

WH

WIDER HORIZONS

{ A PUBLICATION OF LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE }

LEADING THE WAY

OUR PEOPLE SHARE THEIR INSIGHTS
AND INSPIRATION INTO THE ESSENCE
OF READINESS AND LEADERSHIP



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WINTER 2023



WIDER HORIZONS

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Wider Horizons is Lethbridge College's community magazine, celebrating the successes and stories of students, employees, alumni, partners and friends. The magazine aims to educate, engage and delight its readers through compelling stories and images about Lethbridge College people, places and experiences.

In addition to free distribution to our regional community, *Wider Horizons* is also mailed to all alumni and available on campus. Alumni looking to connect with the college or update their contact information can email alumni@lethbridgecollege.ca or go to lethbridgecollege.ca/alumni.

Readers who would like to receive an e-version of the magazine, comment on a story, change their address or remove their name from our mailing list should email the editor at WHMagazine@lethbridgecollege.ca.

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Located on the traditional lands of the Blackfoot Confederacy, Lethbridge College is committed to honouring the land from a place of knowing. We honour the Siksikaitsitapi as both the traditional and current Land Keepers of this area, and we welcome all First Nations, Métis, Inuit and non-Indigenous peoples who call Blackfoot territory their home.



One of the best leaders I ever had the good fortune to work with was an editor named Tim Darragh – but to be honest, I wasn't that excited when I first heard he would be leading our team. He seemed a bit uptight to my 27-year-old self. A by-the-rules kind of guy. Not a ton of fun.



But into our bureau he came, and it didn't take long for me to readjust that first impression. He wasn't uptight at all – although he was demanding, passionate and precise, all skills that make for better journalism (and better journalists). He did play by the rules – and he knew LOTS of them (including about topics such as freedom of speech, open records laws and more). And he was fun – a work-hard, play-hard colleague who had one of the best laughs around.

Looking back now, I can see a direct link between Tim's arrival and me developing the skills needed to take on two of the most meaningful reporting assignments I had during my time at that newspaper. The first was to cover the canonization of St. Katharine Drexel, an American saint who established her religious order in the same county where I worked. When I went to Tim with the proposal (which included a trip to Rome), he didn't blow me off. Instead, he helped me develop it into a plan and eventually a 12-part series that would really resonate with our readers. The second memorable assignment was to cover the crash of Flight 93 in Shanksville, Pa., on Sept. 11, 2001 – and to continue covering it in the days, weeks and year that followed. I still can recall the sights, sounds, smells and feel of the wind on my skin as I dictated my stories to Tim over the phone, word by word, from a grassy field under a beautiful blue sky with tears in my eyes. Every anniversary, I think of Tim and remain grateful for his calm voice on the other end of the phone.

One of the things that made Tim exceptional is that he was really good at what Lao Tzu said is true of all great leaders – they are best when people barely know they exist, and when the work is done and aim fulfilled, their people will say: we did it ourselves. Tim made me feel like everything I did was my success, whether I was reporting from the city hall down the street or from the Vatican in Rome. All these years later, I understand that I wouldn't have been able to be at either place without him.

This issue of *Wider Horizons* is a celebration of leadership in the many varied forms it takes. Inspired by the arrival of Dr. Brad Donaldson, the college's new president and CEO, we wanted to showcase the meaningful ways Lethbridge College people lead in their communities. In some cases, they are leading institutions or businesses they've built. In others, they are leading teams, groups and organizations. In all ways, they are making a difference.

We've asked these leaders to reflect on the people who inspire them in their work, the best advice they have on leadership and life, the traits of good leaders, the challenges and perks of leading people, and the strengths they bring to their own work. We've also asked them all some lighter questions – because like Tim, there is usually more to great leaders than meets the eye (and many of them have great laughs, too).

Some of us don't fully appreciate the work leaders do until days or decades down the road. And so to all the Lethbridge College people out there who lead in so many ways – we recognize you, and we thank you.

Lisa Kozleski

Editor



SEEN ON CAMPUS

Toby and King, two horses from the Lethbridge Therapeutic Riding Association, made a trip to campus in October at the invitation of the Lethbridge College Students' Association. Students took a break during two perfect autumn days to gain a little horse sense between classes – as part of a mental health initiative.

Photo by Jamin Heller

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Nourishing the mind and the heart

Dive in to this in-depth profile of Dr. Brad Donaldson, Lethbridge College's new president and CEO.



Learning, listening and laughing

In their own words, 10 alumni reflect on leadership and the people who inspire them in their work.



True comfort food

Don't miss Chef Tyler Ivey's recipes for beer broccoli cheddar soup and the world's best grilled cheese sandwich.



As an aspiring photographer, I love to capture meaningful moments through the lens of a camera. At my first convocation at Lethbridge College, I wanted a permanent record of that precious time. Every photo tells a story and often when you relook at it, you see something you hadn't noticed before. The wide grin on a face, the laugh on another, the peace sign held over a head or two graduands chatting (were they not listening to me?!).



WELCOME TO THE PRESIDENT'S VIEW

Wider Horizons is thrilled to introduce this new regular feature, The President's View, which showcases some of the people and places our new president, Dr. Brad Donaldson, encounters in his work. To suggest a President's View photo opportunity for Dr. Donaldson, email WHMagazine@lethbridgecollege.ca.

Photos return you to a place in time and let you relive the sensation of that moment. In this case, I look at this photo and relive the happiness of this day. Perhaps that's why I enjoy taking photos so much – and will take many more, so that the time of the event will remain alive. So, if you see me with camera in hand, just smile and know that you are part of a meaningful moment that I will relive and savour for years to come.

Photo and story by Brad Donaldson



THE ESSENCE OF READINESS

WH Story by Lisa Kozleski | Photos by Rob Olson and Jamin Heller

The design of the new Kodiaks
Indigenous logo was created by
Blackfoot artist Monte Eagle Plume.

LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE PROUDLY
UNVEILED A NEW INDIGENOUS
LOGO FOR ITS HOME COURT IN
SEPTEMBER - THE FIRST INSTITUTION
IN THE CANADIAN COLLEGIATE
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (CCAA) TO
INCORPORATE INDIGENOUS CULTURE
IN ITS GYMNASIUM FLOOR DESIGN.

The new design of the gym includes the familiar fierce Kodiak bear at the centre, but it is now surrounded by a number of meaningful Indigenous images, designs and words. The design will also be worked into future uniforms for student-athletes.

Throughout the gym, “you now see the traditional representation of our mountains and the teepee – our lodges,” explains Lowell Yellowhorn (*Spiitawakasi*/Tall Deer), a member of the Piikani First Nation and the college’s Indigenous Services manager. He adds the design reflects the idea that “this is our lodge – the Kodiaks’ lodge, and really brings it home for our student-athletes that this is a place of belonging.”

Fans in the Val Matteotti Gymnasium will also see the word *Aikowania* (ay-GO-aww-nya) on one side of the court next to the painted drawing of a bear. *Aikowania* refers to body awareness and movement – the strength, stamina and sharp mind needed to be able to spring into action at a moment’s notice. It is the essence of readiness, and something all Kodiaks (and Lethbridge College community members) can strive for.

“*Aikowania* is at the heart of what our Kodiaks student-athletes want to accomplish, both on and off the court, field and trail,” says Todd Caughlin, manager of Kodiaks Athletics. “It reminds all of us to be aware, and to be ready for what happens next. Whether we are talking about the tipoff of a basketball game, the extension of a bow while hunting food for winter, or the start of a final exam, we are stronger and more successful when our minds are sharp and our bodies are ready to act. And – as we like to say around here – it also reminds us that we are all Kodiaks.”

The drawing of the bear, created by Blackfoot artist Monte Eagle Plume, is purposefully not lifelike, says Yellowhorn, as the Blackfoot people believe that making something too lifelike will give it a spirit and make it come alive. The arrow starting at the mouth of the bear represents the life force of the animal, and all that it uses to sustain itself - the food it eats, the air it breathes and the water it tastes. The white dots represent the



kidneys, one of the organs the Blackfoot people believe are the source of the supernatural power the animal possesses.

On the other side of the court are the words “Welcome to *Ohkotoki’aahkkoiyiniimaan*,” which refers to the college’s Blackfoot name, Stone Pipe. All of these taken together, Yellowhorn explains, are a way “to remind the student-athletes to carry themselves in a good way and are representative of what it means to be a Kodiak.”

The refinished hardwood compliments the gymnasium walls, which got a fresh coat of blue paint a few summers back. Upgrades have also been made to the gym’s lighting, scoreboards, sound and video equipment and Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference honour wall in recent years. New bleachers are in the works for next summer.

“Honouring and acknowledging the traditional lands of the Blackfoot people by incorporating these important symbols on the floor and throughout the facility is both a dream come true and a constant reminder of our ongoing commitment,” says Caughlin. “It is a commitment our entire college has made, and it reflects our promise to every student who has passed through our doors, past, present and future.”

**Be sure to check out this short video
celebrating *Aikowania* - the essence of readiness
learn.lc/aikowania.**

TOP TEN FROM THE DEN

Wider Horizons turned to the people who know the ins and outs of campus best – Lethbridge College employees – to get their picks of the top news stories from the past four months.

Here's what they had to say.

1

BUSINESS ADMIN COURSES GET NOD FROM CPA AND GRADS

For many students, the road to becoming an accountant begins at Lethbridge College, with Business Administration courses that are Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA)–approved. This year, Lethbridge College courses received credit again from CPA, continuing a strong relationship that began many years ago with the former designations of Chartered Accountant, Certified Management Accountant and Certified General Accountant.

2

CELEBRATING FAMILY FUN ON THE FARM

Fun family activities and fascinating insight into cutting-edge agriculture research were on display as Lethbridge College took part in Alberta Open Farm Days for the first time in August. Visitors were invited to come to scheduled tours or drop in at the college's Research Farm, located minutes east of the city.



3

NEW OPTION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS WORKING IN THE FIELD ANNOUNCED

Lethbridge College announced a new flexible option for early childhood educators who want to continue their education while continuing their work. The new Early Childhood Education (ECE) internship certificate program starts in January 2023 and has been designed for students who are already working as early childhood educators.

4

STUDENTS CREATE IMMERSIVE ART EXHIBIT FOR WHOOP-UP DAYS

Visitors to Whoop-Up Days immersed themselves in a whimsical train excursion thanks to the work of two Lethbridge College Multimedia Production students. The projection mapped performance, created by Denise Camille Serrano and Aaren Agaton, was on display all week at La Galleria, a curated creative space for local artists in the Main Pavilion of Lethbridge and District Exhibition.

5

COLLEGE INTRODUCES NEW AIITSI'POYOIP BLACKFOOT SPEAKING AWARD

Recognizing that language is a key piece of Indigenous culture, Lethbridge College announced the launch of the *Aiitsi'poyoip* Blackfoot Speaking Award last summer. Each year, the \$1,000 award will be given to five Indigenous students of Blackfoot descent who have participated in the preservation of Blackfoot language and culture.



