



ND Fundraising Update

Trivia Night is now March 9, 2012

Notre Dame Fundraising Task Force Announcement

It is my pleasure to have been requested by our Alumni Association to update you on the activities of the newly formed Notre Dame Fundraising Task Force. While I am certain many of you are aware of the successful completion of Phase I of our new school, I am happy to report to you the next stage of activity as it relates to the completion of Phases II and III.

Before I do that I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and appreciation to all those who have worked tirelessly to achieve the completion of our new main school wing, more affectionately known as Phase I. A project of this scope and magnitude is not possible without the sacrifice and commitment of many volunteers. Special thanks must be given to our feeder parishes, the Archdiocese, the Building Committee, fundraising volunteers, and finally you, our esteemed Notre Dame Alumni who have supported and continue to support this great building project. The shared vision and passion shown by the aforementioned groups, are the reasons we stand in front the new Notre Dame today! If you have not already done so I encourage you to tour our new building, I know you will be impressed by the state-of-the-art facility now in its second full year of operation. In another article in this newsletter, despite the fact our staff and students are operating in our new but limited facility, Mr. Charlton describes the full range of academic activities

currently enjoyed by the students.

For those of you who don't know, the cost to complete Phase I was \$22 million. These funds were generously donated by our ten feeder parishes, \$1.1 million per parish totaling \$11 million, and \$11 million matching funds given by the Archdiocese of Vancouver. While this is a large sum of money, I have heard from reliable sources that the Phase I wing represents very good value given the size and quality of our new building. But, of course, our task is incomplete. Phase II which will include kitchen facilities, student cafeteria, textile, home economics, music and band classrooms, staff room, and chapel, and Phase III our playing field and parking lot have yet to be completed. Latest cost estimate to finish both phases is approximately \$7million.

To meet this next financial challenge the Notre Dame Fundraising Task Force was recently formed with the following mandate: "To develop strategies and oversee fundraising activities with the overall goal of raising sufficient funds to complete Phases II and III in accordance with the original 2007 plans". Task Force members include Father Lawrence Donnelly, Archbishop's Representative; Mr. Roger Deslauriers, Notre Dame Principal; Mr. George Oswald, Notre Dame Vice-Principal; Mr. Al Blesch, former Notre Dame Principal and former Superintendent of Catholic Independent Schools; Mr. Pat Waslen, Notre Dame Alumni Association and Foundation; Mrs. Lisa Bruschetta, Chair, Notre Dame Regional

Education Committee; Mr. David Ferrari, Treasurer, Notre Dame Regional Education Committee; Mr. Piero Ferronato, Notre Dame Alumni Foundation; and Dr. Richard Busse, Chair, Notre Dame Fundraising Task Force. This dedicated group represents a mixture of original building committee members, others with vast experience in school construction projects, and new faces that can bring fresh perspectives to the table.

I am pleased to report, with recent CISVA Board approval, our Task Force has been granted permission to hire a professional fundraising firm to facilitate our fundraising efforts. At the time of

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Notre Dame Alumni Annual Trivia Night

Note the date change!

Friday March 9, 2012

Our Lady of Sorrows Hall

555 S. Slocan St., Vancouver

Dinner at 6:30 pm

Games start at 7:30

Price \$25.00 (including pasta dinner and salad!). No host bar.

for tickets e-mail either:

Lana Tesan:

ltesan@gmail.com or

Alan Charlton:

acharlton@ndrs.org

ND Alumni Association Representatives Chairperson: Laurie Marconato '82; Vice Chairperson: Anna Bosi '83; Registrar: Diane Boroevich '65; Treasurer: Bruna Pizzolato '65; Newsletter Editor: Stephanie Blesch '59; Publisher: Michael Blackstock '84; Alumni Foundation/Building Committee Liaison: Eva Zannotto '76; Social/Trivia Night: Lana Tesan '72; School Liaison: Alan Charlton.

Task Force Continued...

writing, we have completed initial face-to-face interviews with two very reputable fundraising firms. We are awaiting formal written requests for proposals including detailed cost estimates from both parties, so that by mid January we will be in a position to make a final decision on which firm we will be working with. Rest assured both firms made excellent presentations and both have led successful fundraising campaigns for other independent schools and non-profit organizations. Once our decision has been made we look forward to developing an effective fundraising strategy with implementation as soon as possible. The Task Force is sensitive to the urgency of getting on with the completion of the building project and so will be taking steps to expedite the fundraising process.

