



# Foundation News

*The Voice of NTCI Alumni*



The new NTCI, with Broadway entrance and full-sized sports field running north-south between Roehampton and Broadway.

## New NTCI takes shape

### Construction to begin no later than July 2009

**Plans for the new NTCI continue to move forward, with the unveiling of a building design and a timetable for construction.**

Last June, the Toronto District School Board picked its development partner for the new NTCI – Tridel. The architects for the school were also chosen – Carruthers Shaw and Partners Limited, the same firm that designed Riverdale and Earl Haig.

**Farewell interview with NTCI's Ashley Waltman.**

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**Profiles of student leaders of the 50s, 60s and 70s.**

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**60 years of Maytime Melodies.**

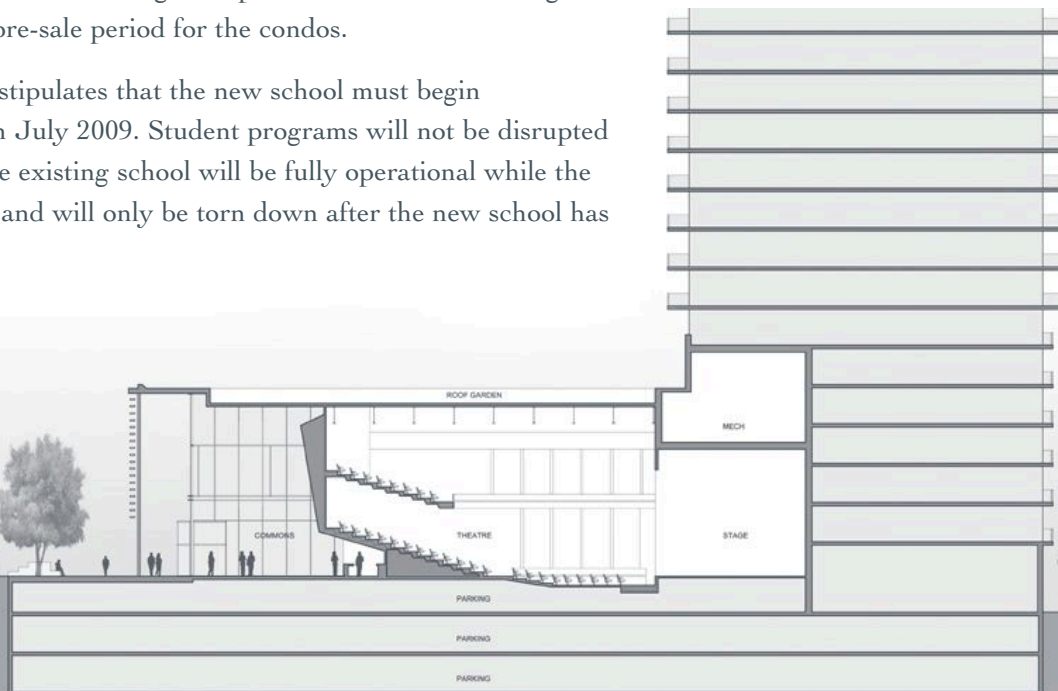
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As part of the development arrangement, the TDSB is selling two parcels of the NTCI lands to Tridel for the purpose of constructing two residential buildings of 24 and 27 stories with a total gross footage of 500,000 square feet.

In January of this year, the TDSB applied to the City of Toronto for rezoning approval. Two proposed project schedules have construction starting between February 2008 and July 2009, allowing for a possible 18 month rezoning process and a 14-month pre-sale period for the condos.

The contract with Tridel stipulates that the new school must begin construction no later than July 2009. Student programs will not be disrupted during construction as the existing school will be fully operational while the new school is being built and will only be torn down after the new school has opened its doors.

Below: Sideview of theatre entrance to the new school.



