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The Newsletter of the Alumni Association of the Niagara Parks Commission School of Horticulture

# ORTICULTURAL ERALD

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## Coming Events

### Alumni Association of the NPC School of Horticulture

#### Educational Conference

September 15-17, 2017



## Niagara Parks, the Alumni and the School — Strengthening Our Relationships

By Anne Van Nest '83

On February 11th, the Alumni Association held their Annual General Meeting. At this gathering they invited three representatives from Niagara Parks Senior Management to share their visions of the future of the School of Horticulture and to discuss solutions to three key issues: recognition of the School, recruitment and marketing for the School, and rejuvenation of the Alumni.

David Adames, Niagara Parks Chief Operating Officer was an invited keynote speaker. David started at Niagara Parks four years ago as Senior Director of Business Development. Last year he stepped in as Acting General Manager when John Lohuis, General Manager left at the end of the summer. David has recently taken on the new position of Chief Operating Officer. David in his keynote speech assured the Alumni that in his new role he would give positive support to the School and said he will look for solutions to the challenges that the School is presently facing. David also gave an assurance to the Alumni that there was commitment from Senior Management to strengthen the School and that they recognize the long 80-year history of the institution. He looked around at the audience and noted that he could see the engagement of the people present and the power of an enthused Alumni.

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Celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the Alumni Association in 2017

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President: Art Coles '71  
Past President: Zenia Buzanko '03  
Vice President: Kyle Berwick '14  
Secretary: Kristen Sandvall '14  
Treasurer: Karen Michaud '84

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Conference: Kyle Berwick '14 &  
Art Coles '71  
Digital Media: Andrew Guay '16  
Historian: Zenia Buzanko '03  
Horticultural Herald: Anne Van Nest '83 &  
Zenia Buzanko '03  
Publicity/Promotions: Andrea Weddum '13  
Special Events: Kyle Berwick '14 &  
Taylor Parks '17  
Membership: Art Coles '71 &  
Karen Michaud '84  
East Coast Membership: Stan Kochanoff '62  
Associates: Jeff Winkelmolten '14  
School Liaison: Ryan Van Balkom '18 &  
Kathleen Minkowski '19

## Executive Secretary

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## Foundation Board

President: Jay Todd '84  
Treasurer: Randy Lidkea '67  
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SOH Asst. Superintendent: Jason Leavens  
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Commission School of Horticulture  
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### Next Deadline: May 15, 2017

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of the writers and do not necessarily reflect  
the opinion of its Officers or Board members.  
Letters on any horticultural or Alumni issues are  
welcome. Submissions may be edited for length.

## Alumni Association Mission Statement

*The Alumni Association is a diverse team of graduates and friends who celebrate their affiliation with the Niagara Parks Commission School of Horticulture through a variety of programs and services designed to support its members, the School and the highest professional standards of horticulture.*

## From the President

By Art Coles '71



Dear Alumni,

I must admit that at the beginning of 2016 I never expected to be, or wanted to be, President of our Alumni Association this year. I had previously been President in 1981 and enjoyed that year very much but much has changed since then. I have been out of the horticultural industry since 1989 – but have missed both the industry and the camaraderie that I had previously enjoyed. However, last winter when I wanted to attend our annual Alumni meeting I found that it was only an afternoon session and then the AGM for

about 2 hours plus some student-generated activities. I could not see traveling for 5 hours for a 2-hour meeting. Afterward, I heard that there were only about 13 people at the meeting. It was then that I realized that I should get involved to see if there was any way that I could help to bolster the Alumni Association membership – which was also seriously lagging. So I offered myself to the Board if they saw any way that I could help. I subsequently took on the position of Membership Coordinator.

