



FEBRUARY 2016

Donor wall  
recognizes  
generosity of  
community

A call for  
nominations

February focuses  
on careers





**KEEP A LOOKOUT FOR YOUR  
NEW AND IMPROVED  
ALUMNI WEBSITE  
COMING SOON!**

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ABOUT  
THIS ISSUE

The award-winning DC Alumni magazine is written, designed and published by the Communications and Marketing department to complement the Reflections publication prepared three times a year by students in Durham College's (DC) Public Relations program. Both are available by visiting our [Alumni publications page](#).

Do you have a story idea or something to share? Is there anything you would like to read about? We would love to hear from you!

Please email [alumni@durhamcollege.ca](mailto:alumni@durhamcollege.ca) with your comments, questions or suggestions.



# Message from the president

The February issue of DC Alumni marks our first of the New Year, putting us one step closer to celebrating the 50th anniversary of Durham College (DC) in 2017.

As we move toward this remarkable milestone, I've made it a priority to reconnect with as many graduates as possible and I'm hearing incredible stories of professional success and the positive impact you are making in the lives of others, your employers and on the broader community. I am extremely proud of your accomplishments and your strong contribution to the positive reputation of DC.

As planning for our anniversary celebrations continues there will be plenty of opportunities for our alumni to get involved with more details to follow throughout the year. In the meantime, we have a number of great initiatives happening on campus that I encourage you to take part in.

For example, DC students recently had the opportunity to hear from our graduates at the ongoing Alumni in the Pit event. We welcomed back to campus Hannah Elkington, a 2014 [Police Foundations](#) graduate, and Kyle Merkley, a 2009 [Music Business Management](#) graduate, who shared advice and insight with students as they prepare to transition from college to career.



We've also launched an [Alumni Guest Speaker Program](#), which sees faculty invite graduates to share their stories with current students in a classroom setting and, for the last few years, our alumni have proudly addressed the graduating class at our spring and fall convocation ceremonies.

If you're looking for an opportunity to inspire others with your own success story, you could also consider volunteering for our upcoming Spring Open House, which is taking place on Saturday, April 2. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to interact with our community's young people and inspire them through your example.

As you can likely tell, we are very proud of your accomplishments.

These initiatives are just some of the ways we can showcase you and your achievements and with that in mind, I'd also like to draw your attention to our [2016 Alumni of Distinction Awards](#). These awards honour the significant contributions our graduates make to society while achieving career success. Nominations are now open and will be accepted until Friday, March 11.

Let's keep the conversation going. I encourage you to contact the [Alumni Association](#) to put forth a nomination but also to keep in touch. Whether you are here in Durham Region, elsewhere in Canada or abroad – we want to hear from you!

Don

# Message from the Alumni Association president

It's been a wonderful few months at DC as I settled into my new role as president of the Alumni Association. This includes the opportunity to recognize and reconnect with some of the amazing alumni who are part of what makes DC a place where success truly does matter.

In November, I was able to mingle with more than 100 alumni, employees and friends at the annual Alumni Hockey Night. Watching generations of DC grads and their families come together to relax and reminisce over Canada's national sport was an inspiring experience.

As we entered the New Year, we also celebrated some of our community partnerships with events at the Centre for Food (CFF) at our Whitby campus.

On January 25, a visually-stunning donor wall was revealed to honour the donors who helped make DC's field-to-fork vision a reality. That same evening we also hosted our annual Student and Donor recognition evening, which provided an opportunity for the college to thank the many donors who provide financial assistance to our students while acknowledging 198 students for their outstanding academic achievements. This includes the more than 21 scholarships and bursaries given by the Alumni Association.

These are just a few of the exciting initiatives we've had on the go at DC and I invite you to learn more by reading this month's issue of DC Alumni.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you for the feedback you provided

via the recent Alumni Association surveys, which were designed to help us get a sense of what you want and need from us. With so many initiatives on the horizon, your input is highly valued and helps us continue to improve during these exciting times.

