

CACHS *Connection*



Connecting CACHS with over 800 alumni!

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INDUSTRIAL ARTS BUILDING UPDATE

After years of dreaming and planning, CACHS is moving forward with building an Industrial Arts facility. Construction starts this spring, with the hope for classes in wood working and mechanics to start in the fall semester of 2018. The Industrial Arts committee has spent hours planning, and Eagle Builders (Dennis Haan alumnus, 1999), Craig Haan (alumnus), and Kevin & Becky Kooiker (Haan) (alumna, 2000)) will be building the facility. We are excited for this venture, and to broaden our class options here at CACHS.



Dennis with his wife, Melanie
(Van Aken, alumna 2003)

"As a father, I recognize and appreciate the importance of a well-rounded education. As an alumni of Central Alberta Christian High School, I can identify with challenges young adults face in exploring career options. When I attended high school, opportunities for local exposure to trade industries were limited. The new Industrial Arts Facility to be built at CACHS will provide students with enhanced opportunities to gain valuable insight and experience within various trades. Eagle Builders LP, and myself personally, are pleased to be a part of this exciting new venture in the School's history." Dennis Haan, alumnus 1999

STAFF SPOTLIGHT Travis Eggink, Vice Principal

Now in my seventh year at CACHS, it is amazing looking back and seeing God's work during my time here. After moving to Lacombe with my patient and beautiful wife Mary in 2011, God has blessed us immensely with a home for our family and fulfilling work at both CACHS and Central Alberta Youth Unlimited. This school year is once again full of blessings! 2017-18 is my first year as Vice Principal and has been filled with learning and extra responsibility. I now get to work with excellent community leaders on our school committees and administration team. Also, working along with Veronica, Terry, Donna, and Cindy as the organizing team that hosted basketball provincial championships in March, I had the privilege of seeing the CACHS community at its finest, with so many community members supporting the school with their many talents. We are so blessed to have Christian education in Lacombe, and my time here has proven over and over again that our schools are well supported and that God's blessing has been with us!



ALUMNI STORIES

Vanessa Wright (Thalen)

alumna 2007

To think that it was over 10 years ago that I walked those hallways at CACHS—it seems unbelievable! Wow, time flies! I am now walking the hallways of the school where my two oldest boys attend.

I met my Mr. Wright in June of my graduating year, 6 months later we were engaged, married in 2008, and welcomed our first son in 2009 (Levi, 8)! My husband had recently started his own construction company, but he felt pulled to go into the ministry.

“I feel so blessed to have received a wonderful Christian education.”



So, we packed up our things and drove across the country to Ontario, where Scottie did his undergrad at Redeemer University in Hamilton. We loved our time there in Ontario, where we also welcomed two more sons (Troy (6) & Izak (4)). We then moved to London, Ontario where Scott was involved with a campus ministry and I cooked for 20 plus students every Tuesday night for a Bible study. A learning curve for sure, but we enjoyed it. Our fourth son, Jake (1 ½), arrived during our 2nd summer in London.

In those 2 years Scott still felt called to the ministry and so this past June we moved and have settled into our new home in Crown Point, Indiana! Everyone has made a quick adjustment and we sure are loving it here, although we do miss Canada too! We are quickly approaching the 1 year mark as we prepare to do a church placement over the summer in Nampa, Idaho. Scottie has 2 more years here at Mid America Reformed Seminary.

What have I done you might say? I have stayed at home since our first son was born and since then have been busy raising these four men. It is quite the task but one with great blessings! Four boys keep me on my toes to say the least, but I can NEVER say life is boring!



Although 10 years seems like a long time ago, now and then I find myself remembering my days at CACHS. Memories flood the mind and often bring a huge smile to my face! My three years at CACHS were truly some of the best years of my life, and I feel so blessed to have been able to receive a wonderful Christian education! Many of the teachers at CACHS had a big impact on my life without even realizing it. To have such a close knit Christian group of friends was something I will always cherish. In fact, I keep up with all of them still to this day!