For the past year I have been focusing on membership. Out of this came discussions with Al Higgs '67 – as we both shared the same concerns. We began to reach out to other concerned Alumni and formed a group of Past Presidents/ concerned Alumni which has been meeting every second month or so since May of 2016. We initially met to brainstorm about ways in which we could rejuvenate the Alumni. We developed some ideas but soon realized that there may also be an issue with a shrinking number of applicants to the School of Horticulture. Our concern was, and is, that if anything happened to the School our Alumni was also at risk. We met on October 26, 2016 and reviewed a report that I had prepared which I subsequently took to the Alumni Executive on November 16, 2016. At this meeting the Alumni Executive decided to invite the Chief Operating Officer of the Niagara Parks Commission, David Adames, to our Annual General Meeting on February 11, 2017. We decided to make this a day-long event with David Adames making a presentation on the Commissions vision of the Botanical Gardens and the School of Horticulture at a 10:00 am general session. In order to prepare for this, our special committee of Past Presidents/ concerned Alumni invited a few additional members: Rick Hook '64, Liz Klose and Debbie Whitehouse to join the group. It was from this expanded group that our discussion paper, "A Time to Act" was generated. The discussion paper went through a series of developmental improvements as it was circulated to additional Alumni who, it was thought, could have a positive contribution to this process. The final paper was circulated to all Alumni members for whom we had an email address.

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# Niagara Parks, the Alumni & School

[continued from the front cover]

David Adames then went on to share an overview of the 2016 season at Niagara Parks as well as discuss several organizational changes within the management of the Parks Department and outlined many of the upcoming plans for 2017. The following is a summary of his presentation.

The Niagara Parks Commission, an Agency of the Provincial Government, was established in 1885. Today, Niagara Parks is responsible for 53 km of Recreational Trails, 56 km of roads and 1,325 hectares of land along the Niagara River corridor.

Niagara Parks had revenue of \$97 million for the 2015/2016 year. It employs approximately 1,700 staff and has a \$46 million payroll budget. Niagara Parks last year contributed over \$5 million in provincial and federal taxes, paid \$1 million toward the operation of the WEGO transportation system, and provided annual voluntary payments to the City of Niagara Falls and the Towns of Niagara-on-the-Lake and Fort Erie. David revealed that Niagara Parks was finally back in the black fiscally after many years in a deficit situation. He predicts that 2017 will also grow their revenue base. Niagara Parks has found that their travel trade markets are now almost equally divided among domestic tours (\$1.4 million) and international tours (\$1.3 million).

During the 2016 season (April-October) growth rose across all Niagara Parks sectors:

Revenue	up 10.8%
Expenses	up 7.4%
Attractions	up 3.1%
Heritage sites	up 7.9%
Golf rounds	up 4.5%
WEGO ridership	up 16.3%

David Adames, Feb. 11, 2017

## Highlights of 2016

WildPlay Niagara Falls, in partnership with Niagara Parks, opened the MistRider to the Falls Zipline which sends people from the top of the Hornblower elevator tower to the

Ontario Power Generating station building at the base of the Falls. 50,000 people traveled the zipline from opening day in July to the end of the season last year.

Construction began on the Whirlpool Aerial Adventure Course at Thompson Point and is planned to open in April, 2017. There will be three courses designed to test skills of climbing and team building for kids and adults.



Above: David Adames, Niagara Parks COO addressing the audience at the Alumni Association AGM gathering on February 11th at the School of Horticulture. Photo by Anne Van Nest '83.

Celebrations were held in August for the 100th Anniversary of the Whirlpool Aero Car.

A \$4 million renovation, undertaken by the Niagara Falls Illumination Board, installed energy efficient LED lights that shine on the American and Horseshoe Falls. This was the first major upgrade of the lights in 20 years. NPC is one of six stakeholders that make up the Illumination Board. The LED lights are 48% more energy efficient, offer all colour availability, and are brighter than the previous lights.

The Landscape of Nations War of 1812 Memorial was unveiled at Queenston Heights Parks.

In preparation for the 80th anniversary celebrations in 2017, \$1.2 million in restorative work began at Oakes Garden Theatre and Rainbow Gardens. After 15 months, the Pergola wall removed in 2012 has been completely rebuilt. Work is ongoing to restore the Parkway wall and increase accessibility on the paths.

Niagara Parks began a community and stakeholder consultation process toward the future rehabilitation of three former hydroelectric generating facilities (Toronto Power Generating Station, Ontario Power Generating Station, and Canadian

# Niagara Parks, the Alumni & School

National Power Generating Station) that were transferred to NPC from Ontario Power Generation in the late 2000s.

