

CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S FALL 2018 \$7.00

# ALUMNI UPDATE



## SPECIAL 106<sup>TH</sup> GREY CUP COLLECTORS EDITION



**Brian Fryer   Hector Pothier**  
**MEN OF THE YEAR**



The mission of Gridiron Greats is to assist dire need retired NFL players who were pioneers of the game and who have greatly contributed to the NFL's status as the most popular sport in America. The services include medical assistance, transportation costs for medical evaluations and surgeries, dental assistance, housing assistance, financial assistance for utilities, medication, and coordination of services for food and other day to day necessities

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read "Leo Ezerins".

"The CFL Alumni Association has modelled our CFLAA Support Fund after the Gridiron Greats Assistance Fund.

We have worked together and honoured CFL Legends into the Gridiron Greats Hall of Fame. Our message is friends helping friends with hands across all borders."

Leo Ezerins, CFLAA Executive Director  
Gridiron Great Hall of Fame Inductee 2017

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Fall 2018

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we approach the awarding of the 2018 Grey Cup in the City of Champions, we can't help but notice how CFL Alumni have continued to make an impact on and off the gridiron. Names like Hufnagel, Dickenson, Buono, O'Shea, Walters, O'Day, Hall, Claybrooks, Blugh, October, Hervey, Jackson, Washington, Howell, Steinauer, Grant will play strong roles trying to ensure their CFL franchise will have their player's names engraved on the Cup

CFL Alumnus and Commissioner Randy Ambrosie has completed his first full year in office and his early tenure has included a list of innovative programs including the second Diversity is Strength campaign, CFL 2.0, limiting coach's challenges to speed up games, the CFL Ref Cam and Live Mic games and potential Halifax expansion just to name a few. Through the CFL Alumni Association, the Commissioner has made it clear that alumni are important, and he wants to work with us to fit alumni into the League's plans in as many ways as possible.

The CFLPA led by Executive Director Brian Ramsay and President Jeff Keeping has focused on player safety and the early results of limited practice contact has been positive in reducing the overall number of collisions players are exposed to during their game preparations. The CFLPA also recognizes the importance of the CFLAA and creating partnerships that will help bridge players to alumni status when the time comes.

All this to say that the CFLAA's relationship with both the CFL and CFLPA has never been stronger. The meetings we initiated with both at Grey Cup 2017 have continued and we are all more closely aligned towards programs that benefit both current and alumni players in career transition and in retirement, as well as for the League and the great tradition of the CFL.

The CFLAA continues to focus on supporting fellow alumni experiencing financial hardship as a result of medical issues, through the CFLAA Support Fund which is chaired by CFLAA Co-Man of the Year recipient Hector Pothier who is being recognized along with fellow five in a row Grey Cup Champion Brian Fryer. We have also built and nurtured great partnerships – MedReleaf, Canadian Concussion Study, Men's Health Foundation to name a few – all for the benefit our alumni.

The CFLAA could not be as successful as it has been, nor as positioned for future success as it now is, without a dedicated Board of Directors and our determined Executive Director, Leo Ezerins.

I wish all our Alumni the best in the new year as we build and grow towards a stronger association in 2019.

Brett MacNeil  
President-CFLAA



A LETTER FROM  
RANDY AMBROSIE,  
COMMISSIONER,  
CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



On behalf of the entire Canadian Football League, I want to congratulate everyone associated with the Canadian Tire CFL Alumni Association Legends Luncheon.

Thank-you to our tremendous fans for ensuring another sellout this year and to Canadian Tire for sponsoring this great event.

I'd also like to extend a "high five" to CFLAA President Brett MacNeil, the organization's Board of Directors, Executive Director Leo Ezerins, and the alumni organizations for our clubs, all of whom have worked together to make today so special.

I know there will be countless stories, plenty of laughs and perhaps, a few tears shed out of joy and pride.

I am happy to join you in honouring two of our alumni as this year's Men of the Year.

Hector Pothier and Bryan Fryer epitomize what makes CFL players truly great during and following their football careers.

Both were tremendous champions. As Edmonton Eskimos, Hector won six Grey Cups, and Bryan Fryer five (after blazing a trail for his fellow Canadian university football players south of the border).

Both were incredibly talented players. Bryan was part of what may have been the greatest receiving corps, and Hector was part of one of the very best offensive lines, in CFL history. (Those who know me will understand I must give the nod to Hector here, as the only bias I refuse to surrender as Commissioner is the one that makes me partial to the incredibly handsome, intelligent and courageous guys who play up front. Bryan, please forgive me.)

What really strikes me about these gentlemen, however, is the contribution they have made to our country since they retired from professional football.

Both have had an profound and positive effect on youth in Alberta, Hector as a public educator and Principal, and Bryan as a leader in amateur football and Executive Director of Football Alberta.

All of us who were privileged to play this great game know that even the longest football career is too short. All of us who know CFL players know their dedication to the community and to the future extends far beyond their playing days.

As we work together to create a bigger and better CFL, one that is even stronger here at home and well known and respected around the world, we know we are building upon the legacy created by all our alumni, on and off the field.

All the best, Randy.

# CFLAA SUPPORT FUND



## Welcome

The CFLAA Support Fund was created by members of the Canadian Football League Alumni Association (CFLAA) to offer support to fellow Alumni experiencing a medical challenge which has created a financial hardship.

The career in the CFL is short. The salaries and pensions small compared to other professional leagues and other careers. The post career medical benefits non-existent. There is an old saying amongst Alumni. "We never retire from a CFL career; we merely have a career change."

There are NO other programs, plans or funds available. The CFL Alumni Support Fund relies primarily on money we raise at the CFL Alumni Grey Cup Legends Luncheon and other events during the course of the year. The fund also has received limited amounts from donations by the, CFLPA, CFL and local Alumni Associations. The largest contributor is the Never Alone Foundation Rose Project; these funds are given to those who have been diagnosed with cancer. Thank you, Lyle Bauer and the Never Alone Foundation!

Applications for the Alumni Support Fund are evaluated by a committee formed by the CFLAA. Applications and awarding of funds are confidential (the recipient determines the degree of disclosure, if any). The applicant information is handled according to criteria approved by the Board. The CFLASF committee vets any application with the assistance of the executive director. The final decision is made by the CFLASF committee which reports to the CFLAA Board of Directors. The Funds are not given to the player directly, but rather to the health provider, pharmacist, or wherever makes the most sense.

We have been able to help a few our guys along the way.

Recently the fund has provided funds to assist former players living in the United States with medical expenses to assist in their recovery from joint replacement surgeries.

The CFLASF has helped cover medications for a 35-year-old former player who is fighting a life threatening rare form of cancer and whose provincial plan does not cover some of the medications. He is unable to work and is relying on small government assistance.

A neighbour notified us of a former player who has a physical disability and has been struggling to make ends meet in some areas of his life. He was to the point he was selling personal belongings to pay for food and clothing. The CFLASF now helps with his monthly medication bills on an ongoing basis.

The fund was able to provide support to Rick Sowieta, directly and through our Associations, using crowd-funding, Many fans, friends and family members made donations so Rick Sowieta could receive treatment in hopes of curing his pancreatic cancer to save his life. Unfortunately, he succumbed. Rest in Peace our friend.

In need of post operation therapy and with his CFLPA benefits no longer available (only covers one year after retirement) Johnathan Hefney reached out to the CFLAA. Through the CFLASF we have paid for two rounds of physical therapy. He has made incredible gains in his movement, strength and reduction of pain.

These are but a few stories. We have helped many. many more but who, understandably, would like to remain anonymous. We are grateful to the alumni (typically teammates), family, friends, neighbours, and fans who help bring their plight to our attention, so we can help.

We expect as it becomes more and more acceptable for men to share their personal situations and ask for help there will be more and more demand for support. We also know that with the recent awareness and reality of the long term effects on the body and mind from playing football the demand will only increase.

We need to be financially prepared to help. We need your help. Please donate via the donate button at [www.cflaa.ca](http://www.cflaa.ca).

Leo Ezerins, Executive Director, CFL Alumni Association

### CFL Alumni support Fund Committee:

Chair: Hector Pothier (Edmonton)

Brett MacNeil (Winnipeg),

Glen Scrivener (Winnipeg)

Peter Martin (Toronto)

Jim Cain (Ottawa)



# CFLAA

## Mission, Vision, Values and Strategic Priorities

### **CFLAA Mission:**

“The Canadian Football League Alumni Association (CFLAA) unites former CFL players in support of sport, youth, the promotion of football in the community and health related charitable causes. We also support former CFL players experiencing any medical challenge that creates a financial hardship.”

### **CFLAA Vision;**

“The CFLAA looks to foster a lifelong relationship between the Canadian Football League and its alumni. We also provide support to alumni, to football in Canada, and to other communities it serves”.

### **CFLAA Values;**

“In carrying out its mission and vision, the CFLAA values community, tradition, support, connection, fellowship, and service”.

### **CFLAA Strategic Priorities:**

**Strategic Priorities** are based on impact of the activity, ability to carry it out, and relevance of the situation to the CFLAA mission, vision, values and strategic priorities.

- 1) Work with our partners including all club alumni associations, the CFL, and the CFLPA to facilitate communication while adding benefits, services, and programs that promote fellowship among alumni and advance each organization’s goals.
- 2) Grow the CFL Alumni Support Fund and promote its guidelines and criteria among the CFL alumni community.
- 3) Participate in activities that provide insight into sportrelated brain injuries and other health related issues.
- 4) Provide good governance and management for the Association to ensure its long term effectiveness and financial viability.
- 5) Continue to offer marquee events that highlight the valuable contribution of alumni and provides them with opportunities to participate in the CFL Tradition at Grey Cup while supporting the Alumni Support Fund and the efforts of other key partners.

