



Celebrating Class Giving at Queen's Health Sciences

The power of the collective



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MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



As the Dean of Queen's Health Sciences, it gives me great pleasure to share this Class Giving Report with you. Your commitment to improving opportunities for those who have come after you has truly left a mark on our community. In this report, we celebrate your giving through stories that exemplify the power of unity within classes. Your combined efforts have fueled groundbreaking research, facilitated access to quality healthcare for underserved populations, and supported scholarships that have empowered the next generation of health professionals.

In the following pages, you will read about some of our classes that have organized giving initiatives. These are only a few examples of the many classes that our faculty has, and I hope that you will read these stories with pride and know that you are a part of something special. Each of these stories serves as a testament to the legacy you have created and the transformative influence you continue to have on the field of health care.

Such examples of collective giving and collaboration are numerous and exemplify the ethos that has defined our health sciences alumni community. Your continued engagement, support, and active participation in these initiatives propels our faculty to the forefront of health education and research. Your impact extends far beyond our university walls, touching countless lives and leaving an indelible mark on the broader health-care landscape.

As we move forward, I encourage you to stay connected with your fellow alumni, share your success stories, and continue supporting future generations of health professionals. Your expertise, mentorship, and guidance are invaluable resources that will shape the healthcare landscape for years to come.

Once again, thank you for your collective contributions and for exemplifying the spirit of Queen's University. Your commitment to making a difference in the lives of others is an inspiration to us all.

Dr. Jane Philpott, Dean, Queen's Health Sciences



Queen's Health Sciences: BY THE NUMBERS

Queen's Health Sciences alumni have been coming together as a collective group to raise funds for the faculty for the last half a century. Giving as a group to achieve a philanthropic goal amplifies the impact of individual contributions. This collaborative approach fosters a sense of unity and shared purpose among participants, reinforcing the notion that positive change is achievable through teamwork, and our alumni have excelled at this.

42

Class Endowments

113

Active classes

\$4,598,365

Cumulative amount in the class giving endowments as of 2023

252

Reunion Coordinators

13,798

Active Alumni



Class Stories

Student Support

School of Nursing

The Queen's University School of Nursing is full of students filled with passion, determination, and a shared sense of purpose. Each year, from their first day on campus, the classes foster a strong bond, recognizing the power of unity and supporting each other. Through the years, they face countless challenges together, from sleepless nights studying for exams to long shifts at the hospital caring for those in need.

During their time at Queen's, the nursing classes also form deep connections with their professors, who instill a sense of duty, compassion, and the importance of giving back. These values became the foundation upon which they would build their future successes. Over the years, classes would gather for their reunions, and the conversations turned from their respective careers to their desire to give back to the university that had shaped them. The Class of '87 realized they each had unique experiences and passions within the nursing field and wanted to make a difference in areas that meant the most to them.

Inspired by this idea, the **Nursing Class of '87** created a fundraising campaign, offering a menu of options that encouraged each class member to choose a cause at the university that resonated deeply with them. They believed that if they all contributed to their individual passions, the impact would be greater and more far-reaching. It was a true reflection of the diversity within their class, the variety of areas of nursing they had explored, and the interconnectedness of their shared experiences. This commitment to personalized philanthropy ensures that each investment in the university extends beyond their time at Queen's, creating a legacy that perpetuates their invaluable contributions to society.



Above: School of Nursing Skeleton

Queen's Nursing Alumni have a long-standing tradition of supporting current and future nursing students. The class-giving initiatives, as well as the creation of bursaries, have had a significant impact on the nursing program, allowing for enhanced educational opportunities, scholarships, and financial aid for aspiring nurses, opening doors for students who may not have had the means to pursue their education otherwise.

“I know firsthand the importance of student bursaries. During my time at Queen's, I was fortunate to receive The Major J.H. Rattray Nursing Bursary. This support relieved the need to work while studying, allowing me to concentrate fully on my education. Inspired by the generosity I experienced, I encourage my classmates to "pay it forward" and make a difference in the lives of future nurses” -Kim van Steenberg, NSc'78.