6

NEW PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN HEALTH CAREERS

Lethbridge College launched a new certificate program for students interested in pursuing in-demand careers in the health sector. The new Health Sciences certificate caters to students who may need to upgrade before entering a health-related diploma or degree program as well as to those who are waitlisted and want to start earning credits right away.

7

COLLEGE CREATES PROGRAM TO SUPPORT STUDENT REFUGEES

As part of its commitment to education as a fundamental human right, Lethbridge College created a Humanitarian Program to offer financial support to students recognized under Canada's Immigration and Refugee Protection Act. The new award expands on a commitment made to Colleges and Institutes Canada in April 2022, to offer scholarships to displaced Ukrainian students.

8

YOUNG SLEUTHS SHINE AT NEW COLLEGE FORENSICS CAMP

Local youth discovered their inner detective at Lethbridge College last summer as they learned how to survey a crime scene through the eyes of a forensic scientist. The hands-on fun was part of a new summer camp called Forensic Explorers.

9

COLLEGE SELECTED FOR FOOD SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE

Lethbridge College researchers have formed one of just 15 innovation teams selected from across Canada to explore and develop new tools and technologies that will enable sustainable, year-round berry farming. The Homegrown Innovation Challenge delivers funding to participating teams to pursue innovative ideas that will support Canada's berry industry.

10

SIXTIES SCOOP EXHIBIT PART OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION WEEK AT LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE

Lethbridge College played host to a public exhibit documenting the experiences of Sixties Scoop survivors as part of Truth and Reconciliation Week Sept. 26 to 30. The exhibit, along with several other initiatives taking place on campus, encouraged individuals to educate themselves on the history of Canada's residential school system and its harmful legacy, while memorializing the children who were lost. It was also a time to honour residential school survivors, their families and their communities.



You can read all of these stories and more at lethbridgecollege.ca/news.

And thanks to our college colleagues who helped shape this list!

**TOP
TEN**
FROM THE DEN

KODIAKS CELEBRATE AS 42 STUDENT-ATHLETES NAMED NATIONAL SCHOLARS

The Kodiaks continued their track record of athletic and academic success in 2021-22, as 42 student-athletes earned Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) National Scholar honours. Only SAIT had more honourees among institutions in the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC). To be named a National Scholar, student-athletes must earn a grade point average of at least 3.3 while also competing for a registered athletics team. Every Kodiaks program had multiple CCAA National Scholar honourees, led by the women's and men's volleyball teams, which each

had eight. To view the full list of Kodiaks 2021-22 CCAA National Scholars, visit gokodiaks.ca.

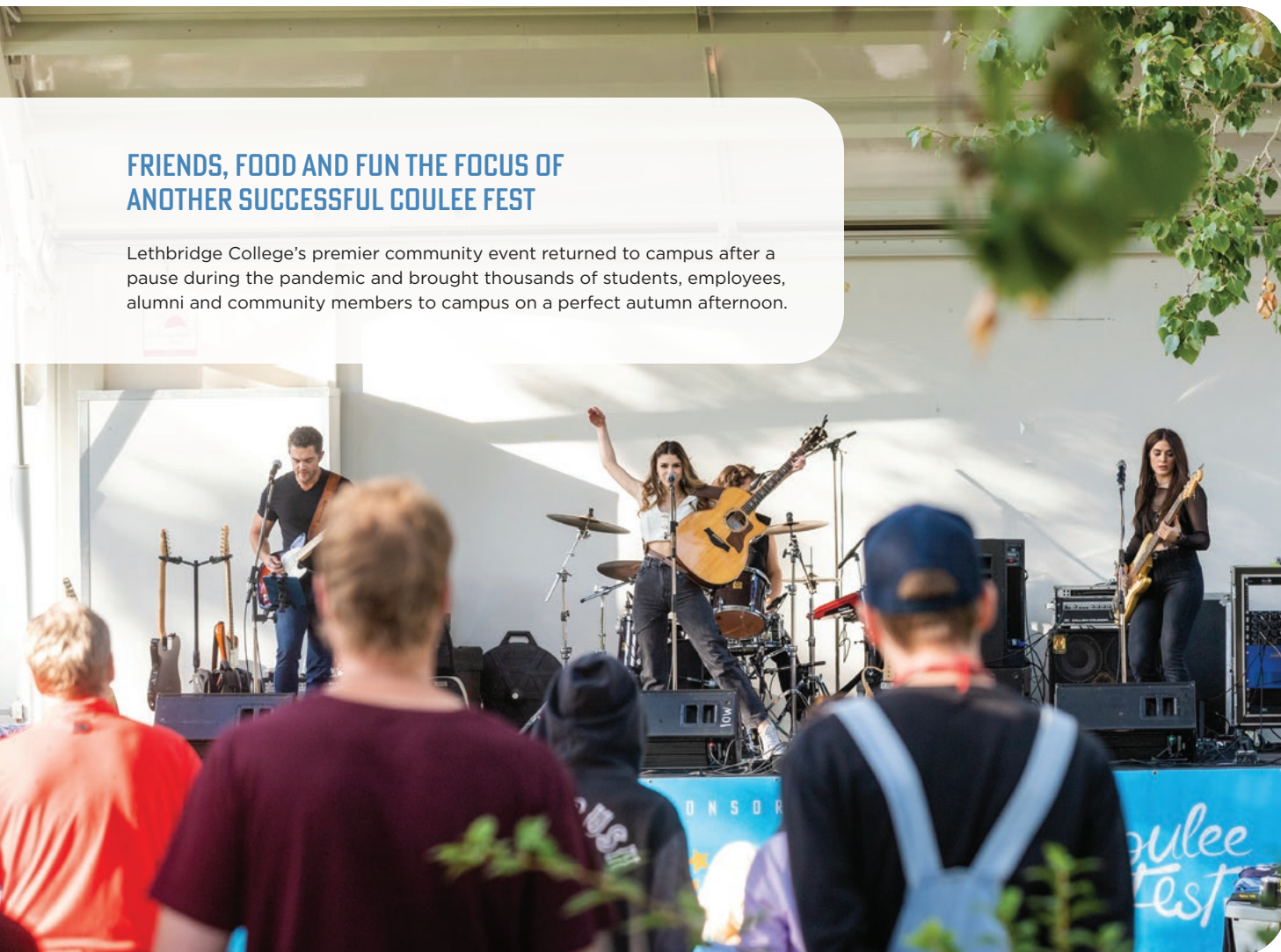
WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM CLAIMS ACAC BRONZE ON HOME FIELD

It was a big-time bronze medal performance for the hosts, as the Lethbridge College Kodiaks women's soccer team mined a medal from the 2022 ACAC women's soccer championships in October. The Kodiaks scored twice in the second half to shutout the NAIT Ooks 2-0 and finish their season on a high note in front of a vocal group of supporters at Comet Stadium in Raymond, Alta. It is the third straight ACAC bronze medal for the Kodiaks.



FRIENDS, FOOD AND FUN THE FOCUS OF ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL COULEE FEST

Lethbridge College's premier community event returned to campus after a pause during the pandemic and brought thousands of students, employees, alumni and community members to campus on a perfect autumn afternoon.



SOCCER PLAYERS HONOURED BY ACAC

The Lethbridge College Kodiaks men's and women's soccer teams were well represented as the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC) handed out its 2022 soccer awards this fall. Four Kodiaks student-athletes were named to the ACAC All-Conference team. Midfielder Olivia DePasquale and defender Taylor Hrycun were selected from the Kodiaks women's team, while midfielder Brian Sure and defender Joel McLeod were honoured from the men's team. McLeod was also named the south division rookie of the year, recognizing a breakout season for the centre-back from Medicine Hat who started the year as a walk-on player for the Kodiaks.

CROSS-COUNTRY CLAIMS ACAC BRONZE

The Lethbridge College Kodiaks men's cross-country team reached its goal of landing on the podium at the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference Championship (ACAC) race in Edmonton in October, earning a team bronze medal. Cooper Williams delivered an all-conference performance, finishing the eight kilometer track in 27:57 to finish an impressive seventh overall. On the women's side, Maria Boix-Frias once again led the way for the Kodiaks with a 14th place performance.

IN MEMORIAM

Wider Horizons learned of the passing of two former employees who made a difference in their lives and work.

The college community extends its condolences to their families, friends and former colleagues.

- **Dr. James (Jim) Manis** passed away on Sept. 6 after a battle with cancer at the age of 72.
- **Norm Whelpley** passed away on July 21 at the age of 78.
- **Betty Smith**, a member of the first graduating class at Lethbridge College, passed away on Aug. 31 at the age of 82.

CAMPUS KUDOS

Congratulations to the following Lethbridge College community members for making a difference in their life, work and community. Here are some highlights of their successes:



Joshua Mandin, third-year Plumbing apprentice, travelled to Lahr, Germany in late October to compete at the WorldSkills Competition 2022 Special Edition, after earning a gold medal in the Skills Canada competition.



Dr. Faron Ellis, General Arts and Science instructor, recently published his latest contribution to the Canadian federal election book series with McGill-Queen's University Press. Faron's chapter analyzing the 2021 federal Conservative campaign is his tenth chapter in this book series dating back to the Reform Party's election campaigns in the 1990s.



Tyler Heaton, Virtual and Augmented Reality instructor, showcased some of the VR work he's done outside of the college at the National Alliance for Musical Theatre Fall Conference 2022 in October as part of a team of theatre producers, writers, directors and actors.



Lisa Kozleski and **Dana Woodward**, the editor and designer of *Wider Horizons*, presented a 75-minute session on making memorable magazines with a small budget and small staff at the 2022 CASE Conference for Community College Advancement conference in October.



Wider Horizons won three Best of CASE VIII awards in October, recognizing outstanding work among colleges and universities in Western Canada and the Pacific Northwest of the United States. Winning nominations include: Illustration: "Listen Carefully" (Gillian Goertz, illustrator); Magazine and Periodical Design: *Wider Horizons* (Dana Woodward, designer); and Alumni/General Interest magazine: *Wider Horizons* (Dana Woodward, designer, Lisa Kozleski, editor; and contributors from across campus). In September, the magazine staff won a silver award in the Alberta Magazine Publishers Association competition in the service journalism category for the Winter 2021 story "How to Do Everything," (creative concept by Dawn Sugimoto), and was a finalist in five other categories. In June, the team won a gold CASE Circle of Excellence Award for Alumni/General interest magazines (two-year institutions), competing against community colleges across North America.

INNOVATION IN ACTION

The teams in our Centre for Applied Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship have been moving forward with their research projects. Here's a glimpse of some of their creative and collaborative projects, or read detailed descriptions of their work at lethbridgecollege.ca/news.

COLLEGE RECEIVES \$1 MILLION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY RESEARCH

Lethbridge College has received the largest social sciences research grant in its history, as \$1 million in federal research funding will kickstart the

college's public safety applied research program. The funding will allow the college's researchers to engage with industry partners across policing, corrections, courts and their associated community service providers to undertake research projects aimed at strengthening policing and public safety in Canada. The five-year, \$1 million Mobilize grant is part of the Government of Canada's College and Community Innovation program, managed by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada in collaboration with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. Lethbridge College's public safety research is led by Dr. Kirsten Fantazir (see related story on page 24), who was appointed as the President's Applied Research Chair in Public Safety earlier this year. Fantazir's work will be rooted in the spirit of reconciliation with an emphasis on collaborating with Blackfoot and other Indigenous peoples to support sharing of knowledge related to the public safety field.

