



## Celebrating Excellence at NTCI

Join us in our Celebrating Excellence Campaign—an opportunity to contribute to our legacy of achievement and to its future. The campaign will fund student scholarships, a case for our legacy trophies and the restoration of these treasures. We cannot do it without your support.

NTCI is a centre of excellence. It distinguishes itself through its superb academics and a broad range of extra-curricular options. Our Foundation recognizes academic achievement by funding scholarships. However, most of the scholarships do not even cover the cost of a first-year textbook in many subjects. We are pleased to report that the amounts awarded are gradually growing to match the higher costs of post-secondary education. But there is still a long way to go.

We are also huge supporters of the extra-curricular program. Did you know that NTCI has clubs that focus on engineering and business skills? The student newspaper *Graffiti* has repeatedly won at the *Toronto Star* High School Newspaper Awards. The Music Department has received help from the Foundation with the restoration of its harpsichord, the acquisition of a fine piano and private lessons for deserving students. NT athletes sport new jerseys and enjoy a scoreboard

In the old school, this display case housed the Sifton and Kerr Trophies, currently languishing on a shelf in the VP's office. The Celebrating Excellence Campaign is aimed at providing these tangible symbols of excellence with a new home.

*continued on page 3*

### In this issue:

- Celebrating Excellence at NTCI **1**
- NTCI Alumni Helping NTCI Alumni for Parkinson's! **2**
- Scholarship Winners **3**
- Wanted: Year Reps **3**
- A Treasure Trove of History **4**
- Dragons' Den: Putting Your Donations to Work **5**
- In Memoriam **6**
- NTCI Foundation Video **7**
- A Day in the Life of an NT Student **7**
- The NTCI Foundation **8**
- Contact Us **8**
- Red and Grey Day **8**

# NTCI Alumni Helping NTCI Alumni for Parkinson's!

We all know that NT grads are out in the world making a difference. Just as we were finalizing our content for this issue, we received the following inspiring report from Harry McMurtry ('81) and knew it simply had to be shared among the NTCI alumni community.

My first day at NTCI was 40 years ago. These many years later, my connection to the school and its alumni remains as strong as ever. My NTCI roots run deep: I spent five years at the old campus; my mother attended the school as did all five of my siblings; and I keep in touch with dozens of its graduates. NTCI was (and still is) a special place. More importantly, it produces special people.

One of those special people is Sue (Lougheed) Thompson ('83). On May 7, 2016, Sue and I will embark on our quixotic journey from New York City to Toronto to raise money for Parkinson's research. The walk is the centerpiece of a project called *500 Miles for Parkinson's*, which is also aimed at boosting awareness of this neurological condition. Both Sue and I have been diagnosed with Young-Onset Parkinson's disease (YOPD). We will be joined on the 500-mile walk by Dr. Ross Sugar of Baltimore, MD, who also has YOPD.

We created a video to promote the walk (<https://youtube/WQsd4KjK4xI>). (The video was made before Sue and Ross joined the team.) The walk will be preceded by a launch event in New York City on May 6, and followed by a celebration in Toronto on June 22. To learn more about the walk and related events, please visit our website: [fivehundredmiles.org](http://fivehundredmiles.org).

Few schools, public or private, can boast of more successful alumni than NTCI. I do not think that this occurred by accident. I believe that the values instilled at NTCI serve its graduates well throughout their adult years: pursuit of excellence, creativity, diligence, community engagement, and empathy. All of these values have contributed to the creation, organization, and anticipated success of *500 Miles for Parkinson's*.

NTCI alumni have infiltrated every aspect of *500 Miles*:

- Financial support: Ian Hull ('81), Janet (Macrae) MacInnis ('55), Andy Filipiuk ('81), Ria (Macrae) McMurtry ('52), James Swayze ('82)
- Graphic art: Bernice Lum ('82)
- Volunteer coordination: Kirsten Sixt ('83) and Julie Cowan ('83)
- Administrative support: Lisa Pen ('82)

- Organizational support: John McKay ('81), Adriana Christopoulos ('81), Ben Hawkins ('81), Phil Hargreaves ('81) and Geoff Linton ('81)

One of our celebrity ambassadors, Ashley (Nicoll) Holzer, attended NTCI. We are also receiving support from across the continent: Jim Maedel ('81) in Vancouver; and Harvey Levine ('81) and Simon Halls ('82) in Los Angeles.

You too can participate in this undertaking. You can become a sponsor, donate, buy tickets to an event, or volunteer. I believe that participating in charitable activities has concurrent benefits: it advances the cause; it makes your community stronger; it strengthens friendships; and it nourishes your soul. At the very least, it spreads a little of that Red and Grey magic.