An important part of our mandate is to communicate our progress throughout our fundraising campaign. Through articles such as this and through ongoing open dialogue with our stakeholders, we are committed to keeping the lines of communication open to avoid the spread of misinformation we have seen in the past. I am most grateful for the opportunity given us by the Alumni Association to officially communicate our first message. I can't think of a more appropriate group to be making our first report to than you the graduates of Notre Dame. While the work of the Task Force has only just begun, all of us around the table sense a tangible

air of confidence and excitement that we will reach our financial objective. Buoyed by the quality educational experience offered our children at Notre Dame, and with your ongoing support, we are confident that we will succeed in completing our new school.

Once again, thank you for this opportunity and I look forward to updating our progress with you as it develops.

*Dr. Richard Busse (1978)
Chair, ND Fundraising Task Force*

We Carry On - Regardless!

One of the questions I am often asked when I meet alumni is, "How is the school managing with only two thirds of the facilities complete?" My answer is, "Surprisingly well!"

Of course, anyone who can remember the old school building with all its shortcomings will recognize that this is nothing unusual at Notre Dame. The school has always recognized the need to improvise in order to meet the full range of educational needs of the students, and it still remains the goal of the staff, the Education Committee, the parents and anyone else involved in the school.

While there are times when activities such as the school Masses and the Advent and Lent Penitential Services occupy the gym, resulting in gym classes being seriously impacted, for the most part, life at Notre Dame does continue to be as activity packed as ever. The fact that we have



ND Idol 2012

no auditorium means that we must, of necessity, hold some activities off-site; for example, the Christmas Concert at the Italian Cultural Centre and the Band Concert at Our Lady of Sorrows. There being no Staffroom, staff meetings are held either in the library or the Art Room, the only two rooms large enough to accommodate the staff of 50.

Though there is no kitchen on site, one item of lunch is available every day for the students in the gym. When Notre Dame recently hosted the BC Volleyball Championships, the dedicated staff set up a barbecue in a tent at the rear of the school – and the wide selection of food offered to the coaches received nothing but rave reviews.

I am constantly amazed at how flexible, accommodating and co-operative staff and students are as they pursue a myriad of activities – as many and more than most schools several times larger. It's all part of the Notre Dame tradition which continues to flourish.

Of course, the situation is far from ideal and the staff and students eagerly look forward to the day when the school will be completed as originally planned. To this end, we ask everyone to support the newly formed Notre Dame Task Force as they set about doing just that.

Meanwhile life at Notre Dame continues to be as vibrant and varied as ever.

Alan Charlton



Activity Day September 2011

ALL 1950'S ALUMNI

(or a student in the 50s)

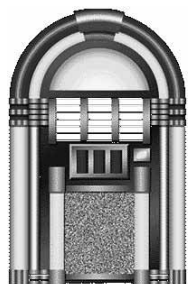
You are invited to re-live your past while helping our Alma Mater complete construction of Phase II & III of the new school

As one noted Alumnus said:

"Who would believe it?"

"No Chapel in a Catholic School"

What can we do? Let's help build it!



Join us for an informal night of
"ROCK & ROLL"

Saturday, April 21st

7:00 pm @

Notre Dame Gym

Donation

\$100 per couple



It's a **REUNION** so we **need you** to be there!

(Smaller and larger donations gratefully accepted)

And so that the school gets all the money, we are asking you to please bring your own snacks/appetizers

There will be a "no host" bar

Door prize – 50/50 draw

Cheques payable to: The Notre Dame Alumni Foundation
(tax receipts will be issued)

RSVP to your class rep(s): March 31

Notre Dame Student Services Department

Many alumni may not be aware, that among the many educational services provided by Notre Dame School, a large and important area is the Student Services department.

Notre Dame practises an inclusive model, promoting equitable access to learning. It is the goal of Student Services to support the diverse learning needs of ALL students in the Notre Dame community in accordance with British Columbia's model of education, to ensure that individual needs are met.

The Notre Dame Student Services Department is a team of three teachers, four Special Education Assistants and the Student Services Department Head. A vote of appreciation is due to Ms. Peggy Furama-Macintosh, currently on a year's leave of absence, who has been instrumental in securing a considerable Government subsidy to help implement the wide-ranging program. As a result, the Students Services department has been well able to fulfill its mandate.

Student Services collaborates with parents, teachers and the student to create an Individual Education Plan (IEP) to meet the needs of the students, enabling them to achieve the learning outcomes of which they are capable.