## Heritage and archival preservation top priority for alumni

While aspects of heritage preservation have been built into the NTCI redevelopment project, including the integration of parts of the current north facade and south entranceways into the new building structure, other aspects of enhanced heritage and archival preservation must be undertaken directly by alumni.

To ensure that the history of NTCI has a living presence in the new school building, alumni on the NTCI Foundation Advisory Board will soon launch a campaign to fund a variety of heritage and archive preservation projects. Stay tuned for details in the months ahead.

## What will the new school have to offer?

The new NTCI will be a four-story, 156,000 square foot, 1206 pupil school, with a full-sized football field and track. While some of the details of the new school are still being finalized, most of the larger elements have been determined. Here's what you'll see when the new school opens:

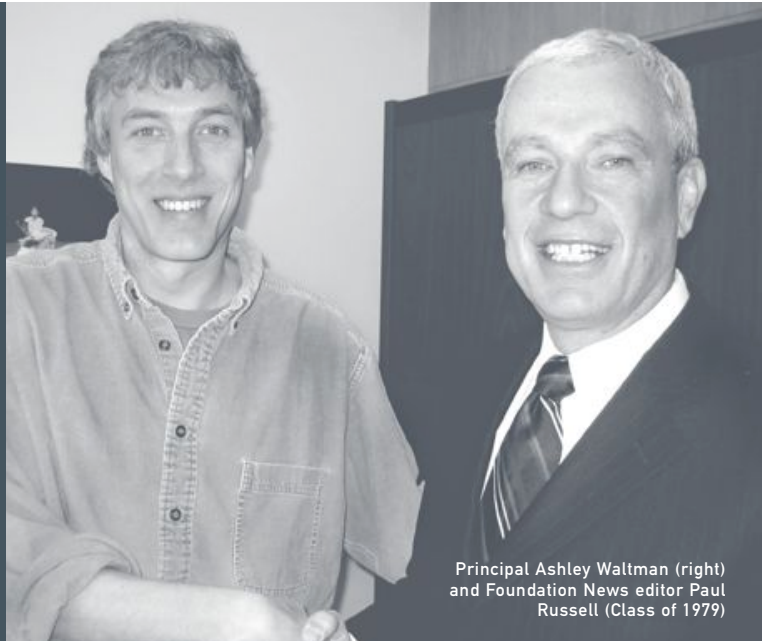
- a triple gym at basement level
- improved change room and weight room facilities
- an auditorium ("off Broadway") on the main floor
- a full-sized library
- a courtyard for light and air
- a "green" roof – which may be accessible to staff and students
- fully wired classrooms with the latest technology
- additional science labs
- additional music rooms and drama space
- preservation of heritage architectural features.

In addition, a new committee was recently formed to study the possibility of a pool in the new design – the major obstacle being who will pay to build and maintain it.

# Swan song

After thirty-two years in the public school system, Ashley Waltman decides to make this year his last as principal of NTCI.

Ashley Waltman began his teaching career in 1974 as a science teacher at East York Collegiate. He came to NTCI as principal in 1999, after the retirement of Eric Skeoch. In June, Ashley will retire from the Toronto District School Board after seven years at the helm of NTCI. Foundation News interviewed Ashley on March 2, 2006 and asked him to reflect on his tenure at the school.



Principal Ashley Waltman (right) and Foundation News editor Paul Russell (Class of 1979)

## What are you most proud of in your years at NTCI?

If I'm remembered for anything, it will be the development of the new NTCI school building. I really felt from day one that the current school building was restricting student progress, not enabling it. That's soon going to change, and it's very exciting being part of it.

I'm also proud of that fact that we maintained our standards during some very tough political times. It may seem strange to be proud of simply maintaining something, but I really think it's been an accomplishment with so many funding cuts and so much political unrest over the past several years.

You only have to look at what we've got to know what I'm talking about. Over 21% of our current Grade 12 students have an average of 90% or higher in their top six subjects. Combine that academic excellence with one of the best music programs in the country and a sports program that continues to win championships – despite some of the worst facilities in the city – and I think we deliver an education that rivals anything that's out there – public or private.