It really is amazing to see where life takes you. But knowing that we have a faithful God on our side, a God who knows everything about me, and is doing what is good and best for me is such a comfort! So very thankful to have had a Christian education and to be able to look back at my years at CACHS with a heart full of gratitude!

DEREK ALBERT, ALUMNUS 2009

What do you do for a living?

I am currently working towards a Ph.D. in Psychiatry at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. My research primarily focusses on reducing the negative impact of distracting off-task thoughts (i.e. mind wandering) on work and life activities. For example, research has demonstrated that mind wandering impairs driving performance and increases one's chances of causing a road traffic crash. Additionally, in my master's, I showed that a greater tendency to mind wander predicts risky driving behaviour in young male drivers, who exhibit the highest rates of crash-related injury and death of any population. My forthcoming research examines the potentiating effects of negative moods on mind wandering-related crash risk and the effectiveness of mindfulness training in reducing this risk. I also work with industry partners, doing research and development consulting. For example, I am currently working with a company to develop technology capable of detecting mind wandering and assisting users to focus better. After completing my studies, I will pursue a faculty position at a university so that I can work with government officials to shape labour, environment, and transportation policy. I also intend to expand my private consulting work, specifically to study workplace health and safety. Additionally, I would like to study possible links between attention and socially responsible attitudes and behaviours.

How did your time at CACHS prepare or help you to pursue this?

My experience at CACHS was instrumental in setting the stage for my current career trajectory. First and foremost, I would say that my high school education instilled in me an eager curiosity about the world and how it works. It also gave me the tools to think critically about dominant scientific paradigms and prevailing explanations for things — encouraging me to ask tough questions and seek deeper understandings. Importantly, my participation in extra-curricular activities at CACHS, such as student council and various theatre productions, also allowed me to explore my creativity and taught me how to independently structure my efforts to accomplish long-term goals. Both of these faculties (i.e. creativity and self-directedness) are imperative in graduate school and ultimately research because in many senses, you are your own boss.



Your supervisor, institution, and funders entrust you with the freedom to pursue your interests with the understanding that you will produce something useful from that pursuit. I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunities I did at CACHS to explore different sides of myself and develop skills that are now contributing towards an exciting and fulfilling career.

What were some highlights from your years at CACHS?

Student council was a really fun and memorable experience for me. I thoroughly enjoyed being involved in planning hot lunches, school dances, and other CACHS events. A real highlight was DJing at dances, which is a passion I carry with me to this day (I still DJ at parties, but now with records and turntables instead of a laptop). The yearly fashion shows that we put on at CACHS were also extremely gratifying, especially with the proceeds going towards a worthwhile cause like cancer research. Managing tasks like recruiting local businesses, designing sound and lighting, as well as advertising, taught me a lot about the art of event planning, which is something that I am now able to use in my volunteer work at the Yellow Door, a community centre that has existed in downtown Montreal for over 100 years (fun fact: it was formerly known as the Young Men's Christian Association of McGill). I will always cherish my participation in school plays at CACHS as well. Annie Get Your Gun was such a blast to be a part of.

"I would say that my high school education instilled in me an eager curiosity about the world and how it works. "

DEREK ALBERT CONT...

I think many would agree that it was a pretty impressive showing for a student-run production (great job Becky McDermott!). Finally, I am super thankful for my time on the boy's indoor soccer team. It meant a lot to feel accepted and be treated like a valued member by the other guys on the team, even though I was a relatively weak player. Thanks for the patience guys!

Are you still in contact with anyone you met at CACHS?

There has definitely been the occasional visit with various class mates from CACHS over the years. As it turns out, Cassidy Vanderschee is also pursuing her Ph.D. at McGill, so I see her around campus from time to time. I was also able to meet up with David Hoekstra in Ottawa during his time there and again when he came to Montreal with Mr. and Mrs. Hoekstra a few years ago. Finally, last Christmas, I spent some time with Chris Klopstra and his girlfriend in Sylvan Lake, which was really nice.

I hope to have the opportunity to see more of my former classmates in the future!

What has been your lasting impression of CACHS? Any last words?