Keep a lookout for your new and improved Alumni website coming soon!

All the best,

Chris Vale  
President, Durham College  
Alumni Association



# DC alumna joins leadership team

More than 25 years after graduating from DC's [Public Relations](#) program, Linda Marco has returned as the new associate vice-president, Office of Development and Alumni Affairs. In addition, she is president of the Durham College Foundation.

In these roles, Marco is responsible for implementing strategies to engage current and potential donors; ensuring funds are invested and stewarded appropriately; and developing a sense of loyalty and commitment among the college's alumni community.

"Durham College has an amazing reputation in the community," said Marco. "I've lived in Durham Region for more than 15 years and have been watching the college's growth. Although most of the people and the buildings have changed, I still feel the same welcoming culture as I did as a student."

Prior to joining DC, Marco was the director of Advancement for Lakeridge Health Foundation where she helped educate the community about health-care services available in Durham Region, encouraging donors to give where they live. This included managing development programs such as major gifts, third-party events and direct response campaigns, generating an annual revenue of more than \$3.5 million. Additionally, she successfully implemented a new visual identity for the foundation and hospital and developed a 10-year comprehensive campaign to raise funds for the redevelopment of Lakeridge Health.

Marco also served as director of Fund Development for Scientists in School, where she created the organization's inaugural fund development plan and attracted new corporate donors. Additional roles in her career include director of Funds Development for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation and director of Development for the Children's Wish Foundation.

In addition to her Public Relations diploma, Marco holds a Fundraising Management certificate from Ryerson University and has achieved her Canadian Fund Raising Executive accreditation. Her extensive fundraising experience and ability to develop key relationships are sure to help shape the future of the college as she provides senior-level leadership to the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs as well as the Durham College Foundation.

“The funds we raise and the connections we make directly affect the student experience at DC,” said Marco. “I am looking forward to showcasing and connecting with our more than 73,000 alumni.”



# DC honours outstanding students; recognizes award donors

For many students, time spent obtaining their post-secondary education is often a balancing act, with school commitments in one hand and employment, family responsibilities and other demands in the other. This is why the annual DC Student and Donor Recognition evening is such a special event.

On Monday, January 25, the college not only honoured 198 students for their outstanding academic achievements, it also recognized the numerous individual, organizational and corporate donors who provide financial assistance to help relieve some of the post-secondary pressure.

“To our award recipients, I offer sincere congratulations,” said DC President Don Lovisa. “Your willingness to work hard and your dedication to learning will serve you well when you graduate and as you launch into your careers.

“And to our donors, your investment in our students shows the value you place on a Durham College education, and for that we are truly thankful. Through your ongoing support we can continue providing the best possible education in the best possible learning environment while contributing to the future success and prosperity of both the college and the community.”

Lovisa also paid special tribute to the Oshawa Folk Arts Council, which celebrated its 20th anniversary as a donor to DC. Each year, for the past 20 years, the council has generously contributed two memorial awards to help support student success: the Anna Racz Memorial Award and the Jan Drygala Memorial Award.

Several new donors were also recognized during the ceremony for choosing to invest in DC through a scholarship or bursary.



These included:

**SCHOLARSHIPS:**

- The Jack and Marg Sills Memorial Scholarship
- The Ontario Water Works Association Scholarship
- The Ontario Water Works Equipment Association Scholarship

**BURSARIES:**

- Aramark Canada Ltd. Award
- Brooklin Horticultural Society Bursary
- CIBC Endowed Bursary
- Dick Huang Memorial Bursary
- Estates of Kathleen Nawrot and Jean Kroll
- Owasco Volkswagen Bursary
- Trillium Automobile Bursary
- Roughley Insurance Brokers Ltd. Bursary
- Travis Pepper Award

# Alumni profile:

## IAN BALL

It is no secret that DC Alumni Ian Ball has made a name for himself on Bay Street. After graduating from the college's [Marketing – Business Administration](#) program in 2002, Ball used his networking prowess and business savvy to impress well-known businessman Robert McEwen. With McEwen's guidance, he quickly hoisted his way to the top, becoming one of the youngest-ever vice-presidents of a publicly traded Canadian company by the age of 22.

