

ACADIA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



ACADIA
ALUMNI

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Agenda for the 2024 AGM

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

8:00 p.m. (Atlantic)

Virtual Meeting

Matthew Rios, Presiding

1. Welcome - M. Rios
2. Approval of Agenda (Page 3)
3. Approval of Minutes of AGM of May 13, 2023 (Page 4)
4. Greetings from President Dr. J. Hennessy
5. Annual Report - M. Rios/O. Proudfoot (Page 8)
6. Treasurer's Report - M. Rios (Page 19)
7. Nominating Committee Report - D. MacBeath (Page 22)
8. Acknowledgement of Retiring Board Members - C. Luckasavitch
9. New Business
10. Closing Remarks – C. Luckasavitch
11. Adjournment

Minutes from the 2023 AGM

Saturday, May 13, 2023

9:30 a.m. (Atlantic); Virtual & In Person

Wu Welcome Centre, Alumni Hall, 512 Main Street, Wolfville, NS

1. Welcome - Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Acadia Alumni Association Board of Directors' President, Matthew Rios. M. Rios welcomed those in attendance and noted we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. We are all treaty people.

M. Rios provided details on opportunities for meeting participation, both in person and online, including that the meeting is guided by Robert's Rules of Order. M. Rios noted he is joined by the Executive Officers and other members of the Board of Directors of the Acadia Alumni Association, as well as President Peter Ricketts, Chancellor Bruce Galloway, and some members of the Board of Governors.

Registrants were provided with a copy of the Acadia Alumni Association Annual Report, inclusive of the agenda, minutes of the 2022 AGM, and various reports that will be referenced throughout the meeting. A quorum was established with 40 people in attendance. Participants joined from all over Canada and internationally. M. Rios informed participants that the meeting was being recorded and will be uploaded to the alumni website following the meeting.

2. Technology Use

A brief technology overview was provided to those in attendance.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Moved by Moira MacLean, seconded Carol D'Amelio that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried with one abstention.

4. Approval of the Minutes of AGM of May 7, 2022

Motion: Moved by Leah McNally, seconded by Paul Black that the minutes of the May 7, 2022 Annual General Meeting be approved as circulated. Carried with three abstentions.

5. Greetings from President Ricketts

M. Rios thanked Dr. Ricketts for joining the meeting and invited him to address the group. Dr. Ricketts welcomed attendees to the meeting and thanked the Acadia Alumni Association and the Board of Directors for all the work completed on behalf of Acadia University. Dr. Ricketts noted that this year had no interruptions and that the class of 2023, who ended the first year of their Acadia experience in lockdown, had a relatively 'normal' year. Highlights of the year included the establishment of a Vice-Provost of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and the appointment of Dr. Claudine Bonner to this position. As well, the university is going through a cluster hire for six faculty positions - three Indigenous scholar positions and three scholars of African descent (preferably African Nova Scotian/Canadian). There were sixteen applicants brought to campus, and Dr. Ricketts indicated that it was likely all six positions would be filled. Also, there was development in academic programming with the recent announcement of the creation of a School of Nursing at

Acadia University, a ‘monumental step’ for the university. Not only will it change the face of the university, but it will positively impact this region. Another highlight was the appointment of Nancy Handrigan as Vice-President, Advancement, and the appointment of the Jarislowsky Chair also occurred. Dr. Ricketts identified that this year the budget did not contain cuts and invested in new faculty. A new tuition model has been implemented that is more student-centered, equitable, and flexible. In closing his remarks, President Ricketts indicated this was his final meeting as President, and reflected on his time in the role.

M. Rios thanked Dr. Ricketts for his service to the university, and those in attendance also thanked Dr. Ricketts with a round of applause.

6. 2022-2023 Annual Report

M. Rios shared highlights of the 2022-2023 Annual Report, as circulated. He acknowledged the work of the staff, who contribute so much to the work of the Acadia Alumni Association. M. Rios also specifically acknowledged the roles of: Nancy Handrigan, Vice-President of Advancement; Oonagh Proudfoot, Executive Director, Alumni Affairs and her team, and Melanie Jackson, Senior Alumni Officer. One of the key roles of the Alumni Association is safeguarding and promoting the Acadia experience that we had as students. Key accomplishments support the four pillars of the strategic plan: 1) Support for Career Services and Mentorship including financial support to a Career Services Office; 2) Creating the impact throughout the Acadia journey including support for student scholarships and the establishment of the Dr. Fred Gilbert Speaker Series; 3) Building on the successes of Acadia Communications including our first Year in Review document that focuses on storytelling and raising the voices of Acadia students and alumni; 4) Continued action on Equity of Access and Opportunity.

O. Proudfoot shared highlights of the 2022-2023 Annual Report, as circulated. She acknowledged the Board Members who joined online, as well as Vicki MacCrimmon, who was recently hired to the role of Executive Director of Development in the Office of Advancement. She shared that communication with alumni is through events (there were 58 in 2022-23), social media, e-newsletters, the *Bulletin*, and personal contact. She also highlighted the online Alumni Book Club that started this year and the work of the Board of Directors to become more representative of the alumni community.

7. 2022-23 Treasurer’s Report

Sam Zhang shared the highlights of the 2022-2023 Financial Report, as circulated.