# CFL Alumni Association: A pivotal year



2018 was a landmark year for the CFLAA. It has been 10 years since our first meeting in Montreal Grey Cup Weekend 2008.

It is time to remember and thank those who were an integral part of our Associations' start-up, development and growth and to welcome those who will be part of our future.

In the beginning there were our friends Lyle Bauer, Michael Copeland, Kevin McDonald, Robert Sokalski, Gene Dunn, David Asper, Bayne Norrie, Stu Laird and Mark Cohon. Our first Board of Director's lead by President, Hector Pothier, Joe Poplawski, Don Taylor, Herm Harrison (RIP), JT Hay, Steve Mazurak, Dave Supleve, Ralph Scholz, Paul Markle, Jay Roberts (RIP) and Linda Wood Edwards.

Our transition and growth years included, David Lane (RIP), Terry Bulych (RIP), Jeff Avery, Ian Sinclair, Gerald Roper, Pete Martin, Carm Carteri, Terry Lehne, David Richardson, Ian Mofford, Jim Cimba, Vernon Pahl, Jeffrey Orridge, Mike Morreale and Scott Flory.

Then there are those who will carry us into a new era, one which will align with the CFL/Commissioner Ambrosie's CFL 2.0 and implement our own strategic plan. They include CFLAA Board Members, President, Brett MacNeil; VP, Jim Cain; Treasurer, Robert (Bob) Bronk, JT Hay/Bill Johnson, Rob Bresciani, Patrick Kabongo, Jason Riley and Sam Fournier along with Directors-At-Large including Jim Hopson, Dan Dott, Bruce Hillary, Paul Kwiatoski C. A. and consultant Linda Wood Edwards

We also welcome the insights and consultation from Global Public Affairs and our Advisory Board, Chaired by Darrel Dexter (former Premier of Nova Scotia), Rod Elliott, Alanna Sokic, Ranjeev Dillon/Matthew Sanders (Bennett, Jones LLP) and Jim Cimba (retired Lawyer).

There is also a few "behind the scenes" operational staff that help manage our web-site, advertising, magazine, events and other projects. They include Dave Dowsett, Joe Gunnis, Patrice Whiffen, France Bourgeois and Ed Valtenbergs.

My apologies and hopefully your understanding to anyone who I may have missed as there are many more that have helped our Association in several other roles and/or projects.

Thank you to all the sponsors, partners and donors who have supported us over the years.

Please take the time to browse our website [www.cflaa.ca](http://www.cflaa.ca) to gain valuable insight into the CFLAA.

We welcome you **ALL** to join us as an associate member. We now invite in not only former players, but cheer team members, executives, trainers, doctors, lawyers, fans, etc. in as members with the common purpose our supporting one and another, the CFL and the CFL Alumni Association. We are entering a transitional time in our history where inclusiveness, diversity and unity are more important than ever.

Thank you all for your support and for joining in!

Leo Ezerins  
Executive Director,  
CFLAA



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**For any questions regarding the CFLAA to include donations, partnership opportunities and advertising information for Grey Cup 2019 please contact:**



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# CONGRATULATIONS



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Fryer**

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HALL OF FAME**



**Hector  
Pothier**

**GREY CUP  
CHAMPION  
CFL  
ALL-STAR**



**FROM  
THE CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE &  
THE CANADIAN FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME**



# LINDA WOOD EDWARDS: ALWAYS CHEERING US ON

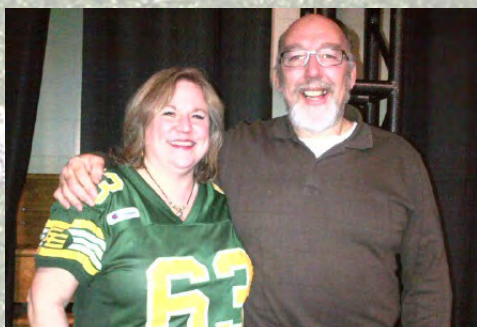
By: Sue Huff

To call Linda a fan of the game is an understatement.

As a child, her family had a rule: everyone had to have a team. It didn't have to be mom or dad's team, but you had to have a team. Linda's father was, of course, a Roughriders' man; he played for Regina Roughriders in the 1930s. "He was an enforcer, not a speed guy," said Linda. Linda's mother was a Stampeders' fan. Her brothers cheered their heroes – Sam Etchverry, Tommy Joe Coffey, Angelo Mosca – before eventually settling on Edmonton as their team. Linda's team was and still is Edmonton, but she also supports every team in the league and their alumni. Since its inception, Linda has been the self-titled "governance nerd" for the CFLAA, a role that Executive Director & Founder Leo Ezerins, describes as critical to its success. "Linda is the stabilizing force and we definitely wouldn't be where we are today without her guidance," said Leo.



Linda was recruited to the CFLAA by Hector Pothier. The two met to discuss a fundraiser idea Linda had for the Eskimos Alumni Association. "I was a little nervous, to be honest, to be meeting this football god," recalled Linda. Hector was impressed by Linda's passion for the game and her expertise in the area of governance. In her, he saw a valuable team-player and invited her to attend the founding meeting of the CFLAA. Governance is to boards what good wiring is to a house. If it is installed properly, you can almost forget it's there, but if it isn't done correctly, the whole house could burn down. Linda is a stickler for things being done right, especially when it is for something as important as the CFL.



She has attended Eskimos games religiously for the past 28 years and hasn't missed a Grey Cup since 1995. She had a green and gold wedding, entered the reception hall to the Eskimos fight song, and was to be permitted to have wedding pictures taken on the Commonwealth field. Before and even after the wedding, she went through a long football negotiation: she had season tickets on the East side and her hubby had them on the West side and neither wanted to move due to superstition.



They built a shrine to football in their home, and have amassed an impressive collection of football paraphernalia, including CFL Royal Stafford tea cups, old programs, photos, jerseys for every team, books by CFL players, and even a piece of turf from Winnipeg and a part of a seat from the old stadium in Hamilton. As a teenager, she tried out for the Edmonton Eskimos cheerleaders, but sadly didn't make the cut. Of the disappointment, Linda quipped, "It's nothing that many years and thousands of dollars of therapy can't fix."

Linda's intense loyalty to the game has drawn the attention of others: TSN did a piece on Linda and Brian in 2012 and one day in 2003, Rick and Jeri Campbell showed up on their doorstep. Linda recalled Brian saying: "There's a guy on our doorstep with a really good replica of the Cup. You want to see this?" Irritated by the interruption to her work, Linda entered the room scowling and was left speechless she realized it was the real McCoy, held by Coach Campbell.



# LINDA WOOD EDWARDS: ALWAYS CHEERING US ON

By: Sue Huff



Being at a loss for words is not common for Linda. She has written many plays including *True Grid*, a play that captures the superstitions, the camaraderie, and intense highs and lows that CFL fans experience. Set in 2006, the year the Eskimos' playoff streak was broken, the play was an homage to all the loyal football fans she has met across the country. "I wanted to pay tribute to all the thousands who freeze their asses off and never give up on their team," said Linda.

*True Grid* was performed twice, at the Edmonton Fringe Festival in 2006 and again in 2010 at the Grey Cup in Edmonton as a fundraiser for the CFLAA. (Writer's note: I played Mary) The play was so full of insider jokes and CFL-specific details that the fans in the audience frequently elbowed each other or yelled out loud: "That's you, Joe!! You totally do that!!" Linda wanted the play to be a 'celebration of our weirdness' and a gift to the fans. "I also saw the play as a way to build bridges. People who loved football but had never been to a play were sitting beside people who loved theatre but had never been to a game," said Linda. *True Grid* also created a bridge between Linda, Hector and the CFLAA.



Linda is proud to be able to support the League with her governance expertise and admits she receives something precious in return. "Once a month, I get to be with these guys – warriors of the game -- that I wouldn't get to see otherwise. I get to hear them kibitzing before the meeting starts about anything from who is up, who is down, who had the best hair, and of course football. Even now when I receive a text from one of these guys, it's still a thrill. I'm such a fan at heart."

Leo says the admiration goes both ways. "When Linda talks, everyone listens. For me, she is an anchor, the backbone of the board. She's been there every step of the way: 10 meetings a year, plus every AGM held at Grey Cup and she facilitated our strategic plans and built the corporate governance documents," recounted Leo. And when the CFLAA board faced a legal challenge a few years back, Linda helped everyone maintain composure and made sure that everything was done correctly. "After all these years, she is still cheering us on," said Leo with a smile.