As head of Investor Relations at Goldcorp Inc., Ball successfully completed a number of corporate mergers and acquisitions, positioning himself as a key player in the creation of McEwen Mining (McEwen), a gold and silver producer with 1,700 employees operating in four countries. In 2013, he was named president of McEwen and during his time

with the company he helped build it from a \$5 million market capitalization to \$750 million and established it as a publicly traded company on the New York Stock Exchange.

After working with McEwen for 10 years, Ball was eager to break new ground and set his sights on Abitibi Royalties. Once again, he was able to impress with his innovative ideas and unconventional methods, securing himself the position of chief executive officer in 2014.

Never forgetting his time at DC before becoming the golden boy of Bay Street, Ball annually supports students through the scholarship and bursary program by funding the Ian J. Ball award. The gift recognizes the student who shows the most improvement from Year 1 to Year 2 in the [Marketing – Business Administration](#) program.

Ball continues to give back by returning often to DC, inspiring students to challenge their limits and reach for success. This includes speaking at the college's Alumni in the Pit event as well as addressing the graduating class at DC's 2014 spring convocation ceremony.

In 2016, he returned to the classroom to speak to third-year marketing students. In addition to providing these soon-to-be graduates with his words of wisdom, Ball presented each student with a copy of the book *Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game* by Michael Lewis. Inside each copy he included a note to the students explaining the story taught him a valuable lesson, "if you do the same as everyone else, don't expect to be more than average."



# Centre for Food unveils donor wall to recognize generosity of community

Seven years ago, an idea was planted at DC to create a facility that would change the way our local communities eat and grow food as well as meet the growing demands of the local culinary, hospitality, tourism, agriculture and horticulture sectors. The idea sprouted into a vision and, with the generous support of many donors, has come to fruition and continues to blossom.

On Monday, January 25, a donor wall was unveiled at the college's Centre for Food (CFF) to honour its donors as well as establish a distinct marker where all donors could be recognized for years to come.

“Our vision for the Centre for Food was to bring field-to-fork to Durham Region, while creating a place where students would receive an exceptional, hands-on learning experience,” said Don Lovisa, president, DC. “Thanks to the support of our donors, we have been able to substantially grow our vision and make great strides in advancing our programs, grounds, research projects, facility and offerings to our students and the community.”

To complement the warm and natural atmosphere of the CFF, the wall was designed using walnut name plates and metallic inlays in platinum, gold, silver and bronze that denote the amount of each donation.

“On behalf of everyone at DC, I would like to truly thank all our donors for believing in our vision and helping us to establish a state-of-the-art facility that supports both the success of our students and the economic development of our communities,” said Linda Marco, associate vice-president, Office of Development and Advancement. “This is exciting for all of us here at the college and testament to your collective support and commitment to the CFF.”

Three donors in particular were acknowledged for a contribution of more than \$1 million to the CFF. They were:

- The Region of Durham
- The Town of Whitby
- The Estate of Lois Sleightholm



(left to right) Ryan Cullen, first-year Horticulture – Food and Farming student, is joined by Celebrity Chef Jamie Kennedy; David Chambers, former associate vice-president, Office of Development and Alumni Affairs; Linda Marco, associate vice-president, Office of Development and Alumni Affairs; Roger Anderson, regional chair and chief executive officer; John Henry, mayor of Oshawa and Don Lovisa, president, Durham College at the annual Student and Donor Recognition Evening.

Lovisa also announced that a new \$1 million donation towards the CFF has recently been confirmed, and details will be shared publicly in the coming months.

