

# Alumni in ACCTion

## 2015 Grad Edition

### It's a family affair

Many families have a personal experience with Assiniboine Community College, but it's a rare occasion when close family members graduate within a few years of one another. Such is the case with the Sale family.

In 2011, both Lyza Sale and her mother Virginia Sale earned their college credentials. Lyza received her diploma from the Media Production program (now Interactive Media Arts), while her mom Virginia earned a certificate in Comprehensive Health Care Aide.

And now, three years later, a third Sale family member has crossed the stage to receive her diploma! Nor Sale, Lyza's older sister, recently graduated with her Practical Nursing diploma after completing her studies at the college's Parkland Campus in Dauphin.

"I used to work as a health care aide and enjoyed my work very much and I worked with a great group of nurses that inspired me to further my education," said Nor.

Upon the recommendation of friends who had previously been in the program at the college, Nor decided to follow in her mother and sister's footsteps and explore her own ACC student experience. Immediately after graduating in June this year, Nor secured a permanent position with the Rivers Personal Care Home.

"I very much enjoy working with the elderly—being a part of the health care team that provides care to the residents in an environment that meets their physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs," said Nor. "I enjoy knowing them all because they all have different backgrounds and very interesting lives."

Since graduating in 2011, Nor's sister Lyza has been working with the CBC as a videographer/editor and enjoys traveling throughout Manitoba, Ontario and Saskatchewan recording and editing news stories. Their mom Virginia is a health care aide at the Shoal Lake Health Centre. "ACC was such a big help in me getting to where I am now," said Lyza. "My advice to anyone who might be interested in pursuing their diploma or certificate is to stay curious, always be willing to learn something new and adapt to changes."

Great advice like that has taken the Sale family far!



The three Sale family graduates, from left to right: Virginia, Nor, Lyza (Mr. Sale in back row)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sept 12 & 13, 2015**  
ACC Men's & Women's Cougar soccer home opener games - Shilo, MB

**Oct 8, 2015**  
Harvest on the Hill - ACC North Hill campus

**Oct 16, 2015**  
ACC Night at the Brandon Wheat Kings home game - Westman Communications Group Place

**Oct 17, 2015**  
2nd annual Prowler Cup (ACC vs. BU Men's & Women's soccer games)

**Nov 24 - 26, 2015**  
ACC Holiday Buffet - MB Institute of Culinary Arts

**Jan 18 - Feb 12, 2016**  
Grey Owl Restaurant - MB Institute of Culinary Arts

**Feb 18, 2016**  
ACC Open House

## Lieutenant Governor Silver Medal recipients

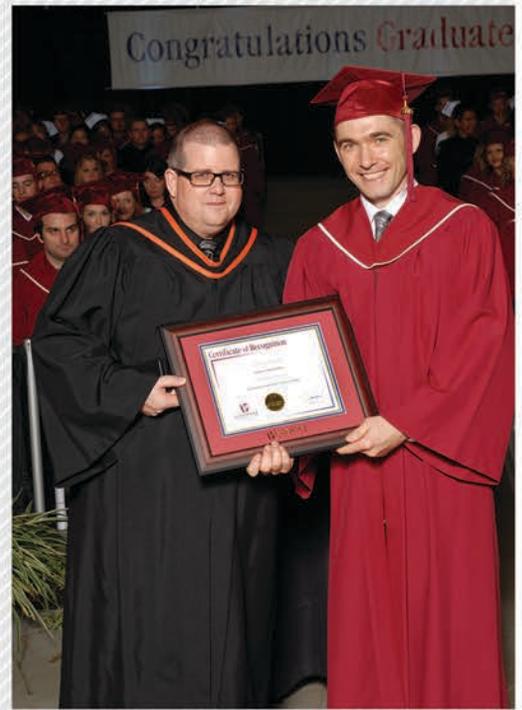
Each year the Province of Manitoba awards two graduating students with Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medals. These graduates excelled academically, displayed strength of character and contributed to the college and community in a meaningful way.

This past academic year's medal recipients were Nicole McKinnon, who graduated with a diploma in Early Childhood Education, and Larry Makarikhin, who graduated with a diploma in Business Administration.



### Nicole McKinnon, Early Childhood Education (ECE) Diploma

During her two years at ACC, Nicole maintained a better than 4.0 GPA, while being an active volunteer, in both college and community events. Nicole gave her time as a Spend-A-Day host, ECE advisory committee class representative and ACC Students' Association Event Coordinator. One of Nicole's greatest accomplishments was her volunteer trip to Ecuador where she assisted with a water project in a 'ME to WE' village. Nicole is also a talented harpist who implemented her love of music into her projects and assignments.



