

1995 Ontario Premier's Awards for College Graduates Recipients

Carol Alaimo Applied Arts Award Niagara College

An award-winning investigative reporter with The St. Catharines Standard, Carol Alaimo is a graduate of the Niagara College Print Journalism Program. She has the distinction of being the only three-time Western Ontario Newspaper Association Journalist of the Year, in addition to recognition from the Press Institute of Canada, the Southam Business Writing Award, and her most important honour, the Mother of the Year Award as given by her children.

Ms Alaimo has a genuine interest in and concern for her community and the surrounding Niagara Region. This has led to a career wherein her work has had a positive impact on her fellow citizens. A story about mismanagement at St. Catharines Hydro led to the appointment of new commissioners who reduced residential electricity rates in that city and the restructuring of the utility to prevent future fraud being undetected. And her story about mistreatment of young offenders at St. David's Youth Home led to closure of that facility and charges of assault being laid against staff members.

Carol Alaimo's dedication to the ideals of a journalist's role in society have earned her the tribute of a 1995 Premier's Award.

1995 Ontario Premier's Awards for College Graduates Recipients



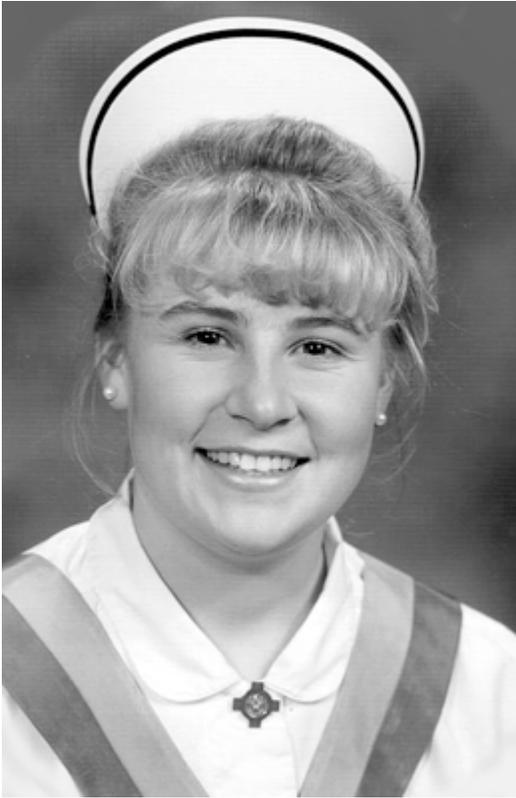
David Singh Business Award George Brown College

Originally from Guyana, Mr. Singh moved to Canada in 1974. He was a teacher in his native country but studied Business Administration at George Brown College while working full time. Upon graduation, he began his career in the insurance field, but soon entered the fledgling mutual funds market and began sponsoring seminars on financial planning.

Losing all his investments in the 1987 stock market crash, Mr. Singh took an event that would have been a setback to most people and turned it into a positive experience. Drawing on the discipline that allowed him to attend classes and work full time, he set personal goals for himself that included opening his own business and in 1989 he opened Fortune Financial Management Inc. Since then, his company has grown to 40 offices serving 100,000 clients in eight provinces during one of the worst financial climates in recent memory. In December of 1994, his company was named one of the 50 Best Managed Private Companies in Canada.

Recently named to the Board of Governors of George Brown College, Mr. Singh has been speaking to young people about the opportunities available to them, his ambition and belief in himself are qualities truly embodied by the Premier's Award.

1995 Ontario Premier's Awards for College Graduates Recipients



Cindy Pettersen Rugsten Health Sciences Award Sir Sandford Fleming College

A graduate of the Nursing Program at Sir Sandford Fleming College, Cindy Rugsten began her career at St. Joseph's Hospital in Peterborough. Within two years, however, she found herself in Kenya as the nurse in charge of a mission dispensary responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of all patients in a remote area of the country.

After a two-year tour of duty, she returned to Peterborough, but was then offered a position as Health Officer by World Vision International in the Somalia famine relief program. She supervised two feeding centres with daily attendance of about 500 people and an expanded immunization program in rural areas. From Somalia, she went to Tanzania, where she worked at the BENACO Refugee Camp, treating refugees fleeing the civil war in neighbouring Rwanda.

Since July of 1994, Ms Rugsten has been working in Sudan supervising the Primary Health Care Program of Yambio county. This involves training field staff and promoting community participation in health care. The nature of her work is not simply a nine-to-five job – it has become her lifestyle.

Cindy Rugsten's commitment to health promotion in the global community make her an ideal recipient of the 1995 Premier's Award.

1995 Ontario Premier's Awards for College Graduates Recipients

Francis J. Lapointe Technology Award Centennial College

In addition to his diploma in Architectural Technology from Centennial College, Francis Lapointe also holds a Bachelor of Architecture from Laval University and a Master of Architecture from the Technical University of Nova Scotia, where he was the recipient of a number of scholarships.

Since graduation, Mr. Lapointe has been working with native communities in Ontario and Nova Scotia on issues relating to contemporary aboriginal housing policies and programs, he instructed Native craftspeople in design and construction techniques, and witnessed first hand the difficulties faced by aboriginal people living in inferior housing. While many government programs have improved housing on reserves over the years, the lack of economic activity and the need to import expensive construction materials from distant markets have led to substandard buildings with little aesthetic value.

As part of his Master's thesis, Mr Lapointe developed small diameter timber technology to maximize the use of natural and human resources found on reserves. This technique uses small softwood trees to build low-cost, environmentally friendly structures. The first building in North America to use this technology is the Eskasoni Early Childhood Education Centre in Nova Scotia where Mr. Lapointe supervised phase one of its construction.

Francis Lapointe's contributions to the development of aboriginal communities are qualities representative of the Premier's Award.

1995 Ontario Premier's Awards for College Graduates Recipients



Bruce A. R. Hodgson Honorary Award

Since joining the Board of Governors of Mohawk College in 1990, Bruce Hodgson has given his knowledge, skill and wise counsel to many committees, both at a college level and system-wide through the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts & Technology of Ontario (ACAATO).

As a college governor, Mr. Hodgson served in almost every area pertaining to college operations, including Audit Review, Strategic Planning, Program Review, Operational Review and Governance. And as a representative of Mohawk's College, he has served on several committees relating to the City of Brantford.

While serving as Chair of Mohawk's Board of Governors, Mr. Hodgson was elected by his peers to be the Chair of the Council of Governors of ACAATO, a position he vacates at this conference. It is in this capacity that Mr. Hodgson has provided the college system with the guidance required to transfer the College of Applied Arts and Technology Pension fund from OMERS to a jointly-

trusteed plan. On several occasions, it has been noted that without his influence and commitment of time and expertise, the transition process could never have been completed successfully.

Bruce Hodgson's dedication to Mohawk College in particular and the College system as a whole have earned him the tribute of a Premier's Award.