COLLEGE SIGNS ON AS PRINCIPAL MEMBER OF METAVERSE STANDARDS FORUM

Lethbridge College is now a Principal Member of the Metaverse Standards Forum. Founded in June 2022, the forum provides a venue for collaboration among companies and leading standards organizations around the world. The goal is to foster the development of interoperability standards for an open and inclusive metaverse. While the industry-wide forum is not responsible for creating metaverse standards, member organizations will cooperate to encourage their evolution and adoption.

NIKKA YUKO, COLLEGE PARTNER FOR IMMERSIVE VIDEO EXPERIENCE

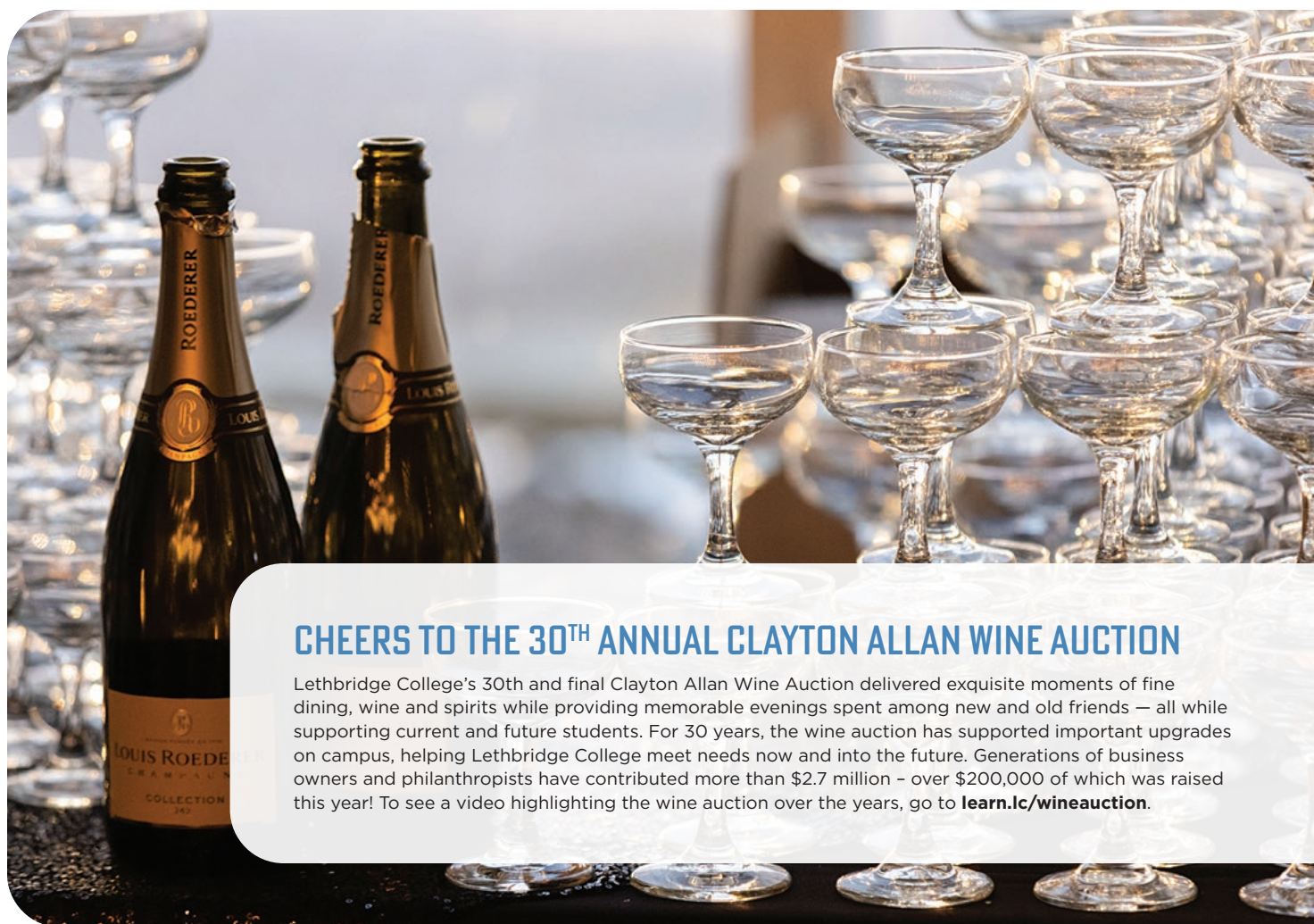
Working with Lethbridge College, Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden has a new experience to offer. The garden's new Nikka Yuko Kamakura (Igloo) domed experience uses 360-degree video to immerse visitors in stunning visual displays of traditional Japanese and Canadian culture and environments.



BATTLE OF THE BELLY RIVER RETOLD WITH VR

Blackfoot Elders *Ninna Piiksii* (Mike Bruised Head) and *Miinii'pooka* (Peter Weasel Moccasin) shared their knowledge of the Battle of the Belly River 152 years after the event with Lethbridge College's Indigenous Career Pathway students in October at Fort Whoop-Up. The filming session was part of an applied research project focused on Indigenous immersive storytelling. Instructor Kris Hodgson-Bright leads the project in partnership with the City of Lethbridge, Galt Museum and Archive | *Akaisamitohkano'pa*, and the Lethbridge Historical Society. In addition to funding from the college's Centre for Applied Research Internal Fund, partner organizations secured a \$20,000 Heritage Preservation Partnership Program grant from the Government of Alberta to help support the project. Stories told were transcribed, animated and combined with three-dimensional images of artifacts from the battle as well as drone footage of the Lethbridge river valley, the teepee at Fort Whoop-Up, Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park and Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump to create a virtual reality experience. The final project should be available for public viewing in fall 2023.

Left to right: City of Lethbridge's Indigenous Relations Advisor, Charlene Bruised Head-Mountain Horse; her father Elder Mike Bruised Head; and Elder Peter Weasel Moccasin and his daughter, Lethbridge College instructor Marcia Black Water; all participated in the sharing of the Battle of the Belly River on the 152nd anniversary. Photo by Kris Hodgson-Bright.



CHEERS TO THE 30TH ANNUAL CLAYTON ALLAN WINE AUCTION

Lethbridge College's 30th and final Clayton Allan Wine Auction delivered exquisite moments of fine dining, wine and spirits while providing memorable evenings spent among new and old friends — all while supporting current and future students. For 30 years, the wine auction has supported important upgrades on campus, helping Lethbridge College meet needs now and into the future. Generations of business owners and philanthropists have contributed more than \$2.7 million – over \$200,000 of which was raised this year! To see a video highlighting the wine auction over the years, go to learn.lc/wineauction.

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Want to keep up on all of your Lethbridge College news between issues of *Wider Horizons*? Check out our news and events webpage (lethbridgecollege.ca/news) for the latest stories and all of the college news you need. And don't forget, you can read past issues of *Wider Horizons* at widerhorizons.ca.

NOURISHING THE MIND AND THE HEART

AN INTRODUCTION TO DR. BRAD DONALDSON,
LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE'S NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO

WH Story by Lisa Kozleski | Photos by Rob Olson

When the search started for a new president and CEO of Lethbridge College, the hiring committee members knew exactly what they wanted.

They were looking for a progressive leader with experience in post-secondary institutions, someone who was a visionary systems thinker and had exceptional interpersonal and communication skills. The job description plainly stated the ideal candidate would be approachable and open, collaborative and credible, high energy and resilient, creative and curious.

They got all of that and more in Dr. Brad Donaldson, who started work in September as the college's ninth president and CEO.

Donaldson has the credentials – a doctorate and 17 years of working in post-secondary education, most recently as vice president academic at SAIT, as well as a previous career in industry. The systems thinking got started in his earlier career in chemical engineering and manufacturing, which is all about “understanding how a system works and how things have to come together in the right recipe at the right temperature and right pressure,” he explains.

And those qualities listed in the job description? In his first months on campus, employees and students have already seen them in action.

“In the midst of the usual hectic Convocation prep, he already knew my name and took the time to ask how I was doing with everything,” says Leslie Kramer (Office Assistant 2003), senior administrative assistant to the Registrar and one of the main organizers of Convocation. “Brad always has a welcoming smile and is engaging and open with everyone,” adds JoJo Kariuki, the Lethbridge College Students' Association's Vice President Student Life. “He always takes time to check in on me as a student and a student leader, and he also always enquires on how the student body is faring, which is such a down-to-earth quality I admire in him.”

For his part, Dr. Donaldson is truly thrilled to be at Lethbridge College.

“I really felt an absolute connection with Lethbridge College, just in terms of what the college's values, accomplishments, dreams and desires were, and being able to be a part of that is just a dream come true for me,” he says.

At Dr. Brad Donaldson's installation ceremony, he said: "We all have different journeys, but underlying it all is heart and mind, of equal value. Both must be nourished, encouraged and supported."



Donaldson describes his own educational journey as mixed – something he shared at the October ceremony where, with his wife, Gail, and his adult daughters, Kylene and Krista, in the front row, he was formally installed as president and CEO. In the middle of his installation speech, he told the story of a boy and a girl.

“The boy found school to be occasionally enriching but routine and a means to an end – to graduate and move on,” he said at Installation. “He applied himself to subjects he liked and sufficiently well enough in areas he didn’t to progress. The same for university, completing bachelor and master’s degrees, he navigated through his studies in a very transactional way, generally more interested in receiving the credential than the learning.

“He had a focused mind, but a flickering heart,” Donaldson continued. “He also achieved a doctorate degree, but during that journey things were changing. The journey had become as important as the completion, actually more so. The heart was awakened where the learning was brought to life to reshape the boy.”

He then told the story of a girl (Krista, his younger daughter), who found learning a challenge and success elusive. But she persevered through more difficulties, until “her ever-blazing heart came to ignite her mind.” Today she is a successful young person forging her way ahead “with personality and purpose.”

Donaldson concluded by noting: “We all have different journeys, but underlying it all is heart and mind, of equal value. Both must be nourished, encouraged and supported.”



“I FUNDAMENTALLY BELIEVE THAT AN EDUCATED SOCIETY WILL BE SUCCESSFUL, SAFE, BENEVOLENT, PROGRESSIVE AND INNOVATIVE. I BELIEVE WE CAN LIFT ALL PEOPLE UP THROUGH EDUCATION.”

DR. BRAD DONALDSON

President and CEO, Lethbridge College

Another thread that has been consistent throughout Donaldson’s professional life has been a focus on systems. Studying chemical engineering served as a good outlet to feed that curiosity; going to work in the manufacturing industry allowed him to continue to study systems and investigate factors and interactions that could contribute to possible outcomes.

“People systems are far more complex than chemical or mechanical systems,” he says. “You know, when you have 10 people, you have 15 opinions! But I had a passionate desire to understand how the nature of people’s systems interact.”