The Association remains in a strong financial position, concluding the year with total assets of \$1.8 Million. S. Zhang indicated that after this fiscal year, the Acadia Alumni Association will meet its commitment to \$1.5 million towards the Campaign for Acadia.

Motion: Moved by Sam Zhang, seconded by Kelton Thomason that the Financial Report for the period ending March 31, 2023, be approved as circulated. Carried with three abstentions.

8. Proposed Amendments to the Alumni Association Constitution

Jeff Aucoin shared the work completed by the Governance Committee, including the recommended amendments to the constitution that fall into three categories: 1) Housekeeping, 2) Ensuring the constitution reflects the goals of the strategic plan to ensure consideration of EDI; and

3) Membership changes (to articles 5.02 sub 4 and 5.03 sub 3) to clarify the rights of Honorary and Associate members.

The membership shared considerable feedback when the proposed amendments were sent out for comment, and it was determined that the rights of Honorary and Associate members were confusing, and therefore this amendment was withdrawn.

Questions and comments from the floor included a comment from D. Burris regarding the proposed constitutional changes involving equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Motion: It was moved by Jeff Aucoin, seconded by Paul Black that the constitutional amendments as circulated in advance of this Annual General Meeting be approved, effective as of this 13th day of May 2023. Carried with three opposed.

M. Rios thanked the Governance Committee members for their work this past year.

9. Nominations Committee Report

M. Rios reviewed the report of the Nominations Committee, as circulated. The Nominations Committee remains committed to the diversity of the Alumni Board and to the alumni nominations to the Acadia University Board of Governors. The Nominations Committee and the Board of Directors continue to work toward a well-rounded and diverse Board of Directors.

The renewing Board Members are Alison Dean '14 and Moira MacLean '85.

The Nominations Committee proposed the following members for appointment to the Acadia Alumni Board of Directors: Emma Duinker ('12); Kiersten Palmer ('22); Matthew Saunders ('09); Shaq Smith ('16); Payton Wood ('18); Emily Patterson ('24) (Ex-Officio).

A call for further nominations was made two times. With no nominations from the floor, nominations to the Acadia Alumni Board of Directors were closed.

Motion: Moved by Matt Rios, Seconded by Ted Upshaw that nominations close. Carried with one abstention.

Motion: Moved by Matt Rios, seconded by Christine Luckasavitch that the slate of Officers and Directors proposed by the Nominating Committee be appointed to the Associated Alumni of Acadia University Board of Directors. Carried with two abstentions.

10. New Business and Questions

The members present were provided with an opportunity to ask anything about the Association or what the Alumni Association is doing on campus. No further questions were received from the floor.

11. Closing Remarks

M. Rios provided closing comments for the 2022-2023 AGM. M. Rios thanked the outgoing Board members, Jeff Aucoin ('96), Carol D'Amelio ('72), Heather Hickman ('77), Donalda McBeath ('75), Kyle Power ('13), and Ted Upshaw ('80), for their service and contributions, and welcomed the

newly elected Directors. M Rios specially recognized and thanked D. McBeath, who completed her term as Past President of the Alumni Association. Those outgoing Board members present at the AGM were presented with a framed certificate of recognition acknowledging their contributions to the Acadia Alumni Association and Acadia University.

M. Rios closed his remarks by speaking to the uniqueness of Acadia and the importance of supporting students in their unique Acadia experience through programming experiences. He thanked those at the meeting for their attendance.

12. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 am (Atlantic Time).

Motion: Moved by Moira MacLean, seconded by Leah McNally that the 2023 Acadia Alumni Annual General Meeting be adjourned. Carried.

Message from the President of the Alumni Association



Dear Acadia Alumni,

As my tenure as the President of the alumni association draws to a close, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've been on together. Over the past two years, it has been both an honour and a privilege to serve as the Acadia Alumni Association's 100th President, and I am immensely proud of the contributions and progress we've made as a community.

Over my decade-long tenure on the Board, I have witnessed the remarkable commitment of alumni across various facets of Acadia University. This includes investments in career services, the establishment of student scholarships, bolstering athletic support, enhancing student services, and continuing to recognize the invaluable contributions of our faculty and staff. In addition to this, our Board has developed and implemented a strategic plan and made significant progress in the space of equity, diversity and inclusion.

As an Alumni Association, one of our most recent milestones was the commitment of one million dollars towards the campaign aimed at renovating the Students Centre. This significant contribution underscores our collective dedication to ensuring that Acadia remains a vibrant hub of learning and social connection for generations to come.

All of these initiatives have been fueled by our love for Acadia and the profound impact it has had on each of us. We recognize that Acadia isn't just a place of learning; it's a transformative experience that shapes lives and empowers individuals to reach their fullest potential.

As I bid farewell to the Board in my role as President, I am filled with gratitude for the opportunity to have served alongside such passionate and dedicated alumni. These board members reflect the diversity of our alumni community and together, we have celebrated our successes, weathered challenges, and forged bonds that will endure long into the future.

While my term may be ending, our journey as alumni of Acadia continues. I have every confidence that under the stewardship of our incoming President, and the collective efforts of our alumni community, Acadia will continue to thrive and inspire future generations of students to dream, achieve, and lead.

Thank you for your unwavering support, commitment, and love for Acadia. It has been an incredible honour to serve as your president, and I look forward to seeing and passionately supporting the continued growth and success of our beloved alma mater.