## What's your biggest disappointment?

That it's taken this long to get new facilities – whether a new building or a renovation – and that the school was allowed to deteriorate into its current state in the first place.

## Any worries about the move to the new building in 2009?

I do have some worries, mostly about the school culture. We've had a culture of excellence at NTCI for 90 plus years, but that doesn't guarantee its survival. Yes, the new building will still sit on the same parcel of land as the old, but the quirky charm of the old building – and the knowledge that thousands of grads have walked down those halls before you – will be lost. As much as I'm a big supporter of the new

NTCI, we have to be aware of what we're losing and find ways to carry that culture and history forward.

## Why retire now when the new building is so close?

I'm only 55, but I hit my retirement age – the factor 85 – in June 2004. That provided me with a bit of choice in terms of thinking about my future. I think change is important, not only for an institution – NTCI in this case – but also for me personally. I've given it my all for seven years, with some challenging 80-hour weeks – but complacency can kick in if you stay too long in one job. I didn't think it was fair to me or the school to hang on for three more years just to make it to day one of the new building. I think a new principal for a new school makes sense, and he or she can shape things their way, rather than having my stamp on it.

I had planned to retire at the end of next year in any event, but a very unexpected and unique opportunity came my way that I couldn't say no to.

## And the opportunity?

Starting in September 2006, I'll be the principal of the United Synagogue Day School – an elementary Jewish school, grades K to 8 here in Toronto. It's an entirely different system and set of challenges for me: younger kids, a private religious school, much smaller than NTCI at only 420 kids, and I'll have to contend with the fact that the Grade 1's will know more Hebrew than I do. But I'm really looking forward to this next stage of my life.

## Any last words?

I'm just so proud to have been part of NTCI for the past seven years. It's been a true honour to work with such exceptional staff members, students, and alumni. I know I'll miss this place when I'm gone.

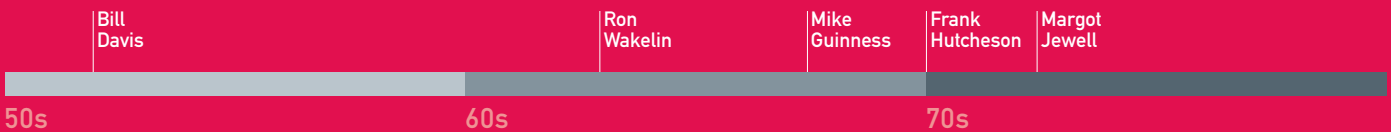


# Blast from the past

## – former NTCI student leaders emerge

We asked for your help in tracking down student leaders from the 50s, 60s and 70s in our 2005 newsletter. And we got mail! Many thanks to all who wrote us with their leads. While we don't have room to profile all of the student leaders brought to our attention, we've squeezed in as many as we can.

Is anyone you remember profiled here?



### Bill Davis

(Class of 1952)

*Sifton Trophy winner*

#### What is your fondest memory of NT?

Being younger than many of my classmates and certainly less mature, I went to school, did whatever I was asked to do, came home and hung out with my friends, few of

whom went to NTCI. By grade 12, I had enough confidence to try out for football (Junior Champs) and by grade 13 for tennis (Senior Champs) and hockey (runners up). As far as fond memories, it was not till much later I began to realize I had been taught by some superb caring teachers and associated with some quality students.