Moving to post-secondary education – starting as dean of the School of Manufacturing and Automation at SAIT and going on to serve as vice president academic at Red Deer Polytechnic before moving back to SAIT in the same role – also nourished what Donaldson calls his great desire to learn.

“I realize that my learning has enabled me to have a successful life,” he says. “But we have to ask – what about people who don’t have access to learning? What about those who don’t have the opportunity? How do we use education as a means to improve people’s lives? How do we help them to ignite their minds and their hearts to really inspire themselves?

“I fundamentally believe that an educated society will be successful, safe, benevolent, progressive and innovative. I believe we can lift all people up through education.”

In a speech introducing the new president at his installation ceremony, Dr. Gord Nixon, retired vice president academic at SAIT, recalled interviewing and hiring Donaldson more than 17 years ago.

"To some it was a controversial hire because he had no previous academic experience," said Nixon. "However, the three qualities that stood out to me from that interview were Brad's strong leadership skills, his passion for learning and his outstanding communication skills."

Nixon cited recent research on academic leadership in the changing higher education environment which identified characteristics of successful college presidents, including being learner-centred, a team builder, possessing entrepreneurial spirit and having relevant experience. "Brad checks each of those boxes," he said. "I have no hesitation in stating Brad will follow the Lethbridge College tradition of strong presidential leadership, and I look forward to watching how the college thrives under his leadership."

George Rhodes, associate dean of Manufacturing and Automation at SAIT, recalled Donaldson's earliest days on campus vividly.

"I was academic chair when he arrived as dean, and he came from industry but had no post-secondary experience," Rhodes says. "We had a program called Teaching Excellence Foundation for new faculty, and the first thing he did was enrol in that course. He then asked permission to teach a course for two semesters. I remember talking to him at the time, and he said 'I don't know what I don't know. How do I learn the operations and foundations of our school without teaching here?' That really impressed me and our team – and set a foundation for who he is."

"I HAVE NO HESITATION IN STATING BRAD WILL FOLLOW THE LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE TRADITION OF STRONG PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WATCHING HOW THE COLLEGE THRIVES UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP."

DR. GORD NIXON

Retired vice president academic at SAIT




Over the years they worked together, Rhodes said he appreciated how Donaldson truly thrives on connecting with people. "Communication is No. 1 with Brad," Rhodes says. "He never judges someone on their title or position. Students, employees and the custodial staff are just as important as a vice president and deserve the same amount of respect in Brad's book."

Rhodes also confirmed what many Lethbridge College students and employees have already observed – that Donaldson is exceptionally good at remembering their names.

"We were at the second town hall with probably 130 or 140 people in the room," he says. "Brad came in and – I don't know how – but he went around to everyone and acknowledged them by first and last name."

Rhodes offered a few other clues he picked up after years of working with Donaldson. "He's inclusive," he says. "Family comes first. He kind of loves one liners and bad puns. And his motto is 'work hard, play hard and enjoy what you are doing.'"



Dr. Brad Donaldson says he felt the welcoming nature of Lethbridge from the start, and that he has truly enjoyed getting to know the community of students, employees, alumni and friends of the college.

JUST FOR FUN

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF RANDOM TRIVIA?

All the ants in the world weigh more than all humans.

Donaldson says he has felt connected to Lethbridge and the college “from the get-go.” He’s always had a good feeling about the city – early in his career, he interviewed for a job as plant manager at Pratt & Whitney, and his daughter Krista earned a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Lethbridge. And he got a true insider’s view of campus life by living in residence his first month while he and Gail waited for the closing on their new Lethbridge house.

“I felt the welcoming nature of Lethbridge right from the start,” he says. “And every day I meet people who are so committed and passionate about their work.”

He’s made a powerful early impression, says Stephanie Savage (Digital Communications and Media 2019), Alumni Engagement manager. “Brad’s humility and willingness to lend a hand shone through from the moment he stepped on campus,” Savage says. “He took office just days before Coulee Fest, our largest community event of the year, and I can’t even begin to imagine how stressful it would be to have that be your introduction to this community.”

Savage says that not only did he jump into networking with event attendees and volunteers, “making a conscious effort to remember each person’s name,” but he also stayed hours after the event officially ended, “collapsing tents, emptying garbage cans and doing whatever needed to be done. Seeing him do the work that he didn’t need to do was inspiring, and I walked away from that event with such gratitude for Brad’s tenacity and leadership.

“Working under Brad’s leadership has been a game-changer,” she adds, “and I am confident that he is the right person to write Lethbridge College’s exciting next chapter.” [WH](#)

“I FELT THE WELCOMING NATURE OF LETHBRIDGE RIGHT FROM THE START, AND EVERY DAY I MEET PEOPLE WHO ARE SO COMMITTED AND PASSIONATE ABOUT THEIR WORK.”

DR. BRAD DONALDSON

President and CEO, Lethbridge College



LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE'S LEADERS

W. James Cousins, 1957–1963
Carl B. Johnson, 1963–1967
Charles D. Stewart, 1967–1975
Donald W. Anderson, 1976–1979
G. Les Talbot, 1979–1990
Donna J. Allan, 1990–2005
Tracy L. Edwards, 2005–2012
Paula Burns, 2013–2022
Brad Donaldson, 2022–

LEARNING LISTENING LAUGHING

LETHBRIDGE
COLLEGE ALUMNI
REFLECT ON WHAT
IT MEANS TO **LEAD**

WH Story by Lisa Kozleski | Photos by Rob Olson



READ IN-DEPTH
INTERVIEWS WITH
ALL 10 LEADERS AT
[WIDERHORIZONS.CA](https://widerhorizons.ca)

If you'd like to celebrate an inspiring
Lethbridge College leader, email us at
WHMagazine@lethbridgecollege.ca.
We'd love to share their stories in a future issue.



FOR DR. KELLY DAMPHOUSSE
(LAW ENFORCEMENT 1982,
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI 1992),
LEADERSHIP IS ALL ABOUT
AUTHENTICITY.

Whether that means the new president of the Texas State University is running his own active and engaging social media accounts, or he is living in residence and teaching a class at the start of the pandemic when he was president of Arkansas State University (because he always taught a class and he and his wife always lived in residence when they arrived at a new university), Damphousse says the best leaders lead “by being authentic, by walking around, by understanding and empathizing with the folks around you.”

The pandemic has given many opportunities for leaders to shine.

“I remember saying ‘How can I tell a freshman and their parents that it’s safe to live in the residence hall if I don’t live in the residence hall,’” says Damphousse, reflecting on the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. “And it would send a really weird signal to faculty if I said it was safe for them to go and teach but I was going to sit this semester out. It was really important for me to lead by example. If people you serve as a leader see you doing what they do – if you are in the trenches with them – they’ll sense you understand their plight.”

Damphousse, who became the 10th president of Texas State University on July 1, is one of the thousands of Lethbridge College alumni who makes a difference in his community as a leader. The following pages feature the insights

and inspiration of 10 of them – including young leaders such as valedictorian Denise Serrano, student ambassador Chiane Shade, small business owner Lindsey Gehring and health educator Austin Crow Shoe; mid-career entrepreneurs and innovators Kirsten Fantazir, Fergus Raphael and Kirby Bartz; and established professionals Marco Pagliericci, Todd Ducharme and Damphousse.

These leaders have reflected on the people who inspire them in their work, the best advice they have on leadership and life, the traits of good leadership, the challenges and perks of leading people, and the strengths they bring to their own work. They’ve also tackled some lighter questions – because laughter, it turns out, is also a key component to excellent leadership.

A collage of photos featuring Kelly Damphousse and a crowd of students. The main image is a selfie of Kelly Damphousse, a man with short dark hair, wearing a maroon suit jacket, a white shirt, and a red tie with white polka dots. He is wearing red sunglasses and has a black headset microphone around his neck. He is smiling and giving a thumbs up. In the background, there is a large crowd of students, many of whom are wearing maroon and white clothing, suggesting they are fans of a sports team. Some students are making peace signs. To the left, there are large black speakers and a person in a mascot costume. The text "KELLY DAMPHOUSSE" is overlaid in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on a dark maroon background that covers the top half of the image.

KELLY DAMPHOUSSE



{ LAW ENFORCEMENT 1982, DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI 1992 }

Dr. Kelly Damphousse and students at Texas State University flash their two prominent hand signs. "The Heart of Texas State" hand sign is made by holding up the left hand in the shape of Texas with the two outside fingers pointing down. The "Eat 'Em Up, Cats" hand sign is made by holding up the right hand in the shape of a bobcat paw while yelling "Eat 'em up, Cats!"

Photos courtesy Kelly Damphousse

DR. KELLY DAMPHOUSSE'S PATH TO THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE AT TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY IN SAN MARCOS, TEXAS, STARTED WHEN HE WAS 17 YEARS OLD AND CAME TO LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE. HERE'S WHAT HE HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE JOURNEY, AND THE PEOPLE WHO HELPED HIM ALONG THE WAY.

IS THERE A LEADER WHO INSPIRES YOU?

My life has been changed by five people – and one of them was a Lethbridge College instructor, Mr. Robin (Bob) Harrison. I really looked up to him as an instructor, and he's the person who encouraged me to continue to university to get my four-year degree. He was one of the people who stood in the gap when I was at a fork in the road and guided me on my way. Those folks have been tremendous examples to me as leaders.

“I LOOK SO OFTEN IN THE EYES OF MY STUDENTS AND GO, ‘I SEE MYSELF IN YOU,’ ESPECIALLY BEING A FIRST-GENERATION STUDENT COMING FROM VERY MODEST MEANS. I WANT TO HELP THEM GET FROM HERE TO THERE, AND I’LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO DO THAT.”

{ KELLY DAMPHOUSSE }

Another one of those five people was a faculty mentor when I was at graduate school at Texas A&M, Dr. Ben Crouch. I was about to have my first daughter, and he was mentoring me not just to be a graduate student and professor later on, but also about how to be a dad, since my own family was so far away in Canada. At one point, I asked him: “How can I ever repay you for what you’ve done for me?” And he said: “Well, you can’t, because you don’t have anything I want. But someday, you’ll be in a position to help someone else. And when you help them, that’s how you pay me back.”

I have always been a very literal person. So when he said that, I said “OK, I’ll make that commitment,” and I’ve never forgotten it. So when a student says hey, we’re having a block party tonight, or a student social, or a coffee, I think “here’s another chance to pay back Dr. Crouch and pay back all those other people.”

It’s a passion for wanting to help people. I look so often in the eyes of my students and go, “I see myself in

you,” especially being a first-generation student coming from very modest means. I want to help them get from here to there, and I’ll do whatever it takes to do that.

YOU SPEAK A LOT ABOUT BEING A FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT. HOW DID YOU END UP AT LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE?

I had no plans of going to college when I was in high school. My mom finished school in Grade 9 and my dad in Grade 12. But they encouraged me to go and try, and in spring of my Grade 12 year I applied. Lethbridge College was a soft landing for me to figure things out, because I wasn’t mature enough for college yet, but they protected me and people like Mr. Harrison gave me a great opportunity to do something I wouldn’t have done otherwise.