In Acadia Spirit,

Matthew Rios '14
President, Acadia Alumni Association

Acadia University is located in Mi'kma'ki.

Message from the Executive Director of Alumni Affairs



It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.

-Charles Darwin

It has been a year of change and there is a lot more to come! Join us on the journey.

Acadia welcomed its 17th President and Vice-Chancellor who is full steam ahead on leading us in becoming the institution that we want to be when we celebrate our 200th birthday – and we can't do it without our alumni!

We have been travelling the globe visiting alumni and introducing our new President. Many know Jeff well and all are delighted to (re)connect with him. Our virtual events continue with a diverse range of topics providing an opportunity for continued learning for all of us; and our book club, while still in its infancy stage, is increasing in popularity with authors and titles that are diverse and interesting. Donor relations and giving, in all ways, are inspiring. We look forward to future growth and continued support. The best part of all of this is the obvious increase in engagement and participation from our GOLD alumni (Grads of Last Decade).

We have seen and been very purposeful and responsive to change over the last year. Some of the changes were operational in nature responding to fiscal and logistical influences and demands, and some of them philosophical responding to universal social and environmental evolutions. All of them providing tremendous opportunity and excitement.

There is so much news about our alumni, where they are and what they are doing, and we are sharing it with you on [social platforms](#), in our monthly e-newsletter, in the bi-annual [Bulletin](#) as well as on our [news page](#). Please check them out; stay connected; and let us know if you aren't receiving them.

I offer a tremendous thank you to Matt Rios as he completes his term as President. I know full well that he will not go far. And a warm and proud welcome to Christine Luckasavitch, the Association's first Indigenous president and only 7th female. I offer a heartfelt thank you to the fantastic staff of the Office of Advancement, all of whom play a pivotal role in the work of the Associated Alumni of Acadia University.

I respectfully sign off with our university motto that reflects the benefit of hard work:

In Pulvere Vincas,

Oonagh Proudfoot '93, '06 (*she/her*)
Executive Director, Alumni Affairs

Board of Directors



Top row: Natalie Irwin, Shaq Smith, Christine Luckasavitch, Kelton Thomason, Stephanie Reid, Emily Patterson
 2nd row: Matthew Rios, Kierstyn Palmer, Emma Duinker
 3rd row: Allison Dean, Leah McNally, Sophia Blanchard, Olivia Shive, Paul Black, Sam Zhang, Payton Wood
 Bottom row: Véronique Russell, Ron Malcolm, Matthew Saunders, Moira MacLean, Barb Anderson

Executive Officers

Matthew Rios ('14)

President

Christine Luckasavitch ('11)

Vice-President

Sam Zhang ('05)

Treasurer

Stephanie Reid ('05)

Secretary

Directors

Barb Anderson ('77)

Paul Black ('00)

Allison Dean ('14)

Emma Duinker ('12)

Natalie Irwin ('01)

Moira MacLean ('85)

Ron Malcolm ('82, '83)

Leah McNally ('07)

Kierstyn Palmer ('22)

Véronique Russell ('16)

Matthew Saunders ('09)

Olivia Shive ('21)

Shaq Smith ('16)

Kelton Thomason ('07, '10)

Payton Wood ('18)

Ex-Officio

Sophia Blanchard ('23)

Emily Patterson ('24)

Office of Advancement Event Schedule

Registered: Showing as blank did not require a registration

Attended: Showing as blank did not have a guest list or the event was cancelled due to weather

Flickr Views: Showing as blank does not have a photo gallery

YouTube Views: Showing as blank were either a private meeting or published on a different platform

LOCAL EVENT SERIES	Registered	Attended	Flickr Views
Honorary Degree Luncheon	39	35	
Staff & Faculty Appreciation BBQ	175	175	572
Hockey Celebrity Dinner			
All 50s Reunion	61	60	854
Axe-cellent Send-Off: Welcome Week Event		40	49
Macquarie Foundation Football Reception			
Welcome to Wolfville: Street Fair		129	183
Women's Rugby Pre-Game		10	
Homecoming			
Bulmer Race			
Milestone Reunion			1430
Backyard BBQ			
Women's Volleyball Pre-Game		11	
Remembrance Day Service			
Founders' Day Event	149	70	295
Holiday Skate and Carol Sing		45	150
Geoff Kott Donor Relations Event	30	23	
Athletics Corporate Sponsors Event	29	20	

GLOBAL EVENT SERIES	Registered	Attended	Flickr Views
Alumni Golf Tournament	142	142	430
Moncton Gathering	19	14	229
Charlottetown Gathering	37	32	344
Halifax Harbour Cruise	99	92	544
Bridgewater Gathering	23	20	342
Friday Night Lights: Ottawa RedBlacks Event	33	14	
Sydney Gathering	22	20	
Calgary Gathering	53	44	356
Vancouver Gathering	32	21	195
Ottawa Gathering	63	45	314
Montreal Gathering	25	22	152
Toronto Gathering	51	31	298
NS Sport Hall of Fame Reception	48		291
Boston Gathering	14	12	245
Halifax Holiday Reception	117	103	499

Acadia University is located in Mi'kma'ki.