—Harry McMurtry ('81)  
[fivehundredmiles.org](http://fivehundredmiles.org)



Harry McMurtry ('81)

continued from page 1

and painted end fields, thanks to alumni generosity. And we could be doing so much more.

We are fortunate to have public support for education in Ontario, but our North Toronto students deserve more. Their initiative, their work ethic, their spirit and the NTCI faculty combine to set this school apart. You can help us celebrate that excellence. Please give generously.

All contributors will receive tax receipts (for amounts over \$25) and be acknowledged in the newsletter at the conclusion of the campaign (spring 2017). Generous donors will be acknowledged on a plaque on the trophy case itself.

Spirit Sponsor: \$250 and above

NT Norseman: \$500 and above

Pentagon Patron: \$1,000 and above

Naming rights for the trophy case: \$8,000

Please mail your gift to the NTCI Foundation at the address on page 8 and specify the Celebrating Excellence Campaign.

Thank you!

—Nancy McFadden ('70)

## Scholarship Winners

Betty Bealey Laureateship in English:

**Jack Denton**

Hal Brown "Triple A" Award:

**Easton Rough**

Kerr Trophy for Young Women:

**Heather Kelsall**

Sifton Trophy for Young Men:

**Joshua Ehrlich**

R.R.H. "Bud" Page Valedictory Prize:

**Jillian Li**

NTCI Foundation Centennial Scholarship:

**Daniyar Akhmedjanov**

Senator Keith Davey Award:

**Madelaine Fisher Bernhut** (Grade 11/non-graduate)

Gibbons Prize in French:

**Tess Condlin-Wilby** and **Jillian Li** (Co-recipients)



### Let's re-energize our connections!

In the lead-up to the 100th Reunion festivities, many people got in touch with the school or were tracked down by fellow classmates. We'd like to take that groundwork and build on it, be it for the next big celebration, for smaller anniversaries—like turning 50 years old or having graduated 25 years ago—or simply to enable alumni to connect with their former classmates.

### How?

By establishing a coordinated network of year reps. One of the Foundation's objectives is "promoting and encouraging alumni events and facilitating ongoing communication between and among alumni and the school."

### Who are year reps and what do they do?

These are people or groups of people who work to track down as many classmates from their year as possible. Year reps will take the lead in keeping in touch and contacting classmates to let them know about events or activities of special interest.

### Who can be a year rep?

Anyone who is interested in helping to find their fellow classmates and likes to do some digging can sign on to help. In most cases, we can provide some info to get you started. We will also provide a workshop, "Being an Effective Class Rep."

### Who do I contact about becoming a year rep?

CHAIR: Stan Pearl ('62) stanpearl@rogers.com

Neil Irwin ('50) nirwin@bigroup.com

Paul Allen ('61) pallen@rapidata.ca

Ron Wakelin ('64) rwakelin@utschools.ca

Janice Gillespie ('65) janicegillespie@rogers.com

Nancy McFadden ('70) nancyanddoug.mcfadden@gmail.com

Barbara Kamienski ('71) wordswithoutend@sympatico.ca

Mary Nishio ('77, NT Staff '93-'94) mary.nishio@gmail.com

Don Ross ('80) sales@universityfirewood.ca

Barbara Szelinger ('82) barbara.szelinger@rogers.com

Lisa Cain ('82) lisa-ian@rogers.com

Mark Kinoshita ('82, NT Staff) mark.kinoshita@tdsb.on.ca

Lorne Smith (NT Staff, '79-'12) lornesmith31@gmail.com



One of Hal Brown's coaching jackets.

Below: A collection of NT memorabilia, including a 75th anniversary pennant; a copy of *Macbeth*, annotated by Betty Bealey; an NTCI greeting card, Christmas 1922; a ticket to a performance of *Murder in the Cathedral* at the Odeon Hyland; an LP recording of *Maytime Melodies*, 1976; and Roy Hiir's recently donated 1960 BTM football crest.

## A Treasure Trove of History

For generations, people who care about North Toronto Collegiate have collected NT memorabilia. Each time I am in the Archives room, I try to lure in the students who have lockers nearby to admire the riches within. Just last week, I chatted with Sophia Rutherford, a second-generation NT student, and was able to show her the 1970s collection from her parents' era. The Archives is mostly a mystery room to present-day students—but it is a fascinating trip down memory lane for alumni.