The financial assistance provided helps alleviate the burden of tuition fees, textbook expenses, and other costs associated with nursing education. By supporting the education and training of future nurses, Nursing Alumni contribute to the overall quality of health care. Well-educated and skilled nurses play a vital role in delivering high-quality patient care and improving health outcomes in communities. The philanthropic efforts of the Nursing School Alumni ensure that the nursing profession continues to thrive and positively impact health-care systems.



Above: Nursing Alumni view past class photos during the School of Nursing Homecoming Open House



Right: Members of the Nursing Class of 1991 pose in front of Abramsky Hall

Building Funds

Class of Medicine 2001

At the turn of the millennium, the Meds'01 class emerged. They are a cohort known for their dedication, compassion, and vision for a better future in health care. Right after graduation, the class embarked on what would be a remarkable journey of philanthropy and giving back to their alma mater.

Like other classes before them, they fostered a strong sense of camaraderie and collaboration throughout their years of study. They supported one another through the demanding coursework, long hours of study, and the challenges of clinical rotations. Many formed lifelong friendships and professional connections that continued to thrive long after graduation.

Their collective spirit was ignited during their 10-year reunion in 2011 when a call came to support the construction of the New Medical Building. The existing facilities were outdated, and the limited space hindered the students' ability to explore and expand their knowledge. It was clear that a new building was necessary to provide a conducive environment for learning and research. The new building was designed to provide cutting-edge facilities, advanced laboratories, spacious lecture theatres, and collaborative spaces for research and innovation. Recognizing the need to support their beloved institution, the class rallied with many other generous benefactors. Together, they helped to raise the necessary funds for a state-of-the-art building that would benefit future generations of medical students.



Above: Medicine Building

"I see it as an opportunity to do something good for the future of medicine at Queen's together with friends who benefited immensely from our own experiences here." - Steven Brooks, Meds '01

Buoyed by the success of their initial endeavour, the Meds'01 class continued their mission to give back in a meaningful way. As their 15th reunion approached, they resolved to address an urgent concern: financial need among medical students. They established the Meds'01 Bursary, a fund designed to support aspiring medical professionals facing financial hardships. Through a combination of sheer dedication and a network of passionate supporters, they surpassed their own expectations, making the Meds'01 Bursary a wonderful resource, providing essential financial aid to countless students.

In 2021, the class faced a heartbreaking blow when they lost one of their cherished classmates, Lucas Murnaghan. Lucas had been the driving force behind many of their philanthropic initiatives. He was an inspirational figure whose passion for medicine and life beyond the classroom had touched the hearts of all who knew him. To honour Lucas' memory, the class resolved to create a new fund that would embody his spirit and extend his legacy. The Meds 2001 Medicine and Life Award, established during the class's 21st anniversary, aims to foster student wellness and life balance. The hope is to inspire the next generation of medical students to pursue their dreams and cultivate a rich life beyond the boundaries of their chosen profession.

The Meds 2001 class is a shining example of what a collective can achieve when finding a common goal. Their dedication to giving back to Queen's University demonstrates the impact that can be created through unity and a shared vision. Their philanthropic endeavours have transformed lives, supported aspiring medical professionals, and instilled a sense of purpose and well-being within the medical community.

When we asked the class why they chose to give back to Queen's, Dr. Steve Brooks said it is a good opportunity to do something for the future of medicine at Queen's.

Through their generosity and unwavering commitment, the Meds 2001 class left a lasting mark on their alma mater. Their story continues to inspire future generations, reminding medical students of the power of giving, unity, and the importance of using their skills to improve the lives of others.



Above: Class of Medicine 2001 return to Campus for their 21st reunion in 2022

The Power of Many

Class of Medicine 1974

The year was 1974, and the Medicine Class had just graduated, leaving a legacy of unforgettable memories and a deep gratitude for their time at Queen's. As they embarked on their respective paths after graduation and established themselves as leaders in their communities, they carried a profound appreciation for the education that had shaped them into successful individuals.

Years passed, and the Class of '74 never forgot the impact Queen's University had on their lives. While at Queen's, they formed lifelong friendships—studied together, explored the campus, and shared countless moments of laughter and camaraderie. Whether it be a porcine-led class parade during half-time at Homecoming, being betrayed by one's own to have the tyros outdo the Chief "Hands Patterson" dropping the winning touchdown pass vs. Meds'72, all night partying before MCAT exams, beds deposited in trees in MacDonald Park or the more serious aspects of participating, studying, and learning together in small groups all led to a strong sense of belonging to Queen's and loyalty to each other. This shared sentiment brings them together every five years for their reunion.