GLOBAL EVENT SERIES	Registered	Attended	Flickr Views
Barbados Gathering	23	17	156
Bermuda Gathering	36	39	223
Bahamas Gathering	72	46	193
Toronto Business Breakfast	44	35	119
Swimming Reunion	27		
Singapore Gathering	12	15	98
Kuala Lumpur Gathering	13	15	70
Hong Kong Gathering	12	12	135
USPORTS Women's Volleyball Pre-Game			
Florida Gathering	22	22	95
Alumni Awards Dinner	328	293	461



Montreal Gathering



Hong Kong Gathering

VIRTUAL EVENT SERIES	Registered	Attended	YouTube Views
University Farm: From Past to Present	39	22	62
Celebrating World Music Day	8	2	33
Visual Arts in Our Community	9	7	52
Meet Acadia's President	16	17	96
A Career in Care: Acadia Alumni in Medicine	71	59	52
Never Waste a Good Crisis	44	35	74
Forging School-Community Partnerships	15	8	21
Tully Tea 2024	48	31	
GOLDen Careers	27	24	78
Autism Awareness	10	6	

BOOK CLUB (76 MEMBERS)

Throw Down Your Shadows (Deborah Hemming)

About Face: A Mystery (Tony Thomson)

Mona Parsons (Andria Hill-Lehr)

Communications Update

Bulletin



Spring 2023

Theme: Health, healing and transformation inform GOLD alumni efforts and initiatives

As of April 29, 2024: 34,711 page views

Fall 2023

Theme: The environment, climate change and environmental sustainability

As of April 29, 2024: 38,609 page views



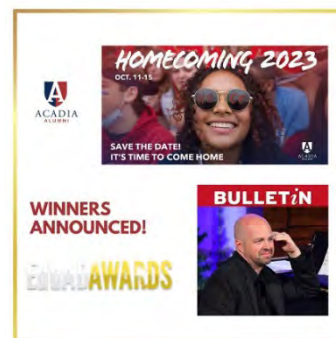
Spring 2024 (for distribution in June)

Theme: How will we build the future? Imagining Acadia on its 200th anniversary

Awards

Acadia recognized for excellence in Alumni and Donor Relations outreach

[LEARN MORE](#)



e-Newsletters

May 1, 2023 to April 29, 2024: 11 editions

Average open rate: 46.9% versus industry average open rate: 19% (emailtooltester, 2023)

Dedicated e-blasts

May 1, 2023 to April 29, 2024): 54 total email messages

Average open rate: 49.7% versus industry average open rate: 40.15% (Constant Contact, November 2023)

Flickr

There were 9,322 views of photos from gatherings from May 1, 2023 to April 29, 2024

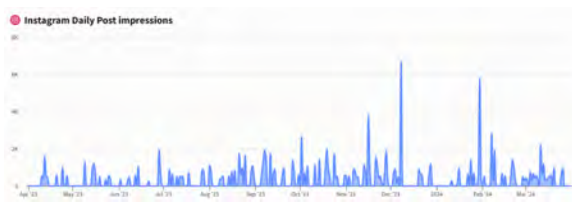
Social Media Stats (year-over-year comparison)

Facebook

From April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024, the Acadia Alumni Facebook Page's followers increased by 12.1%, from 1,418 to 1,590. The total impressions on our posts increased by 406%, from 55,885 to 282,864, and our average post engagement rate over the past year was 5.51%, up 53.4% from 3.57%.



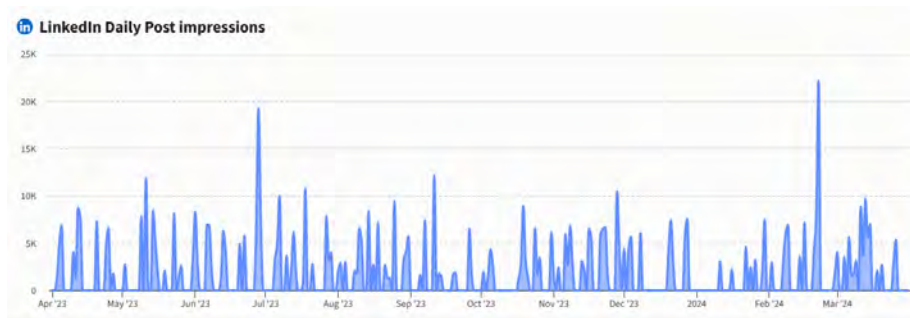
Instagram



As of March 31, 2024, the Acadia Alumni Instagram account had 1,524 followers, an increase of 17.41% from the 1,298 reported last year. Total post impressions increased from 3,606 to 128,730, and the average post engagement rate is 5.39%.

LinkedIn

As of March 31, 2024, the Acadia University LinkedIn account that is shared with university communications had 31,510 followers and an increase of 5.6% from 28,841. The average engagement rate went from 4.23% to 8.01%, an increase of 90.1%. Post impressions were down by 15%, from 812,316 to 689,859. This could, in part, be due to a decrease in use by the university communications team.



Twitter/X

As of March 31, 2024, the Acadia Alumni Twitter account had 829 followers, an increase of 25 followers. Total post impressions were 27,280, and our account had a fantastic engagement rate of 4.51%. Despite recent ebbs and flows in Twitter usage, Acadia Alumni still has an engaged audience on the platform.

Facebook Group

From April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024 the Acadia Alumni Facebook group had 247 posts. The posts received a combined 7,604 reactions and 583 comments.