We have a remarkable collection, going back to 1912: photos,

programs, plaques, trophies, uniforms, scrapbooks, pennants and crests, school pins, rings, hats, recordings, tapes, CDs, newspapers and yearbooks. And, of course, some unique items that would be the centrepiece of any collection. For example, we have Colin Farmer's 35-mm camera, the footballs from the 1941 and 1944 Toronto City Championship games, and the shovel used to break ground for the new school. These resources were invaluable during the writing of the history of NT, Hail, North Toronto. They are also a wonderful resource for reunion materials and other research.



## This Is Your Collection

Alumni frequently donate gifts that need to be incorporated into the collection. We recently acquired, for instance, more of Colin Farmer's collection of photos, of which we already had quite a few. Colin and his enthusiastic Photography Club documented a huge swath of NT history in film and snapshots. The ever-important Maytime Melodies records and Kiwanis festival certificates were donated by the Music Department and digitized by Elvino Sauro, a very generous NT alum.

From Roy Hiir ('60) we received, among other things, a sweater crest in garnet and grey, the original NT colours before red and grey replaced them. Margaret Clarke contributed photos of the 1941 and 1944 football champs, which she had cherished all these years and which have finally come home to NT.

But not only alumni donate artifacts to the Archives. I have recently received material from Hal Brown's family, including his famous red-and-grey coaching jacket, which still sports the muddy imprints of the equipment he carted around on the backfield of the old NT while coaching our athletes, among them Lucia Jenkins and Mary Nishio. Well after he retired, Hal continued to coach our track and field team, wearing that jacket. To me, it epitomizes his devotion to NT and is more valuable than jewels—a priceless, unique expression of the man Hal Brown was.

## Are You a Closet Archivist?

It is my pleasure to be able to help acquire and conserve this bounty in the special Archives room at NT, but I could certainly use some help in making it accessible to anyone who wants to peruse it.

Nowadays, we can search online for NT memorabilia and acquire it if it is reasonable. That is one job to be done.

Former students and teachers are very good about leaving us their records, yearbooks and memorabilia when they are cleaning out their closets. These all need to be catalogued and integrated into the collection. Another project is trying to identify the activity and vintage or year of photographs—there are literally hundreds of them waiting to be dealt with so they can be properly catalogued.

So there is enough work to keep us busy for years to come! We have a wonderful record of the proud NT heritage right here in the school. It is indeed a treasure trove.

If you would like to help with this important work, please let us know by either post or email (subject line: "Archives"). Our contact information is on the last page.

—Nancy Baines, Archivist



## Dragons' Den: Putting Your Donations to Work

Last November, the Foundation invited students seeking funding for their various clubs and endeavours into the so-called Dragons' Den. The evening of presentations, planned and executed both intelligently and professionally, made one thing very clear: the kids are alright! Once again, NTCI students proved that they are reaching for the stars as academics, athletes and musicians.

The groups applying for grants gave some background on their respective clubs, and explained what they hoped to do with the grant money and why they felt they deserved funding. The Robotics Club needed funds to purchase the materials for creating, constructing, programming and testing a robot. Most of us on the Foundation have a less than perfect grasp of the field of robotics, but we all agreed to partial funding. (Not surprisingly, the club did well at the VEX Robotics Competition.)

*Graffiti*, the newspaper we all remember fondly, has now expanded its scope to include a digital version and made two separate presentations. One came from *Digital Graffiti*, asking for money towards various technological resources, including camcorders and software, to help launch this new digital edition of the newspaper. Print *Graffiti* asked for help with its printing costs—difficult for a free school newspaper to fund on its own.

The Symphony Orchestra and Choral Ensemble asked for help in funding an enriched workshop, available to all music students, towards the goal of performing Mozart's *Requiem* at this year's Maytime Melodies. (It was the 70th edition and a landmark achievement, which you can see and hear at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2nR66Y54e5Wzm-9z1mEJl6hJyYIGS12w>.)

So what did the Dragons' Den actually agree to? Because of the generosity of your donations, the Foundation was able to give *Digital Graffiti* \$450.00 and print *Graffiti* \$900.00. The Orchestra and Chorus received \$1,000.00, and the Robotics Club \$200.00. In all, the Foundation gave \$2,550.00 towards programs that were not only deserving but also representative of the Foundation's mission.

# In Memoriam

Each year, the NTCI community is diminished by the loss of some of those for whom the school played a pivotal role. The Foundation relies on you to let us know about the passing of key alumni, so that their stories may be part of this newsletter.