## The 2017 Year Ahead

A new Niagara Parks website redevelopment is underway and will be relaunched in April, 2017 as part of a branding redevelopment. In 2016 online sales of packaged attraction tickets was proven to be successful. Mobile online traffic from devices and tablets has also increased significantly.

For 2017, Niagara Parks has plans to update their Strategic Plan, produce a QVP Master Plan (to cover the area along the Niagara River from the Rainbow Bridge to the Rapidsview Parking Lot), produce a Project Charter/ Procurement Strategy for the three decommissioned power plants, research and procure new attraction ticketing software, and launch a new brand initiative.

Also, a celebration of Ontario 150 “Rooted” events will be expanded and include: Rooted in Legacy with 10 pollinator gardens being built along the Niagara River Recreation Trail, Rooted in Nature to include a new exhibition of Ontario’s Native Species at the Butterfly Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Rooted in Gardens to continue the annual Signature Garden Event Series at the School of Horticulture, Rooted in Life to focus on the Life on Display outdoor art installation at the Floral Showhouse, and Rooted in Art is underway with an amateur and professional art competition to design carpet beds at QVP, Queenston Heights Park, the Floral Clock and a new installation for the entrance to the Botanical Gardens.



Above (right to left): Charles Hunter '95, Acting Director of Horticulture thanks David Adames, Niagara Parks COO for his presentation at the Alumni Association AGM gathering on February 11th at the School of Horticulture.

Niagara Parks will represent Ontario at MosaiCanada 2017 in Gatineau, Quebec with a mosaiculture garden display called Niagara Gateway that showcases Niagara’s own unique placement and importance within our great country.

Niagara Parks has partnered with the Royal Botanical Gardens to host a dinner at Oakes Garden Theatre in June for the delegates attending the American Public Gardens Association (APGA) conference.

Organizational changes for 2017 in the Parks Department include: the formation of a second Forestry crew to perform tree preventative maintenance, restructuring to re-introduce a Supervisor management layer that was removed 10 years ago; the creation of a temporary Director of Horticulture position to oversee all design and horticulture support for shows and events; a North Park Supervisor position to assist with Botanical Gardens grounds management.

## Niagara Parks and the Alumni Association

With a focus on engagement of the Alumni, a professional advisory committee and working groups will be established to create terms of reference between the two parties. Also a monthly speaker series will be developed, involving key experts in horticultural management, to provide professional development sessions that have an emphasis on career advancement. And an outreach survey will be conducted to identify the needs of the industry.

David Adames outlined several areas that Niagara Parks plans to increase engagement with the Alumni.

1. Establish Working Groups
2. Develop a speaker series and Alumni afternoons
3. Develop an industry outreach survey
4. Set up professional advisory committees (PACs)

## The Parks Department

Steve Barnhart, Senior Director, Parks, Planning & Properties was next up to the podium and stressed the important role that horticulture plays in creating excellence in public spaces. He recognized that this is important at the School also. On the theme of excellence, he said that the Niagara Parks Senior Management Team was very supportive of the need to restructure for future development in the Parks Department. They are looking at how to take the level of horticulture in the Parks today and raise it to make Niagara Parks one of the top 10 parks in the world.

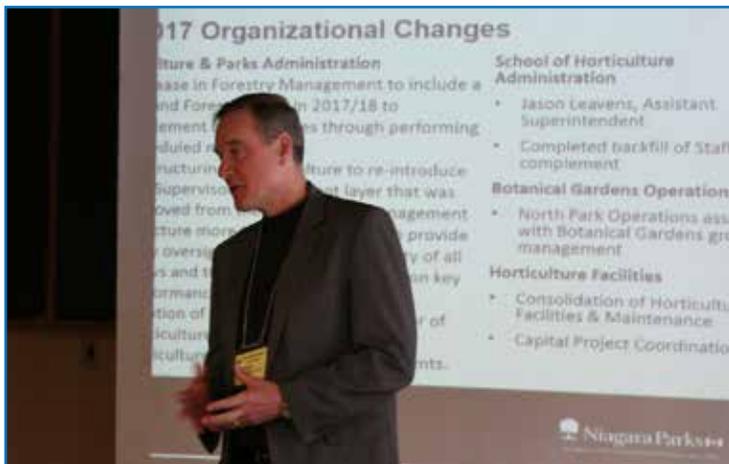
# Niagara Parks, the Alumni & School

## Top 10 Parks in the World

According to Trip Advisor the Travelers' Choice awards the top parks in 2014 around the globe were:

1. Stanley Park, Vancouver
2. Garden of the Gods, Colorado Springs, Colorado
3. Central Park, New York
4. Millennium Park, Chicago
5. The High Line, New York
6. Kings Park and Botanical Garden, Perth, Australia
7. Park Güell, Barcelona
8. Parkque Ibirapuera, São Paulo, Brazil
9. Parque del Buen Ritro, Madrid
10. Jardin du Luxembourg, Paris

Niagara Parks is in a position to see unprecedented growth in horticulture, something that as of last year, the management level staffing is not quite ready for. So, one of the key initiatives for the Parks Department for 2017 is to shore up the day-to-day management staff and reinstate a layer of supervisory management that was present 10 years ago. This will allow the management level to be more strategic in their planning.



Above: Steve Barnhart, Senior Director, Parks, Planning & Properties outlining the numerous strategic organizational changes within the Parks Department that take effect in 2017. Photos by Anne Van Nest '83.

On the operational side, Scott Priest '86, Superintendent of Parks, will focus on day-to-day activities including a new emphasis on North Park development. At the Botanical Gardens, students are presently stretched to maintain the site at the high levels that everyone wants it to be. And the more that there are demands put on the students to maintain the site (ie: weeding, weeding, weeding), the less education is achieved. This is not a sustainable model. So, Scott Priest will have staff for day-to-day maintenance in specific areas of the Botanical Gardens and the School of Horticulture students will focus on key garden areas where their practical horticulture education is best served. Steve stressed that students will continue to have sole responsibility for certain parts of the Botanical Gardens.

Horticultural maintenance levels (high, medium and low) will be identified for all areas throughout the Parks, including at the Botanical Gardens.

The Forestry Department, up to this point, has been responding to crises like the emerald ash borer. They have been continually dealing with removals and not doing any preventative maintenance on healthy trees. In 2017, a second team will be put in place to focus on preventative maintenance including looking at the trees at the Botanical Gardens.

The pursuit of excellence means that it will be critical to have a champion — and that person is Charles Hunter '95, who will be overseeing all Niagara Parks horticultural displays and provide support for events and attractions. In addition Cheryl Tyndall will take the lead with horticultural capital projects and capital expansion within the Parks, Planning & Properties department. And a future Design Manager (to be hired) will oversee horticultural design park-wide and in the public areas of the Floral Showhouse.



Above: Around 60 Alumni, industry representatives, students and staff attended the AGM day at the School of Horticulture.

# The Alumni Discussion Paper

## The Alumni Discussion Paper

Richard Hook '64, Vice President – Emeritus, Humber College of Applied Arts and Technology took the lead on putting together a discussion paper based on comments from a group of Alumni Past Presidents and some green industry people.

Some key points that he observed:

- There is a need to build up the strength of the Alumni
- The Alumni is inevitably tied to the School
- There is a need for more School applicants
- There is a need for enhanced recognition of the School program

The discussion paper was divided into three segments: Rejuvenation of the Alumni, Recruitment and Marketing of the School, and Recognition of the School. Attendees of the AGM joined one of the sessions to brainstorm solutions. Richard Hook '64 recruited co-chairs and mapped out several avenues of discussion for each of the three sessions as outlined below.

### Rejuvenation of the Alumni (Al Higgs '67 & Art Coles '71)

- 1) Focus on the Alumni to encourage more engagement (promote 1-2 initiatives)
- 2) Rethink the kinds of activities that are best for the Alumni
- 3) Use social media more
- 4) Investigate regional chapters

### Recruitment and Marketing of the School (Tom Clancy '61)

- 1) Need a compelling description of the School (a cheat sheet for the theoretical 30-second elevator pitch). What is the compelling message that is so impressive that people will want to repeat it?
- 2) Who would volunteer for high school speaking engagements?
- 3) How to tap into professional networks?
- 4) How to effectively promote through social media?

