

**Mount Allison Federated Alumni, Inc. Annual General Meeting
September 23rd, 2023
Hybrid meeting
11 am**

Present in room:	Present on Zoom:
Scott Hayes	Melanie Nicholson
Courtney Pringle Carver	Paul Pergau
Dr. Robert MacKinnon	Eric Brown
Meredith Lewis	Vickie (Lamb) Drover & Doug Drover
Myra Landsburg	Jeannie Inch
Christy DeMont	Bob Hawkes
Jonathan Graves	Everett Patterson ('20)
David Pos	Marcie Meekins
Jennie Henderson	Martin McEwen '96
Reid Harrison	Mike Taylor
Youji Cheng	Corey ?
Ryan Francis	
Jack Rhind	
Kevin Estabrooks	
Jodi Swan	
Rob MacQueen	
Cathy (Brown) Hayman	
Carolle de Ste-Croix	

Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Christy DeMont

Land acknowledgement – Christy DeMont

We would like to acknowledge that we are located within the territory of Mi'kma'ki, the unceded, ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq. Our relationship and our privilege to live on this territory was agreed upon in the Peace and Friendship Treaties of 1752. Because of this treaty relationship it is to be acknowledged that we are all Treaty people and have a responsibility to respect this territory.

Tribute to deceased alumni – Christy DeMont

Introduction in break out rooms

Virtual attendees were assigned to break-out rooms, lasting 5 minutes for introductions.

Minutes of 2022 AGM – Christ DeMont

- Motion that minutes be accepted as presented

Motion approved.

Welcome by Interim President Dr. Robert MacKinnon

Dear fellow Mount Allison alumni, faculty, and friends,

Thank you for gathering here today both in-person and virtually at the beautifully refurbished Windsor Hall for the Annual General Meeting of the Mount Allison University Alumni Association. It is truly an honour to address you as the Acting President of Mount Allison, and as a proud member of the Class of 1978.

As I stand before you today, I cannot help but reflect on the incredible journey that brought me to this moment. My twin brother and I arrived in Sackville from a small town in Cape Breton back in 1974. Our minds filled with youthful curiosity, we embarked on a journey that we could have never imagined would lead me back here, to our beloved alma mater, 49 years later.

I also never imagined in September of 1974 that I would not only fall in love with Mount Allison, but also with a very attractive member of the class of 1979. Karen and I are so delighted to be able to return to the place where we first met. We are both delighted to be back in the delightful community of Tantramar.

Now, fast forward to today, and I find myself in a role I never would have imagined when I first set foot on this campus as a wide-eyed student. Serving as Acting President of Mount Allison is a humbling experience, and I am deeply thankful for the trust that has been placed in me.

Karen and I have the privilege of making the historic Hammond House, the President's House, our home. This beautiful residence, with its rich history, has become a symbol of our connection to this institution. It is a place where past, present, and future converge, reminding us of the enduring strength and values of Mount Allison.

As we embark on this new chapter, Karen and I eagerly anticipate the opportunity to host students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the university in our home. We see it as a place of gathering, sharing, and forging new connections, just as this university has been for all of us. In the

year ahead, we look forward to creating cherished memories in this historic setting.

During our time at Mount Allison, my classmates and I were not only shaped by the academic excellence this institution offered but also by the incredible people we met along the way. One such person was my music professor and the outgoing honorary President of the Alumni Board Dr. Nancy Vogan. Nancy not only taught us the beauty of music but also the importance of dedication and discipline. Her influence extended far beyond the classroom, and it is with deep gratitude that we honour her today.

I would like to acknowledge the indelible mark Nancy has made at Mount Allison. Nancy, who is not only the outgoing honorary chair of the Alumni Board, has been a guiding light for our university. Her unwavering dedication to the Mount Allison community is a testament to the spirit of giving back that defines our alumni. Nancy, your contributions have left an enduring legacy, and we are forever grateful for your leadership.

Looking ahead, I want to share my commitment to this university and its bright future. While I serve as Acting President for the coming year, our university is actively searching for our next President. During this time, my focus will be on preparing Mount Allison for the arrival of our next President by working closely with the Board of Regents, Senate, Alumni Board, Mount Allison Student Union, Faculty Council, President's Council. I will also take the opportunity to work closely with our dedicated faculty and staff throughout the next twelve months, ensuring that our university continues to thrive.

Furthermore, over the next year, I am determined to shine a bright light on Mountie Pride at every opportunity. Mount Allison is a place of excellence and community, and I will make it my mission to showcase the incredible accomplishments of our faculty, staff, students and alumni to the world. Together, we will strengthen our bond with the university and celebrate the Mountie Pride that unites us all.