Editor's note or side bar/box: Linda was honoured at the for her outstanding contribution at the CLFAA Luncheon on November 23, 2018 in Edmonton. If you would like to support the work of the CFLAA, please visit: [CLFAA Donate page](#)



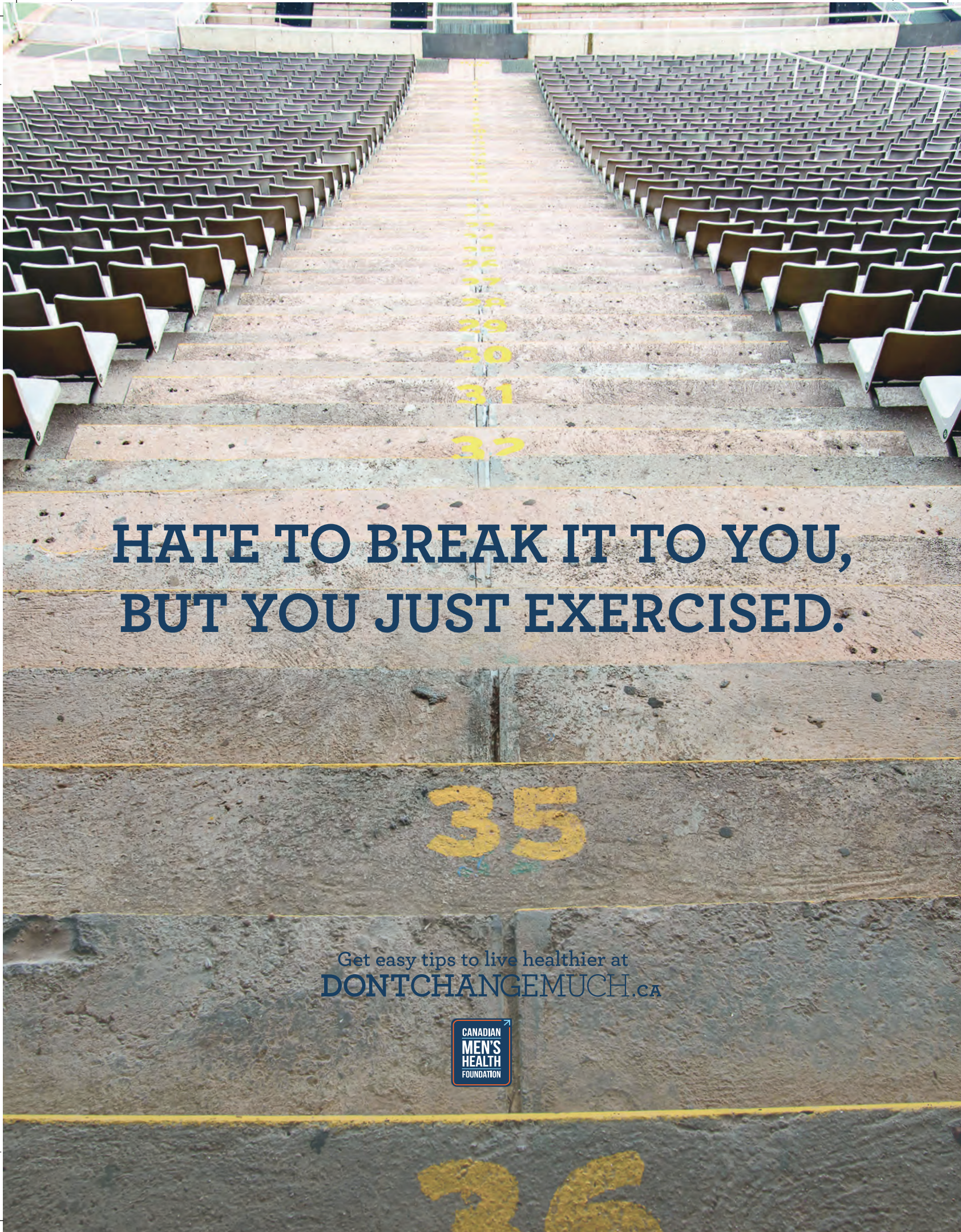
**Proudly supporting good governance in the CFL Alumni Association since day 1.**



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# The Complete Grey Cup Experience...Memories of 2010

## By Mr. G. Cup

It's great to be back Edmonton! It's been 8 long years since we last saw each other for Grey Cup week and I'm looking forward to it.

I've had another very busy season, loads of charity, sponsor and corporate events and various VIP appearances, but of course my favourite time of year is the end of November when I connect with the most passionate fans in the CFL.

I'm sure we'll see each other sometime over the weekend as I have an appearance packed schedule from early dawn to late evening. Last time I was here I packed in 50 events in 5 days and I am sure this year will be no different.

Lucky for me, I have a couple of escorts (no not "those" kind) that make sure I'm polished up, on time and ready to go on arrival. I get the white glove and towel treatment, it's better than being at a spa.

So what is my schedule like you ask? Well....let me tell you.

I usually like to arrive on the Tuesday of Grey Cup week. There is the usual fanfare at the airport with media and fans greeting me like a rock star before an official welcoming with the Commissioner, city officials and the Grey Cup committee. I know it will be an early morning so I like relax, watch a bit of my favourite show, "Grey's Anatomy" and get to bed fairly early.

Bright and early Wednesday morning I'm off to the Coaches Media Conference where I enjoy a nice big "Cup" of coffee to get me ready for the day. Next we're off to the Canadian Forces Base to meet some local troops and alumni before a follow-up visit to the VAC hospital to meet with some of our veterans. It's always a thrill to mingle with those that served our great country!

Time for a quick bite and I'm off to the City Centre downtown to make my first appearance for the fans. After a few photo ops' with local diehards it's off to City Hall to meet some local dignitaries. Dusk is upon us so it's time to "get this party started" as I make my way to the Festival Kick-off Party.

After some fun and whoop whoop with local fans I'm off to my first sponsor's event before heading to a special Chairman's VIP party for a fine wine & dine. By now, it's almost 9 pm and the end of busy 13 hour first day

Morning comes quickly as I head to the west team media breakfast. A little time to relax before the day heads into full gear. Off to the CFL Experience Street festival where I am the centre of attention in this football themed fun fan event. Time for a few pics and I'm off to the east team media lunch. I squeeze in a brief break before an afternoon shift back at the festival, and then off to another sponsored event on behalf of the CFL.

Not much time to spare before as the evening starts and I'm off to the CFL awards where I get to take centre stage and rub shoulders with the best players in the league. Two more stops before I hit the hay as I visit my hosts at the "Spirit of Edmonton" before I wrap things up at the CFLPA party. It's almost midnight and I've been on the go for almost 16 hours.



It's Friday morning, I'm up, cleaned up, grey hair combed up (lol) and out the door by 7 am to see the Commissioner at his annual media "State of the League" breakfast. He fills us in on where we've been, what we've done and where we're going as a league. I have a brief trip out for a United Way fundraising event and then back to the hotel for the Commissioner to address and field questions from fans at their own "State of the League" event

It's been a busy morning, but now I'm off to one of my favourite events, the CFLAA Legends Luncheon. This premier event hosts Alumni from across the league and I get to see some guys I've known for over 50 years!

Now it's time to meet some of the league's youngest fans as I do a very special visit along with some CFL stars at the children's hospital. Many of these kids don't get a chance to make many games so it's very special to see their eyes light up when we come into the room.

Next up, time to take in some team parties as we're piped in for Touchdown Manitoba and a quick snack of Old Dutch chips before heading over to Stamps House for some wild west partying.



# The Complete Grey Cup Experience....Memories of 2010

It's time to clean up again for a league sponsor party before I head off for an evening of fine food and entertainment for the league's "Gala dinner". The night is still young, and it's time to make an appearance at the Grey Cup Officials Reception before heading over to the Lion's Den for some serious partying with the Booze Brothers. Next stop is a fundraiser for minor football hosted by some of the best current players and alumni before heading over to end the night at Tigertown. It's just after 11 pm and 16 hours on my stand and I'm ready for some shut eye.

The afternoon continues with another special appearance for a sponsor and then off to a Wine and Spirit tasting event (another one of my fav's). I'm a little tipsy, but I make my way to a special social media event where you can selfie me, tweet me, Instagram me and pretty much take any picture you want.

I'm a little tired, but I can't show it as I need to keep up with the ladies at the big cheerleader extravaganza. Cheer teams from across the league show their stuff as they dance, twirl and shake to entertain the big crowds on hand.



The day before the big game kicks off with an Athletes in Action breakfast before heading out for a TSN appearance and some chat time with local radio. I'm off to my second helping as it's time for the "Spirit of Edmonton" breakfast. This is one of my favourite events as there is always some special entertainment planned for what must be over 1,000 fans.

Time for some more media appearances before heading to the League's Partnership Cocktail Party where I meet some of the league's biggest sponsors and then off to a special reception for the Canadian Football Hall of Fame.

Next up is another fan photo op as I am back at the street festival before I make my way to the big Grey Cup parade and perch myself on top of a lovely convertible alongside the Grand Marshall. Thousands upon thousands of fans have come out to me and I'm thrilled!

I'm well into the evening, but it's the night before the big game, and there is a lot more to do. Team parties are in full force so I start off with a visit to the Montreal AlsHuddle, then the Double Blue Bash, RNation and wrap up in Riderville. It's after 1 am and I'm running on fumes, time to head home.

Finally! Game Day. Four – 16 hour days and I'm ready for the big finale! I get to find out who takes me home, lol.







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## GLOBAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FROM INSIGHT TO IMPACT

# CFLAA Partners in a Medical Cannabis Study

On October 17, Canada became the first G20 nation to legalize cannabis for recreational use, creating headlines across North America and around the globe.

This significant policy shift has also opened the door for more conversations around the use of medical cannabis. Through a prescription from a medical doctor and completing a registration with Health Canada, Canadians have had access to medical cannabis in a variety of product forms for many years now. For former professional athletes, particularly those who have sustained repeated critical injuries over their lengthy careers, this access is all too important.

