

SPRING 2016

ALUMNI IN ACTION

Keeping you connected.

Highlighting what's new.

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PAGE 2 – 3

A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION

The annual Alumni Advancement Dinner was held on March 2, where four outstanding ACC alumni were honoured

PAGE 4

NORTH HILL CAMPUS DEVELOPMENTS

In January, the province announced its support to the college to redevelop the Parkland Building on the college's North Hill Campus

PAGE 6

PARKLAND ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

Three Parkland region ACC alumni will be honoured on April 21



**ASSINIBOINE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

ALUMNI ADVANCEMENT DINNER

The Alumni Association honoured four members of our alumni community on Wednesday, March 2, at the fifth annual Alumni Advancement dinner, held at the college's North Hill Campus.

Clint Jensen, a '90 graduate of the Business Administration program, was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award. The award is presented to a graduate of the college who has distinguished themselves in both their chosen profession and their community. Jensen grew up in Pipestone, MB and upon his graduation from ACC, he began a 23-year-long career with Kraft Foods, holding various roles within the company while working his way up to senior-level positions. He is currently the Director of Sales, Atlantic Region for Snyder's Lance and resides in Charlotte, N.C.

"It was such an honour and I am extremely grateful for the award I received," said Jensen. "It reinforced what an exciting and rewarding journey I have had in the consumer packaged goods industry over the past 25 years and

just as importantly, how it all started with the education and life lessons I received during my time at ACC."

Brad Lyall graduated from ACC's Electrical Engineering Technology program in 1986 and was selected as this year's recipient of the Community Service Award. The award recognizes a graduate of ACC who has positively impacted the quality of people's lives through the service of others. Lyall was born and raised in Hamiota, MB and has been a staple in the Brandon sports community over the past two decades, volunteering his time to coach youth soccer, hockey and baseball teams. The baseball teams he has co-coached have achieved many titles, in particular the Brandon Knights who went on to win Western Canadian championships. In a 2015 Brandon Sun article, it was noted that "the Brandon Knights may be one of the most decorated groups in Brandon Minor Baseball history." The Knights, under the direction of Brad and his co-coach Brad Schoonbaert and manager Terry Burgess, won many Provincial and Western Canadian championships.



This year's Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, Clint Jensen, with Alumni Association President Caelie Walker



Caelie Walker and Brad Lyall, recipient of the Community Service Award



Derek Woychyshyn from Komfort Kitchen, puts last minute touches on the buffet

Katelyn Rempel, a graduate of the Business Administration in 2012, was awarded with the One to Watch award which honours a graduate who is 30 years of age or younger and has made exceptional achievements and significant contributions to his or her profession and community. Rempel is currently the general manager of Rotary Villas, a 108-unit Assisted Living Facility located in Brandon. She was previously an active member of the Rotary Club of Brandon, having sat on the organization's Communications committee.

Katelyn is proud of the education she received at ACC and the business tools it provided her that are required in day-to-day business tasks. She is committed to lifelong learning, currently working towards completing her certificate in Site Management, while planning her wedding in the fall of 2016.

The Excellence in Teaching award was presented to **Dean Johnson**, an instructor in the college's Network Administration Technology program. This award honours a current faculty member of the college for extraordinary contributions to teaching and the student experience. Dean has been a faculty member since 2011, having graduated from the college's Computer Systems Technology program in 2001 and working with the Brandon Regional Health Authority for over a decade before returning to ACC.

In addition to his innovative teaching approaches and proactive attitude, Dean is a devoted ambassador of ACC. He has created a series of fun, interactive presentations for prospective students that he often showcases at various tradeshows and symposiums. He is dedicated to student success, personally calling all new incoming students to his program to answer any questions they have before their studies begin. 



Joining Forces



Mike Lamb

In keeping with the alumni focus, the college was excited to have many current students and alumni contribute to the evening's celebrations.

Red Seal chef Derek Woychyshyn, ACC alumnus and owner of Komfort Kitchen, and his team catered the event. Woychyshyn graduated from the college in 1999 and is the 2011 recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Mike Lamb, local radio personality with 96.1 BOB FM and a 2011 graduate of ACC's Media Production program, was the evening's Master of Ceremonies.