When I got there, a world that I didn’t know existed was opened up to me. Lethbridge College gave me a chance. And it wasn’t just because I learned technical things – it was about learning

about how to interact with people, learning skills that have stayed with me my entire career.

There may be a reader who knows a young person who’s on the fence, who is thinking about going to college and hearing it’s not worth the cost, or an older person looking to go back. My experience has been that there’s almost no better investment you can make in yourself than to get a college credential.

For me, it was Lethbridge College, which led to Sam Houston State, which led to Texas A&M, which led ultimately to the Texas State University and this job. I could never have done any of that without the people at Lethbridge College who invested their time and poured themselves into me, like Roland Barber, Bob Harrison and Ken Riley. Without them, none of this would have been possible. And I feel an obligation to continue to encourage other people to think there’s an opportunity for them at Lethbridge College they might not have anywhere else.

YOU'VE GOT TO BE ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS USING SOCIAL MEDIA. STUDENTS TAG YOU IN THEIR PHOTOS AND YOU TAKE SELFIES WITH JUST ABOUT EVERYONE YOU MEET. WHAT BENEFIT IS THERE TO LEADERS WHO WANT TO USE SOCIAL MEDIA?

My kids got me into social media because they wanted to get on “the Facebook” and I said no at first. But one of our recruiters said let them have it, and you just become their first friend and keep up with what’s going on. And I quickly discovered that there are different platforms, and I can talk to different audiences over time, in different ways. And so I got into Twitter, and Instagram and Snapchat and BeReal. It’s all about communicating, about telling a story.

When I came here to Texas State, they were expecting that they would do all my tweeting for me because they thought that’s what was happening at

Arkansas State. They said there’s no way you’re doing all that tweeting on your own. It took them a while to get used to the fact that I’m just staying up until three in the morning trying to catch up on the day.

I don’t pretend to be somebody else on social media. Trying to be authentic is really important. I’m just saying, this is just my life, and I ask myself how can I use this tool to inform and encourage people.

In addition, there’s so much negativity in the world today, and the world doesn’t need me adding to that. So all of my social media interactions tend to be towards more positive things, building people up and edifying people. I often tell people “I’m so proud of you, I can’t believe you’ve done this.” For students or faculty or employees to hear “I’m so proud of you” – that can mean something. Putting courage into people to help them do the things they don’t think they can do themselves – you know, what better calling is there?

“I OFTEN TELL PEOPLE ‘I’M SO PROUD OF YOU, I CAN’T BELIEVE YOU’VE DONE THIS.’ FOR STUDENTS OR FACULTY OR EMPLOYEES TO HEAR ‘I’M SO PROUD OF YOU’ – THAT CAN MEAN SOMETHING.”

{ KELLY DAMPHOUSSE }

Dr. Kelly Damphousse has a huge social media following and shares both the quiet, behind-the-scenes moments of his day as well as the large, celebratory moments on Instagram, Twitter and TikTok. Follow him on Instagram and TikTok @kdamp63 or Twitter @kdamp.



KIRSTEN FANTAZIR

{ GENERAL STUDIES 1999 }

AFTER GRADUATING FROM LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE, DR. KIRSTEN FANTAZIR WENT ON TO EARN A BACHELOR OF ARTS/BACHELOR OF EDUCATION DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE, A MASTER OF EDUCATION DEGREE FROM ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY, AND MOST RECENTLY, A PHD IN PSYCHOLOGY.

She has worked as a teacher/instructor, instructional designer, curriculum designer, subject-matter expert, chair and researcher ever since. In July, she was appointed the college's first President's Applied Research Chair in Public Safety. She now works directly with partners to

identify knowledge, skill and research gaps in the Canadian public safety industry and create potential solutions. Read more about her appointment at learn.lc/fantazir.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE?

Right out of high school, I was excited to start my post-secondary career. I chose to take university transfer courses because the class sizes were smaller, the tuition was less, and it was a great transition between high school and university.

IS THERE A LEADER WHO INSPIRES YOU IN YOUR OWN WORK?

I have been fortunate to have many strong mentors and leaders throughout my career and personal life. They have a strong work ethic, are authentic, strengthen

and uplift others, and they strive to continually better themselves and those around them.

WHAT'S THE BEST ADVICE YOU'VE EVER RECEIVED (ON LEADERSHIP OR LIFE)?

Successful people build each other up. They motivate, inspire and push each other.

WHAT'S AN UNEXPECTED PERK OF LEADING PEOPLE?

Sharing in the small wins in others' personal/professional journeys - the pure joy felt when others succeed.

WHAT STRENGTHS DO YOU BRING TO YOUR WORK?

A spirit of gratitude, enthusiasm and a positive attitude, and initiative to solve existing problems through innovative solutions.

"I HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE TO HAVE MANY STRONG MENTORS AND LEADERS THROUGHOUT MY CAREER AND PERSONAL LIFE."

{ KIRSTEN FANTAZIR }



JUST FOR FUN

WHAT'S ONE OF THE MOST FUN CHILDHOOD MEMORIES YOU HAVE?

Building a “hot tub” with my siblings in the ground – no, it didn’t work!

DENISE SERRANO

{ MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTION 2022 }



DENISE SERRANO, THE 2022 FALL CONVOCATION VALEDICTORIAN, LED THE WAY TO CONVOCATION IN OCTOBER, GUIDING HER FELLOW GRADS INTO THE GYM BEHIND THE GRAND MARSHALL BEFORE SHARING AN INSPIRING MESSAGE OF PRIDE AND HOPE. SERRANO MOVED FROM THE PHILIPPINES TO TABER WHEN SHE WAS 17, AND SAYS SHE ONLY STARTED TO FEEL “AT HOME” WHEN SHE ARRIVED AT LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE AND ENROLLED IN HER PROGRAM.

As a student, she participated in Performance and XR, where Canadian students of game design and performing arts collaborate to create a virtual reality world. Her team also won first place in the 7th annual Teconnect Challenge, which is a real-world training experience to create a marketing strategy and collaborative design for a client. Today, she works as a media designer for the college’s Centre for Teaching, Learning and Innovation.

"THE WORLD IS SCARY, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR FUTURE WILL BE. BUT IF THERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO GROW AND LEARN, TAKE IT!"

{ DENISE SERRANO }

WHAT HAS BEEN THE BEST PART OF YOUR PROGRAM?

Discovering who and what I want to be is the best part of the program. I've always loved to create and bring my art to life, but I didn't have any opportunities to do so until I came to Lethbridge College. I've become more passionate than before about making memorable creations through technology. I've also met lifelong friends and instructors who never doubted my potential.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO DO AFTER GRADUATION?

I hope to leave my footprints in the digital world - to create memorable experiences through designs, animations, and video games that people will remember even after years pass by.

WHAT IS THE COOLEST THING YOU'VE CREATED?

I'm really proud of creating The Core Competencies Island, which is now owned by Lethbridge College. It's a capstone project where I was in charge

of creating and bringing everything to life. From modeling a blade of grass to a wolf wagging its tail, coding the player to be able to move and jump, and making the environment even more alive by adding music and sound effects - I was able to create a whole environment that you can play on both PC and VR. More importantly, it's also a project that can help students learn more about the significance of core competencies.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE EITHER A FELLOW GRAD OR A STUDENT STARTING OUT AT THE COLLEGE?

Don't think, just jump! The world is scary, especially when you don't know what your future will be. But if there's an opportunity for you to grow and learn, take it! Don't think about the "what if's" because if you do, you will be filled with fear and you might miss the biggest opportunity that will change your life for the better! You never know what's going happen unless you try, and even if you do fail... so what? Mistakes are our best teachers. What's important is knowing to stand up again and learn from your mistakes.



LINDSEY GEHRING

GENERAL STUDIES -
PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY 2018

After graduating from Lethbridge College, Lindsey Gehring went on to earn a Bachelor of Social Work degree. During her years as a student and after graduation, she also worked with the RCMP Victim Services Unit, and she continued to do that work until she was hired as the Domestic Violence Action Team Coordinator with Lethbridge Family Services in 2021. She ended up leaving the field of social work to support her health in 2022, as she has multiple sclerosis, and she now runs a successful small business with her husband. She says the greatest lesson in her professional journey has been that it's OK to change direction as often as you need, and that change allows people to move forward in life.

IS THERE A LEADER WHO INSPIRES YOU?

Keith Dudley, an instructor, mentor and friend. He is one of the most caring and understanding humans I have ever met. He has done so much for his community and still proceeds to give back even after he has retired.

FERGUS RAPHAEL

{ COMMUNICATION ARTS -
BROADCAST JOURNALISM 2003 }

FERGUS RAPHAEL LEARNED TO PROGRAM AND DEVELOP WEBSITES AT AGE 15.

IT'S A COMMON STORY, BUT IN A QUIET SASKATCHEWAN TOWN IN THE 1990S - BEFORE SOCIAL MEDIA AND WITHOUT A DRIVER'S LICENCE, IT WAS A WAY TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH DISTANT FRIENDS IN SURROUNDING TOWNS.

Raphael was put in charge of the town's local access TV channel while still in high school and wrote an occasional column for the town's paper. Weaving technologies together became the blueprint for the company he helms two decades later.

Raphael moved to Lethbridge and studied Broadcast Journalism

at Lethbridge College. At the time, it was the best place to access the tools and technologies to augment his self-taught software development interests, which he quickly parlayed into a brief career working in documentary and television projects. These days, Raphael leads a team of intrepid technologists, having established his company Tangle Media in 2004 as a playground for these same multi-disciplinary concepts. Today, Tangle Media employs a half a dozen Lethbridge College graduates and has grown into a powerful software development team. (see page 41)

IS THERE A LEADER WHO INSPIRES YOU IN YOUR OWN WORK?

In tech, most of the real leaders are quiet people who spend thousands of hours over many years quietly

building unheralded open-source technology that ends up enabling half of all daily life. Their work will have 20 million followers on GitHub and their friends think they fix printers for a living.

WHICH LEADERSHIP SKILLS DO YOU VALUE MOST?

I can't do it, but it's impressive to watch people who are really, really good listeners, who can say not much for a two-hour meeting, except the exact right thing at the very end.

WHAT STRENGTHS DO YOU BRING TO YOUR WORK?

Probably just an enthusiasm for it. And maybe an ability to figure out broad strokes and set our team up to succeed. Then I try to stay out of the way of the people who are putting in the real work.

"IN TECH, MOST OF THE REAL LEADERS ARE QUIET PEOPLE WHO SPEND THOUSANDS OF HOURS OVER MANY YEARS QUIETLY BUILDING UNHERALDED OPEN-SOURCE TECHNOLOGY THAT ENDS UP ENABLING HALF OF ALL DAILY LIFE."

{ FERGUS RAPHAEL }



JUST FOR FUN

IF YOU COULD TRAVEL TO ANY YEAR IN A TIME MACHINE, WHAT YEAR WOULD YOU CHOOSE?
2019, to invest in bread machine stocks.



