedicated space for Indigenous ceremonies at King's as well as a quiet place for reflection by all members of the King's community, regardless of background or faith."

**Dr. David Malloy,
King's President**



"On behalf of the Students' Council we want to thank Joanne and Peter Kenny for their contributions to the King's community. In the past, King's has not had a suitable place for Indigenous ceremonies, creating a disconnect between Indigenous students and the college and community. I hope that with the development of the Circle, Indigenous students will feel welcome to celebrate their culture on campus and that all students can use this space as a place of peace and healing."

**Holly Clarke,
President, King's University College
Students' Council**



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Create your free Employer Profile at:

www.kingsjobboard.ca

Administered by: Knighthunter.com



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You can direct your support to an area closest to your heart, including student awards, mental health support, areas of academic study, or the highest priorities of King's.

Be safe. Be well.

The Alumni and Development Team is here to help with sample language for your will and to discuss options. For more information, please contact Kim Malcolm at kim.malcolm@kings.uwo.ca.

Milestones

Share your milestones (job, marriage, birth announcements, etc.) in the next issue of the *King's Herald* by emailing your news to alumni@kings.uwo.ca or by completing the online form at kings.uwo.ca/alumni/address-update. Photos are welcome, space permitting.



Michael Doucher '67 lost his beloved wife Catherine Doucher on July 1, 2021. Mike and Cathy have three sons, Jim, who graduated from King's in '89, Tim, and Chris. They also have three granddaughters, Ella, Maya, and Kirsi.



Michael Mitchell '77 is a retired educator.

Philip Nolan '84 was appointed to Intema Solutions Inc. Board of Directors in May 2021.

Murray Letts '85 retired from teaching in 2018.

Frederick Fowlie '88 is has served as an elementary school principal with the London District Catholic School Board since 2001. He is married, and his son Drew is currently enrolled in his third year at King's.

Tania Testa '98 was appointed Executive Director of Strategic Communications at Western University in May 2021.

Vince Romeo '99 was appointed the new Director of Education and Secretary to the Board for the London District Catholic School Board effective August 1, 2021.

Katrina Clarke (nee Marr) '06 was appointed Executive Director of Rural Response for Healthy Children, effective November 1, 2021.

Derek Davidson '07 welcomed his first son, Daniel Jack Davidson, on June 23, 2021, at Regina General Hospital in Regina, SK. He weighed 7 pounds 11 ounces, and is growing like a weed!



Casey Hayward '07 and his wife Jen welcomed future King's alumnus Kieran Alan Chung Kan Hayward on June 21, 2021.



Emily Austin '11 released her debut novel, *Everyone in this Room will Someday Be Dead*, in July 2021. The novel is about a morbidly anxious young woman who stumbles into a job as a receptionist for a Catholic church, where she hides her atheist lesbian identity, and becomes obsessed with her predecessor's mysterious death. It combines a delightful blend of warmth, deadpan humor, and pitch-perfect observations about the human condition. Emily's first novella, *Oh Honey*, was published in 2017. Emily fondly recalls her creative writing classes at King's, particularly the valuable lessons taught by Dr. Dorothy Nielsen and Dr. Vidya Natarajan.



Alyssa Agnew '14 was named one of Business London's 2021 "Top 20 in Their 20s". She is Manager, Lottery Consulting with Ascend Fundraising Solutions/LMR Lottery Consulting.



Mallory Kemp '15 launched a small business called Old North Co. Canada. It is a Canadian lifestyle and pet accessory brand.



Alexander Peat '16 was named one of Business London's 2021 "Top 20 in Their 20s". He works as SMB Team Lead, Account Management with 1Password.



Emily Grieve '17 graduated on the Dean's List from Western University's Faculty of Education. She is working towards a Master of Professional Education in Equity, Diversity and Social Justice Studies at Western. She works for the Thames Valley District School

Board and London District Catholic School Board as an Occasional Teacher from Kindergarten to Grade 12.



Victoria Almeida '20 won the Public Relations Student Award of Excellence from Western Continuing Studies.

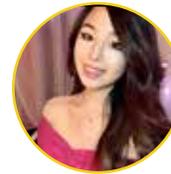
Dylan Giffen '20 was selected in the third Round, 28th overall, by the Toronto Argonauts at the 2020 CFL Draft. He played a leading role as an Offensive Lineman with the Western Mustangs and was named to the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) All-Stars in November 2019.

Marc Liegghio '20 was selected in the fifth Round, 39th overall, by the Winnipeg Blue Bombers at the 2020 CFL Draft. He made his CFL debut on August 5, 2021. As a kicker for the Western Mustangs, Marc set career highs in field goal completion rate and average punting yards. In April 2020, he was awarded a Purple Blanket as a part of the Western Mustangs Season of Celebration.

Kayla Mirasty '21 started teachers college this fall.



Ahmed Al Fares '21 received multiple job offers upon graduation from King's. He is working with Ontario Power Generation as a Financial Analyst supporting a \$12.8B Nuclear Refurbishment Project at Darlington Nuclear Station, the second largest project in Canada's history.



Amanda Zhou '21 is taking time to pursue her passion in music. She has been writing and releasing new music under the record label, Viva Records, and has been collaborating with international artists on this journey.

Mojdeh Cox, associate alumna, was appointed Executive Director of Pillar Nonprofit Network effective April 12, 2021.

Myles Manalo, associate alumnus, was selected by the Hamilton Tiger-Cats in the 2021 CFL draft. He was the 54th overall pick. A middle linebacker, Myles led the Mustangs football team in tackles during the 2019 season.

The King's Connection is online!
kingsconnectionshop.com

The
**King's
Connection**



2021 King's Gold Medal Award

Congratulations to the 2021 King's Gold Medal Award recipients, who were honoured at the June Celebration of Graduates. Gold Medal Awards are presented to the graduate in each category with the highest average in the last year of their module to recognize their outstanding academic achievement.

The Gold Medal Award Recipients for 2021 are:

Adrianna Cubellis '21

Bachelor of Arts Honours - Humanities

Hana Dardarian '21

4-Year Bachelor of Arts - Social Science

Rebecca Francis '21

Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies Honours

Courtney Hartwig '21

Bachelor of Arts Honours - Social Science

Tara Husni '21

Bachelor of Social Work - Honours

Patrick Madge '21

3-Year Bachelor of Arts - Social Science

Eliza McClelland '21

4-Year Bachelor of Arts - Interdisciplinary Programs

Cole Van Meerbergen '21

4-Year Bachelor of Arts - Humanities

Lama Naboulsi '21

3-Year Bachelor of Arts - Interdisciplinary Programs

Rachel Reparon '21

Bachelor of Arts Honours - Interdisciplinary Programs

James Schnitzler '21

3-Year Bachelor of Arts - Humanities

Yun Wu '21

Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies

In Memoriam

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of:

Brian Forcey '84, who passed away on June 3, 2021.

Bertus Boogerman '87, who passed away on April 18, 2021.

Sean De Muijnck '11, who passed away on July 5, 2021.

Lisa Ur (nee Pierce) '18, who passed away on September 27, 2021.



John "Jack" Donohue, former Religion Professor and Campus Minister, who passed away on May 31, 2021.

Kenneth McKellar, Professor Emeritus (French Literature), who passed away on May 16, 2021.



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