Acadia University is located in Mi'kma'ki.



Top Posts

Facebook



Acadia University Alumni
Nov 08, 2023

Residents and visitors to Wolfville will notice something new at the Post Office. Canada Post unveiled the 2023 Remembrance Day stamp on Monday, November 6 in honour of Acadia Ladies' Seminary graduate Mona Parsons. An enlarged version of the stamp is permanently installed outside the building, within walking distance of a statue of Parsons, who joined the Dutch resistance during the Second World War and was the only non-military Canadian woman imprisoned by the Nazis. "She never wore a uniform, didn't carry a gun, and yet was willing to put her life on the line because of her belief in justice and freedom," says Andria Hill-Lehr ('93, '95, '04). You can read Mona's incredible story at <https://bit.ly/47ob00h> Acadia University Canada Post Image

10,808 impressions

Instagram



acadia_alumni
Dec 08, 14:23

Big news, Acadia family! Thanks to a \$1 million gift from alum Janice MacNeill ('76), announced at our recent Alumni Holiday Reception, more students will have the opportunity to pursue their dreams at Acadia University. This generous donation to the MacNeill Scholar-Bursaries is truly a transformative gift of education. Check out the link in our bio to learn more about this amazing act of giving and see photos from the event. #AcadiaU #GiftOfEducation #AcadiaAlumni @acadialstudents

6,677 impressions

LinkedIn



Acadia University
Feb 22, 15:40

Flashback to the 1981 Vanier Cup, when Don Clow ('83) caught three passes to move the team into a position to score in the last three minutes of the game. Acadia earned an 18-12 victory and carried the day, but here's the thing. If you were to ask Don about it, he would deflect the praise and focus entirely on the team rather than the personal achievement. It's a philosophy that has defined his perspective and translated into tremendous success as a business leader, community advocate and philanthropist. And it's one of the many reasons the Acadia Alumni Association has named Don as the 2024 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient. Don's inspirational story continues at <https://linkd.in/eYe8pdqe> and we're celebrating his achievements at the

19,754 impressions

Twitter/X



1,248 impressions

Acadia University is located in Mi'kma'ki.

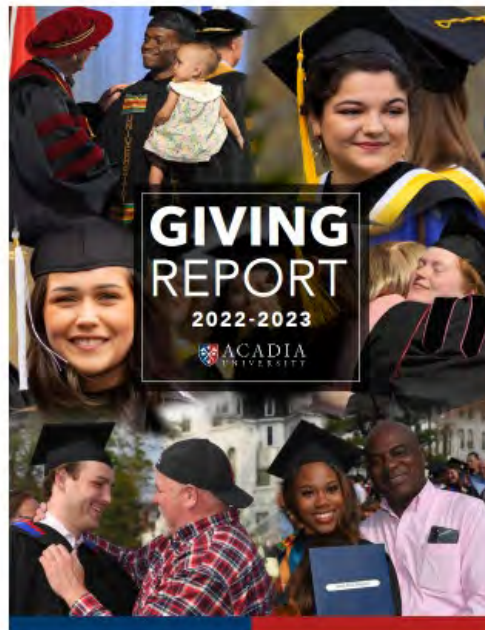


Donor Publications

The Honoree (Published Sept. 2023)



The Giving Report (Published Nov. 2023)



Coming Soon

The screenshot shows the 'GOLD Council' website page. It includes the Acadia University logo and the title 'GOLD Council'. The page is divided into several sections:

- Recent Acadia grads are as good as GOLD!**: A paragraph about the importance of staying connected.
- With that in mind, we are pleased to announce the formation of a GOLD Council**: A paragraph explaining the council's purpose.
- If you are interested in learning more, please contact Executive Director Alumni Affairs**: Contact information for the council.
- SUBMIT A CLASS NOTE**: A section for alumni to share their accomplishments.
- UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION**: A section for alumni to keep their contact details current.
- ATTEND UPCOMING EVENTS**: A section for alumni to stay informed about future events.
- BENEFITS AND SERVICES**: A section detailing the support provided to alumni.
- FOLLOW US!**: A section for social media links.
- RESOURCES - GOLD ALUMNI VIRTUAL EVENTS**: A section for virtual events.
- GOLDen CAREERS**: A section for career advice.
- Acadia Alumni in Medicine**: A section for medical professionals.

 On the right side, there is a 'GOLD COUNCIL MEMBERS' section featuring circular portraits of the council members: Madison Cyr ('17), Regan Trask ('18), Sam Teichman ('19), Taylor Wilson ('20), Olivia Shive ('21), Kierstyn Palmer ('22), and Sophia Blanchard ('23).

GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Communications Plan

We have established a GOLD Council of young alumni to assist us in engaging Acadia graduates of the last decade. This cohort represents approximately 9,226 people, not including this year's new graduates.

Awards

The Alumni Association offers and supports a suite of awards and honours to recognize and showcase those who have earned distinction and achieved inspirational success in life and career. Their diverse contributions reflect favourably on Acadia and serve to represent and promote the University both here at home and around the world.