### Recognition of the School (Jason Leavens, Steve Barnhart, and Richard Hook '64)

- 1) NPC and the School have to define the purpose of the School

- 2) How can the School prepare students for preferred jobs?
- 3) Consider the School's academic and professional recognition.

This was the beginning of the process not the end. The co-chairs were tasked to bring back recommendations to Art Coles '71 from each of the three groups.

The group results are summarized in the Alumni Association digital and print issues of the Horticultural Herald.

After several champagne toasts for a productive day and enthusiasm for moving forward, the group moved to the fireplace outside the Residence for the Student Association raffle draws and then on to the road hockey area behind Residence.

## An Industry Leader Reflects on Our Graduates and the School

*By Anne Van Nest '83*

Tony DiGiovanni, Executive Director of Landscape Ontario was a special guest speaker to kick off the day on February 11<sup>th</sup> in the Lecture Hall at the School of Horticulture. He started by reflecting back to his time as a third-year student at Humber College when Art Coles '71 started as an Instructor in 1977. Tony said that he has had many School of Horticulture graduates that have influenced his life and career. Not usually nervous in front of an audience, Tony commented on the memories he had today standing at the front addressing his first teacher (Art Coles '71) and his first boss, Richard Hook '64.

Tony said that he wanted to address the Alumni and Niagara Parks representatives on this day because he was a fan of the School of Horticulture and always wanted to be a graduate. He complimented the long-time graduates of the 1950s and 1960s that were still interested in the School. He said that the Alumni had something special that was a bit hard to describe but that you could feel its presence – a sense of being connected.

Tony offered that the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture is one of the leading horticulture schools in North America. A lot of leading horticulture starts right here on these grounds. He reflected that such a small group of people, graduating from the School have made such a powerful impact across North America. The vision that started here has spread. The spirit of care and leadership that was

# The Alumni Discussion Paper

launched here is reinforced through the Niagara Parks Alumni and has inspired generations. The School is a unique program and Tony said that we need to enhance what we have and keep it growing. Very few Alumni would gather together to produce a Discussion Paper such as what was to be presented on this day. Niagara Parks Alumni continue to inspire each other and others outside this group with their values, purpose, responsibility, ongoing care, achievement and leadership.

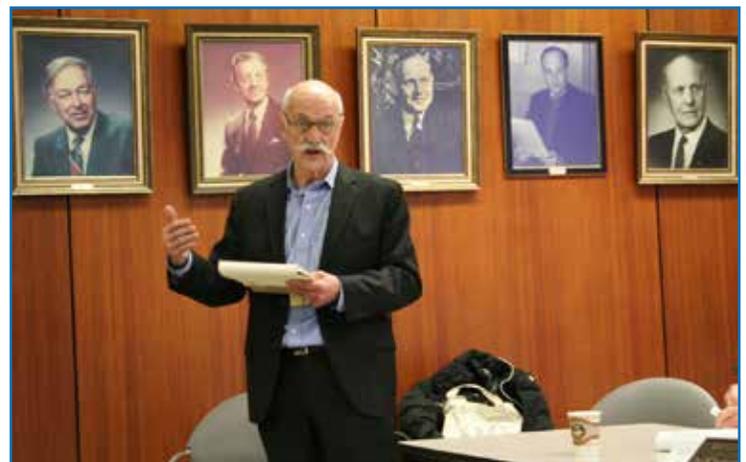
## Landscape Ontario

Landscape Ontario represents 2,600 companies and is now one of the largest horticultural trades associations in the world. There are 10 chapters across the province and they hold the 2nd largest trade show in North America. Their role has evolved over the years to now have a professional development focus.

Landscape Ontario founded Canada Blooms (with the Garden Club of Toronto) and it is now with the Home Show, is the largest indoor show in the world.

## The Landscaping Industry

With 140,000 people employed in horticulture across Canada, our humble sector is a “best kept” secret that has a \$14 billion economic value. Since 2009 the industry has grown 36% with forecasts of future growth. But, Tony said, there are barriers to growth. All of the trades in general need skilled workers – not just horticulture.