### Larry Makarikhin, Business Administration Diploma

Larry was the 2014-15 Students' Association President, who always worked towards improving the ACC student experience. He assisted with implementing a new health and dental benefit plan for future students, as well as creating a handbook for future International students. Larry excelled academically, graduating with a GPA of 4.22. He was a member of the winning Business Project team and maintained a full course load along with taking on-line courses to pursue a Certified Professional Accountant (CPA) designation. Larry's passion for learning, natural leadership abilities and genuine supportiveness of fellow students was a real asset to the ACC family.

## 2015 Graduate Satisfaction & Employment Survey

The survey was conducted from March to May 2015 and included those who graduated between July 2013 and June 2014.

**96%** of graduates who were seeking work are currently employed

**79%** of those working have secured permanent employment

**87%** of graduates are satisfied with the quality of education they received

**84%** of graduates believe the skills they learned at ACC helped them to find their current job

**94%** of ACC graduates stay in Manitoba

**\$44,050** is the average gross annual salary

# Another successful graduation season

This past year the college had **more than 1,100 graduates** walk across the stage to receive their certificate, diploma and apprenticeship credentials. This year's new crop of alumni included 27 students from ACC's Adult Collegiate in downtown Brandon, 47 nursing graduates from the Winnipeg campus, 916 students from Brandon's two campuses and 121 students from the Parkland campus.

The Brandon campus group included 739 graduates from 37 different certificate and diploma programs in addition to 177 apprenticeship graduates from seven programs. Some of the grads had families travel from as far away as Colombia and India to attend their graduation ceremony.

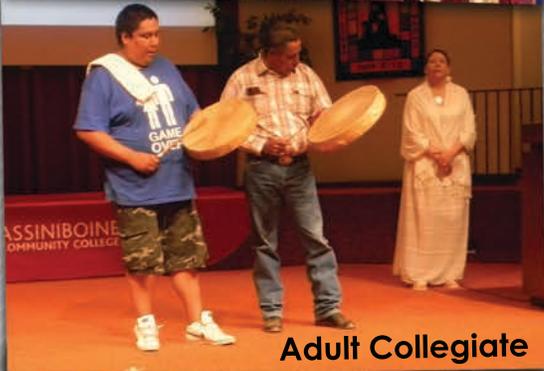


Awards were given to 13 students for excellence and achievement at the college's Adult Collegiate ceremony held June 20. Two entrance scholarships were presented to graduates continuing their post-secondary education at ACC. Other awards included the Academic Excellence Award and the Learning Community Award.



Family and friends gathered on May 14 to celebrate with 23 Practical Nursing graduates from the college's Winnipeg campus. This was the second of two intakes to graduate in this academic year.

ACC's Parkland campus ceremony, held on June 5th, saw graduates representing nine different programs, including 34 students from the Mature Student High School program. "Being a student at ACC's Parkland Campus was a great experience," said Students' Association Vice-President for Parkland campus, Angie Moosetail. "You are given opportunities to make connections within the community in the field you are studying. Learning by doing is what the college believes in and it is strongly portrayed throughout your studies, I myself, being a hands on learner, benefited greatly from this."



The ACC Alumni Association welcomes all graduates to its membership. "We are so proud of all graduates and we congratulate you for reaching this major milestone in your lives!" said Caelie Walker, President, ACC Alumni Association.



## Female Athlete of the Year

### Simone Turner-Cummer

Simone Turner-Cummer received the Female Athlete of the Year award for the 2014-15 academic year. She originally came to ACC to play hockey but, ended up a key team member on the soccer and futsal teams as well - all while maintaining a GPA above 4.0 in the Business Administration program. Her tremendous work ethic and desire to always learn more and improve her game, contributed to her receiving this honour. Congratulations to Simone Turner-Cummer, ACC's Female Athlete of the Year.



## Male Athlete of the Year

### Robert Neumann

The recipient of the 2014-15 Male Athlete of the Year award was Robert Neumann, who played for both the men's soccer and futsal teams. His competitive drive and natural leadership skills made him a natural fit for this award. He was a leading scorer on the soccer field as well as adding strong offense in the three tournaments during the futsal season. He was just shy of being a straight A student, managing a heavy course load in ACC's Practical Nursing program. Congratulations to Robert Neumann, ACC's Male Athlete of the Year.