In closing, let me express my profound gratitude for the Mount Allison community, for the friendships and the knowledge that have shaped my life. Together, we will continue to build on the rich legacy of this institution, ensuring that future generations of students benefit from the same transformative experiences that have made Mount Allison so special to all of us

Report of the President of the Mount Allison Alumni Federation – Christy DeMont

It is an immense privilege to present my annual report as the President of the Mount Allison University Alumni Association. Over the past year, our alumni community has come together in remarkable ways, showcasing our enduring pride in this institution and our unwavering commitment to its continued success.

Celebrating a Year of Success

As we reflect on the past twelve months, there is no doubt it was a rocky (and windy) start with the canceling Homecoming due to Hurricane Fiona. Things picked up though as we began to host more and more in-person events. I am delighted to see how our alumni have actively participated in various events, both virtually and in person. Last year over 1800 alumni participated in over 30 in-person and virtual events.

The Black Alumni Network

We also have two newly established affinity groups.

The newly established Black Alumni Network will be a significant step forward in fostering a sense of belonging and empowerment for our Black alumni community. This network aims to celebrate the achievements of our Black alumni, provide mentorship opportunities, and advocate for the needs and concerns of Black Mounties. The Alumni Board's commitment to this committee underscores our dedication to ensuring that every Mountie, past and present, feels valued and heard.

2SLGBTQ+ Network

Our LGBTQ+ Alumni Committee is another vital addition to our community. This committee works towards creating a safe and inclusive space for 2SLGBTQ+ Mounties and allies. The committee is actively partnering with LGBTQ+ organizations in campus, to develop educational initiatives, support networks, and events that foster dialogue and understanding. The Board is committed to providing resources and guidance to ensure that this network thrives and serves as a source of pride for our 2SLGBTQ+ alumni.

Alumni Awards

Celebrating excellence among our alumni at our annual Alumni Banquet is always a high point in our year. Our Facebook feed was flooded with congratulatory messages as we honored outstanding individuals who continue to make Mount A proud. I would like to take this opportunity to

invite everyone to submit nominations for the 2024 awards which are due in December. Just contact the alumni office or go to our website for more information.

Reunion Weekend

Reunion weekends are always special, but this year was very special as we returned to our normal schedule of events since 2019. Our reunions are filled with nostalgia, laughter, and heartfelt gatherings. We had a record smashing attendance from the class of 1973 for their 50th reunion. It was an amazing Reunion weekend.

Presidential Search

As President of the Alumni Association, I also have the honour of sitting on the Presidential Search committee.

The university has engaged recruiting firm Royer Thompson to assist in the Presidential Search.

A Search Committee has been set up including members from Board of Regents and representatives of Alumni, Students, Faculty and Staff. The Committee is in the process of doing stakeholder consultations via an online survey as well as in person on campus and virtually, soliciting input on what those stakeholder groups think is important in a new president.

Next steps are to finalize job description and candidate profile, and have the recruiters start searching for candidates.

Updated information about the search progress, the committee members and a way to contact the committee can be found at <https://mta.ca/about/leadership-and-governance/board-regents/presidential-search>

AGM and Board Transition

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Marion Humprey and Nancy Vogan our outgoing board for their dedication, hard work, and the countless hours they have devoted to our association. Your commitment has been the driving force behind our achievements this year.

As we bid farewell to some board members, we warmly welcome new faces. Their enthusiasm and fresh perspectives promise to invigorate our mission. I am excited to work alongside them and witness the positive impact they will undoubtedly bring to our alumni community.

Looking Forward

In the coming year, we will focus on strengthening our alumni network, increasing engagement, and creating more opportunities for alumni to connect with each other and with the university. Our commitment to supporting current and future students through scholarships and mentorship programs remains steadfast.

The past year has been filled with inspiring moments, and I'm confident that the future holds even greater promise for our alumni association. As we continue to navigate the ever-changing landscape of higher education, we must adapt and innovate to meet the needs of our diverse alumni base.

I encourage you all to remain engaged and share your feedback and ideas. Your voices and perspectives are essential in shaping the direction of our association.

Thank You

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude to every member of our alumni community. Your dedication, enthusiasm, and love for Mount A continue to inspire me.

I would also like to thank the entire board for their support over the past two years of my Presidency. I am looking forward to the next two years as I serve as Past President. I have been so very proud to serve as your president. It's a time that I have truly cherished.

Thank you for entrusting me with the privilege of serving as your President. It was an honour I did not take lightly. Together, we will continue to strengthen the bonds of our alumni community and ensure that Mount Allison University remains a place where memories are made and futures are shaped.

Respectfully submitted, Christy DeMont

Report of the Executive Director – Carolle de Ste-Croix

I'm honored to present my 17th Alumni Director's report, and it's a testament to our enduring dedication to Mount Allison. Your support and commitment to our alma mater and its alumni community continue to inspire us.

