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CACHS PREPARES TO CELEBRATE 25TH ANNIVERSARY



Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples. For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD. Psalm 117:1-2

CACHS is celebrating its 25th anniversary next year. We have been featured in the Christian Home and School magazine. The article can be viewed online at csionline.org in the 2014 spring high school edition.

Plans are being made for a 25th anniversary celebration. Please mark October 10, 2014 on your calendars and continue to check our Facebook page, website, and newsletters for more information regarding the celebrations.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW ALUMNI!

And we pray...that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way; bearing fruit in every good work, and growing in the knowledge of God.

Colossians 1:10

Mikaela Abma
Jordyn Bajema
Lisa Bott
Courtney Brander
Emma Cameron
Caden Den Oudsten
Kescia Den Oudsten
Mark Den Oudsten
Shelby Devet
Celine DeWit
Brandon Doornbos
Jesse Fischer
Tyler Gaudet

Diana Hoekstra
Jocelyn Hulsman
Mitchell Miedema
Megan Molenkamp
Anna Morris
Tyler Nieuwland
Geoffrey Noordhof
Ryan Noort
Jacques Ollewagen
Annet Oosterink
Ashley Pikkert
Corinna Prins
Cody Scheltus

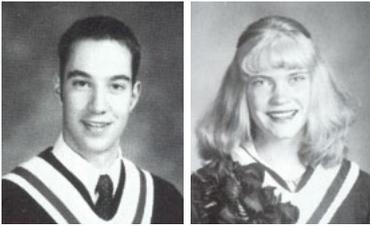
Janelle Simmers
Cassidy Smith
Ryan Swier
Shae-Lynn Ten Hove
Katherine Tilbury
Brendan Van Doesburg
Erin Vandeborn
Ian Vanderhoek
Justin Vander Meulen
Daniel Venhuis
Michael Verveda
Samantha Vriend



STAY CONNECTED

Would you prefer to receive your CACHS Connection by email, or has your address changed? Do you have suggestions for future issues, or would you like to share what's been happening in your life since you attended CACHS?

We value your input. Find us on Facebook, email us at cachsalumni@hotmail.com or visit our website at cachs.ca.



ALUMNI UPDATE

KURTIS DYKSTRA ('98) & KRISTIN KUIPERS DYKSTRA ('97)

IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME since the days of ping pong in the hall during spares, Mr. Reed's talking marker, assassinations on fellow classmates, usually involving dead flies, playing broken limb pranks on Mr. B the day before volleyball provincials, Madame Tenhove's French names, hightailing it to McDonald's in The Beast during lunch, getting up very early on a Saturday morning to work with (and smell) all of the meat that went into the making of the infamous CACHS subs, Mrs. Mcleod's sneezes (if you can call them that), Hoekstra's hyper hypo kid scenarios, and my most favourite memory of all – playing chess against Hoekie and trapping him in a stalemate – true story.

Much has happened since that time. Kurtis and I first met at CACHS and although I had already developed a sizable crush on him and would leave him little notes in his agenda at noon, all the while admiring his sideburns from afar, he had a different focus – volleyball. And really, who could blame him. You wouldn't, if you saw my hair during high school in the days of "pre" flat iron. Kurt still likes to lead me to my grad photo and have a little chuckle every time we enter the doors of the high school..

Post grad, I went off to Kings for a year and then completed my teaching degree in the corn fields of Iowa. Kurtis went to Red Deer College and took Kinesiology – aka, volleyball. We both ended up working at Doef's Greenhouses during the summer and started dating soon after. Even though I vowed that I would never come back to Lacombe, due to dreams of teaching in South Africa, California, and other seemingly exotic locales, I couldn't ignore some of the doors that were opening for me and I got a job teaching at Lacombe Christian School – one of the biggest blessings of my life. Kurtis

and I got married in the summer of 2003. Soon after, he went into business with Matt Keller and became a journeyman floor layer. I continued to teach at LCS for four years before having our first son, Drew.

Since then, we have been blessed with two more boys, Luke and James. Drew is in Grade 2 and Lukie is in Kindergarten, both at LCS. They have especially enjoyed playing side by side on the same hockey team this year and we have loved watching them! James is just over 1 and his brothers are as enamoured with him as he is with them. I spend my days at home mastering all things "boy". This year, I took on a very part time job at LCS and spend my Friday afternoons there. A few years back, Kurtis, along with my brother, Gary, Uncle Mark and Jason Siebenga, took over General Appliances, which was my parent's store. He can usually be found in the office, putting in orders or on the floor helping customers.

Both Kurtis and I look back on our CACHS experience with gratitude. Grateful for the camaraderie, the community and the school's commitment to more than just our education.



WHO ARE THESE ALUMNI?

Answers on the back page



FIND US ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE PICTURES, NEWS, UPCOMING EVENTS & MORE!

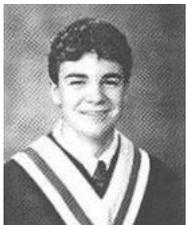
A LOT HAS HAPPENED in the five years since I graduated from CACHS. I left Lacombe for the King's University College on a chemistry scholarship, only to promptly switch my major to English, and then History, finally settling on the Politics, History and Economics program. I guess the apple didn't fall that far from the tree.