When I push for a fond memory, the lunch hour group gathered for ping-pong comes to mind. It became a spectator

## Father-daughter leadership tradition

When Bill Davis won the Sifton Trophy in 1952, he could hardly have envisioned another leader in the family honoured with a similar award. But that's exactly what happened when daughter Bev won the Kerr Trophy in 1979 – the only parent-child award winners that we're aware of. Bev Davis says that, even though her father had left his mark on the school a quarter century earlier, there was

no pressure on his daughters to follow in his footsteps. "We were encouraged to do our best and to contribute in our own way, but I was thrilled nonetheless to win the Kerr trophy," says Bev. "We both felt honoured to have been chosen by our peers. And it was a special moment when the award was presented to me by Hal Brown, a history teacher at the time who had also taught my father."



event because of the flamboyant Ephraim Sweezy, his silk shirt covered in sweat, and the air blue from his ill-tempered expletives. I can recall the final of our tournament where I won the fifth set in a three of five 22 – 20 over Earl Wintraub. I don't know how good we were, but we were all evenly matched and very keen.

**And your funniest experience?**

Maybe I have a keener sense of humour now, but I have to reach for “funny” when I think high school. I recall Jim Bratt sitting behind me reaching over me to jab “Tiger” Lloyd Beckley with the point of his compass, but I have no idea why it was funny. I recall Eric Nesterenko standing with Dave Thomson and I at Bloor and Avenue Road prior to the football final game, and throwing the newspaper, sheet by sheet, into the wind because of its coverage of our team. I recall a fellow student whose name was always mispronounced by our grade 12 German teacher rising to his feet and saying to Miss Stock, “This has gone far enough, Miss Stick.”

**What's the one accomplishment in high school you're most proud of?**

My utter amazement at winning the Sifton trophy for the “best all around” graduating male student. I still marvel as, from my perspective, I was almost anonymous in many aspects of high school life, in my five years at NTCI.

**What have you been up to since you graduated from NT?**

A Chartered Accountant's degree, a career as a financial officer at the United Church of Canada, some pioneering work in “responsible share ownership,” recognition for community youth work by the city and the YWCA, recognition for contribution to the Toronto Touch Football league, still playing a little tennis, hockey and lawn bowling, Director of the local Residents' Association. My wife and I have three children and five grandchildren, and we recently celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary.

**What are your plans for the future?**

I hope to have one.



**Ron Wakelin**

(Class of 1964)

*Student Council President  
and Sifton Trophy winner*

**What is your fondest memory of NT?**

There are many of them. Many involved events: winning the bantam football championship, playing on teams, Maytime Melodies, the play, public speaking contests and dances. Most, however, involved people. I made some great friends at NTCI and I also appreciated the teachers who were gifted and also were caring human beings. I feel so privileged to have attended such a stellar school. I have many friends who attended expensive private schools but who didn't get as good an education as I did.

**And your funniest experience?**

In our time, if you were in the music form, you had to be in the marching band. I was quarterback of the football team at the time. At half time, I (and a few others) had to take off our helmets and shoulder pads, don our band uniform tops, and play at our own game! We took quite a ribbing for this from the other players.

**What's the one accomplishment in high school you're most proud of?**

The year I was Student Council President, our Council team ran a spirited campaign for the United Way that

raised more money than any other school in the province (over \$2500). It showed the generosity and genuine heart of our school.

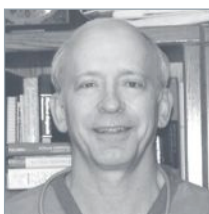
**What have you been up to since you graduated from NT?**

I went to U of T in Physical Education and Western for graduate work. I played football for the Varsity Blues and the Western Mustangs, and we won the first Vanier Cup in 1965. I taught Physical Education for 35 years, 30 of them at University of Toronto Schools (UTS). I also taught in Australia for a year and have taught at OISE in teacher training for the past 33 years. I have conducted many workshops and PD days in Canada and Australia and have written six books.

I coached many high school sports and was assistant coach for the U of T Varsity Blues football team for eight years (when they used to actually win games). I'm married to a great woman, Sue, who is an artist and art teacher at Ryerson. My son is a second-year teacher at Riverdale Collegiate, and my daughter just completed a Fine Arts and Cultural Studies degree at York.