My time at CACHS was very formative and my experiences there went a long way in providing me with a solid foundation in terms of identity, confidence, skills, ambitions, ethics, and spirituality. I owe a lot to the teachers, administrators, parents, and students at CACHS for their investment in me and the CACHS community as a whole. As for parting words...

Everyone has their own path. Though we may not always understand or agree with others' choices or way of being, it is our job as mentors, educators, parents, and friends to support and encourage those around us to reach their full potential while simultaneously being true to ourselves and our faith. I'm extremely thankful to have had such people in my life and I seek to pay that forward where I can.

CACHS

catering



CACHS Catering provides a catering service for many functions. Please contact Emma at 403-782-2657 for your booking today!

CACHS Catering is a group of dedicated volunteers who raise funds to purchase items for the school. CACHS Catering has helped the school purchase computers, SMART board, and sports team uniforms. Purchasing these necessary items helps keep the cost of tuition down.

*Do you have
a story to
share about
your life
since
CACHS?*

*Or a story
about how
CACHS
impacted
your life?*

*We want to
hear from
you!*

*Please email
me at
cekkel@cachs.ca*

-Cindy Ekkel

2018 ASAA 1A BASKETBALL PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Our Alumni coaches... from left, Dan Luymes (1995), Jordan Folkerts (2011), Aaron Den Oudsten (2012), and Jen Zuidhof (1995).



Below:
Tyler Bos (Grade 11), with Bowen Tenhove (2008)



Above: Albert Schermers (2001), and Jenna Ubels (2017)



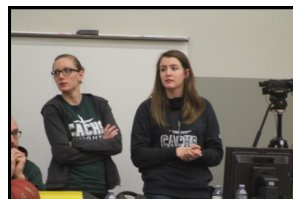
Below: Chelsey Van Dam (Scholing) (2011), and Tashelle Looov (VanderSchee) (2010)



Grant Zuidof (1997), with his son, Eric.



Above, from left to right: Myles Chekerda (2000), Jeff Ekkel (2001), Nahani Schermers (DenOudsten) (2011), Dakota Borren (DenOudsten) (2016), Charissa VanderGrift (2007), Logan DenOudsten (2016)



*March 14-17,
CACHS hosted 24
1A Boys and Girls
Teams from all
over the province.
An event of this
size requires
volunteers from
parents, students,
and of course—
alumni!*

*Thank you so
much to all the
alumni that
sponsored,
donated, and for
all your hard work.
We appreciate it!*

2018 ASAA 1A BASKETBALL PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



1. Calista Cooper (2016), and Kayla Swier (2017)
2. Lenni Van Aken (1999) brought the Junior High Students from PCS to come watch a game.
3. Sarah Vander Hoek (Ubels) (2013), and Nicole Ubels (2016)
4. Karen Pierrek (DenOudsten) (2010)
5. Darcy (1994) & Leita Salomons (Haan) (1997), watching their daughter, Taylor (Grade 11), play on the CACHS Knights girls team.



*Thank you to all who let me
take your picture, and I
apologize to those that I missed
or forgot.*

STATS

This was the 9th Alumni Volleyball Tournament.

There were 13 teams, 11 Alumni, plus the two CACHS teams.

There were approximately 60-70 alumni.

"I really enjoy going to the alumni tournament. It's a great opportunity to see old friends and connect with others while playing a sport I love"

BASKETBALL ALUMNI Tournament

January 6, 2018

20 Alumni and 20 CACHS players came out to play! It was a fun day to play basketball, but also to catch up with old friends.

ALUMNI VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

DECEMBER 22-23, 2017



The first mother-daughter duo to play in the tournament!
Mel Wildeboer (Tenbrinke), alumna 2000, with her daughter, Hailey Wildeboer (Grade 11)



The oldest male alumnus to play in the tournament!
Rob Luymes, alum. 1999



The oldest female alumna to play in the tournament!
KarieAnn Mantel (Dykstra) (right), alum. 1999, with Courtney Bowes (Canning) (left), alum. 2002