Earlier this year, the CFL Alumni Association entered into a collaboration with Canadian Licensed Producer MedReleaf for an observational study on the use of medical cannabis for the treatment of chronic pain and arthritis. This landmark study will lend greater awareness to the potential health benefits of using medical cannabis in the treatment of ailments traditionally managed by opiates and other more severe treatment forms. The joint observational study has begun working with volunteer CFLAA members and continues to recruit more individuals to participate in this groundbreaking initiative.

When CFLAA Executive Director Leo Ezerins finalized the observational study arrangement with MedReleaf, he was highly conscious of the policy implications for the organization's executive and members. As such, Leo approached Global Public Affairs for support on medical cannabis best practices, and their GPA Cannabis team gladly signed on to help the CFLAA navigate the complex world of cannabis regulations in Canada. In addition, Global Public Affairs is Canada's leading privately held strategic communications and government advocacy consultancy.

Chaired by former Premier of Nova Scotia Darrell Dexter, GPA Cannabis is a trusted partner within the Canadian cannabis industry. Mr. Dexter was appointed by the CFLAA to chair an Advisory Board of experts to make recommendations to the CFLAA and their members on issues related to medical cannabis. The Advisory Board is providing fact-based recommendations to the CFLAA based on a thorough review of emerging medical evidence and evolving public policy.

The Board is made up of leading experts in the legal, medical and sporting communities and has consulted with some of Canada's foremost thought leaders on medical cannabis.

In particular, the CFLAA would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for volunteering their time on this initiative:

The Honourable Darrell Dexter, Vice Chair - Global Public Affairs

Dr. Blake Pearson, President and Chief Medical Advisor - Greenly Health

Ranjeev Dhillon, Lawyer - McCarthy Tétrault

Roderick Elliot, SVP, GPA Cannabis - Global Public Affairs

Alanna Sokic, Consultant, GPA Cannabis - Global Public Affairs

Jim Cimba, Retired Lawyer



Established in 2016, the **CFLPA Career Academy** is a transitional resource provided to all active CFLPA members aimed at assisting in *career development* outside of professional football.

This program has been developed by the CFLPA and its members as a resource that can be used by all active players. The Academy is meant to provide our membership with additional tools to use as they move on to **successful careers post-football**.

## Are You Willing to Share Your Expertise?

The CFLPA Career Academy is looking for CFL Alumni mentors to help current players *create their own path for post-football careers*. As CFL Alumni, you have already walked the walk and developed *perspective* and *skills* that have helped you **succeed beyond your on-field career**.

We are looking for individuals who:

- Remember how challenging transitioning to a post-playing career can be
- Have made the transition journey successfully
- Are willing to share their experiences and advice with current CFLPA members as they begin their own transition

**Interested or have questions?**

Please send us an email at [CareerAcademy@cflpa.com](mailto:CareerAcademy@cflpa.com)!

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DESTINATION

# STAY & PLAY

# FORMER CFL PLAYERS WORKING IN THE CFL 2012-2018

## BC Lions

Wally Buono  
VP Football Operations,  
Head Coach, Alt. Gov.  
(LB, Montreal 1973-82)

Stanley Franks  
Assistant DB Coach/  
Defense Quality Control  
(DB, BC 2009-2011)

Ed Hervey  
General Manager  
(WR, Edmonton 1999-2006)

Markus Howell  
WR Coach  
(WR, Winnipeg 2000-04, 2010,  
Ottawa 2005, Calgary 2006-09)

Jarious Jackson  
QB Coach  
(QB, BC 2005-11, Toronto 2012)

Bob O'Billovich  
East Regional Scout  
(QB/DB, Ottawa Rough Riders  
1963-1967)

Uzooma Okeke  
Southeast College Scouting  
(OL, Shreveport 1994-95, Ottawa  
1996, Montreal 1997- 2006)

Marcello Simmons  
Defense and Special Teams Coach  
(DB, Toronto 1995-98, 2000-01,  
Edmonton 1999, BC 2000)

Geroy Simon  
Player and Business Developmental  
Advisor (WR, Winnipeg 1999-2000,  
BC 2001-12, Saskatchewan 2013)

Jamie Taras  
Director Community Relations  
(OL/FB, BC 1987-2003)

Mark Washington  
DB Coach  
(DB, Montreal 1997-2002,  
BC 2003-06)

## Ottawa RedBlacks

Leroy Blugh  
DL Coach  
(DL, Edmonton 1989-99)

Mark Nelson  
Defensive Coordinator  
(LB, Calgary 1980-85,  
Saskatchewan 1986)

## Toronto Argonauts

Tyron Brackenridge  
Assistant DB Coach  
(DB, Saskatchewan 2011-2015)

Anthony Calvillo  
Offensive Coordinator  
(QB, Las Vegas 1994, Hamilton  
1995-97, Montreal 1998-2013)

Michael "Pinball" Clemons  
Vice-Chair  
(KR, PR, SB, RB, Toronto, 1989-2000)

Kevin Eiben  
Special Teams  
(DB, Toronto 2001-2012,  
Hamilton 2013)

Justin Hickman  
Pro & College Scout  
(DL, Hamilton 2009-15, Toronto 2016)

## Calgary Stampeders

Joshua Bell  
DB Coach  
(DB, Calgary 2012-2017)

DeVone Claybrooks  
Defensive Coordinator  
(DL, Montreal 2007-08,  
Calgary 2009-11)

Dave Dickenson  
Head Coach/Offensive Coordinator  
(QB, Calgary, 1997-2000 and 2008,  
BC, 2003-07)

Ryan Dinwiddie  
QB Coach  
(QB, Winnipeg 2006-08,  
Saskatchewan 2010-11)

John Hufnagel  
President/General Manager  
(QB, Calgary, 1976-79, Saskatchewan  
1980-83, 1987, Winnipeg 1984-86)

Corey Mace  
DL Coach  
(DT, Calgary 2010-15)

David Sapunjis  
Executive Committee Member  
(WR, Calgary 1990-97)

## Montreal Alouettes

Andre Bolduc  
Offensive Quality Control and Special  
Teams Coach (WR, Ottawa 1996,  
Edmonton 1997,  
Montreal 1998-2001)

Brian Chiu  
OL Coach  
(OL, Montreal 1997-2009)

Miles Gorrell  
Canadian Scout  
(OL, Calgary 1978-82, Ottawa 1982,  
Montreal 1982-85, Hamilton  
1985-91,96, Winnipeg 1992-95)

Khari Jones  
Offensive Coordinator/ QB Coach  
(QB, BC 1997-99, Winnipeg 2000-04,  
Calgary 2004, Edmonton 2005,  
Hamilton 2005)

Billy Parker  
Defensive Quality Control Coach  
(DB, Montreal 2009-2016)

Kavis Reed  
General Manager  
(DB, Edmonton 1995-99)

## Edmonton Eskimos

Kelly Bates  
Offensive Quality Control  
(OL, BC 2002-08, 2011, Winnipeg  
2009, Edmonton 2010)

Travis Brown  
LB Coach  
(LB, Ottawa 2014-15)

Jason Maas  
Head Coach/Offensive Coordinator  
(QB, Edmonton 2000-05, Hamilton  
2006-07, Montreal 2007,  
Edmonton 2008-10)

Demetrius Maxie  
DL Coach  
(DE, Montreal 96, Toronto 96-99,  
Saskatchewan 2000-01, Toronto  
2002, Calgary 2003-07)

Baron Miles  
DB Coach  
(DB, Montreal 1998-2004,  
BC 2005-09)

Tim Prinsen  
RB Coach  
(OL, Hamilton 1997-99,  
Edmonton 2000-04)

Tom Richards  
Board of Directors  
(WR, Edmonton 1986-1990)

## Hamilton Tiger-Cats

Kent Austin  
Consultant  
(QB, Saskatchewan 1987-93, BC 1994,  
Toronto 1995, Winnipeg 1996)

Craig Butler  
Special Teams/Def. Asst.  
(DB, Saskatchewan 2011-13,  
Hamilton 2014-17)

William Fields  
Quality Control and DB Coach  
(DB, Calgary 2001-04, Winnipeg 2005)

Corey Grant  
RB Coach  
(RB, Hamilton 1999-2001, 09,  
Montreal 2002,  
Saskatchewan 2002-08)

June Jones  
Head Coach  
(QB, Toronto 1982)

Orlando Steinhauer  
Asst. Head Coach  
(DB, Ottawa 1996, Hamilton 1997-  
2000, Toronto 2001 - 2008)

## Saskatchewan Roughriders

Brandon Isaac  
Quality Control  
(LB, Calgary 2010-11, Toronto  
2012-13, 15-16, Saskatchewan 2014)

Stephen McAdoo  
Offensive Coordinator  
(OL, Shreveport 1994-95)

Travis Moore  
WR Coach  
(SB, Calgary 1996-2002,  
Saskatchewan 2003-05)

Jeremy O 'Day  
Asst. VP and Football Operations  
& Admin.  
(OL, Toronto, 1997-98,  
Saskatchewan, 1999-2010)

Jason Shivers  
DB Coach  
(DB, Toronto 2008-09,  
Hamilton 2010-11)

## Winnipeg Blue Bombers

Richie Hall  
Defensive Coordinator  
(DB, Calgary 1983-87, Saskatchewan  
1988-91)

Danny McManus  
Assistant General Manager  
(QB, Winnipeg 1990-92, BC 1993-95,  
Edmonton 1996-97, Hamilton  
1998-2005, Calgary 2006)