As it is for most, my time at university was eventful. My first year featured a heavier emphasis on social activities than on actual class attendance, but eventually I got the hang of being a student. And I learned almost as much outside of the classroom as I did in it - managing a house of seven guys plagued by bedbugs is a challenge that will rival any research paper.

While at King's, I was accepted into a semester program in Ottawa at the Laurentian Leadership Centre, an extension campus of Trinity Western University. My internship quickly transformed into a job opportunity, and I ended up staying in the city. I have lived in Ottawa now for almost a year and half, and currently work as assistant to MP Mike Lake in his capacity as the Parliamentary Secretary for James Moore, the Minister of Industry. As much as politics can be frustrating at times, being this close to things has made me appreciate how well our system works. I have seen and met many people most only get to see on the news and have come to realize they are human, like the rest of us. The experience has been second to none, and I'm appreciative of how much I have learned. I have no doubt that I will be able to use all of it wherever life takes me next.

ALUMNUS UPDATE

DAVID
HOEKSTRA ('09)



ALUMNUS UPDATE

AARON
KROGMAN ('01)

BACK IN GRADE 8, I was (in my opinion) coerced into acting in a musical at Red Deer Christian. After my voice cracked on the high note during a performance, I vowed I'd never allow myself to be part of a theatrical event again. It's somewhat ironic given that acting in plays is what I do for a living now.

I spent my three years at CACHS without really being conscious of the drama program, and I graduated in 2001 without a clue as to what was next. After three years of working a few jobs, I somewhat shakily applied at Rosebud School of the Arts in 2004, and discovered an aptitude and sense of purpose that I was hungry for. Since graduating from the acting program in 2008, I have spent the last 6 years acting full-time, mostly as part of the Resident Company at Rosebud Theatre, occasionally in Calgary, and recently with the Canadian Badlands Passion Play. I took a break to travel Europe with Jadan Barthel and Graham Langbroek in 2010, which was a defining experience, giving me a new sense of gratitude for the community in which such great friendships started.

Another high school friend, Hans Doef, invited me to his wedding in 2012, and it was there that I reconnected with his sister, Elly. Dec 28 of 2013 we were married, and now we currently reside in Edmonton where, again and again, I feel so blessed to be partnered with her. My time at RDCS and CACHS has had huge impact on the direction of my life, the people in my life, and the worldview that I desire to engage storytelling from. Elly and I look forward to what comes next!





ISRAEL TRIP

This spring, alumni and supporters had the opportunity to travel to Israel. They explored stories from the Bible in the setting in which they were written and gained a deeper understanding of the Bible through first hand experiences. CACHS Alumnus Josh Ingwersen ('09) shared highlights of his experience.

I could tell you every detail of what we saw in Israel, however, I am confident that after two minutes most of it would be going in one ear and out the other. It was amazing to see where David defeated Goliath, where the Dead Sea scrolls were hidden, and to be in the proximity of where Jesus stood. But these places did not change my life – their stories did.

I hope that everyone will one day go to Israel on a well instrumented tour that focuses on challenging and changing lives. As our GTI tour guide Marty said, "We don't understand Jesus because we don't understand the text." Seeing the land will enhance your reading of the Bible, but will it change how you apply it?

This tour challenged us to read and tell not only His Story, but to share my story because it, too, was creatively written by God. We have been called to be a light to dispel the darkness in a chaotic world, so let us share our stories to give all the glory to Him.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT MATTHEW KELLER

Alumni have helped the school significantly over the years in many ways. It takes the entire CACHS community to extend and strengthen our mission.

We would like to feature some of these former students in our newsletter. In this issue, we highlight Matthew Keller, who co-coaches boys volleyball with Mr. Brandsma.



When did you attend CACHS?

1995-1998

What sports did you play?

Volleyball and Track and Field (not very well)

How are you currently involved in the athletic program at CACHS?

I've helped Mr. B coach Boys Volleyball for the last couple of years

What is your earliest memory of athletics at CACHS?

Rug burns from our morning volleyball practices in the LCS gym because CACHS had no gymnasium at the time. Also, Roger Dang slept in for morning practice, so I had to run lines because he was my ride.

And your fondest memory of athletics at CACHS?

Winning 4A Provincials in Grade 12 and the friendships made through playing volleyball together. I still hang out with many of my former CACHS teammates and Mr. B.

What are the biggest differences between the sports teams now and the teams you were a part of?

I think that many of the athletes now enjoy participating in multiple sports as opposed to focusing on only one.

How much time do you dedicate to coaching?

I help out coaching with CACHS Volleyball, LCS Hockey and Timbits Soccer. Sports are fun!

What made you decide to coach?

Mr. B has been a very positive influence in my life and I would like to be a positive influence for other interested athletes. Also, CACHS has some amazing athletes who can achieve some amazing things with the right training. A huge part of my high school experience was enjoying playing sports at a high level, and I would like to help other students experience the joy and confidence gained by playing high school sports as best they can.

Why do you think it is important for Alumni to be involved with coaching current CACHS teams?

We are a community and the system only works if you give back to the community when you see the opportunity. It's also great to see the athletes improve and enjoy themselves.

WHO ARE THESE ALUMNI?

1 (left to right)

Brian Oudman, Terry Hoffarth

2 (left to right)

Cheryl Bajema, Caralyn Drost