During their reunions, class members reminisce about their time at Queen's, sharing stories and reliving the cherished memories that shaped their lives. Andrew Pipe, an active contributor to many class and university-related activities, recently commented, "Reconnecting with classmates as if we had last seen each other days earlier is a testament to the enduring relationships that developed while we were students." As the group caught up with each other, they recalled again just how fortunate they had been to attend such a remarkable institution.

Inspired by their time at Queen's, Meds '74 gives back to the university that had given them so much. They are determined to make a difference for the next generation of health-care professionals. The members of the class, fueled by their collective passion and desire to provide opportunities for those who follow at Queen's University, have time and again set stretch goals for their class when it comes to fundraising. They started with small goals and events. Classmate Bob Reid hosted a golf tournament for their 30th reunion to raise money for the Queen's Medical Student Bursary that became so successful it ran for 14 years, raising almost one million dollars for the bursary.



Above: Class of Medicine 1974 return to campus for a reunion



Above: Bob Reid presents cheque from the annual Medical Student Bursary Golf Tournament

As each reunion approached, Gordon Francis & Bob would brainstorm ideas to support the Faculty and University goals and then reach out to their classmates, urging them to show their support by contributing to the Meds '74 Initiative. Without the camaraderie among classmates, the task may have been much more difficult. However, the response has been overwhelming. **As a class, they have raised almost \$1,000,000 since graduation, and as they approach their 50th reunion in 2024, they aim to raise \$500,000.** The class's remarkable act of giving continues to inspire others to pay it forward, reinforcing the belief that education has the power to uplift individuals, families, and entire communities. The story of their financial aid to Queen's University is a testament to the enduring bonds forged through education and the profound impact a united group of individuals can have on the lives of countless others.

“

I owe my deeply treasured career to the education I got at Queen's Medical School.

Lee Ford-Jones, Meds '74

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Above: Queen's Medicine Alumni at Richardson Stadium

Empowering the Future

The Rehab Class of 1970's Legacy at Queen's University

The Rehab'70 class has a rich history of excellence. As trailblazers in rehabilitation therapy, these individuals were trailblazers in developing innovative practices and shaping the future of Occupational Therapy (OT) and Physical Therapy (PT). Their commitment to fostering knowledge and professionalism has had a lasting impact on the field, and their influence continues to be felt by students, practitioners, and patients alike.

Driven by a profound sense of compassion and a desire to give back, these remarkable individuals joined together as alumni, determined to make a difference. Through their dedication and generosity, they established a bursary fund that would ensure future OT and PT students would receive the support necessary to pursue their dreams.

Their initiative highlights their dedication to advancing rehabilitation therapy and showcases their dedication to helping others. Their bursary demonstrates their commitment to the principles of accessibility and inclusivity within the rehabilitation therapy community. This generosity helps to alleviate the burden of educational expenses such as tuition fees, textbooks, and living costs. By doing so, they have empowered future generations of rehabilitation therapists to focus on their education and training, enabling them to positively impact their patients' lives.



Above: Rehabilitation Therapy Class of 1970 returns to campus for a reunion



Above: Alumni walk down the street in their Queen's Leather Jackets

Additionally, Rehab'70 has encouraged their fellow classmates to make estate gifts to Queen's University, ensuring that their impact extends well into the future. The class knows that estate gifts are a meaningful way to leave a lasting impact and contribute to the institution's long-term sustainability. By including Queen's University in their estate plans, the Class of 1970 ensures that their generosity extends far into the future, benefiting countless students for years to come.

"I was part of the very small (16 physiotherapists and five occupational therapists) first graduating class 1970 with a diploma in PT," says Linda Watson, PT'70. "We were required to work for two years before returning to Queen's in 1972 to graduate in 1973 with a Bachelor of Science degree. Only five of us returned at that point, but I think eventually most of our class did complete degrees. As a small class, we have remained incredibly close, and I felt it is important to join my classmates to financially help future graduates to go on to achieve careers as rewarding as our class had."