The CFF has the capacity to accommodate 900 students, and is Durham Region’s first-ever post-secondary presence focused on field-to-fork. In addition to [Bistro '67](#) – a green-certified teaching restaurant, the CFF

houses [Pantry](#), a retail store featuring fresh-baked items, meals-to-go, preserved foods and ready-to-cook meals created by students in the college’s culinary programs. The grounds feature an apple orchard, gardens, farm fields and greenhouses that support academic applied-learning and research while growing fruits, vegetables and other produce for use in its kitchens, laboratories and [Bistro '67](#).

# Alumni Hockey Night scores again

On November 27, the DC Alumni Association hosted its third-annual Alumni Hockey Night. More than 100 alumni, employees and friends watched the Oshawa Generals face off against the Peterborough Petes at the General Motors Centre. Although the Generals fell to their rivals by a final score of 4-2, that didn't put a damper on spirits in the Medallion suite as alumni celebrated a family-friendly and fun-filled evening while reconnecting over snacks and beverages.

Congratulations to the following door prize winners:

- Brandon Kearnan (Toronto Maple Leaf tickets)
- Ixchel Bennett (DC Alumni jacket)
- Mich Thomson (DC Alumni golf shirt)
- Christine McClelland (DC picture)
- Keiman Milburn (Oshawa Generals tickets)



Durham College President Don Lovisa (left), Kahlil (Charlie) Qaqish, student governor (middle), and Chris Vale, Alumni Association president (right), cheered on the Oshawa Generals at the annual Alumni Hockey Night.

# Concentrating on careers

The first week of February put a focus on the future as students and alumni attended Career Week. The initiative featured a variety of events to help inspire and prepare attendees for their dream job.

Among the events was the college's annual Job Fair hosted at the Oshawa campus, which allowed guests to meet with potential employers and gain feedback from recruiters. The Job Fair Mentoring Lounge was also back by popular demand, providing guests with an opportunity to mingle with business leaders, local entrepreneurs, alumni and special guests while getting advice on succeeding in today's labour market.

Career opportunities were also showcased at the Whitby campus during the Tradesmart Career Fair as well as the Culinary and Hospitality Fair, where employers visited to seek out graduates entering each of these exciting fields.

The pinnacle of this year's Career Week was DC's fourth-annual Alumni in the Pit event. Hosted by [Team Experience](#) member, Larissa Newberry, the event provided an opportunity for students to catch a glimpse into the lives of two former DC students who once stood where they stand now – with a dream and the drive to succeed.

Hannah Elkington, a 2014 graduate from the [Police Foundations program](#), and Kyle Merkley, a 2009 graduate from the [Music Business Management program](#), shared their stories and provided tips, advice and guidance to current students.

Following a week packed with events, DC's [Career Development office](#) encouraged students and alumni to drop in to hone their job search skills.



# Program profile:

## LAW CLERK – ADVANCED (FAST-TRACK)

DC is pleased to offer [Paralegal](#) graduates the opportunity to study the law and gain experience in areas including corporate, real estate and more by enrolling in the [Law Clerk – Advanced \(fast-track\) program](#). This program is designed to enhance the knowledge that paralegal alumni already possess while providing the skills and edge needed to move into a successful career at a quicker pace.

This three-semester, fast-track program provides extensive training in the theory and practise of law as well as a field placement opportunity to help give students a professional edge. This includes a focus on traditional areas of law including corporate, litigation, wills, estates and real estate in addition to specialized areas including intellectual property, municipal, land planning and securities law.

DC's Law Clerk – Advanced (fast-track) program is also one of only five programs approved by the Institute of Law Clerks of Ontario (ILCO). ILCO program approval indicates that the program meets the educational criteria for various levels of membership.

This program approval offers student, ordinary and associate membership levels without the necessity of writing the standardized ILCO examinations. For more details, please visit the [ILCO membership page](#).

In addition to a career as a paralegal, graduates of the Law Clerk – Advanced (fast-track) program are well positioned for employment opportunities at financial institutions; law offices; provincial, municipal and corporate legal departments; government ministries or agencies; and insurance companies as:

- Corporate law clerks
- Paralegals
- Legal assistants
- Patent assistants
- Real estate clerks
- Family or litigation law clerks

For more information about this exciting new program, please visit the [program page](#).