Wade Miller  
President and CEO  
(LB/RB, Winnipeg 1995-2005)

Mike O'Shea  
Head Coach  
(LB, Hamilton 1993-95, 2000  
Toronto 1996-99, 2001-08)

Kevin Neilles  
Board of Directors  
(WR, Winnipeg 1984-1986,  
Calgary 1986)

Buck Pierce  
RB Coach,  
(QB, BC 2005-09, 2013,  
Winnipeg 2010-2013)

Kyle Walters  
General Manager  
(DB, Hamilton 1997-2003)

Glen Young  
Linebackers Coach  
(LB, Calgary 1998-2000,  
Montreal 2001-05)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>BC Lions</b>	6	7	7	8	7	8	11
<b>Calgary Stampeders</b>	3	5	4	6	10	7	7
<b>Edmonton Eskimos</b>	6	5	7	6	6	4	7
<b>Saskatchewan Roughriders</b>	5	5	5	5	7	7	5
<b>Winnipeg Blue Bombers</b>	2	1	9	10	9	8	8
<b>Hamilton Tiger-Cats</b>	4	6	5	4	6	4	6
<b>Toronto Argonauts</b>	6	7	4	5	4	4	5
<b>Montreal Alouettes</b>	1	4	9	7	6	7	6
<b>Ottawa Red Blacks</b>			6	7	7	6	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>57</b>

# Edmonton... "City of Quarterbacks"

It's been said that if you don't have good quarterback play, you're at a severe disadvantage. It's the pivotal position for any team, the driver of the engine. No matter how talented the rest of your offence is, without good play from the QB position, things usually don't come together. Alternately, great QB play can elevate the rest of the team.

Many teams spend year after year searching for the right "driver" and occasionally hit on one, such as Montreal and Anthony Calvillo. But those "hits" are often surrounded by years before and after of poor to average QB play.

And then there is Edmonton. A team that has for the most part consistently "hit" on QB's. With barely an occasional blip of average play, the Eskimos have more or less moved successively from one Hall of Fame QB to the next for almost the last 50 years!

Consider this, since 1972 the Eskimos have employed 5 successive QB's that have gone on to be inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame (Wilkinson, Moon, Dunigan, Ham, Allen & McManus). Most recently, Ricky Ray and Mike Reilly are likely destined to join them once their careers are over.

In 2006, when TSN announced its top 50 players of all time, 3 former Eskimo pivots cracked the top 50 (Moon #5, Allen #14 and Dunigan #39) while Wilkinson, Ham and McManus received honourable mention.

Tom Wilkinson was the first to lead the way. He was a three time Western and CFL All-Star in 1974, 1978 and 1979. Tom was named the Outstanding Player in the CFL in 1974 and was the runner-up in 1978. He played in 8 Grey Cups and won 5. He was named to the Edmonton Eskimo Wall of Fame and in 1987.

His successor, Warren Moon won 5 successive Grey Cups from 1978 – 1982 and won the offensive Grey Cup Most Valuable Player award in the 1980 and 1982 and became the first professional quarterback to pass for 5,000 yards in a season by reaching exactly 5,000 yards in 1982. In his final CFL season of 1983, he threw for a league record 5,648 yards and won the CFL's Most Outstanding Player Award.

Matt Dunigan was the first of 3 successive QB's who were known as much for their running prowess as well as their passing. Matt racked up 732 yards in 1984 and 737 yards in 1985, which at the time was a CFL record for yards rushing by a QB. He led the Eskimos to two Grey Cup appearances in 1986 and '87 winning the latter. He was also a CFL All Star in 1985.

Damon Allen had two terms with the Eskimos and was also known for his scrambling ability. He played in 3 Grey Cups while with the Eskimos, winning in 1987 and 1993.



Mike Reilly



Matt Nichols



Kerry Joseph



Steven Jyles



Ricky Ray



Jason Maas

Tracy Ham played 6 years with the Eskimos and became the first CFL quarterback to rush for over 1,000 yards with 1,005 on 125 carries and with 10 touchdowns in 1989 and followed it up with 1,096 in 1990. 1989, was Ham's best season as he was named to the Western and All-Canadian All-Star teams and was named the Outstanding Player in the CFL. He was part of the Grey Cup team in 1987 and lost in 1990.

Jason Maas and Ricky Ray had a few successful seasons together before Ray's reign. They went to 3 Grey Cups in 2002, 2003 and 2005, winning the last two. Ricky Ray was also a CFL All-Star in 2006.

For the past 6 seasons Mike Reilly has been amongst the top QB's in the league. He has been a 2 time Western All-Star, a CFL All-Star and Most Outstanding Player in 2017. He also won the Grey Cup in 2016.

For the past 50 years, Eskimo QB's (& tandems) have consistently ranked among the leaders in both touchdowns and passing yards. They have ranked in the top 3 for both touchdowns thrown and yardage in 32 of those 50 years!

Congratulations to the Eskimo organization for their success at the pivotal position!

# Edmonton... "City of Quarterbacks"

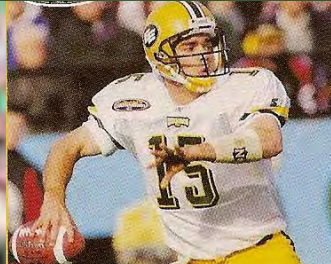
Year	Name	TD's	Yards	Year	Name	TD's	Yards
2018	Mike Reilly	2	1	1993	Damon Allen	6	7
2017	Mike Reilly	T-1	1	1992	Tracy Ham	3	5
2016	Mike Reilly	2	1	1991	Tracy Ham	3	5
2015	Mike Reilly/Matt Nichols	T-1	1	1990	Tracy Ham	1	2
2014	Mike Reilly	4	6	1989	Tracy Ham	1	2
2013	Mike Reilly	T-2	2	1988	Tracy Ham/Damon Allen	4	3
2012	Kerry Joseph/Matt Nichols/Steven Jyles	T-4	3	1987	Matt Dunigan/Damon Allen/Tracy Ham	1	1
2011	Ricky Ray	3	3	1986	Matt Dunigan/Damon Allen	1	1
2010	Ricky Ray	7	5	1985	Matt Dunigan/Damon Allen	2	2
2009	Ricky Ray	T-3	1	1984	Matt Dunigan	T-2	4
2008	Ricky Ray	3	1	1983	Warren Moon/Matt Dunigan	1	1
2007	Ricky Ray	T-4	4	1982	Warren Moon	1	1
2006	Ricky Ray	4	1	1981	Warren Moon/Tom Wilkinson	3	3
2005	Ricky Ray	T-4	2	1980	Warren Moon/Tom Wilkinson	2	2
2004	Jason Maas	T-2	2	1979	Warren Moon/Tom Wilkinson	1	1
2003	Ricky Ray	3	3	1978	Tom Wilkinson /Bruce Lemmerman/Moon	2	5
2002	Ricky Ray / Jason Maas	2	3	1977	Tom Wilkinson /Bruce Lemmerman	2	1
2001	Jason Maas	2	4	1976	Bruce Lemmerman/Tom Wilkinson	T-3	3
2000	Nealon Greene / Dan Crowley	2	4	1975	Tom Wilkinson /Bruce Lemmerman	1	1
1999	Nealon Greene	6	7	1974	Tom Wilkinson /Bruce Lemmerman	4	3
1998	David Archer / Jimmy Kemp	4	3	1973	Bruce Lemmerman/Tom Wilkinson	1	3
1997	Danny McManus	4	4	1972	Tom Wilkinson /Bruce Lemmerman	3	4
1996	Danny McManus	5	2	1971	Bruce Lemmerman/Larry Lawrence	5	4
1995	Kerwin Bell	5	9	1970	Don Trull	7	4
1994	Damon Allen	7	6	1969	Corey Colehour	8	8



Dan Crowley



Nealon Greene



Jimmy Kemp



Danny McManus



Kerwin Bell



Damon Allen



Tracey Ham



Matt Dunigan



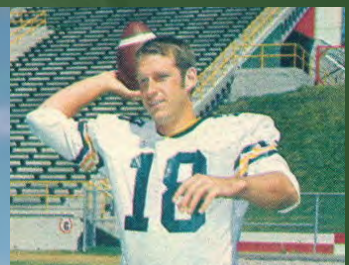
Warren Moon



Tom Wilkinson



Don Trull



Corey Colehour

# CFLAA “MAN OF THE YEAR” HONOUREES

The Canadian Football League Alumni Association is proud to announce that a pair of revered Edmonton Eskimo Alumni will be recognized as co – “Man of the Year” honouree’s at this year’s CFLAA Legends Luncheon during Grey Cup Festival in Edmonton.

Brian Fryer and Hector Pothier were not only very accomplished athletes during their playing careers but outstanding citizens that continued to give back to the community in their post playing careers.

“Man of the Year” honourees are chosen by the CFLAA Executive Board to recognize a lifetime of achievements both on and off the field in the host Grey Cup city.



**Brian  
Fryer**



As a native Edmontonian, Brian Fryer began his football career at the University of Alberta where he was a two-time CIS All-Star, Most Outstanding Player finalist in 1974 and Hec Creighton Award Winner in 1975. Recognized as one of the best wide receivers of all-time, Brian set numerous CIS records during his 4 year University career.

In 1976, he was the first Canadian college player to be drafted to the NFL and make the team as a rookie for the Washington Redskins. In 1978 he returned to Edmonton and was a member of the five-in-a-row Grey Cup Champions during his 8 year Eskimo career.