**What are your plans for the future?**

I'm really enjoying my first years of retirement. I am still writing books and am active in a variety of ways. I'm involved in our church, take long walks each morning, attend theatre and lectures, play golf, read and travel. I look forward to having grandchildren some day. Life is good at the moment.



## Mike Guinness

(Class of 1968)

*Student Council President  
and Sifton Trophy winner*

### What is your fondest memory of NT?

In early May 1966, I was in grade 11, with absolutely nothing on my mind except a very special girl. Some grade 12 students approached me saying they wanted me to run for student council president. Knowing they already had several great candidates in their own class, I declined. Next day, they returned telling me “Mr. Page says you have to run.” Not wanting to disappoint Toronto’s most productive principal, I said “sure.” On May 13, 1966, to this date the luckiest Friday the 13th I’ve ever had, I was elected as student council president – and that very special girl was right there with me at the spring prom that night.

### And your funniest experience?

Sid Reynolds’ grade 10 health class – boys only. Sid had to cover venereal disease. Clearly in maximum avoidance mode, he fumbled through the anatomy in about 10 minutes and then blitzed through the various diseases. Truly exasperated, he finally shouted in his gymnasium-clearing voice: “Well, I never heard of anyone gettin’ VD from a football! So play your sports, darn ya’, and you won’t get into trouble!”

### What’s the one accomplishment in high school you’re most proud of?

Pride or good luck or good fortune may explain how I felt when Nancy Stiles and I were chosen to represent NT at the first-ever raising of the Canadian maple leaf flag at the Old City Hall in February 1965.

### What have you been up to since you graduated from NT?

I started at U of T in Arts and Science but graduated from Phys. Ed. doing about four to five hours a day in swimming, training, and competitions. Barry Bowerman (class of 1967) and I were co-captains of the Varsity Blues swim team, and we represented Canada at the world student games in Italy in 1970. I then represented Toronto on a Rotary International Scholarship to Indiana University, picking up a Masters degree and working with “Doc” Councilman, the world’s leading swim coach.

It was then back to U of T for medical school, followed by a family medicine residency in Toronto and then an emergency medicine residency in Ohio. I’ve held a number of medical positions in Toronto and the U.S. since then.

My wife and I have four kids, ages 22, 20, 15, 14. They are “all-American” but consider Canada one of the greatest countries on the planet. Toronto is their second home.

### What are your plans for the future?

I just plan to “hang-on”. Emergency medicine has its up’s and down’s and is a most challenging activity at any moment. At age 56, I’m considered old for this, but I’m calling on my lifelong fitness strategies to keep forging ahead. And I’m maintaining as many connections to Toronto as possible.



## Frank Hutcheson

(Class of 1970)

*Sifton Trophy winner*

### What is your fondest memory of NT?

Of all the great experiences at NT, there are several special memories: 1) the relationship with Bill Watters which ranged from a week of 8:00 A.M. detentions for calling him “Bill” at a staff-student volleyball game to being hired by him to work at Bobby Orr’s Hockey Camp in the summers of 1968, 1969 and 1970; 2) being named captain of the NT hockey team in grade 13 when we had a terrible team with Bruce “Mocat” Morrison in goal and “Punch” Brown as our coach; 3) organizing a United Way Blood Donor Clinic and being challenged by Bob Awrey to give blood for the first time when I was 16 years old. Lastly, I can’t forget the fond memories of a cute cellist named Dorothy MacNeill.

### And your funniest experience?

Sid Reynolds was our Health Class teacher and he was about 88 years old in those days. One day he came into the class (of guys) and explained to us the concept of the male sex “drive.” He was trying to be serious as he spoke (while chewing on his cigar, as usual), but finally there was so much hooting and hollering from the likes of Jim Bolton, Paul Goldie, Rick Konopka, Pat McGoey and Don Jewell that he simply started laughing about the whole thing and proceeded to tell us stories about playing football with the Argos.