Above: The Discussion Paper co-chairs (top to bottom), Tom Clancy '61, Al Higgs '67 and Richard Hook '64 revealed some of the ideas that were discussed in the earlier workshops. Left: The class of 2017 during their study tour to Ireland visiting a monastery. Top to bottom: Stephen Boot, Peter Karas, Taylor Parks, Celia Le Maistre-Matthys, CJ Plummer, Jordan Morgan, Sam Farnham, Chris Green, Remi Woodruff, Jacob Hueglin, Jessie Bond and Carmen Grey. Photo by Jessie Bond.

# Celebrating 70 Years

[continued from page 2]

At the Alumni Executive Committee planning meeting in January, 2017, prior to our February 11th Annual General Meeting (AGM), Zenia Buzanko '03, the current Alumni Association President, announced that she would not be running for the position of President again and would therefore be stepping down. Because of all of the work that the special committee had done and the progress that we were making with the Niagara Parks Commission (as well as the Alumni), and after some encouragement from our committee – I decided that I would let my name stand for President. So at the AGM election, not being opposed for President, here I am again.

In preparation for the AGM on February 11th, Rick Hook '64 and I met with David Adames to discuss our (and his) concerns and to answer any questions he might have about our discussion paper. Our meeting went well and we felt David Adames showed a great deal of openness and interest in our concerns. On the morning of Feb 11<sup>th</sup> David Adames and his next-in-command, Steve Barnhart, Senior Director of Parks, Planning & Properties presented their vision for the Botanic Gardens and the School of Horticulture. Their presentation was well received and they, in fact, stayed and participated in the workshops that followed. We believe that to have such participation and involvement from the Commission is probably a first for our Alumni. We are encouraged and are currently working on follow-up sessions. A summary of the discussions from the workshops can be found in this issue of the newsletter.

My message to all of you is this: **We have a wonderful heritage and foundation from the School of Horticulture that has propelled most of us into very successful careers. I would like to encourage all of you to reflect on this and your own successes and achievements. It is now time to renew your commitment to your Alumni Association – regardless of where you live.**

We have also just begun a new relationship with Landscape Ontario which will enable us to conduct conference calls as part of our regular board meetings and we also have the ability to have remote involvement, via teleconferencing, at our annual conference at the school. We are hoping, with your involvement to build regional Alumni Association teams across the country this year. The first to get off the ground, we hope, will be the East Coast group headed and organized by Stan Kochanoff '62. He will be participating at our Board meetings via teleconferencing this year.

We have an exciting year ahead and with your involvement and help we can once again have a vibrant and strong organization. I would be happy to receive your comments, ideas and or constructive criticism. I invite as many of you that can to attend our Fall Conference which will be on Sept 16th at the School. The theme this year will be “Renewal and Celebration.” Stay tuned for more details.

All the best and thanks for your continued support and encouragement.

*Art Coles, NPD '71*

## Alumni Association Board 2017-18

### Officers

Honorary President: William Snowdon '58

President: Art Coles '71

Past President: Zenia Buzanko '03

Vice President: Kyle Berwick '14

Secretary: Kristen Sandvall '14

Treasurer: Karen Michaud '84

### Ex-Officio

Executive Secretary: Karen Michaud '84

### Committees

Blue Book: Karen Michaud '84

Conference: Kyle Berwick '14, Art Coles '71

Digital Media: Andrew Guay '16

Historian: Zenia Buzanko '03

Promotions: Andrea Weddum '13

Publicity: Kristen Sandvall '14, Zenia Buzanko '03,  
Karen Michaud '84, Art Coles '71, Andrew Guay '16

Special Events: Kyle Berwick '14, Taylor Parks '17

Membership: Art Coles '71, Karen Michaud '84

East Coast Membership: Stan Kochanoff '62

Fellowship Membership: Zenia Buzanko '03

Associate Membership: Jeff Winkelmolen '14

Horticultural Herald: Anne Van Nest '83,  
Zenia Buzanko '03

School Liaison: Ryan Van Balkom '18,

Kathleen Minkowski '19

# The Latest Horticultural Herald

**There's so much more inside the full digital edition of the Horticultural Herald!**

**Join now to receive all the 47 pages of news, views and events in the latest issue from the Alumni Association of the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture:**