Since his retirement in 1985, Brian has been employed as the Executive Director of Football Alberta, administering all amateur football programs in the province. Since 1995, Brian is still an active member of the Edmonton Eskimo Alumni Association as a Director, President and chair of Casino and Scholarship committees.

“It is an honor to be awarded the CFLAA Man of the Year along with Hector. Its’ great to be appreciated for all of the work we do for the Alumni that supports numerous amateur football programs and charitable activities in the community. I have been fortunate to be involved with Football Alberta as the Executive Director for the last three decades. Many programs have evolved over that time that has helped develop thousands of players and coaches from grassroots to stadium.

In 2013, Brian was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in recognition of his CIS playing career with the Alberta Golden Bears. He was also inducted into the Alberta Schools Athletic Association Sports Hall of Fame in 2008 and inducted into the City of Edmonton’s Sports Hall of Fame in 2005. As well he is inducted into the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame as part of the team awards for winning the Grey Cup 5 years in a row (1978–82).



**Hector  
Pothier**



Hector Pothier was green and gold start to finish as he played his entire 12 year career (1978-89) with the Edmonton Eskimos. Hector was an outstanding offensive lineman, as he was recognized as a CFL All-Star, 4 time Western All-Star and winner of the Tom Pate award for dedication to community service. As a leader and key member of the offensive line, he helped the team win 6 Grey Cup Championships.

Post CFL career, Hector has been a teacher and principal in the Edmonton public school system since 1990 and has volunteered extensively in the community as a coach, referee, YMCA Board member and key organizer for many Eskimo alumni events. Involvement in the community has always been a priority in Hector’s life.



# CFLAA "MAN OF THE YEAR" HONOUREES

"As a football player and then as a teacher I have always had a firm belief that one must give back to the community. As a principal, our school has a long tradition of teaching our students of giving back to society. That no matter how tough you think your life is, there are always some with bigger problems. We have each class do an annual community project which gives back in some way to the community. Whether it be cleaning the school fields, collecting clothing to donate to those in need or supporting the Terry Fox Annual Run for Cancer, our students are actively involved with and reminded of the need to contribute positively to society."

He has been a member of the Edmonton Eskimo Alumni Board of Directors for last 26 years, a key organizer and participant in many alumni community endeavors and President of the CFLAA from 2009-2016. He is also one of the founders of the CFL Alumni Association.

"I am proud to have been involved with the CFLAA since its inception. Under the tremendous work and guidance of Leo Ezerins, I firmly believe that the CFLAA has made a difference in connecting Alumni Associations around the league. It has led to increased communication between each association, which in turn has led to the sharing of common practices and motivated other associations to match some of the community service and work being done across the league."

Current CFLAA President Brett MacNeil recognizes Hector as a mentor for his current Presidency. "Hector was an imposing and iconic figure on the Edmonton offensive line for a long and illustrious twelve year career. As the inaugural President of the CFLAA Hector has continued to support CFL Alumni and minor football initiatives long after his retirement from the CFL. Hector has acted as a mentor to me as CFLAA Past President and will always remain one of my idols from the historic Grey Cup run that Hector and Edmonton accomplished in the 70s and 80s (except for beating Ottawa lol). I am proud to say that we both played for Cal Murphy and that I have followed in Hector's footsteps as a CFL Offensive lineman, Edmonton Eskimo and CFLAA President".

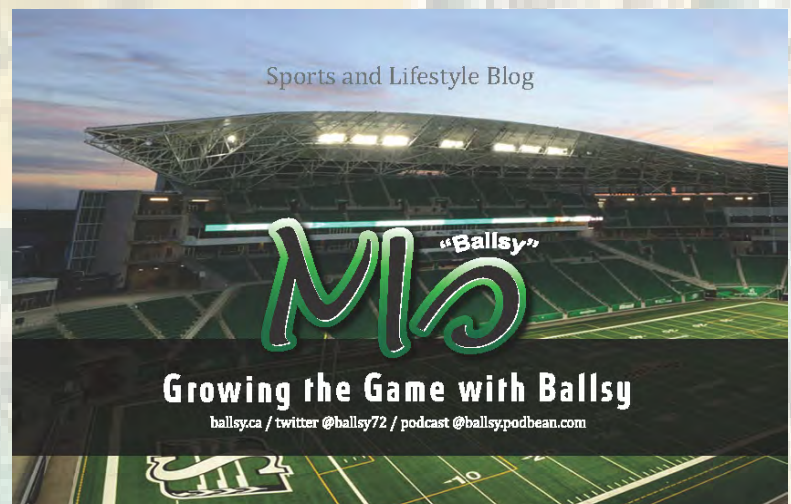
Hector has also been a key driver in the development of "Legend Luncheon" which has grown to be one of the premier events on Grey Cup weekend.

"The Canadian Tire CFLAA Legends Lunch is a wonderful example of the work the CFLAA is doing across the league. Our Support Fund is growing each year due to the efforts of each association in ensuring that the Legends Lunch is a successful fundraiser. The cooperation and support of the CFL has been invaluable to the CFLAA and our partnership projects with community programs continue to support the needs of our Alumni."

This year's CFL Alumni Association Legends Luncheon is on Friday, Nov. 23rd at the Shaw Centre, Hall D.

## Previous Honourees

- 2009 - Sam `The Rifle` Etcheverry, Montreal Alouette Alumni – posthumously
- 2010 - Bayne Norrie, Edmonton Eskimo Alumni
- 2011 - Norm Fieldgate, BC Lions Alumni
- 2012 - Don Durnon, Toronto Argonauts Alumni
- 2013 - George Reed & Carm Carteri, Saskatchewan Roughrider Alumni Association
- 2014 - Lui Passaglia, BC Lions Alumni Association
- 2015 - Wade Miller & Paul Robson, Winnipeg Blue Bombers Alumni
- 2016 - Michael "Pinball" Clemons & Peter Martin, Toronto Argonauts Alumni
- 2017 - Russ Jackson & Jeff Avery, Ottawa Rough Riders / RedBlacks Alumni





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# IN MEMORY OF

## FORMER PLAYERS, COACHES & EXECUTIVES THAT HAVE PASSED AWAY IN THE LAST YEAR.

**Robert "Bob" Brady**  
(1931 – July 25, 2018)  
1956–1960 - BC Lions  
1961 - Toronto Argonauts

**Urban M. Bowman Jr.**  
(November 16, 1937 – February 25, 2018)  
1971 - Hamilton Tiger-Cats  
(Defensive Coordinator)  
1972–1973 Edmonton Eskimos  
(Defensive Line)  
1985–1988 Winnipeg Blue Bombers (Defensive Line/Special Teams)  
1989 Ottawa Rough Riders  
(Offensive Line)  
1990 Edmonton Eskimos  
(Defensive Line)  
1991–1993 Winnipeg Blue Bombers (Defensive Line/Special Teams)  
1992 Winnipeg Blue Bombers  
(Interim Head Coach)  
1994 Ottawa Rough Riders  
(Defensive Coordinator)  
1995–1997 Hamilton Tiger-Cats  
(Asst. Head Coach/Special Teams/Defensive Line)  
2000 Toronto Argonauts (Special Teams)  
2004 Winnipeg Blue Bombers  
(Special Teams)  
2005 Winnipeg Blue Bombers  
(Linebackers)

**Gene C. Ceppetelli**  
(July 28, 1942 – June 14, 2018)  
1963–1967 Hamilton Tiger-Cats  
1968–1969 Philadelphia Eagles  
1969 New York Giants  
1970–1971 Montreal Alouettes

**Bruce Coulter**  
(November 19, 1927 – June 5, 2018)  
1948–1957 Montreal Alouettes

**Andy Cox**  
(Died - September 25, 2018)  
2002 – 2003 Hamilton Tiger-Cats  
(Special Teams Coordinator)  
2009 Winnipeg Blue Bombers (RB Coach)

**Bobby Dawson**  
(February 4, 1932 – December 9, 2017)  
1953 – 1959 Hamilton Tiger-Cats

**Troy Dickey**  
(April 8, 1971 - January 9, 2018)  
1995 Saskatchewan Roughriders

**John Dlugos**  
(July 26, 1928 – April 10, 2018)  
1949 – 1951 Edmonton Eskimo

**R.A. Sam Fabro**  
(1921 - January 2, 2018)  
1942 Winnipeg Blue Bombers

**Robert Forbes**  
(September 17, 1956 - March 25, 2018)  
1979 – 1983 Calgary Stampeders  
1984 Toronto Argonauts Alumnus

**George Grant**  
(March 18, 1942 – September 17, 2018)  
1995 - 2003 Owner, Hamilton Tiger-Cats

**Jon Hohman**  
(October 23, 1942 - August 2, 2018)  
1967–1973 Hamilton Tiger-Cats

**Robert Earl Holmes**  
(October 5, 1945 – April 14, 2018)  
1976 Saskatchewan Roughriders

**Jerry Keeling**  
(August 2, 1939 – January 20, 2018)  
1961–1972 Calgary Stampeders  
1973–1975 Ottawa Rough Riders  
1975 Hamilton Tiger-Cats

**Charles E. Klingbeil**  
(November 2, 1965 – June 19, 2018)  
1989 – 1990 Saskatchewan Roughriders

**William "Bill" Kyle**  
(January 29, 1926 – February 21, 2018)  
1947 Hamilton Tigers

**Mike Labinjo**  
(July 8, 1980 – September 22, 2018)  
2007–2010 Calgary Stampeders

**Harry Lampman**  
(July 22, 1927 – June 9, 2018)  
1952–1956 Saskatchewan Roughriders  
1957–1959 Hamilton Tiger-Cats  
1960 Montreal Alouettes