### What’s the one accomplishment in high school you’re most proud of?

Winning the Sifton Trophy.

### What have you been up to since you graduated from NT?

I graduated from Western in 1974 after attending York University for one year and travelling in Europe for six months; I obtained my CA designation in 1977 with Clarkson, Gordon and Co. in Toronto. We moved to Barrie in 1978, and I became a partner in the CA firm of BDO Dunwoody in 1981. My wife Rhonda and I live on 50 acres between Barrie and Orillia and have a son, Ian (18), and a daughter, D’Arcy (16). Horses

are the girls' passion and we have four of them that D'Arcy competes on. Their accomplishments took them to Northern Ireland last summer on a Pony Club Exchange. Ian is an avid competitive swimmer, skier and sailor. I continued playing recreational hockey until my knees gave out a couple of years ago. I was a member of the Rotary Club in Barrie and a singing group that performs in the Barrie area.

### What are your plans for the future?

I hope to retire at age 60. I want to spend some time in the British Isles, learn to play the bagpipes, improve my piano playing, and get our sailboat back in the water.



## Margot Jewell

(Class of 1972)

*Valedictorian and  
Kerr Trophy winner*

### What is your fondest memory of NT?

The 7:30 A.M. string rehearsals with Mr. Ford. I learned so much from David about the value of hard work, the joy of music, and responsibility to a group. He gave me leadership opportunities, solo opportunities, and opportunities where I could mentor others. His humour on the early mornings was always welcome, even if the jokes were often repeated: "Mark your music... Circle it in blood!" He passed on his passion for music to me and to so many of his students; including my sister Bonnie, who is now a professional violist in Vienna.

### And your funniest experience?

Performing Haydn's toy symphony for a NTCI Christmas concert with teachers playing the solo toys parts! The poor teachers (and the principal, I believe) were doing their best to try to read the music and play at the proper time the silly toy instruments that didn't always respond on cue. Inevitably someone always got lost, much to the merriment of the students in the orchestra. The staff at NTCI were all such good sports, as well as inspiring teachers!

### What's the one accomplishment in high school you're most proud of?

The fact that I was awarded the Kerr trophy and was chosen as Valedictorian is still rather unbelievable to me. There were so many extraordinary student leaders at NTCI! To this day, I continually meet NTCI alumnae through my work in music, people who are making major contributions to the cultural life of this city and the world.

### What have you been up to since you graduated from NT?

After graduating with a music degree, I began my career as a performer with the Hamilton Philharmonic and as a teacher of the Suzuki method. In 1985, I spent 3 months studying with Shinichi Suzuki in Japan, a life-changing experience! I have since also learned to play Baroque violin and today enjoy being a free lance performer in Toronto on both original and modern instruments. I founded and am director of the Etobicoke Suzuki School where I have a large studio of students. I enjoy working with other students across Canada as I adjudicate music festivals, examine for the Royal Conservatory of Music, and teach at Suzuki workshops and institutes.

### What are your plans for the future?

With our youngest child off to university this fall, we will be entering a new phase of our lives. I will truly miss having my own children at home, but my life will continue to be filled with the humour, joy, eagerness and honesty of my violin students (age 3-18). I am looking forward to more time with my husband of 30 years, Ron, and my father Robert (NTCI grad 1940). I am experiencing growth in several areas, including a deepening spirituality through our wonderful church community, and a re-sorting of priorities.

**LIVING OUTSIDE NORTH AMERICA?  
KNOW A GRAD WHO IS?  
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.**

We know you're out there – the many NTCI grads living outside of Canada and the United States. So tell us your story!

We're looking for a short paragraph or two about how you went from the familiar streets around Yonge and Eglinton to an adventurous life abroad.

If you're currently living overseas, or know an NTCI grad or former teacher who is, let us know. Please email us at [ntcifoundation@ntci.on.ca](mailto:ntcifoundation@ntci.on.ca), or write us at NTCI Foundation, 70 Roehampton Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M4P 1R2.