AUSTIN CROW SHOE

GENERAL STUDIES – PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP 2019

Austin Crow Shoe is from the Piikani Nation located in southwestern Alberta, which is part of the Blackfoot Confederacy. He has been working since his graduation at Aakom-Kiyii Health Services on the Piikani Nation as a health educator. His job is to provide health and wellness education to his community through a variety of promotional events, chronic disease prevention, and healthy living programs. He has also gone on to become a certified personal training specialist with Canadian Fitness Professional, Inc. Once the pandemic started, he was assigned to oversee operations at the COVID-19 isolation centre on the Piikani First Nation. He says that assignment provided him with an enormous opportunity to apply the skills and education he received in the leadership program at Lethbridge College.

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD LEADER?

I believe there are numerous qualities that make up a good leader such as integrity, empathy, responsibility and, above all, a positive mindset.

CHIANE SHADE

{ CHILD AND YOUTH CARE 2022,
BACHELOR OF JUSTICE STUDIES STUDENT }

CHIANE SHADE WORKS AT LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE AS A SENIOR STUDENT AMBASSADOR WHILE CONTINUING HER EDUCATION IN THE JUSTICE STUDIES PROGRAM.

She says she loves taking future students on tours of the campus and showing off the college's student resources, classrooms and labs, and best study and hangout spots. The experience has helped her develop her leadership and communication skills, she says. Shade also had the chance to help create the college's land acknowledgment. One day, she dreams of returning to Lethbridge College as an elder or Kainai grandmother to help future Niitsitapi students in the same way so many have helped her along her journey.

JUST FOR FUN

**IF YOU WERE GIVEN A
BILLBOARD. WHAT WOULD
YOU PUT ON IT?**

My beautiful face of course!
I want to show young
Niitsitapis that if we try hard
and stay dedicated, we can
achieve anything we put
our minds to!

“OUR ELDERS ARE ALWAYS TELLING US TO ‘WATCH WHAT WE SAY’ BECAUSE, AS NIITSITAPI, OUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL...SO I USE MY WORDS AND VOICE IN AN EMPOWERING, INSPIRING, ENCOURAGING WAY TO MOTIVATE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TO LACE THEIR MOCCASINS AND CHASE THEIR DREAMS!”

{ CHIANE SHADE }

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD LEADER?

Compassion, kindness (Kiimopippisiin), bravery, decentralization, a collectivist decision-making approach, knowledge hunger, responsibility, communication and listening. A good leader can inspire, motivate and support people in times of need, and always lends a helping hand and is accountable, respectful, inclusive, and most importantly never expects something in return.

WHICH LEADERSHIP SKILLS DO YOU VALUE THE MOST?

Communication skills. Being a Lethbridge College Student Ambassador has encouraged me and inspired me to find my voice. I am on a journey to inspire young Niitsitapis to find their voices and use them in a positive way. Our Elders are always telling us to “watch what we say” because, as Niitsitapi, our words are powerful, and words can hurt people if used in

the wrong way. So I use my words and voice in an empowering, inspiring, encouraging way to motivate our young people to lace their moccasins and chase their dreams!

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO A STUDENT JUST STARTING OUT AT LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE?

The college is yours, so embrace it! Our instructors are amazing people who are here for us, and I encourage you to build those relationships! They have special strengths: to teach us, shape us and fill our tool belts with unique mechanisms that aid us to be successful in our field of choice and gets us ready for the real world! We also have amazing student services with many different areas of speciality, and they are all here for you! Finally, it’s OK to fail but it’s more important to learn from it, get back up and try again. Fall seven times, get back up eight! Iikaakimaat napi (try hard my friend).



TODD DUCHARME

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION -
MARKETING STUDENT 1982-84

Todd Ducharme was one English course shy of graduating from Lethbridge College – something he wishes he could go back in time to change. But he says he still took the experiences and lessons learned as a student to build a successful career. Starting as a salesperson and “part-time lot guy in charge of reconditioning and advertising” at Scougall Motors in Fort Macleod, he has worked his way up in the business, and today serves as the general manager of Westlock Motors. Along the way he took great inspiration from his own bosses – John David and Hank Arnoldussen – and he has tried to pass that wisdom on to his team. He and his wife Deneen (Secretarial Science 1983) have two sons, Colby and Brady, who have started their own ownership plan, and a daughter, Hannah (Nursing student 2012-14).

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD LEADER?

A good leader is someone who will lead by example but also let you try some stuff on your own, who makes you think on your feet and execute a plan.

CST. MARCO

{ CRIMINAL JUSTICE 1999 }

PAGLIERICCI

CST. MARCO PAGLIERICCI WAS AWARDED THE MEDAL OF BRAVERY BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA IN SEPTEMBER.

At a ceremony in Ottawa, the Right Hon. Mary Simon presented the medal, which honours courageous individuals who have risked their lives to try to save someone in imminent danger. It is believed Cst. Pagliericci is the first Lethbridge police officer to receive this honour in the 120-year history of the police service. The incident he was nominated for occurred in 2017, but the award ceremony was postponed due to COVID restrictions.

On April 8, 2017, Cst. Pagliericci rescued several residents from a fire in the Bridge Villa Estates Trailer Park, in Lethbridge. Arriving on the scene, he found a home engulfed in flames, with the fire spreading to the neighbouring unit. He banged on the door and directed an elderly woman to leave, then entered the home and

found an elderly man with a disability lying on the couch. He led the man outside as flames and thick smoke engulfed the unit. The constable then turned his attention to evacuating other tenants from the neighbouring homes and keeping the site secure until firefighters arrived.

WHICH LEADERS HAVE INSPIRED YOU?

I have been in uniform serving my country and my community for over 45 years – 23 of those years were while I was in the military and 22 with the Lethbridge Police Service. In all my years of service, I have had the chance to work with and learn from great leaders, but the one who stands out and who has inspired me the most is retired Major General Romeo Dallaire. Mr. Dallaire was my first commanding officer that I had the privilege to serve under back in 1978. His approach to leadership was one of friendliness, fairness and firmness. Mr. Dallaire was a tough man, he did not accept incompetence and he held all his subordinates to a

very high standard. He would often tell me “son, it’s not what comes out of your mouth that makes you a great leader but what you do.”

Mr. Dallaire always put the wellness of his men and women ahead of his own interest, and for that reason he was extremely respected. He used to tell me that leadership is an art, and it’s one that few are naturally born with. But he said it can also be learned if you have the right leaders to teach you. During my military career, I attained the rank of Master Warrant Officer. I received countless leadership training opportunities and taught leadership training to subordinates. My favourite quote to my students was: “The art of leadership is the process of influencing people to do or go somewhere where an ordinary human being would say ARE YOU CRAZY.” It’s being able to provide a purpose or reason, direction and motivate them to accomplish the mission or improve the organization. I believe that it is a lost art.

“MY FAVOURITE QUOTE TO MY STUDENTS WAS: ‘THE ART OF LEADERSHIP IS THE PROCESS OF INFLUENCING PEOPLE TO DO OR GO SOMEWHERE WHERE AN ORDINARY HUMAN BEING WOULD SAY ARE YOU CRAZY.’”

{ CST. MARCO PAGLIERICCI }



KIRBY BARTZ

FASHION DESIGN AND
MERCHANDISING 2008

Photo courtesy Stacey Rae Images

Kirby Bartz started working with New West Theatre the summer after her graduation from Lethbridge College, and she quickly fell in love with all aspects of theatre.

That fall, she started working at the college as a lab assistant and instructor in the Fashion Design program. She continued working at the college off and on for several years, while also working in theatre and obtaining her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dramatic Arts (Honours) from the University of Lethbridge. During this time, she started altering wedding dresses for family and friends to supplement her theatre jobs, and quickly became a highly sought-after bridal seamstress. In August 2020, she took the plunge and opened The Alteration Shoppe on 3rd Avenue South, Lethbridge, where she now has three employees and uses her education and skills daily to excel at her career.

WHAT'S AN UNEXPECTED PERK OF LEADING PEOPLE?

I loved my time teaching at the college because I loved seeing a student's "aha" moment. Through my business, I am able to teach my employees different ways of doing things and I still get to see their "aha" moment when they do something they were not sure they knew how to do.

{ CHEF TYLER IVEY }

BEER BROCCOLI CHEDDAR SOUP

AND THE WORLD'S BEST GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH



Whether it was working as a head chef at a local restaurant, learning to be a butcher during the pandemic to gain new skills, or coming to the college to teach future culinary professionals, Chef Tyler Ivey (Cook Apprentice 2012) lives and cooks by a simple principle: “Cooking shouldn’t be a chore,” he says. “It should be fun.”

And while he encourages the apprentices he has been teaching since February 2022 to show dedication, consistency and a willingness to try new things in the kitchen, he believes they – and all cooks – can benefit from taking time to truly enjoy the experience of creating a delicious meal.

The fun factor is definitely at play in the recipes he picked for this issue of *Wider Horizons*. “I love cooking a big batch of soup that will last me a day or two – something hearty is best,” he says. And as for the triply delicious grilled cheese sandwich? Well, sometimes more is more, especially when it comes to cheese.

WH Story by Lisa Kozleski | Photos by Rob Olson



FOR THE SOUP INGREDIENTS (to serve six)

2 cloves garlic
2 small heads of broccoli
1 small yellow onion
1/4 c. butter
140 g. flour
341 ml. beer of your choice
1 l. chicken stock
250 ml heavy cream
1 c. cheddar
To taste. salt and pepper

METHOD

1. Small dice the onion, garlic and broccoli.
2. Melt the butter in a large stock pot.
3. Over medium-low heat, cook the vegetables until tender.
4. Add the flour and cook for one minute.
5. Add the beer and cook for one minute.
6. Add the chicken stock and let simmer for 20 minutes.
7. Remove from the stove top, and use an immersion blender (if available) to create a soup with a smooth, even texture. You can also blend in a traditional blender.
8. Return to the stove over a low heat. Add the cream and cheese and cook for a few more minutes.
9. Add salt and pepper to taste. Enjoy!

FOR THE SANDWICH INGREDIENTS (to make one sandwich)

2 slices of bread (any kind – marble rye is a good choice)
1 slice cheddar cheese
1 slice Swiss cheese
4 oz. shredded Parmesan cheese
Butter or margarine

METHOD

1. Heat pan to medium-high on stovetop.
2. Spread butter over one side of both pieces of bread (which will be grilled). Add the cheddar and Swiss between two slices of bread.
3. Place in a hot pan. Flip over after a few minutes after the bread starts to turn brown and crispy.
4. After flipping, sprinkle Parmesan around the edges and allow the cheese to fry.
5. Remove from heat and allow the sandwich to rest for one minute.
6. Cut, serve and enjoy!

Chef Ivey is pleased to share this savoury soup and gooey sandwich recipe with readers of *Wider Horizons* – and he hopes everyone has a bit of fun while preparing (and eating) this delicious meal. To enjoy the cooking of Chef Ivey's students, make a reservation at the Garden Court Restaurant by calling 403-320-3230. Bon appétit!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

MAKERS, DOERS AND THINKERS

Celebrating the Lethbridge College alumni who are building community and making their mark in memorable ways.

FEATURING:

Riley Smith

Geomatics Engineering
Technology 2011



SHARING THE SUCCESSES OF OUR ALUMNI IN THEIR CAREERS AND THROUGHOUT THEIR LIVES.