Current second year Interactive Media Arts students Derek McMechan and Dennis Simon provided video production and photography, while current Hotel & Restaurant Management students Tim Blampied and Theo Morgan joined alumnus Ben Ebose in bartending.



(L to R) Caelie Walker, One to Watch award recipient Katelyn Rempel, and Jason Roblin from Vionell Holdings



Caelie Walker presents Dean Johnson with the Excellence in Teaching Award

Another Step towards North Hill Campus Development

ACC will have support from the province of Manitoba to redevelop the Parkland Building on the college's North Hill Campus, as announced this past January, by the Province of Manitoba.

The project will redevelop the iconic 103-year-old Parkland Building, which will be home to a new Centre for Health, Energy and Environment, serving as a hub for learning and research innovation.

The Manitoba government announced a contribution of \$66.7 million of the estimated \$94.1 million project.

"We are pleased the Province of Manitoba has made supporting the development of our North Hill Campus an infrastructure priority," said ACC President, Mark Frison. "This investment will better position us to serve learners, employers and communities and contribute to the economic development of Manitoba."

The new Centre for Health, Energy and Environment will relocate some programs from the Victoria Avenue East Campus, as well as be home to new and expanded programs at ACC. The Centre for Health, Energy and Environment will increase capacity for education opportunities by contributing to Manitoba's commitment to add 75,000 more workers to the labour force by 2020. 



April 21, 2016

Parkland Regional Alumni Celebration
8th Ave. Hall, Dauphin, MB

June 2, 2016

ACC Graduation ceremony
Victoria Ave. East & North Hill campuses,
Keystone Centre, Brandon

June 10, 2016

ACC Graduation ceremony, Parkland
Campus, Credit Union Place, Dauphin, MB

June 23, 2016

Cougars Classic Golf Tournament
Shilo Country Club

June 25, 2016

ACC Graduation ceremony
ACC Adult Collegiate
McDiarmid Drive Alliance Church
Brandon

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ACC Signs Historic Indigenous Education Blueprint

Leaders from the province's colleges, universities and the Manitoba School Boards Association joined together on Dec. 18 inside Migizii Agamik – Bald Eagle Lodge at the University of Manitoba to sign the Indigenous Education Blueprint.

This transformational framework is the result of an unprecedented partnership between Manitoba's public school boards and the post-secondary education sector, now united in their efforts to advance Indigenous education and reconciliation, and to make Manitoba a global centre of excellence for Indigenous education, research, languages, and cultures.

FACT: This past academic year, 18 per cent of ACC's certificate and diploma students studying on campus or by distance identified themselves as First Nations, Métis or Inuit.

This Blueprint takes action on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations. It will translate into success for Indigenous students and their families, enriching the lives of all Manitobans.

Next steps include action items such as establishing a steering committee with all signatories, creating a collaborative website and social media platform, and hosting an Indigenous education conference.

This new collaborative endeavor will continue to grow as more stakeholders and community groups are asked to join in the education partnership. [\(in\)](#)



The educational partners who signed the historic Blueprint include: University of Winnipeg, Brandon University, Université de Saint-Boniface, Canadian Mennonite University, University College of the North, Red River College, Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology, the University of Manitoba, Manitoba School Boards Association, and Assiniboine Community College.

What this Means

By signing the Indigenous Education Blueprint – formally the “Manitoba Collaborative Indigenous Education Blueprint For Universities, Colleges and Public School Boards: Making Excellence in Indigenous Education a Priority” – the signatories commit to:

1. Engaging with Indigenous peoples in respectful and reciprocal relationships and to realize the right to self-determination, and to advance reconciliation, language and culture through education, research and skill development;
2. Bringing Indigenous knowledge, languages and intellectual traditions, models and approaches into curriculum and pedagogy;
3. Promoting research and learning that reflects the history and contemporary context of the lives of Indigenous peoples;
4. Increasing access to services, programs, and supports to Indigenous students, to ensure a learning environment is established that fosters learner success;
5. Collaborating to increase student mobility to better serve the needs of Indigenous students;
6. Building school and campus communities that are free of racism, value diversity and foster cultural safety;
7. Increasing and measuring Indigenous school and post-secondary participation and success rates;
8. Showcasing successes of Indigenous students and educators;
9. Reflecting the diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis cultures in Manitoba through institutional governance and staffing policies and practices; and
10. Engaging governments and the private and public sectors to increase labour market opportunities for Indigenous graduates.