# Alumni take the stage for 60th Maytime Melodies



The annual Maytime Melodies concerts have always been a connecting ground for NTCI alumni, but this year's 60th anniversary edition of the show had a special alumni twist all its own.

While both concerts (Thursday, May 11th and Friday, May 12th) consisted primarily of student performances, the Friday night show featured numbers by a 40-voice alumni choir and a 20-member alumni string ensemble, with 15 additional alumni joining NT's Symphonic Band on stage.

In addition, a fully-catered dinner was held in the school cafeteria prior to both concerts, with Thursday's dinner for parents and guests, and Friday's dinner for alumni and former and current staff.

To ensure the event truly was a celebration of both the present and the past, archival photos and other memorabilia were on display to commemorate the past 60 years of music at NTCI, including a CD of excerpts from Maytime Melodies recordings that date back as early as 1953.

To top off the trip down memory lane, composer and Canadian musical legend Howard Cable, who arranged many of the NTCI medleys over the past decades, was commissioned to arrange a special 60th anniversary medley featuring tunes from the past 60 years. This was performed by the Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, with Howard in attendance at both concerts.

## Your skills and interests – just what we're looking for!

The NTCI Foundation has an Advisory Board of 25 members that meets at the school about six times each year. In addition to providing general guidance at Board meetings, our members bring a variety of skills in helping with many different Foundation-related activities. In the coming year, we need to replenish our Board with about five new members. We'd like to hear from you if you can:

- Be creative in helping us plan for **NTCI's 100th Anniversary**
- Write copy for the annual **newsletter**
- Help maintain our **website**, to make it a compelling and up-to-date source of information
- Lend a hand with the **school archives**
- Keep the **books** (including filing our annual charitable tax return)
- Think outside the box in considering what else we might do to serve the school and our alumni.

Interested in helping out? Please let us know:

- Email [ntcifoundation@ntci.on.ca](mailto:ntcifoundation@ntci.on.ca) (and put Board Membership in the subject line); or
- Phone our Board recruitment coordinator, Nancy Sutherland, at 416-481-8603.

## Scholarship winners

In addition to funding worthwhile projects that cannot be funded from normal school resources, the NTCI Foundation also funds several scholarships that are awarded at commencement to reward academic and extra-curricular achievement.

Here are the award winners from last Fall's commencement ceremony:

- The Senator Keith Davey Award: Maddy McNab
- The Hal Brown "Triple A" Award: Jinty Smith
- The Kerr Trophy for Young Women: Molly Churchill
- The Betty Bealey Laureateship in English: Sonja Pavic
- The Sifton Trophy for Young Men: Nigel Parker
- The R.R.H. (Bud) Page Valedictory Prize: Paula Nathwani

## Moving? Changing your email? Let us know!

If you have moved or changed your email address, please keep us up-to-date by emailing us at [ntcifoundation@ntci.on.ca](mailto:ntcifoundation@ntci.on.ca), or writing us at **NTCI Foundation, 70 Roehampton Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M4P 1R2.**

## Advisory Board Members 2005-2006

Nancy Baines (Retired Staff)  
Desmond Brett ('77)  
Bill Clark ('52)  
Lorraine Clarkson ('71)  
Nelson Eng ('92)  
Mike Filey ('61)  
John Fowler ('51)  
Andy Georgiades ('92)  
Debbie Gray ('88)  
Bill Hammond (Retired Staff)  
Neal Irwin ('50)  
Beth Montgomery ('79)  
Andrew Ogilvie ('90)  
Paul Raff ('86)  
Janet Russell ('81)  
Nancy (Caldecott) Sutherland ('61)  
Ashley Waltman (Current Principal)  
Carole Whelan (Current Staff)  
Mary Kay (Hartman) Winter ('61)  
Pippa Wysong ('79)  
Vicky Zeltins ('85)