2023 RECIPIENTS

Outstanding Young Alumni Award:
Ms. Shannon Boldon ('13)

Distinguished Alumni Award:
Dr. Susan Crouse ('85)

Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching:
Dr. Ryan MacNeil

Student of the Year Award:
Ms. Olivia Stevenson ('23)

Outstanding University Service Award:
Ms. Melanie Jackson ('99, '01)

Excellence in Alumni Service:
Ms. Janet Kirkconnell ('56, '58)

Scholarships

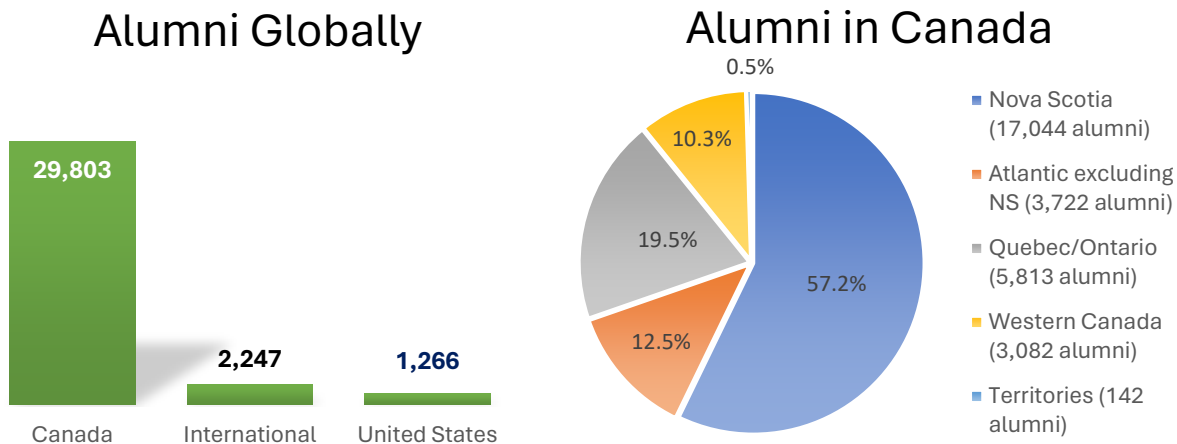
Thanks to the support of alumni who donate to the Alumni Fund, the Association is able to fund annual scholarships for undergraduate students in the Faculties of Pure and Applied Science, Arts, and Professional Studies. This year, the **Beveridge Science Scholarship** was awarded to **Clara Ryan (Environmental Science)** and the **J. W. Johnstone Jr. Scholarship** went to **Rachel Whitten (Kinesiology)**. As is the case each year, these students have demonstrated profound enthusiasm for their studies and the opportunities available to them at Acadia University. The **Chancellor Libby Burnham Scholarship** was not awarded this year.

Through our partnership with Acadia Athletics, the Alumni Association also awards two Acadia Alumni Athletics Awards to female athletes annually. Not only have these athletes made significant contributions to their teams' success on the court, but they also embody the Acadia spirit in the classroom and other aspects of their lives. This year, the Alumni Association awarded scholarships to **Jenna Guy (Women's Volleyball)** and **Lizzy Iseyemi (Women's Basketball)**.

Alumni Records

Maintaining accurate alumni records is an important function of the Advancement Office as it enables us to communicate effectively with our alumni worldwide.

Currently, we have a total of **45,430 living alumni** as of **March 31, 2024**. This includes those for whom we do not have contact information (inactive alumni). The total number of active alumni is **33,316**.



Financial Report

Acadia Alumni Association Unaudited Receipts & Disbursements For the Period April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

	Projected	Actual	Variance	2022-2023 Restated
RECEIPTS				
Affinity Revenue	\$ 210,600	\$ 249,375	\$ 38,775	\$ 234,205
Alumni Fund	30,000	79,881	49,881	54,023
Alumni Events	-	-	-	8,934
Short-Term Interest	18,000	167,397	149,397	18,681
Total Receipts	\$ 258,600	\$ 496,653	\$ 238,053	\$ 315,842
DISBURSEMENTS				
<i>Athletics</i>				
Academic All Canadian Awards Reception	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000
Athletic Reunions	1,000	1,000	-	1,000
Female Athlete Awards	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
Hockey Honour Roll	2,000	2,000	-	-
Signage	2,500	2,500	-	2,500
Varsity Sport Special Initiatives	7,000	7,000	-	7,000
Sports Hall of Fame/Women in Sport	3,500	3,500	-	-
	\$ 28,000	\$ 28,000	\$ -	\$ 22,500
<i>Other</i>				
Acadia Students' Union	\$ 7,800	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,800	\$ 6,500
Administrative	2,000	-	2,000	-
Advertising and Marketing	5,000	1,093	3,907	-
Award Committee Initiatives	10,000	4,107	5,893	6,544
Board Initiatives	5,000	3,775	1,225	-
Board Meetings and Director's Travel	36,500	11,384	25,116	9,473
Bruce Phinney Memorial Scholarship	2,500	2,500	-	12,500
Career Services Initiative	170,388	170,388	-	179,612
Communication Committee Initiatives	30,000	21,599	8,401	-
D&O Insurance	850	875	(25)	792
Director's Fund	-	-	-	817
Discretionary Disbursements	1,000	1,950	(950)	23,706
Events Committee Initiatives	15,000	5,731	9,269	2,478
Fred Gilbert Speaker Series	5,000	-	5,000	1,200
Grad Class	12,500	12,902	(402)	7,114
Homecoming Weekend	7,500	2,748	4,752	5,000
Hospitality	1,500	326	1,174	-
Off-campus Events	15,000	-	15,000	-
Scholarships	8,000	4,000	4,000	8,000
Staffing Commitment	15,490	15,490	-	14,196
Sunday Music in the Garden	8,000	8,000	-	8,000
Young Alumni Committee Initiatives	5,000	-	5,000	-
	\$ 364,028	\$ 270,869	\$ 93,159	\$ 285,933
Total Disbursements	\$ 392,028	\$ 298,869	\$ 93,159	\$ 308,433
NET RECEIPTS	\$ (133,428)	\$ 197,784	\$ 331,212	\$ 7,409