The Rehab Class of 1970 has set an inspiring example of the impact that a united and dedicated group can have on future generations. They are investing in the future of rehabilitation therapy and creating opportunities for students who may not have had them otherwise. Since its inception in 2007, the Rehabilitation Therapy Class of 1970 Bursary Fund has disbursed funds to 18 students and looks forward to helping more in the coming years. Their actions embody the spirit of Queen's. They are leaving a legacy that inspires all, demonstrating the profound impact that a compassionate and forward-thinking group can make.



Above: Rehabilitation Therapy Class of 1970 participates in the 50th anniversary celebration of the School of Rehabilitation Therapy



Thank You

From the Students

On behalf of the entire Queen's Health Sciences student body, thank you for your support and generous contributions towards our educational pursuits. Your commitment to investing in our education has allowed us to access world-class resources, cutting-edge technologies, and exceptional learning opportunities vital for our growth as future health-care professionals. Thanks to your support, we have expanded our knowledge, developed critical skills, and gained invaluable experiences that will shape our careers and contribute to the betterment of society.

Your dedication to advancing health-care education has transformed our individual lives and paved the way for improving health care as a whole. Your contributions have helped foster an environment of innovation, research, and excellence within our faculty. By supporting various initiatives and scholarships, you have enabled talented students to pursue their dreams and significantly impact their respective fields, irrespective of their financial circumstances.

Moreover, your belief in our potential has inspired us to strive for greatness and pursue excellence in all our endeavours. Knowing that we have individuals like you standing beside us has instilled confidence, motivation, and purpose in our pursuit of knowledge and the desire to serve others. We are committed to becoming compassionate, skilled, and empathetic health-care professionals who will make a positive difference in the lives of countless individuals. We will carry your legacy forward by providing exceptional care, conducting groundbreaking research, and actively engaging in improving our communities.

Once again, please accept our heartfelt appreciation for your incredible contributions and selfless dedication to our education. We are truly grateful for your generosity.

With profound gratitude,

The Queen's Health Sciences Student Body



Above: Student's holding up thank you sign

Words from alumni: “Why do you give to your class giving initiative?”

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Support our class and its legacy and in gratitude for my education and degree.

Nicholas Cristoveanu, Meds'79

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I was raised with the expectation of helping others when you could, and to support charitable giving. Helping to set up our own class giving initiative is partially about leaving a legacy that lasts after we're gone and forgotten. Also, philanthropy feels good.

Tom Fiala, Meds '88

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In memory of a classmate

Denise McKinnon, NSc'96

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To recognize the value of our Queen's medical education.

Roy Kirkpatrick, Meds'77

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“

I loved Queen's. I wanted to thank the university and to promote Meds'54

Ken Appleby, Meds'54

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To help current and new students in need, a sense of gratitude for the opportunities Queens has given me.

Ken Axmith, Meds '62

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The time and experiences, not to mention the education, at Queen's were for me, like many others, transformational. Helping to raise funds to further the mission of Queen's was the least I could do to say "thanks" for all that I have that started with time at Queen's

Gord Francis, Meds '74

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Words from alumni: “Advice for future classes wanting to fundraise?”

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Go slow in the first reunion years and build from there. At each reunion, try to give examples of recipients lives after they received funding from class support

Dale Mercer, Meds'78

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Start small and build every year. It will keep you connected to your classmates and Queen's.

Linda Watson, Rehab '70

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“Work with the advancement team to simplify the undertaking, lead by example, and announce a successful campaign with a cheque presentation to the Dean/ class photo etc” -

Bob Reid, Meds '74

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Above: Medicine class shows off their School of Medicine scarves

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“Talk to your classmates and tell them why you want to do this. By sharing your story, you may inspire others to join you. Also, appeal to your classmates with the idea of leaving a legacy.”

Susan Aubin, Artsci'87, Meds'92

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QHS Advancement
18 Barrie Street
Kingston, ON, Canada, K7L 3N6 613-
533-2000 | fhsadv@queensu.ca

If you and your classmates are interested in learning more about how you can support Queen's Health Sciences, please contact Emily Rees at e.rees@queensu.ca