## Student Achievement Celebration

Students at Assiniboine Community College (ACC) were treated to a night of recognition at the annual Student Achievement Celebration dinner held April 15 in Brandon at the Victoria Inn.

A total of **51 awards** were presented to students, as well as, two additional awards to both an ACC instructor and staff member.

This event is intended to acknowledge students who embody the unparalleled student experience offered at the college. Students are celebrated in the areas of athletics, student life and academic performance.

"Students who invest themselves fully in the college experience build stronger connections to the community, develop skills outside of the classroom and create lifelong memories," said ACC's Dean of Student Affairs Michael Cameron. "It's important that their hard work and contributions don't go unnoticed."

Twenty-two students received 'One to Watch' awards. Faculty members select these recipients based on a set of criteria including academic merit, leadership, contributions to student life, community involvement and volunteerism.

Twenty-four students were recognized with athletic awards, including Male Athlete of the Year and Female Athlete of the Year.

Five students, an instructor and staff member each received awards from the Students' Association.

This is the second year in a row that ACC has hosted the event. The college plans to continue showcasing the multitude of talent and dedication of students every year.



# Thank You! COUGARS CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT 2015




Assiniboine Community College (ACC) hosted the first inaugural Cougars Classic Golf tournament this past June at the Shilo Country Club. The tournament attracted ACC alumni, student athletes, current ACC faculty and staff, the business community, friends and family. It was a chance to reignite old friendships, partnerships and network within ACC's proud community. Participants and donors from throughout the Westman region supported this event, with all proceeds going towards student athlete scholarships. Join us on June 23, 2016 for the second annual event!

For more information on this event email [alumni@assiniboine.net](mailto:alumni@assiniboine.net)

## Do you know an outstanding ACC alumnus?

ACC is now accepting nominations for its alumni awards, presented at the annual Alumni Advancement Dinner.

### Community Service Award

Awarded to an alumnus of the college who has positively impacted the quality of people's lives through service to others.

### Excellence in Teaching Award

Awarded to a current faculty member of the college who has made an extraordinary contribution to teaching and the student experience.

### Distinguished Alumni Award

Awarded to an alumnus of the college who has distinguished themselves in both their chosen profession and their community.

### One to Watch Award

Awarded to an alumnus of the college, 30 years or younger, who shows exceptional achievement and significant contribution to their profession or community.

Deadlines for nominations is November 27, 2015.

Visit [www.assiniboine.net/alumniawards](http://www.assiniboine.net/alumniawards) for nomination forms. For more information or tickets to the dinner call 204.725.8700 ext 7124.



# Sun of a Beach (SOB) returns November 13-14th , 2015!



Many college alumni remember this fun-filled, annual event hosted by the ACC Students' Association (ACCSA) - an indoor beach volleyball tournament and social, held at the Keystone Centre. - well it's still going strong! After surveying past event participants, the ACCSA recognized current students and ACC alumni were not able to attend due to timing of the event, so they changed the event date from March to November, to better accommodate this audience.

- Thursday, November 12th** - The weekend begins with a "Kickoff" party at Houston's Roadhouse
- Friday, November 13th** - Beach volleyball tournament starts at 2pm (Manitoba Room, Keystone Centre)
- Saturday, November 14th** - Sun of a Beach Social (doors open 6:30 pm)

Not a volleyball pro? No problem, there are tons of ways to get involved! Become a sponsor, volunteer or simply come out and cheer on our players! Sun of a Beach is for everyone and we can't thank the community enough for their continued support.

For more information on SOB 2015, visit  
[www.sunofabeach.ca](http://www.sunofabeach.ca)



## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Steve Horne, Director of External Relations, ACC | Steve Langston  |
| Lisa Huston, Alumni Relations Coordinator, ACC   | Julie Muller    |
| Paige Cuvelier, General Manager, ACCSA           | Robyn Paulishyn |
| Caelie Walker, President                         | Jamie Robinson  |
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| Lorra Eastcott                                   |                 |
| Wayne Kirk                                       |                 |

The views and opinions expressed in Alumni in ACction do not necessarily reflect an official position of Assiniboine Community College or the ACC Alumni Association.

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To update your contact information with the Alumni Association, visit [www.assiniboine.net/stayconnected](http://www.assiniboine.net/stayconnected)

A graphic showing a collage of job postings. A red circle highlights a specific posting that reads: 'LOOKING FOR A JOB? ACC graduates are in high demand and employers are looking to hire you! Visit www.assiniboine.net/students/job-postings to view a list of job opportunities being advertised to ACC students and graduates.'