UBC Grad Volunteering at ND

Ryan Hill graduated from UBC's Master of Physical Therapy program in 2010. He holds a Bachelor of Human Kinetics specializing in Kinesiology and Health Science. He is certified as an Exercise Physiologist from the Canadian Society of Exercise Physiology and holds a Red Cross First Responder certificate. Ryan is also affiliated with Sport Physiotherapy Canada as a Candidate status and is certified as a "Functional Movement Screen" practitioner.

Ryan is currently working at Allan McGavin Sports Medicine Clinic at the Plaza of Nations, Downtown. He is very enthusiastic about helping local sports teams and has already started volunteering at Notre Dame Secondary. His time with the AAA Varsity Jugglers football team has been an invaluable experience to him and he looks forward to helping out with other sport teams in the future.

ND Gala 2011 a Success

The Notre Dame Alumni Foundation thanks all who supported the event \$40,000 was raised for the school. Congratulations to Kathy Andrews who won a trip to Vegas and Joe Cuzzetto for winning an iPad. After a night of dining, dancing and great conversations, the 385 attendees walked out hugging the 150 auction items that had been generously donated by company sponsors and the school community. On November 16, 2012 we will host our 10th Anniversary Annual Gala in support of Notre Dame. Mark it on your calendars now!



Happy 50th Birthday to the Grad class of '79 who celebrated at this year's gala!

Ex-ND English Teacher Turns 100

Sister Kathleen Dalton taught at Notre Dame in the late 50s. Sr. Phyllis Giroux sent us this information about Sr. Kathleen, taken from a Mass Homily said at her birthday on December 20th. She made it to 100! -- Ed.

Sister Kathleen was born in Vancouver, British Columbia on December 20, 1911. Sr. Kathleen has stated many times "100 years is of little significance. After all Methuselah lived for 900 years!"

Kathleen came into contact with the Sisters of Charity in the 1920s and as her high school years came under their influence, it would be just a matter of time before she began to contemplate a vocation to religious life. After graduating she worked for a few years before answering God's persistent invitation to follow Him more closely as a disciple of SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON.

It was on January 20, 1933, after bidding farewell to her mother Brigid, her brothers George and Jack, that she boarded a train in Vancouver and started on her long journey of faith with a rather auspicious beginning: for not too long into her trip, as her train approached the breathtaking beauty of the Rockies, a storm broke out in all its fury forcing all passengers to disembark in 44° below zero weather. After spending the night in the seedy Fort Garry Hotel, she again boarded the ill fated train and after several more stops and delays, she finally reached her ultimate destination-6 ½ days and 5 nights later-4,000 miles to the other side of the country, arriving around Midnight on a frigid night at MT. ST. VINCENT MOTHERHOUSE, HALIFAX NOVA SCOTIA. What must have been going through her mind after such a difficult trip? I suspect there had to be a myriad of emotions: perhaps excitement, perhaps a little fear of the unknown, joy in that she was about to begin another chapter in her life, gratitude in that she was chosen by God, sadness of leaving family. No doubt, all of you shared many of the same

emotions when you set out amidst the tears of your loved ones. Well, whatever Kathleen's feelings might have been at the time, here we are today, 75 years later in this chapel of The Immaculate Conception, celebrating her 100th birthday and offering to God praise and thanksgiving for a life well lived in the service of God.

Seventy five years of Religious Life! I know SISTER KATHLEEN well enough to say with certainty that she is immensely grateful to God and to all her community for affording her the opportunity to share her many gifts and talents with people from near and far. We are all familiar with the good work and ministry that Kathleen did and



No, Laurie Marconato (1982) is not 100 years old ... yet! Our ND Alumni Association Chairperson at left is pictured with family and friends at the Gala in November.

continues to do to this day. Although her achievements are many, Sister asked me to say only that she gives thanks to God for all the blessings he has bestowed upon her.

Sister Kathleen, we thank you for clothing your humanity with divinity and for showing us a little bit of the glory of God through your service.

Happy Birthday!

Notre Dame Alumni Association Financial Report

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|---|------------------------------|-------------------|
| BALANCE FORWARD as of September 30, 2010 | | \$3088.15 |
| REVENUE | | |
| | Registrations | \$3,290.00 |
| | 15th Annual Trivia Night | \$2,314.00 |
| | ND Foundation Shared Postage | \$1,494.00 |
| | Donation | \$200.00 |
| | | \$7,298.00 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| | Newsletters:Printing/Postage | \$5,260.42 |
| | Bank Service Charges | \$68.80 |
| | Cenacle /Prayer Card | \$18.00 |
| | Mass Card/Plant | \$65.40 |
| | Website domain | \$125.46 |
| | | \$5,538.08 |
| BALANCE as of August 31, 2011 | | \$4,848.07 |