Parkland Alumni Award Recipients Announced!



Lori Bicklmeier



Lloyd Hudson



David Simmonds

ACC's Parkland Region Alumni Committee just announced the recipients of this year's alumni awards to be presented at the fifth annual Parkland Region Alumni Celebration Dinner on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at the 8th Ave. Hall in Dauphin.

"The Alumni Celebration dinner is a wonderful event that gives us the chance to celebrate the accomplishments of ACC alumni who live and work in the Parkland region. We not only celebrate the award recipients, but all college alumni," said ACC Parkland Region Alumni Committee President, Erin Sigvaldason.

This year's recipient of the Parkland Region Distinguished Alumni Award is **Lori Bicklmeier**. The award is presented annually to a graduate of the college who has distinguished themselves in both their chosen profession and their community. Lori graduated from the Applied Counselling Skills program in 2011. Since 2008, Lori has worked at the Dauphin Friendship Centre as the Coordinator of the Dauphin At Risk Teen (DART) program. Throughout her eight year career with the program, she has created, implemented and sustained a multi-faceted program that has seen many highlights.

The Parkland Region Community Service Award recognizes a graduate of ACC who has positively impacted the quality of people's

lives through the service of others. The Alumni Association is pleased to announce that **Lloyd Hudson** is this year's recipient. Lloyd attended ACC in Dauphin where he graduated from the Business Administration program in 1990. Lloyd's passion for volunteerism has driven him to give his time with many organizations in Dauphin for over 40 years, including his two terms as Grand Knight with the Knights of Columbus.

Business Administration instructor **David Simmonds** is this year's recipient of the Parkland Region Excellence in Teaching Award. This award honours a faculty member for extraordinary contributions to teaching and the student experience. David has been an instructor in the Business Administration program at the college's Parkland Campus since 1990. Besides teaching a full course load David finds the time to actively participate in many college committees such as the Alumni Association, Awards Committee, College Council and the Students' Association.

Tickets to this year's event are \$25. The evening begins at 5 p.m. with a cocktail reception, followed by dinner and awards presentation starting at 6 p.m.

For event details or to purchase tickets for the dinner, please contact the college's Parkland Campus 204.622.2222, ext 6590 or email alumni@assiniboine.net.

Parkland Campus Students Cash in on Co-op Partnership

Two students in the Carpentry and Woodworking program at ACC's Parkland Campus each received \$1,000 in cash awards, recognizing their academic accomplishments.

For the past eight years, ACC has partnered with the Dauphin Co-op. Each year, students and faculty build a ready-to-move home. Once completed, the home is sold for \$5,000 above the cost of materials. Those extra funds are then given back to students in the form of cash awards through the ACC Foundation.

A \$2,000 award is given to the student with the highest overall achievement at the end of the first term (December). The remaining \$3,000 is split equally amongst all students that achieve a 70 per cent average throughout their studies.

This year, the \$2,000 incentive award was split equally between Kathy Gale and Nikki Welburn. Another \$3,000 will be awarded this spring among the students that achieve a 70 per cent average throughout their studies.

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!

As an alumnus, do you find yourself sharing your ACC experience with friends, family members and maybe even the person ahead of you in the grocery store lineup? We know that many of our students hear about us through word of mouth and we want to reward you for your referral!

ACC's Refer a Friend program runs for the month of May. If you refer a friend or family member to attend ACC in one of several select programs and they apply in the month of May, you and your friend will be eligible to receive a \$100 gift card! Simply fill out the online form to qualify. Visit assiniboine.net/referafriend for full details and list of eligible programs.

P.S. Save the date for ACC's annual Application Day taking place May 12, 2016. Visit assiniboine.net/appday for more information.

2016-17 Practical Nursing Sites Announced



Portage la Prairie, Melita and Dauphin have been selected as the three locations to host the next ACC rural rotating practical nursing sites.

The college's two-year Practical Nursing program will start in Portage la Prairie in September 2016, Melita in January 2017 and Dauphin in September 2017. Each of the three programs will welcome 25 students.

Applications for the program in Portage la Prairie will be accepted in April 2016, for Melita in June 2016 and for Dauphin in March 2017. Those interested in applying to study at any of the three sites should visit assiniboine.net/nursing for details on admission requirements, application dates and the random draw process.