## Howard Reid Cable, Friend of NT

Although “In Memoriam” is devoted to NT’s alumni and staff, we would be remiss not to mention the passing of Howard Cable on March 30, 2016, at the age of 95. Mr. Cable was a true icon of Canadian music and a long-time friend of North Toronto’s Music Department, with a career encompassing so many dimensions of the Canadian music scene that it would be impossible to enumerate them all here. However, to NTers, he will always be remembered for his Maytime Melodies medleys. More complex than most high school music fare, his arrangements introduced many a budding NT musician to the complexity of jazz rhythms and the uncertainty of very creative transitions that—despite all odds—worked! Bright, optimistic and full of positive energy, he was an inspirational force at the Maytime Melodies rehearsals and shows he attended. NTCI was blessed to have had an ongoing association with Mr. Cable; he will be missed, but his legacy will live on.

## Dr. Ian B. Copland, ('92)

On July 15, 2015, Dr. Ian Copland, a highly respected research physician in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology at Emory University (Atlanta, Georgia) collapsed on the ice during an AAHL hockey game. Efforts to revive him were unsuccessful. Tragically, Ian was only 42 years old.

Known at NT as an “all around great guy,” Ian completed his PhD in Molecular Biology in 2005 and pursued post-doctoral studies at McGill before moving to the USA. His research to identify the molecular mechanisms that regulate the regenerative capacity of stem/progenitor cells was a reflection of his passionate commitment to bettering the lives of chronically ill children. His sudden passing was a tremendous loss to the medical community and has left a huge void in the lives and hearts of his family and many friends. His spirit, humour, joy and love of life will always be deeply missed.

## Carl Laywine ('48)

Carl transferred to North Toronto from Harbord CI in January 1945 and had the distinction of playing saxophone in the first Maytime Melodies (1947)! Although he spent a long career as

a highly successful chartered accountant, he retained a keen interest in the arts. He was a great supporter of Jazz.FM91, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Toronto International Film Festival, Koerner Hall, and theatrical presentations from Mirvish Productions. However, his true passion was travel and, according to his family, “his wanderlust was never really satisfied, even after many trips and hiking the world’s greatest trails.” Predeceased by his wife of 57 years, Carl passed away November 14, 2015, a week and a half before his 87th birthday, having lived life to the fullest. As one of his numerous friends said, “I don’t know anyone who has fulfilled his bucket list better than Carl Laywine.”

## David (Dave) Rolfe McCullough (NT Staff, '65–'69)

“Take out your scratch pad!” If this phrase evokes memories of a classroom at NT, chances are you were in Dave McCullough’s geography class! Well respected as both a teacher and a coach, Dave began his teaching career at North Toronto after studying geography at U of T and playing football for the Varsity Blues. After leaving NTCI, he worked in various capacities with the Toronto Board of Education, spending the bulk of his career as a secondary school principal. However, he had a soft spot for NT and attended anniversary festivities with pride and enthusiasm. Sadly, he lost his battle with cancer on December 29, 2014, leaving behind his family and a wide circle of friends. An exemplary leader, he will long be remembered for his sense of humour, competitive nature, compassion and strong sense of integrity.

## Robert O’Connell (NT Staff, '07–'16)

The NTCI community was deeply saddened this year by the passing of a member of the current staff: science and chemistry teacher, Robert O’Connell. Rob joined the TDSB in 2003 following a career as an industrial chemist and taught at Runnymede CI before coming to NT in 2007. In the words of NT Principal, Joel Gorenkoff, “Rob was often the first person in the door in the morning and the last one out in the evening. His classroom was always full of students who wanted

continued from page 6

extra help or who just wanted to chat with Rob about science.” A dedicated coach and staff advisor, connecting with students in the Chemistry, Table Tennis and Robotics Clubs, he was particularly passionate about school charitable endeavours and was a strong supporter of the arts. The school celebrated Rob’s life at a memorial on March 2, 2016, and in a touching tribute, the performances of Mozart’s *Requiem* at the 70th edition of Maytime Melodies were dedicated to his memory.

### Frederick (Fred) Alexander Watson ('51)

Those who attended North Toronto in the postwar 1940s, when “rugby” gave way to “football,” will no doubt remember Fred Watson, captain of the football team and honour graduate of NTCI. Pursuing a career in the fledgling world of computers at IBM, Fred maintained a strong interest in the advancing and ever-changing world of technology, even in retirement. A strong proponent of the importance of education and academic excellence—no doubt fostered at NT—Fred ended his life’s journey on October 17, 2015, at Sunnybrook Hospital. Greatly missed especially by Norma, his wife and soulmate of 61 years, he will be remembered “with a smile” by his family, friends and all who knew him.

*Coming Soon* ★  
*to a Screen Near You!*

A three-and-a-half-minute student-driven video outlining the Foundation’s activities is currently in production. Its creator, grade 12 student Leah Meddaoui, who’s been head of video production for *Digital Graffiti*, designer for the NTCI Prom and student council video manager, dropped by our meeting in May and showed us an impressive sneak preview. Stay tuned—we’ll post details on the NTCI Foundation website as they become known.