With no technical plans or maps to guide him when he started out, Riley Smith (Geomatics Engineering Technology 2011) has navigated his way to a rewarding career.

The lifelong southern Albertan had jumped straight into university directly after high school, but he quickly realized it was not the right fit. A chance encounter with a Lethbridge College viewbook provided insight into a new opportunity. Smith had always loved math, science, maps and the outdoors, and so the study of geomatics caught his eye.

"I remember telling people what I was studying, and no one understood what it was which is why I feel an importance to educate the world on the profession." Smith says of his field, which is also known as engineering or geospatial science, and is focused on gathering, storing, processing, and delivering geographic or spatially referenced information. "People benefit from geomatics engineering technology every day and they don't even know it. Even the GPS in your phone wouldn't be possible without it. I love how broad this industry is. There are no limits to where geomatics can take you."

After graduating from the college, Smith worked in the surveying and geomatics field for five years, becoming a Survey Field Supervisor after just 2½ years. "Lethbridge College provided me with the tools and skills to gain a variety of experience and have a rewarding surveying career," he says.

He then decided to take another stab at university and headed to the University of New Brunswick to earn a Bachelor of Science in Geomatics Engineering and a diploma in technology, management and entrepreneurship. After graduation, Smith joined Trimble Inc., an industrial technology company.

"Trimble is considered one of the pinnacle technology providers in the survey and mapping industry. They provided many of the products and tools we used as students. I'm honoured to have the opportunity to have and grow a career at Trimble," says Smith. "They did a recruiting trip to my university, and I was motivated to make a bigger impact in the geomatics industry. I looked at Trimble as an avenue for me to help create better technology for all of the survey and geomatics professionals out there (and I used to be one of them!), so I took a chance and applied."

"My career with Trimble has taken me around the world," he adds. "My first internship set me up for a long-term career

at Trimble, where I could grow into where I am today. Not only did I expand my knowledge in engineering, but I also learned marketing, communications and sales. After that, not only was I hooked, but I changed my entire career path."

Smith had planned on going the traditional land surveying route, but instead, he took on the role of product manager and was recently promoted to Marketing Director of Monitoring and Tunnelling groups based at Trimble's Westminster, Colo. office. He manages teams all around the world, which he says is one of the many exciting parts of his job.

"I get to go out and meet the people doing amazing things in industry," he says. "From construction workers, to surveyors, to engineers and everything in between, I get to talk to them and learn how we can improve their operations, then use this information to work with brilliant engineering teams to create and develop technology which transforms the way the industry works. It's all about getting to see the positive impact Trimble technology has around the world."

Smith's experience has taught him many things, but what truly motivates him is not just being an engineer but getting to wear many hats – planner, innovator and leader. He combines that with a mix of experience, passion, education and a desire to change the world.

"I often tell people who are interested in the industry to look at programs like the one at Lethbridge College because it's a great combination of theory and application that can kick-start someone into a lucrative career," he says. "The instructors have also been influential in my career, and not just during my time at the college. I've been lucky to continue those relationships with them. The college is where my career started, and I couldn't be happier with where I've been and where it's going."

"I often tell people who are interested in the industry to look at programs like the one at Lethbridge College because it's a great combination of theory and application. The instructors have also been influential in my career, and not just during my time at the college."

WH Story and photo by Stephanie Savage
(Digital Communications and Media 2018)

ALUMNI UPDATES

We love hearing from Lethbridge College alumni! You can find additional updates online at widerhorizons.ca. To submit your news to share with your classmates and the college community, drop us a note at WHMagazine@lethbridgecollege.ca.

2022

Miranda Harty

Primary Care Paramedic 2022, Upgrading 2018,

Miranda started her own business - Prairie Rose Safety Services - teaching Standard First Aid and Basic Life Support and works as a primary care paramedic and an industrial firefighter.

Sarah Hatt

Renewable Resource Management

Sarah works as an environmental scientist and is back at the college obtaining a degree in Ecosystem Management.

Simon Sharp

Natural Resource Compliance

Simon returned to Lethbridge College to complete his Conservation Enforcement degree.

2021

Cassie-Lee Hatzitolios-Mireau
Bachelor of Applied Arts in Justice Studies 2021, Criminal Justice - Policing 2019,

Cassie-Lee works as an addictions counsellor with a health authority.

Celia Torres Moreno

Architectural Animation Technology

Celia works at the college as an instructional assistant for the Interior Design Technology and Architectural Animation Technology programs.

Sabahat Nazim

Administrative Office Professional

Sabahat works as a physician's assistant in a clinic in Lethbridge while completing the first year of the Health Services Management program at the University of Lethbridge.

Eric Reger

Multimedia Production

Eric recently moved into a continuing full-time position as LC Studio Project Facilitator in the college's Centre for Teaching, Learning and Innovation.

Rebecca Wiens

Therapeutic Recreation - Gerontology

Rebecca spent the summer working in long-term care in Ontario as a therapeutic recreationist. She returns to the University of Lethbridge in the fall to work on her Therapeutic Recreation degree.

2020

Kristyn Nelson

General Studies

Kristyn finished her senior practicum with Alberta Health Services Addiction and Mental Health and graduated from the University of Calgary with a Bachelor of Social Work degree. She was recently hired to work as a social worker in Cold Lake.

2019

Cooper Hayward

Environmental Assessment and Restoration

Cooper works as a reclamation technician at Teck Resources in southeastern B.C.

Ryley Lopushinsky

Bachelor of Applied Arts in Justice Studies 2019, Criminal Justice - Policing 2017,

Ryley just graduated from law school in Northern Ireland and is now working on completing the National Committee on Accreditation exams to qualify for her degree in Canada.

2018

Jennifer Fox

Agriculture Science

Jennifer operates a bison ranch. She is also a relationship manager of insurance for Agriculture Financial Services in Claresholm.

Grad graces magazine cover

A familiar face graced the magazine stands this summer! Kelly Riehl (Ecosystem Management 2022) was featured on the cover of *Outdoor Canada*. A life-long outdoor enthusiast who worked as a professional fishing guide on Haida Gwaii on the west coast of British Columbia before coming to Lethbridge College. In 2019, when he was a second-year Renewable Resource Management student, Riehl was awarded a prestigious scholarship by the Parliamentary Outdoor Caucus. As one of 10 winners from across Canada, he was given a trip to Ottawa which included a guided tour of Parliament by members of the Parliamentary Outdoor Caucus.

Photo courtesy Estevan Police Service



Jessica Moody

Correctional Studies

Jessica has worked as a correctional peace officer for more than four years at the Calgary Remand Centre. She is a control tactics instructor and the wage orientation instructor.

2015

Billie Bocking

Business Administration - Accounting

After graduation, Billie earned a degree from the University of Lethbridge and worked for Kawneer Company Canada. In October 2022, she started working as a Financial Analyst at Lethbridge College.



Alyssa No Runner
(Ahkoiinnimakii)

General Arts and Sciences

Alyssa graduated in May 2022 from the University of Lethbridge with a Bachelor of Science in Archaeology and Geography degree and was a “shining student” featured at graduation. She says she is looking to continue her education in a master’s program that focuses on developing an Indigenous terminology that can be accessible to Blackfoot students, Indigenous students and non-Indigenous students alike. In a Q&A posted to the University of Lethbridge’s website, Alyssa said: “Whatever I do in my career, I know it will focus on preserving Indigenous cultures while building positive relationships with academic and non-Indigenous communities so that we can all learn and appreciate Indigenous culture.”

Photo courtesy the University of Lethbridge

Communications team thrives with new alumni colleagues



Lethbridge College’s Communications team was thrilled to welcome two new colleagues in 2022, both of whom have many college connections.

In January, after almost 15 years as a radio news anchor/reporter for 94.1 CJOC FM in Lethbridge, Tina Karst (Communication Arts – Broadcast Journalism 2005), switched off the microphone and joined the team as a media relations specialist.

“Leaving radio after so many years in one place was a huge decision and a tiny bit scary,” she says, “but what I loved most about being a reporter was getting to share great stories, and that’s something I still do every day as part of the college’s amazing Communications team.”

Since joining the college, Tina has written countless news releases, helped facilitate media interviews, and contributed to the *Wider Horizons* alumni magazine – an opportunity she’s found very rewarding.

“In my previous career as a reporter, I was accustomed to writing brief, 30-second news pieces for radio broadcast,” Tina says. “Writing for the magazine has really allowed me to stretch my abilities in telling more in-depth stories. And I get to go on photoshoots! I’m having a lot of fun.”

In October, Melanie Fast (Communication Arts – Print Journalism 2008, Multimedia Production 2011), came onboard as well.

Melanie says she spent her childhood with her head in books, but when the story would end, she’d find herself grabbing a notebook and writing her own sequel, adding new characters and plotlines. So, when it came time to choose a post-secondary education, it was a no-brainer to join the Print Journalism program at Lethbridge College.

“I’ve always had this passion to tell stories and now I was able to tell real stories about real people and share them with the world,” she says.

After working as a reporter for the *Lethbridge Herald* and the *Claresholm Local Press*, Melanie returned to Lethbridge College to take the Multimedia Production program. This led to her making a switch from journalism to marketing, most recently as the marketing manager for Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden. She’s now come full-circle and returned to the college as a communications specialist.

“I love that I’m able to apply my passion for writing through sharing the incredible work happening here at the college and featuring the people behind the success,” she says. “I feel like I’m finally back home.”

Sam Borsato (Communication Arts – Broadcast Journalism 2015)

Once a familiar voice on Lethbridge's radio waves, Sam Borsato recently hung up her headphones to explore a new opportunity as operations clerk with Community Animal Services.

"Just like in radio, there is no 'typical' day at work," says Sam. "From dispatching officers, receiving animal bylaw complaints, managing dog licences and adopting out cats and dogs, I try to ensure operations are as smooth as possible for our staff."

Sam spent seven years in media after graduating from the college – the last four as morning show co-host and news anchor at CJOE 94.1 FM. Craving a change in scenery, Sam moved on from radio in January 2022 but says she still uses her communication skills every day in her new role.

"Lethbridge College not only helped me toward my dream career in radio, but gave me what I needed to expand my horizons after that," she says. "It's certainly a testament to the college's commitment to providing a well-rounded education."

Sam also says she's been taking work home with her – adopting a stray blue heeler named Goose just a few months into the job. "He took a firm hold on my heart and is settling into our home like he was always meant to be there."

Story and photo by Tina Karst



2014

Monica Lockett

Communication Arts – Broadcast Journalism

In May 2022, Monica graduated with great distinction from the University of Lethbridge with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. As a result of her achievements as a student, she was also awarded the 2022 undergraduate gold medal (arts) for the University of Lethbridge's Faculty of Arts and Science. Monica was the recipient of the Canadian Sociology Association's Outstanding Student Award, a Chinook Summer Research Award, a Serving Communities in Partnership grant, and a grant from the Lethbridge Public Interest Research Group, and she was a "shining student" featured at graduation. In a Q&A with the university, Monica said: "This academic recognition means so much to me...It marks the accomplishments I've made and is a wonderful cap to my undergraduate journey."