## Sports shorts

After a successful fall season that saw the Durham Lords women's softball team win its record-setting 17th Ontario Colleges Athletics Association (OCAA) championship, the winter teams are looking to match its performance.

The women's volleyball team, which earned an OCAA silver medal in 2015, is back in the national spotlight, landing a spot in the Canadian Collegiate Athletics Association (CCAA) rankings. Led by head coach Tony Clarke who was named OCAA coach of the year, the Lords won the OCAA eastern division to earn a bye into the OCAA provincial championship.

The men's volleyball team has also found success on the court beating Humber College in a crossover match to qualify for the OCAA championship for the fourth straight season.

Led by CCAA All-Canadian Lindsay Panchan, the women's basketball team is also contending for a medal in 2016. Panchan led the league in scoring, averaging 24.6 points per game and also led the OCAA with 12.5 rebounds per game. The Lords host a qualifying game against St. Clair College with a spot at the championship on the line.

The men's basketball team has been rebuilding this season after winning its first OCAA medal since 1997 in 2015. Head coach Desmond Rowley has brought in new faces who continue to grow on and off the court every day.

Rounding out winter sports are the men's and women's indoor soccer teams who will be taking part in the OCAA regional championships later this month.



# Volunteers needed for DC Spring Open House

You've lived the DC experience — now's your chance to inspire others to do the same! We're looking for alumni volunteers to participate in DC's Spring Open House taking place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 2 at the Whitby and Oshawa campuses and Pickering Learning Site.

Volunteers are needed to greet guests, lead campus tours, help with registration and provide general assistance. You can join us for the full day or just part of it.

We're proud of our alumni and hope that you'll join the Open House team to share your insights, experiences and success stories while helping others explore all that DC has to offer.

If you're ready to get involved, or have any questions, please email [openhousevolunteers@durhamcollege.ca](mailto:openhousevolunteers@durhamcollege.ca).



# Alumni Guest Speaker Program

There is nothing more motivating to a student than to see a glimpse of what their future may hold after graduation. Inviting graduates back to campus to meet and speak to current students is an excellent way to showcase the connection between a DC education and career success.

This is beneficial not only to students, but to our alumni as well, as it allows them to re-connect with DC and inspire soon-to-be professionals to follow in their footsteps.

To help facilitate this connection, the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs recently launched the Alumni Guest Speaker Program, which sees faculty members invite graduates to speak to their classes.

Alumni interested in sharing their post-graduate journeys through this program, should contact their DC academic school office to inquire about speaking opportunities.



# Alumni of Distinction: call for nominations

DC is now accepting nominations for its 2016 Alumni of Distinction Awards, which are awarded at the college's annual spring convocation ceremonies in June. The awards are designed to recognize the extraordinary contributions our alumni make to society while achieving career success. Deserving alumni can be nominated for the Alumni of Distinction Award via an [online nomination form](#) from now until Friday, March 11.



WATCH VIDEO



# Upcoming events

SPRING 2016



## Countdown to Grad

*Tuesday, March 8, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.,  
Oshawa campus*

*Wednesday, March 9, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.,  
Whitby campus*

*Tuesday, March 15, 11:30 a.m. to  
12:30 p.m., Pickering Learning Site*

The Alumni Association sponsors the annual Countdown to Grad event, which helps graduates-to-be find out everything they need to know about their upcoming graduation. From Tuesday, March 1 to Thursday, March 18, students also have the opportunity to share their favourite DC memories by entering the School Cup Challenge.

## Alumni Association Etiquette Dinner

*Monday, March 7 and Monday, March 21  
Bistro '67, Centre for Food, Whitby campus,  
6 p.m.*

The Alumni Association will hold a spring Etiquette Dinner at Bistro '67. Fatima De Valentin, an etiquette consultant, will walk guests through a full three-course meal with tips and do's and don'ts.