**Ron Meyer**  
(February 17, 1941 – December 5, 2017)  
1994 Las Vegas Posse

**James "Quick" Parker**  
(January 1, 1958 – March 27, 2018)  
1980–1983 Edmonton Eskimos  
1984–1989 BC Lions  
1990–1991 Toronto Argonauts

**Vincent James Phason**  
(February 2, 1953 – September 5, 2018)  
1975 Edmonton Eskimos  
1975 BC Lions  
1976–1982 Winnipeg Blue Bombers  
1983–1985 Montreal Concordes

**Cornel Piper**  
(April 2, 1937 – September 2, 2018)  
1957–1967 Winnipeg Blue Bombers

**Maurice "The Toe" Racine**  
(October 13, 1937 – March 4, 2018)  
1958–1974 Ottawa Rough Riders

**Larry Robinson**  
(April 18, 1942 – July 18, 2018)  
1961–1975 Calgary Stampeders

**Gordon Rowland**  
(September 1, 1930 – October 2, 2018)  
1954–1964 Winnipeg Blue Bombers

**Rod Rust**  
(August 2, 1928 – October 23, 2018)  
1973–1975 Montreal Alouettes (DC)  
2001 Montreal Alouettes (HC)  
2005 Winnipeg Blue Bombers (DC)

**Joseph I. Scannella**  
(May 22, 1928 – May 3, 2018)  
1969 Montreal Alouettes (QB/RB)  
1978–1981 Montreal Alouettes (HC)

**James R. Stillwagon**  
(February 11, 1949 – February 4, 2018)  
1971–1975 Toronto Argonauts

**John Stuart Trainor**  
(March 18, 1947 – December 2, 2017)  
1971 – 1973 Toronto Argonauts  
1976 Montreal Alouettes

**George Tsonos**  
(March 19, 1938 – September 30, 2018)  
1959 – 1960 Montreal Alouettes

**Ray Truant**  
(October 10, 1930 – October 15, 2018)  
1953–1957 Hamilton Tiger-Cats

**Scott Orlando Tyler**  
(December 5, 1939 – January 8, 2018)  
1964 Hamilton Tiger-Cats

**Jack Urness**  
(June 23, 1937 – January 15, 2018)  
1958 - 1959 Saskatchewan Roughriders Alumnus

**Bob Vespaziani**  
(June 15, 1935 – January 20, 2018)  
1979 – 1984 Winnipeg Blue Bombers  
1988 – 1991 BC Lions  
1986 – 1987 Calgary Stampeders (HC)  
1995 – 1999 Calgary Stampeders

**Galen Wahlmeier**  
(February 19, 1934 – July 26, 2018)  
1957–1967 Saskatchewan Roughriders

**Jim "Jay" Washington**  
(October 13, 1951 – June 24, 2018)  
1974–1979 Winnipeg Blue Bombers  
1980 Saskatchewan Roughriders

**Roger Yachetti**  
(April 14, 1940 - September 16, 2018)  
1992 – 1995 Hamilton Tiger-Cats  
(Part Owner & Chairman)

The CFL Alumni Association apologizes in advance if we have missed someone. Please contact us with any updates: [info@cflaa.ca](mailto:info@cflaa.ca)



# CFL Alumni Association's Primary Contacts



## Teams/Titles

### Calgary

CFLAA Board Member  
CFLAA Board Member  
President  
Administration

### Edmonton

CFLAA Board Member  
President  
Administration

### Saskatchewan

CFLAA Board Member  
President  
Administration

### Winnipeg

CFLAA Board Member & President  
President  
Administration

## Contact name

JT Hay  
Bill Johnson  
Dave Heasman  
Jenny Kerr

Patrick Kabongo  
Bob Clarke  
Shona Wards

Rob Brescani  
Rob Brescani  
Rob Pine

Brett MacNeil  
Jayson Dzikowicz  
Donna Barrington

## Teams/Titles

### Hamilton

CFLAA Board Member  
President  
Administration

### Montreal

CFLAA Board Member  
President  
President  
Administration

### Ottawa

CFLAA Board Member & Vice-President  
President  
Administration

### Toronto

CFLAA Board Member & Treasurer  
President  
Administration

## Contact name

Jason Riley  
Ryan Donnelly  
Ed Valtenbergs

Sam Fornier  
Ian Mofford  
Etienne Boulay  
Annie Larouche

Jim Cain  
Jeff Avery  
Bob Pekarchuk

Bob Bronk  
Stacey Coray  
Crista Bazos

### CFLAA Directors-at-Large

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Saskatchewan Jim Hopson  
Winnipeg Dan Dott  
Governance (Edmonton) Linda Wood Edwards  
Executive Director Leo Ezerins

### CFL Alumni Support Fund Committee

Edmonton - Chair Hector Pothier  
Ottawa Jim Cain  
Toronto Peter Martin  
Winnipeg Brett MacNeil  
Winnipeg Glenn Scrivener

If you would like to contact anyone of the individuals please email [info@cflaa.ca](mailto:info@cflaa.ca)

# Alumni Updates



# CFL ALUMNI

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# HAMILTON TIGER-CATS ALUMNI 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

It was another progressive and eventful year for the Tiger-Cat Alumni Association. Incoming President Ryan Donnelly ushered in a new mandate for the Association to “get younger”. While still at an impressive 165 members, the majority of Alumni played ball in the 20th Century. Our new “youth movement” brought in new blood like Rob Hitchcock, Sandy Beveridge, Dave Stala, Brian Hilk and Obie Spanic. Many of these “youngsters” were on hand for our 33rd Annual Golf Tournament to unofficially “Kick-off” our season.



Our “Wall of Honour” Induction returned this year after a 6 year hiatus. In partnership with the Club, the HTCAA hosted a very memorable event to induct its’ newest member “Joe Montford”. After a very successful 8 year Tiger-Cat career, Joe was finally recognized as the 23rd honouree to have his name permanently displayed at Tim Horton’s Field. Joe amassed 135 sacks to go along with 35 forced fumbles and 18 recoveries; He was a 5-time CFL All-Star and 3-time CFL Most Outstanding Defensive Player. He was voted #40 of the Top 50 CFL players of all time and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2011.



The HTCAA also had some other members that were honoured this year. Former Tiger-Cat player and Coach Don Sutherin was inducted into the Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame; outstanding offensive lineman Dave Hack was inducted into the Tiger-Cat Fan Clubs “Walk of Fame” and 1960’s QB Frank Cosentino was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame as a builder. Renovations were also completed this year at Tim Horton’s Field to house the Hall of Fame on the Club level. All inductee busts are now permanently displayed along with a rotating variety of artifacts from the Halls’ storage archives.

One of Hamilton's newest high schools will be named for Tiger-Cat Alumnus Bernie Custis, a local sports legend, long-time educator and the first black quarterback to play for a professional football team in North America.

Custis’s professional career began with the Tiger-Cats in August 1951. He was named an all-star in his first season before moving to running back and eventually winning the Grey Cup with the team in 1953. Custis went on to become a teacher and principal with the former Wentworth County Board of Education and a coach for the McMaster Marauders, where he spent eight seasons and was named Canadian university football's coach of the year in 1982.



Dan Black, aka “Pigskin Pete” has retired from his role as official Ti-Cat cheerleader. Citing personal reasons and a desire to spend and focus more time on family, Dan led his last “Oskee Wee Wee” on Labour Day this year. Dan has played the role of “Pigskin Pete” for the past 10 seasons. The Tiger-Cats say they are now looking for a new Pigskin Pete, saying they “look forward to one of the greatest fan traditions in sport continuing for years to come.”.

Up-dates were made our web-site [www.htcaa.ca](http://www.htcaa.ca) as we strive to meet of our “Associations Mission” to preserve and promote the history of the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, We have added video highlights of past Tiger-Cat Grey Cup appearances along with statistical records for the club and team rosters by year.

Finally we would like to remember those Alumni that have passed in last year. They include: Gene Ceppetelli; John Hohman, Bill Kyle, Harry Lampman, Ray Truant and former owners George Grant and Roger Yachetti.



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## MONTREAL ALOUETTE ALUMNI 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

### GAME. NOW AND ALWAYS.

Why wait until the end of the season to enter a new era? We're ready and we've laid a strong foundation. A group of young athletes, a vibrant organization and a brand that is connected to its city; that's who the **Alouettes** are. If Montreal is gastronomy, we are too. If Montreal is culture, we are too. If Montreal is music, we are too. We will always be game to go wherever our metropolis takes us. Toujours game

Turning over a new leaf doesn't mean forgetting your past. To know where you're headed, you have to know where you're coming from. Share your best **Alouettes** memory with us on [toujoursgame.ca](http://toujoursgame.ca) for a chance to win a bunch of great prizes before the official Montréal era launch on **February 3, 2019**. Don't forget to also give some love to other fan stories!



### GAME. MAINTENANT ET TOUJOURS

Pourquoi attendre la fin de la saison pour entrer dans une nouvelle ère ? On est prêt et les bases ont été jetées. Un groupe de jeunes athlètes, une organisation vibrante et une marque qui est connectée à sa ville; c'est ce que sont les **Alouettes**. Si Montréal est gastronomie, on l'est aussi. Si Montréal est culture, on l'est aussi. Si Montréal est musique, on l'est aussi. On sera Toujours Game d'aller là où notre métropole nous emmènera.