Photo courtesy the University of Lethbridge

Heather Schoenroth

Correctional Studies

Heather worked at the Lethbridge Correctional Centre for 10 years and completed her degree while working there. She moved on to community corrections in 2016 and was recently promoted to senior probation officer.

Nissa Winder

Early Childhood Education

Nissa has worked at the same daycare centre since graduating and is now assistant director, resource coordinator and office supervisor.

Ryan Galay

Business Administration, Professional Golf Management

Ryan worked in the golf industry for eight years while working on his Bachelor of Commerce through Athabasca University. He currently works as the director of community services for the District of Taylor, B.C. and is continuing his graduate education.

2012

Stephanie Gilchrist

**Communication Arts
– Print Journalism**

Stephanie worked as a reporter for the *Prairie Post* for six years before switching careers to the medical field. She then worked as a health care aide for a couple years and is now phlebotomist/process lead at Canadian Blood Services Plasma Centre in Lethbridge.

Colin Morgan

Computer Information Technology

Colin works as a software engineer at Yelp.com.



2006

Jillian Macdonald

Communication Arts

Jillian sent the Alumni Engagement office this update: "I owned a production company for a while, and for the last seven years I've been working as a videographer for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, Alta. I've covered a fire, floods, a pandemic... to say it hasn't been quiet is an understatement."

ALUMNI AT WORK – Tangle Media



Fergus Raphael (Communication Arts – Broadcast Journalism 2003) founded Tangle Media a year after he graduated from Lethbridge College. Today, the Lethbridge business employs a half a dozen Lethbridge College graduates and has grown into a powerful software development team, using emerging web-based technologies to solve business problems for their varied clientele across North America. It's a small, collaborative team of problem solvers whom Raphael jokingly describes as an "adhocracy," where flexibility and individual initiatives often carry the day. In that vein, Raphael jokes that he's not just the president but also the janitor.

Pictured left to right are Computer Information Technology graduates (plus Raphael, a Communication Arts grad): Jayden Stoll (2018), Patrick Kelly (2011); Aldrin Azucena (2019); Raphael; Don Castillo (2019); Roza Assimakopulose (2022); and Max Koshney (2011).

We are proud to celebrate these Alumni at Work!

Photo by Rob Olson

2003

Shawn Hammond

Automotive Service Technician

Shawn owns Big Al's Auto Repair in Lethbridge.

2002

Christopher Gallagher

Watershed Management

Chris is a professional engineer who was a featured speaker in a November webinar discussing the Alberta

Irrigation Modernization (AIM) program. He currently works as a senior irrigation engineer for Stantec in Lethbridge. He worked for six years designing irrigation systems at the St. Mary River Irrigation District before moving into a management role with the Taber Irrigation District in 2013, and, after a brief time supporting engineering project development at the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District, he is now helping to build irrigation expertise with Stantec throughout Western Canada.

1997

Joy Tataryn

Agricultural Technology

Joy worked as an agronomist for Co-op for more than six years before taking time off for family. She currently is working as sales agronomist, primarily in feed sales, for Redfern Farm Services in Shoal Lake, Man.

1993

Richard Tataryn

Conservation Enforcement 1993, Renewable Resource Management 1992

Richard works as a conservation officer at the Shoal Lake District Office.

1992

Dwayne Meredith

Watershed Management

Dwayne sent the Alumni Engagement office this message: "There's too much to list but suffice it to say I'm now an engineer with Kerr Wood Leidal Associates Limited. It's a great place to work and we're hiring!"

1989

Jennifer Eliason

Communication Arts – Broadcast Journalism

Jennifer sent the Alumni Engagement office this update: "After 30 years in broadcasting, I am now taking a university degree for Human Resource Management. I work for Canada Homestay Network as a relationship manager, and love talking to hosts, potential hosts, students and others about what I do and why."

Robert Roerick

Engineering Design and Drafting Technology

For 33 years, Robert has been the owner and operator of Graphically Speaking, custom building designers and planners. The company designs custom homes and offices all over Western Canada and the northwestern United States.



1986

Nic Milligan

Communication Arts

Nic was recently sworn in as the newest mayor of Fernie, B.C., where he will be working to create a better place for the town while making sure the community is engaged. In an article for *The Free Press*, he says he looks forward to working with city staff on a "more accessible, inclusive meeting environment that welcomes public participation." After graduating from Lethbridge College, Nic went on to work for Teck Resources Limited for nearly 25 years, where he worked his way up the ladder to manager of social responsibility, as well as being responsible for Teck Coal Indigenous Relationship. This work led Nic to being named "Friend of Ktunaxa" by the Nation Council in 2011.

Photo courtesy The Free Press

1984

Debby (Tomsic) Savidant

Nursing

Debby sent the Alumni office this update: "I am preparing for my retirement in February 2023 from a wonderful almost 39-year career in nursing, and I am looking back fondly on my start at the Lethbridge College all those years ago. I have had a wonderful career and nursing has afforded me so many interesting opportunities, more than I could have imagined. I am finishing up as manager of the South Zone AHS Integrated Quality Management team, which oversees

quality improvement, patient safety and patient relations. I have two children who also graduated from Lethbridge College and have gone on to their own life paths. Thank you to Lethbridge College for preparing me for a transition to the University of Lethbridge for my degree post grad and a very accomplished career."



1977

Donna Jorgensen

Data Processing Secretarial

Donna, who started working as an administrative assistant in the Occupational Health and Safety Program with the Government of Alberta two months after she graduated from the college, received Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal in October for her contributions to Alberta. The letter Jorgensen received informing her of the award said: "The Ministry of Labour and Immigration is recognizing you for your life of service to the people of Alberta. You have dedicated untold hours of volunteer service through your church, a decade of chairing the Lethbridge Steps for Life Committee raising funds to support families impacted by workplace tragedies, 30 years of community road race volunteering and 45 years of public service." Donna told *Wider Horizons* "I feel very humbled and blessed to be honoured with such a prestigious award for my service to Alberta, my community and my church." The Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal is a commemorative medal created to mark the 70th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's accession in 1952. **WH**

THE LEMIEUX FAMILY



Jill Siewert-Lemieux says she and her family are proof that it's never too soon – or too late – to get a college education.

She says she initially started at Lethbridge College after high school because it was so close to home. "I've never really moved away, and, growing up just 20 minutes from here, I knew I wanted to be in law enforcement, so it was an easy decision," she recalls

Jill graduated from the Criminal Justice program in 1996 and began life as a special constable with Picture Butte RCMP and later with the Taber Police Service. In 1999, she was hired by the Lethbridge Police Service in the 911 centre. While on duty as a dispatcher, Jill met and then married Darryl Lemieux. They have three children: Beckett, 8; Connor, 18; and Ally, 20. Jill is currently employed as an admissions specialist in the Registrar's Office and has now enrolled in the Justice Studies degree program to compliment her Criminal Justice and Information Specialist studies.

Darryl, who is originally from Quebec, worked with the Edmonton City Police and then Lethbridge Police Service. But he wanted a stronger foundation as a benefit to his career. In 2015, he enrolled in Lethbridge College's Justice Studies degree program, studying and attending courses while on full-time active duty. His commitment paid off when he graduated in

2020. Today, he continues to work for LPS and is also a sessional instructor at the college in the Criminal Justice program.

"He just loves his occupation," says Jill. "We have a strong support system because we both know the types of stress and difficult situations involved with this line of work."

Their oldest daughter Ally followed in their footsteps, graduating from the college in 2022 with an Architectural Animation Technology diploma, and she is currently enrolled in the Interior Design Technology program. Both Jill and Darryl say they are proud of her accomplishments and of her drive and determination – as she already owns her own home. Jill and Darryl take their family on camping outings and travel when they can to favourite destinations in Mexico. Their family time together relieves the tension and stress associated with such demanding workloads and strengthens the care and love they have for each other. They both realize the positive impact and influence an education has toward an individual's livelihood that can be achieved early, or even a bit later, in one's life.

"I think that both me and my husband going back to school later in life, we've taught my children that it's never too late," she says of their decisions. "Lethbridge College does have a lot of mature students, and it can be scary. You don't know where you're going to fit in. But I'm proof, and so is my husband, that it's never too late to get an education."

WH Story by Tom Russell (Communication Arts 1987)

Are you a multi-generational Lethbridge College family? If at least three members across one or more generations attended Lethbridge College, let us know by emailing WHMagazine@lethbridgecollege.ca. We'd love to profile you.

THE LAST WORD

Illustrated
by Eric Dyck

Lethbridge College's Heavy Duty Mechanics and Agricultural and Heavy Equipment Technician programs are both celebrating their 50th anniversaries this year – congratulations! *Wider Horizons* reached out to two students and an instructor and asked them to share their best memories of the place where they learned (or taught) how to repair, maintain and overhaul industrial equipment and heavy vehicles. **Here's what they had to say:**



Lethbridge College's Heavy Equipment space is great because it has plenty of machinery and tools that are up to date with the trade. The whole shop area is massive and kept clean. This creates a great learning environment for all apprentices, and it makes learning more enjoyable as well. My favourite project in the shop was rebuilding a Series 50 Detroit engine in second year.

Johnny Wiens

Third-year Heavy Equipment Technician apprentice



My classmates are great people and super fun to work with and talk to. The instructors are very good at trying to engage us in our work so that we are proud of what we are doing, which has been a very positive experience. My favourite lab project was probably when we got to take apart and put back together 13-speed transmissions - I had a ton of fun and also learned so much at the same time.

Carter Kusch

First-year Ag/Heavy Equipment Technician apprentice



It's exciting working with the new technicians coming into the industry and being able to watch them progress forward in the trades and knowing I am a part of their success. It sure brings back fond memories I had while attending class as a student. I've been fortunate to be able to teach the first-year heavy duty technicians and all of the subject areas I like to teach – safety, hydraulics, electrical, air brakes and suspension systems. I look forward to what the future holds for the trades.

Brian Sorensen

Instructor, Heavy Duty/Automotives (Welding 1992, Automotive Services Technician 1996 and Heavy Duty Technician 1998)





NEXT ISSUE: **THE LAST WORD** is yours...

IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS

Lethbridge College's Engineering Design Technology program is also celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Are you a grad of that program? If so, send us your stories about learning your design and drafting fundamentals by email to WHMagazine@lethbridgecollege.ca or on social media by tagging @LethCollege and #LastWordLC, and we'll share them in our next issue.

We can't wait to read your submissions!

READY TO SAVOUR THE FOOD



BOOK YOUR LUNCH TABLE IN LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE'S GARDEN COURT RESTAURANT AND ENJOY A DELICIOUS MEAL CREATED BY OUR TALENTED CULINARY STUDENTS.

Be ready to enjoy the beautiful view as you dive into a meal made by student chefs with fresh, local ingredients.

LUNCH EXPRESS (11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

- Jan. 24, 25, 26, 31
- Feb. 1, 2, 28
- March 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 28, 29, 30
- April 4, 5, 6,

LUNCH BUFFETS (11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

- Feb. 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16
- March 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23
- April 12, 13, 18, 19, 20

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