## Spring Open House

*Saturday, April 2*  
*Oshawa and Whitby campuses*  
*Pickering Learning Site*  
*10 a.m. to 2 p.m.*

Prospective students of all ages and their families, guidance and employment counsellors; and community members are invited to join us during our annual Spring Open House. Displays and information will be available at both the Oshawa and Whitby campuses as well as the Pickering Learning Site.

## Research Day

*Thursday, April 28*  
*Oshawa campus*

The Office of Research Services, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (ORSIE) will host its sixth-annual Research Day at the Oshawa campus. ORSIE staff members will be joined by the DC Leadership Team; student and faculty researchers; and community and business partners as the college shares the importance of research on campus and highlights the applied research and innovation projects currently underway.

# Alumni benefit of the month

TD INSURANCE MELOCHE MONNEX

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## We've got you covered

DC alumni receive a number of exclusive offers and benefits through their alumni membership card. This includes privileged access to the TD Insurance Meloche Monnex program, which provides savings through lower preferred insurance rates. In addition, the TD Insurance program contributes to the DC Alumni Association every year, so while you benefit from savings, you will also be supporting your alma mater.

Start saving today!



We're counting down to Durham College's (DC) 50th anniversary in 2017. Stay connected with us to be in the loop on DC's celebration activities. Update your information [here](#) and connect with us on [LinkedIn](#).



# New and notable

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COLLEGE NEWS

## DC's CFF wins prestigious design award

The CFF, which is known for its unique blend of creativity and innovation in design, was recently awarded a 2015 Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario (ARIDO) Award.

With the capacity to accommodate 900 students, the CFF is Durham Region's first-ever post-secondary presence focused on field-to-fork. Designed by Gow Hastings Architects, it offers warm woods, soft stones and natural colours that create an inviting and open atmosphere conveying a connection to nature. Ample windows cast light into the heart of the building's atrium where a two-storey living-wall herb garden highlights the space. The atrium also serves as a central meeting place for special events and celebrations. Showcasing food preparation, the windows on the floor above provide a glimpse into the culinary labs, where marble, Corian, stainless steel and ceramic tile reduce visual clutter, maintain sanitation and enhance function.

"Gow Hastings Architects truly brought our vision for the CFF to life," said Don Lovisa, president, DC. "We were committed to the creation of a unique teaching and learning facility that could also support cooking demonstrations, workshops and corporate events; Bistro '67, our full-service, teaching-inspired restaurant; and Pantry, our retail store, while utilizing eco-friendly elements and maintaining an atmosphere of innovation and creativity. This wonderful recognition confirms that we have done just that."

While recognizing the exceptional work of ARIDO members and celebrating the best in Ontario's design profession, the awards also serve to raise awareness of the power and effect of interior design among the Ontario public.

## DC, UOIT and the Student Association team up for another successful food drive

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of donors and volunteers, the annual campus Holiday Food Drive raised more than \$47,000 in December 2015. The money was used to provide assistance to 275 DC and University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) student families, including more than 700 people in total.

Holiday Food Drive co-chairs Kevin Dougherty and Brad MacIsaac were especially grateful to the more than 100 volunteers who joined them on December 20 at the Campus Recreation and Wellness Centre to pack and deliver food hampers.

“The success of the drive would not be possible without the kindness of volunteers,” said Dougherty. “Thank you to everyone who contributed food, money, time and resources to this year’s campaign.”

One recipient also wanted to convey their gratitude and let everyone involved in the campaign and hamper delivery to know how appreciative she is of their efforts. “When my husband passed away five years ago and I decided to go back to school, I didn’t anticipate how challenging things would be financially for myself and my three children. This coming year I am set to graduate. Your assistance with the wonderful food baskets these past few years has helped us tremendously at a very difficult time of the year and we want you to know how much we appreciate your kindness, contributions and efforts. On behalf of my family to all of you, thank you, happy holidays and a very happy and healthy new year.”



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