Our Vision: Cementing Mount Allison's Legacy

Our vision at the alumni engagement office is to secure Mount Allison's third century by strengthening our ability, as alumni, to remember, celebrate, and honor our history. We aim to elevate every facet of the Mount Allison experience today while laying the groundwork for an inspiring and impactful future. This vision motivates us to work creatively and strategically for current and future generations.

Alumni Strategic Plan Implementation

Last year, we adopted a new Alumni Engagement Strategic Plan and have steadily progressed in its implementation. We are committed to enhancing alumni engagement by encouraging contributions of time, talent, treasure, and testimony to the University, thereby fortifying the bonds between alumni and the institution. This year, we will roll out new initiatives aligned with the plan, fostering the growth of our alumni network.

For instance, we continue to offer events during Homecoming, Convocation, and Reunion that facilitate student-alumni interactions. We have also implemented a new alumni volunteer recognition program during National Volunteer Week in April, with a successful alumni contact tracing strategy that leverages volunteers.

Another key goal is partnering with the University Archives to share our stories and collaborate on special projects, such as a series of events with the author of an exciting new book about alumnus Winthrop Picard Bell, a British spy who alerted the world to Nazi plans for World War II.

Success of the Alumni Mentorship Program with First-Generation Students

The Alumni Mentorship Program, a part of our strategic plan, has been particularly successful in positively impacting first-generation students. Alumni mentors have made a significant difference in the lives of these students, resulting in improved academic performance, career readiness, and overall well-being. As this program continues to expand, we are now actively seeking 40 new mentors this fall.

New Board Governance Documents

To ensure transparency and professionalism, we are currently reviewing the Alumni Board's governance documents, leading to the development of a new constitution and the introduction of a code of conduct, confidentiality, and conflict of interest document. These documents will underpin the effective functioning of our board and uphold the highest standards of integrity and accountability. We look forward to approving the new constitution at next year's AGM.

Welcoming New Team Members

I'm thrilled to introduce two valuable additions to our team: Jaryd Morrissey and Scott Hayes. Jaryd Morrissey, our new Alumni Engagement Events officer, brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm for fostering alumni connections. Scott Hayes, as our Alumni Communications and Volunteer Officer, will be instrumental in enhancing our outreach efforts. Their skills and dedication will strengthen our alumni community.

We were also delighted to welcome our new Interim president and member of the class of 1978 Dr. Robert MacKinnon to campus this fall. It's been wonderful to have him and his partner Karen move onto campus and getting acquainted with the MtA community. We are in great hands as we await the search committees work in the coming year. We are so delighted to have you back at MtA Dr. MacKinnon.

In Memoriam: Gloria Jollymore and Peter McRae

This year, we marked the passing of two former alumni directors who made significant contributions to our association: Peter McRae, who served as Alumni director throughout the 1980s, and my immediate predecessor, Gloria Jollymore. Both were dedicated advocates for the Mount Allison community, and we will fondly remember their passion and positive impact on Mount Allison and its alumni.

Closing

In closing, I am immensely proud of the progress we have made as an alumni community. Together, we are shaping the future of Mount Allison University and leaving a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to the exciting journey ahead as we continue to strengthen our alumni bonds and contribute to the growth and success of Mount Allison University.

Respectfully submitted, Carolle de Ste-Croix

Election of Directors and Executive – Robert MacQueen

Motion to nominate the following slate of officers for the Mount Allison Alumni Board

- For one term, from October 2023 to October 2025:
 - Jennie Henderson ('03) – Vanier, ON – President
 - Reid Harrison ('59) – Halifax, NS – Honorary President
 - Christy DeMont ('80) – North York, ON – Past President
 - Jonathan Graves ('15) – Bedford, NS – Vice President

Seconded by Kevin Estabrooks
Motion passed unanimously.

Election of Alumni Representative of Board of Regents – Robert MacQueen

Motion to accept the slate of directors presented for a first and second term on the MtA Alumni Board

- For a first term, from October 2023 – October 2026
 - Cathy (Brown) Hayman '89 – Oakville, ON
 - Amanda Julian '12 – Calgary, AB
 - Shannon (Eaton) Baxter '88 – Moncton, NB
- For a second term, from October 2023 – October 2026
 - Jack Rhind '74 – Bermuda

Seconded by Kevin Estabrooks

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion for nomination of alumnus as an Alumni Board Representative to the Board of Regents for second term.

- Dr. Phil Tibbo '86 – Halifax, NS

Seconded by Cyndey Kane

Motion passed unanimously.

Awards Committee report – Jennie Henderson

- 2023 Charles Frederick Allison Award – Charlie Scott '83 & Jill Rafuse '73
- 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award – Christian Nicholson '73
- 2023 Contemporary Community Award – Kenzie Lalonde '15

Adjournment

Motion – Nancy Vogan

Seconded – Jack Rhind

Motion passed unanimously