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2. Comments from Alumni and Industry Leaders about the School of Horticulture
3. "Make a Life-long Impression on Actions Alone" *by Tony DiGiovanni*
4. Summary of the AGM Breakout Sessions - Rejuvenation of the Alumni *by Al Higgs '67*
5. Summary of the AGM Breakout Sessions - Recruitment and Marketing of the School *by Tom Clancy '61*
6. Summary of the AGM Breakout Sessions - Recognition of the School *by Richard Hook '64*
7. The New Alumni Logo *by Andrea Weddum '13*
8. Cheers to the Class of 1967 celebrating their 50th year since graduation
9. Alumni at the LO London Chapter Plant Symposium
10. Happy Retirement to Mike McClellan '77 from the City of Toronto Forestry Department
11. In Memory of Dave Handysides '78
12. A Tribute to Dick Goodwin '61 *by Tom Clancy '61*
13. In Memory of Ben Dalton '57
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15. Niagara Parks School of Horticulture at Landscape Ontario Congress
16. The City of Kitchener Parks Department carpet bed to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the naming of Kitchener, Ontario
17. The Class of 2017 Study Tour to Ireland by Jessie Bond, Instructor/Curator
18. Past Presidents Report to the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture Alumni *by Art Coles '71*
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20. Legacy Prairie Garden Donors

21. Upcoming Events

22. Job Postings

23. Associate Members

24. Photos from the Alumni Association AGM

### **The Alumni Association Annual General Meeting Reports**

- 2016 Membership Report *by Karen Michaud '84*
- President's Report *by Zenia Buzanko '03*
- Executive Secretary's Report *by Karen Michaud '84*
- Blue Book Report *by Karen Michaud '84*
- Treasurer's Report *by Karen Michaud '84*
- Student Association Report by Taylor Parks, Ryan Van Balkom and Kathleen Minkowski
- 2017 Student Association Executive
- Horticultural Herald Report *by Anne Van Nest '83*
- From the Desk of the Secretary *by Karen Michaud '84*
- Associate Membership Report *by Karen Michaud '84*
- Employment Report *by Karen Michaud '84*
- Special Events Report *by Kyle Berwick '14*
- Publicity and Promotions *by Andrea Weddum '13*
- Digital Media Report *by Jon Peter '04*
- Alumni Association Members for 2017



# Join the Alumni Association

**Want to read the latest news from the Alumni Association of the Niagara Parks Commission School of Horticulture?**

Receive the full issue of the Horticultural Herald four times a year and support the Alumni Association by becoming a member or renewing your membership today!

Graduate	\$75/year
Fellowship	\$85/year
Associate	\$100/year

(Special discounts for those renewing for two years or for married Graduates)

Let us know your Blue Book membership directory preference. It is available as a PDF emailed version, included with your membership or printed version (for a small fee). Don't forget to update your Blue Book information.

Membership renewal and Blue Book information forms are online at the Alumni website, [www.alumninpcsoh.com](http://www.alumninpcsoh.com)

To join or renew your Alumni Association membership contact **Karen Michaud, Executive Secretary, Alumni Association of the Niagara Parks Commission School of Horticulture, 8 Hahn Ave., Cambridge, ON N3C 2X9** [npcsha@gmail.com](mailto:npcsha@gmail.com) or [executivesec@alumninpcsoh.com](mailto:executivesec@alumninpcsoh.com).  
519-249-0381



*Above: Celebrating 50 years since graduating as the class of 1967 are Al Higgs, Randy Lidkea, Gord Rendell, and Buddy Andres. Photo by Anne Van Nest '83.*



*Above: Passing the Gavel! The Alumni Association AGM on February 11th saw the election of Art Coles '71 as President for a 1-year term. Recreating the transition, with champagne in hand in the Lecture Hall basement, outgoing President Zenia Buzanko '03 passes the gavel to the newly elected President. Photo by Anne Van Nest '83.*

*Look for the next issue of the Horticultural Herald to have ...  
more about presentations at the February 11th gathering,  
The Class of 2017 graduation,  
new First Years arrive,  
all to arrive in June  
Renew your membership today so you won't miss it.*