**Acadia Alumni Association
Balance Sheet
As at March 31**

	Unaudited 2024	Restated Unaudited 2023
Assets		
AAAU/Acadia Joint Account	\$ 133,155	\$ 92,682
Affinity Fund	1,456,874	1,335,315
Constance Hayward Fund	255,350	234,163
Carr Fund	51,510	47,236
General Fund (Alumni Hall)	71,030	65,136
Toronto Fund	17,554	16,097
Vesta Magee Fund	35,455	32,513
Total Assets	\$ 2,020,928	\$ 1,823,142
Committed Funds		
<i>Athletics Proposal</i>		
Academic All-Canadian Awards Banquet	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000
Annual Fundraising Event	3,500	7,000
Athletics Reunion Events	1,000	2,000
Female Athlete Awards	10,000	20,000
Hockey Honour Roll event	2,000	4,000
Signage Production for Sports Venues	2,500	5,000
Varsity Sport Special Initiatives	7,000	14,000
	<u>\$ 28,000</u>	<u>\$ 56,000</u>
<i>Other ¹</i>		
Acadia Students' Union	\$ 7,800	\$ 15,600
Bruce Phinney Memorial Scholarship	-	2,500
Career Services Initiative	-	170,388
Scholarships	8,000	6,000
Students Centre ²	200,000	-
Sunday Music in the Garden	8,000	8,000
	<u>\$ 223,800</u>	<u>\$ 202,488</u>
Total Committed Funds	\$ 251,800	\$ 258,488
Uncommitted Funds	\$ 1,769,128	\$ 1,564,654



¹ Recurring annual commitments have become part of the formal budgeting process and no longer appear under committed funds.

² On February 3, 2024, the Alumni Association made a \$1M commitment to the Students Centre Campaign. This is year 1 of the 5-year commitment.

Affinity Partnerships

The Acadia Alumni Association continues to have healthy, successful, and long-standing relationships with TD Insurance Meloche Monnex (home and car insurance) and Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc. (health and life insurance). These affinity partnerships offer our alumni community great rates, benefits, and services, and provide significant financial gains for the Association.

Affinity Revenue since April 1, 2023:

	\$ 209,143.50
	\$ 38,335.92
BMO Mastercard	\$ 1,895.33
Revenue:	\$ 249,374.75

Alumni Fund

The total raised for the Alumni Fund in 2024 fiscal was \$79,880.82.

There were approximately 353 donations for the past fiscal year from 141 unique donors. Approximately 26 donors gave more than one donation during the year – anywhere from two gifts to donors giving monthly or twice a month.



Proposed 2024-2025 Board of Directors

Executive Officers

Christine Luckasavitch ('11) President	2024 – 2026
Paul Black ('00) Vice-President	2024 – 2026
Matthew Saunders ('09) Treasurer	2024 – 2026
Barb Anderson ('77) Secretary	2024 – 2026
Matthew Rios ('14) Past-President	2024 – 2025

Directors

Taylor Baker ('19)	2024 - 2026
Emma Cochrane ('13)	2024 - 2026
Allison Dean ('14)	2023 - 2025
Emma Duinker ('12)	2023 - 2025
Natalie Irwin ('01)	2024 - 2026
Eric Levy ('05, '07)	2024 - 2026
Moira MacLean ('85)	2023 - 2025
Ron Malcolm ('82, '83)	2024 - 2026
Kierstyn Palmer ('22)	2023 - 2025
Véronique Russell ('16)	2024 - 2026
Olivia Shive ('21)	2024 - 2026
Shaq Smith ('16)	2023 - 2025
Kelton Thomason ('07, '10)	2024 - 2026
Payton Wood ('18)	2023 - 2025
Sam Zhang ('05)	2024 - 2025

Ex-Officio

Emily Patterson ('24)	2023 - 2025
Rachel MacMillan ('25)	2024 - 2026

Nominee Biographies



Taylor Baker ('19) is an Indigenous woman with both Coast Salish and Gitksan ancestry and is a Member of Tsawwassen First Nation. Her lineage runs deep in other Coast Salish territories, such as Musqueam and Stz'uminus.

Born and raised on her Nation's Lands, Taylor moved to Wolfville in 2015 to pursue post-secondary education. Taylor has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Politics (2019) with a minor in History from Acadia.

Taylor is elected to Tsawwassen First Nation Executive Council for the 2022-2026 term. In this capacity, she works alongside and collaboratively with the Chief and Executive Council on providing strategic direction and decision-making to the CAO and the Tsawwassen Government. The Executive Council is responsible for passing regulations; directing policies, programs and services; and preparing laws and budget considerations for the Tsawwassen First Nation Legislature. She also represents her Nation at various regional, provincial and federal meetings and gatherings.