This is the fourth consecutive school year in which the Foundation has had the benefit of direct input from current NT students. Our student reps enliven our meetings with their perspective and help us keep the purpose of our endeavours fresh and real. We thought you might like to hear from Siobhan Kidd and Riley Scanlan.

## A Day in the Life of an NT Student

Subway doors open, it’s time to get off,  
You’ll work hard and play hard, to quote Gorenkoff.

You walk up the street, and pick up a green tea.  
You thank the barista, and skip off with glee.

Approaching NT, Dan welcomes you in,  
He gives you a high five and a great big grin.

You enter home form and you hear Hot Air play,  
Your day has begun in a wonderful way.

O Canada blares as you look ’round the room;  
You smile as your friendships are starting to bloom.

First period begins, the teacher presents  
A lesson about a historical event.

An hour has passed and you start to pack;  
You walk down the hall and say hi to prez Jack.

This period is spare, so you look for your friend;  
You’ll go to the library and plan your weekend.

Lunchtime arrives, intramurals calls your name,  
You grab a couple friends and start a dodgeball game.

It’s almost 3:15, the day has flown by;  
Now you’ve got choir, time to sing low and high.

You finally get home, what a long day you’ve had—  
No homework tonight, oh boy aren’t you glad?

Another day down, you get ready for bed  
You’ve worked hard and played hard, just as he said.



## It's Been a Banner Year

This year started off with a welcome surprise—a banner, produced and generously donated by NT alumnus Mike Rutherford ('77). It will be on display wherever the Foundation is represented at NT events. Now you'll always be able to find us!

## The NTCI Foundation

The NTCI Foundation is an advisory board of about 25 members—comprising alumni, retired staff, student representatives and the current principal—who meet at the school six times a year with the goal, outlined in our mission statement, of preserving “the rich heritage and reputation of NTCI as a fine example of public education by supporting current students through scholarships and grants; promoting and encouraging alumni events; and facilitating ongoing communication between and among alumni and the school.”

### Advisory Board Members 2015–2016

Paul Allen ('61)  
 Nancy Baines (NT Staff '68-'01) (Archivist)  
 Desmond Brett ('77)  
 Lisa Cain ('82) (Vice-Chair)  
 Lorraine Clarkson ('71)  
 Caroline Conacher ('93)  
 Nicole Dowling ('91) (Co-Chair)  
 James Farr ('87) (Treasurer)  
 Joel Gorenkoff (Current Principal)  
 Barbara Kamiński ('71)  
 Siobhan Kidd ('16) (Student Rep)  
 Mark Kinoshita ('82) (Current NT Staff)  
 Stephanie Lovering ('05)  
 Brian Maltman ('71) (Secretary)  
 Nancy McFadden ('70) (NT Staff '76-'81)  
 Mary Nishio ('77) (NT Staff '93-'94)  
 Andrew Ogilvie ('90)  
 Stan Pearl ('62)  
 Riley Scanlan ('16) (Student Rep)  
 Barbara Szelinger ('82)  
 Kirsten Sixt ('83)  
 Lorne Smith (NT Staff '79-'12)  
 Owen Smith ('03)  
 Ron Wakelin ('64) (Co-Chair)

## Contact Us

We're always happy to hear from you. Whether you've held an alumni event, have an NT anecdote to share, or simply want to let us know how you're doing, send us your news and pictures. And if you've moved or changed your email, please let us know.

**NTCI Foundation**  
**17 Broadway Avenue**  
**Toronto, ON**  
**M4P 1T7**

**OR [ntcifoundation@ntci.on.ca](mailto:ntcifoundation@ntci.on.ca)**

## NTCI on the Worldwide Web

Visit the school website at [www.ntci.on.ca](http://www.ntci.on.ca). While you're there, click on **Alumni** to visit the NTCI Foundation page for photos, access to past newsletters and info about alumni events.

## Red and Grey Day

And don't forget to check the school website, or call the school at 416-393-9180, for details about this year's Red and Grey Day, likely to be held in mid-October. This annual celebration of NT's school spirit, with school teams in the gym and on the field, is a great chance for alumni to connect with today's NT!

## You're Just What We're Looking For!

We would welcome your participation! If you can

- write copy for the newsletter
- help maintain our membership database/mailling list
- help maintain our website
- lend a hand with the school archives
- bring fresh ideas about how we might better serve the school and our alumni

let us know (subject line: “Board Membership”).