The college's two-year Practical Nursing diploma program teaches clinical nursing skills in a laboratory setting as well as applied skills in acute and extended care health facilities, personal care homes, community agencies and private homes. In the last three years, 99 per cent of graduates were employed in occupations related to their training. ☀

ALUMNI IN ACTION

Often, ACC alumni will come back on campus to speak with current students, present on relevant topics, judge competitions or simply to visit the ol' stomping grounds! If you're planning a visit to any of our campuses, be sure to stay connected with the Alumni Relations office so we can feature photos in our upcoming newsletters. Contact alumni@assiniboine.net or phone Lisa at 204.725.8700 ext 7124.



(L to R) Mature Student High School alumni Tracy Oswald, Colleen Weisbrodt, Elaine Bridges and Douglas Josie speak to current MSHS students, this past winter

A New Face at ACC

ACC recently welcomed Dr. Deanna Rexe to the college, as the new Vice-President, Academic.

"It's an exciting time in post-secondary education and in Manitoba in particular," said Rexe. "I look forward to joining the team at Assiniboine Community College and working with students, staff, stakeholders and the community to pursue the college's vision of exceptional learning experiences."



Before coming into her role at ACC, Rexe taught and conducted research in the Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University. She previously held senior leadership positions at Vancouver Community College, where she served as a Vice-President, and the British Columbia Institute of Technology.

Rexe holds a doctorate in educational leadership from Simon Fraser University. Her research program focuses on various issues in post-secondary policy, apprenticeship and governance in Canada.

"We're looking forward to the capacity and experience Deanna will bring to our college," said ACC President Mark Frison. "Among her near-term priorities include working with our staff, students and partners on our goal of doubling the number of graduates by 2025."

Rexe will continue her applied research work and is enthusiastic about supporting the college's capacity and engagement in applied research and technology transfer projects. ☀

Golfing for Athletic Scholarships!



In less than three months, on June 23rd, the 2nd annual Cougars Classic golf tournament will take place at the Shilo Country Club. The goal is to host an event that brings ACC alumni and friends together for a fun-filled day of golf, while helping raise money for ACC athletic scholarships.

The ACC Cougars' vision is to have an elite and competitive athletics program that assists players in becoming the best, well-rounded student athletes they can intellectually, athletically and spiritually be. Scholarships help make that vision a reality for student athletes, which is why the focus of this golf tournament is to raise funds for student athlete scholarships. "Receiving an athletic scholarship was the incentive for me to come back to school. I love sport and because of that I've also found my passion and my future in law enforcement." – said Brooke Huculak, Cougar women's volleyball captain, ACC's Female Athlete of the Year and the "One to Watch" award recipient for ACC's Police Studies program.

The golf tournament is fast becoming a "must attend" function with registrations starting to come in. As we get closer to the event the anticipation is building among the organizing committee who hopes to see many ACC alumni among the participants. It's a great event for community members and college graduates to network and have a great day with each other.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities and/or to register a team, contact varsity@assiniboine.net or call Beth at 204.725.8700 ext 6340. ☎

FACT:

Statistics show that student athletes are more engaged in their school academics and tend to become more engaged employees after graduation (Mulhere, 2016). Sport helps student athletes develop valuable life skills to take into the workforce like goal setting, time management, teamwork, communication and leadership skills.



ASSINIBOINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COUGARS

Cougars Tear Open New Logo

ACC has just released a new visual identity for its Cougars varsity athletic teams. This is the first time in more than three decades that the logo has seen an update.

"Our athletics program strives for more each year; more commitment, more achievements, more opportunities, more involvement, more exposure, and more talent," said Beth Clark, Athletics Manager for the ACC's Cougars. "The revamp of the Cougar logo reflects the growth of the program as we embark on a new era."

The new streamlined logo boldly encompasses the ACC's Cougars athletics vision, which is to run an elite and competitive program assisting players in becoming the best, well-rounded student athletes they can be.

For the past 35 years, the Cougars used an original logo designed by two ACC Cougars athletics alumni, Mike Perreault and Dale Hladun. ☎

★ LOOKING FOR A JOB? ★

ACC graduates are in high demand and employers are looking to hire you!

Visit assiniboine.net/alumni/alumni-benefits

to view a list of job opportunities being advertised to ACC students and graduates.

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