Taylor is also heavily involved in reconciliation initiatives at the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. As a Committee Member on the Speaker's Indigenous Reconciliation Advisory Committee, she works alongside Hon. Raj Chouhan, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of B.C., and other First Nation leaders of B.C. to collaborate and provide advice towards true action for reconciliation.



Emma Cochrane ('13) grew up in Hebbville, Nova Scotia. She is proud to be the third generation in her family to graduate from Acadia, receiving her Bachelor of Arts Honours in Politics. While at Acadia, she was actively involved in the campus community serving as Arts Senator on the Acadia Students' Union and President of the Acadia Politics Association. Emma helped establish the award-winning Acadia Students for Enthusiastic Consent, a sexual

violence awareness initiative that resulted in hiring the first-ever on-campus female sexual assault response officer and mandatory frosh week training.

After her time at Acadia, Emma pursued her Master of Arts in Communications as a Social Sciences and Research Council of Canada graduate scholar at the University of Ottawa. This led her to Calgary, where she worked in dynamic communications and government relations roles in the energy sector. After close to a decade of working across the country, her strong ties to Nova Scotia brought her home for an opportunity at NATIONAL Public Relations, leading client files spanning healthcare, economic development, and postsecondary. She is now living in Halifax and working in Corporate Affairs at Emera, a diverse energy services company that is leading an ambitious clean energy transition in North America.

Emma is motivated by what can happen when a group of passionate people come together to solve big challenges. She feels deeply invested in the future of Acadia and is excited to give back to an organization that gave her so much.



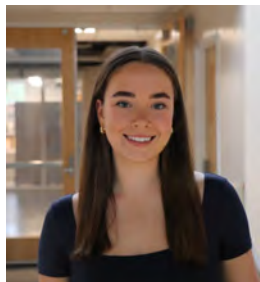
Eric Levy ('05, '07) grew up in the small community of Upper Vaughan, Nova Scotia. Growing up in a rural community sparked Eric's desire to explore. Upon finishing his BA in Sociology in '05 and Honours in '07, Eric began his first career in education by moving to South Korea. Eric spent 10 years teaching English in South Korea, Vancouver, Thunder Bay, and Halifax.

In 2017, Eric decided to change his career and completed a Master of Public Administration at Dalhousie and began a career in municipal government.

Eric has spent his new career working primarily in organizational development and equity, diversity, and inclusion. Currently, Eric is the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer of the Town of Mahone Bay.

Eric currently lives in Sherwood, Nova Scotia, where he has spent the last few years working on building a homestead. In his personal time, Eric can be found cutting firewood, working in gardens, walking the woods with his dog, or tirelessly trying to outsmart the raccoons to protect the chickens. Eric still has a passion to explore and takes road trips and international adventures from time to time.

Eric is a third-generation Levy in his family to graduate from Acadia University. Acadia has been a large part of his family and Eric is glad to be able to have this opportunity to continue contributing to the Acadia community and carry on the legacy.



The elected Grad Class Life President of 2025 is **Rachel MacMillan ('25)**. Rachel is a proud Nova Scotian, born and raised in Halifax. Currently pursuing her Bachelor of Business Administration, Rachel has immersed herself in campus life and the Wolfville community.

As a founding executive of Acadia's Women in Business Society, Rachel serves as Vice-President of Finance, demonstrating her commitment to empowering and bringing female students together. In addition to her involvement in the Women in Business Society, Rachel is a junior analyst for the Acadia Investment Council, where she participates in stock pitches.

Outside of her academic and extracurricular pursuits, Rachel balances her time by working at Annapolis Cider Company. She loves this job because it allows her to build relationships with all the regulars consisting of students and locals. In her free time, Rachel likes to go for walks on the Wolfville dykelands and hang out with her roommates.

Following graduation in 2025, Rachel hopes to spend time travelling before beginning a career in finance. Drawing inspiration from her entrepreneurial family, Rachel aspires to eventually carve her own path. Whether it's through creating her own venture or contributing to established institutions, Rachel is determined to make a meaningful impact on the business world.

Appointees to the Board of Governors

The Acadia Alumni Association appoints 12 people to the University's Board of Governors. These volunteers lend significant and valuable experience and expertise to the University, its leadership and members of the Acadia community.

The Alumni Association Vice-President (appointed in their second year), President (for their two-year term) and Past-President (for their one-year term) hold two of the 12 appointments to the Board of Governors at any given time. **Matthew Rios ('14)** and **Christine Luckasavitch ('11)** currently fulfill these roles. The ten remaining appointees include:

Clive Anderson ('89)
Charles Coll ('84)
Henry Demone ('76), Board Chair
Bert Frizzell ('72)
Shanna Lespere ('89, '90)

Stuart MacLean ('83)
Tracey McGillivray ('87, '15)
Pam Mood ('82)
Martin Suter ('88)
Lana Wood ('82)

Thank You to the Retiring Directors

The Acadia Alumni Association and Acadia University would like to thank the following retiring board members for their dedication and service:

Leah McNally ('07)

Stephanie Reid ('05)

Sophia Blanchard ('23)

Interested in joining the Alumni Association Board? [Learn more](#)

Stay connected by updating your contact information, so you don't miss out on all of our alumni news and events. [Learn more](#)





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