Tourner la page ne veut toutefois pas dire qu'on oublie notre passé. Il faut savoir d'où l'on vient pour savoir vers quoi l'on se dirige! Partagez-nous votre meilleur souvenir des **Alouettes** sur [toujoursgame.ca](http://toujoursgame.ca) pour courir la chance de gagner une foule de prix d'ici au lancement officiel de l'ère Montréal le **3 février 2019**. N'oubliez pas de donner de l'amour aux histoires d'autres fans aussi !

Regards,

Ian Mofford, President, Montreal Alouettes Alumni Association

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# CFL Ottawa Alumni Association 2018 Year in Review

For the CFL Ottawa Alumni Association (CFLOAA) the highlight of 2018 was an absolutely incredible weekend celebrating the 1968 and 1969 Grey Cup winning Ottawa Rough Rider teams that was held on August 10th and 11th. The weekend was organized by the CFL Ottawa Alumni Association and the Ottawa Redblacks.

This is the only Ottawa Rough Rider team to ever repeat as Grey Cup champions. There were only 36 players on these two teams with 29 on both teams. Eight guys plus Coach Frank Clair are in the Canadian Football Hall of Fame (Russ Jackson, Ron Stewart, Whit Tucker, Soupy Campbell, Moe Racine, Ken Lehmann, Gene Gaines and Don Sutherin). In addition, three of the other players went on to excellent NFL careers (Bo Scott, Vic Washington and Margene Adkins).

Surprisingly, two Grey Cup records set in 1968 and 1969 still stand today. Vic Washington's 1968 iconic 80 yard TD run (including a fumble that bounced right back into his hands) is still the longest run ever. Russ Jackson's 4 TD passes in 1969 is still the most ever in a Grey Cup game which is surprising given the increasing emphasis on passing over the years and that lots of Grey Cups have been played indoors. The 1969 team was also selected as the Canadian Press "Team of the Year" beating out the Montreal Canadiens who won the Stanley Cup in both 1968 and 69.

Twenty-two of the 24 players who are still alive and six family members representing those players who have passed away plus the late Frank Clair's daughter Robin and Arthur and Ken Loeb, the sons of the late Owner David Loeb all attended.

1968 and 69 teammates Jim Cain (CFLAA VP) and Russ Jackson along with Randy Burgess, VP Communications and Content of OSEG/Redblacks were key members of the organizing committee. The reunion weekend would not have happened without the amazing support of many other staff members of OSEG/Redblacks as well the CFLOAA that provided organizational and financial support.

The dinner Friday night, held in The Otto's Club area of the south side stands at TD Place was the perfect kickoff to what was a once in a lifetime experience for the 1968 and 1969 team members and their families. On the Saturday a social gathering was held at the Prescott Hotel at noon to raise a glass in honour of those teammates who have passed away. This was a more relaxing setting for the sharing of old stories and intermingling with family members. Prior to the evening game, the players or their family representative were introduced in the TD Place Arena to a large crowd of Ottawa football fans followed by an autograph session that went well into the first quarter of the Redblacks - Alouettes game.

At halftime all the players or their family representatives were escorted to mid-field. After the Grey Cup was escorted onto the field by the RCMP, everyone was introduced to the sold-out Redblacks crowd. Members of the 1969 team were presented with their 1969 Grey Cup Champion rings which they had not received after their victory so many years ago by Arthur and Ken Loeb sons of the former owner the late David Loeb.

It was a wonderful weekend of new memories for the players and their families of these two back to back Grey Cup winning Rough Rider teams.



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# Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association 2018 Year In Review

This year has been an exciting one for the Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association.

The Association was proud to welcome MLSE to the Double Blue and is closing off a very successful year: The first year of a partnership that will promote the heritage and tradition of Argonauts football, enhance the experience for fans in Toronto, and CFL fans right across the country.

As a result of MLSE's generous support, we have seen an increase in the support and participation from alumni from all eras this season. We look forward to continuing to work with MLSE and create opportunities for alumni to connect with former teammates and enhance the game day experience for fans of the Double Blue.

The Association kicked-off its season with the 7th Annual Reunion Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at Royal Woodbine Golf Course in Toronto. Thanks to all that came out making it another successful evening. Also, our 19th Annual Golf Fun Day Tournament teed-off at Eagle Ridge Golf Course, Ridge Golf Club, one of Club-Link's finest courses in the GTA. Another sell-out!

The reunion and golf tournament provided alumni with a terrific opportunity to catch up with former teammates. At the reunion, Argos alumni and CFL Commissioner Randy Ambrosie provided an update on how things were progressing on and off-the field as the league readied for the 2018 season. At the golf tournament, Jim Popp the Club's GM brought greetings from the team and also updated those in attendance on training camp and vision for the season and beyond.

In 2015, the Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association Support Fund (TAAA) was set-up to help alumni that may not be able to help themselves by offering short-term financial assistance, and will continue to be a key initiative of the Association this year. The Association is pleased that it was able to offer support every year of its inception including 2018. The support fund will continue to be a key initiative of the Association.

In March 2016, the Association launched its new website [argoalumni.ca](http://argoalumni.ca) which is becoming the go-to-place for Argonauts history. So, if you have not done so yet, please check-it-out. Special thanks to David Watkins, President, LOUD Entertainment for his efforts and consideration regarding the development, launch and on-going support for our new website.

On a serious note, since Grey Cup 2017, the Association was saddened to learn of the passing of John Trainor (December 23, 2017), Jim Stillwagon (February 4, 2018), Leo Cahill (February 16, 2018) and Rob Forbes (March 25, 2018).

We will continue to offer support to and ramp-up communication with former Argos, focus on ways that provide alumni with opportunities to get together with each other and push membership best efforts to recruit and involve young alumni.

Finally, huge thank you to Crista Bazos, the Association's Administrative Manager for all her awesome efforts and hard work and keeping everyone up-to-date on all things Double Blue.

Cheers,  
Stace Coray  
President, Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association



Sask Roughriders  
Play-by-Play  
Best-Selling Author  
Sports Talk Host  
Keynote Speaker and Emcee  
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# CALGARY STAMPEDERS ALUMNI 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Calgary Stampeders Alumni Association (CSAA) is gearing up for what we hope to be another Grey Cup run in 2018 after another successful season on the gridiron.

We started the year with Alumni George 'Geo' Hopkins receiving a 40-year Service Award on March 20th. Geo has been with the Stampeders Football Club for 46 years as the legendary equipment manager... If anyone has a good story to tell it would be Geo. Thank you Geo for keeping the boys together this season!

Our 2018 Alumni Camp, run by CSAA Alumni Tony Spoletini in June, was once again, a success. The camp, designed for Atom and Peewee players, was held at McMahon Stadium with 100% of proceeds going to the Alberta Children's Hospital. Now in it's 22nd year the camp has been able to raise over \$200,000 for the Alberta Children's Hospital. The young players enjoy and thrive off the coaching, guidance and mentorship from Alumni players – it's always a fun experience for Calgary's young up and coming players



The July 23rd, 29th Annual Calgary Stampeders Alumni Association Charity Golf Tournament was a roaring success allowing the CSAA to present a cheque in the amount of \$30,000 at the Calgary Stampeders Labour Day Classic with proceeds going to the Calgary Children's Foundation (C.C.F) and Calgary Minor Football. The proceeds of another successful Charity Golf tournament were graciously received by John Vos of the C.C.F.

Also in July, we were honoured to have our Alumni invited to participate in the 2018 Football Alberta Canada Cup which hosted the best of the best High School Football players in Canada. What a showcase of young Canadian Talent! We spotted more than a few future Alumni.

On August 4th we took a stroll down memory lane at our Legacy Night Game. There was an Alumni Tailgate in the Gridiron Gardens, presented by Coors Light, prior to the Stampeders vs Lions game where fans could mingle, get autographs and snap a photo with over 25+ Alumni.



Left to right: John Vos - Chair of the News Talk 770 Calgary Children's Foundation, Tammy Truman, Truman Insurance - Presenting Sponsor and Jackie Kellogg - The 29th Stampeders Alumni Association Charity Golf Tournament Chairman.



Legacy Night. Representing 92', 98', 01. Dave Heasman, Jackie Kellogg, Jay McNeil and Rocco Romano

This season we also had a chance to participate in the Believe in Gold run on September 29th. Alumni supported, walked and ran for childhood cancer.

Through the Calgary Stampeders Alumni Charitable Foundation, the CSAA also donated \$28,000 to multiple charities of choice within Calgary and surrounding areas. The Calgary Stampeders Alumni Charitable Foundation allows the CSAA to financially give back to our community in perpetuity with a focus on, but not limited to, sports, education, health and community service.

## In Memoriam

The Calgary Stampeders Alumni Association would like to take a moment to honour our brothers that we lost in 2018:

**Michael 'Mike' Labinjo** 1980 – 2018. Linebacker with the Calgary Stampeders from 2007 to 2010. Won the 96th Grey Cup championship with the Stampeders

**Larry Robinson** - 1942 – 2018. Defensive back and Placekicker with the Calgary Stampeders from 1961 to 1975. Won the Dr. Beattie Martin Trophy in 1961, the 59th Grey Cup Championship with the Stampeders and was added to the Stampeders Wall of Fame in 1986, Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 1998 and the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame in 2009.

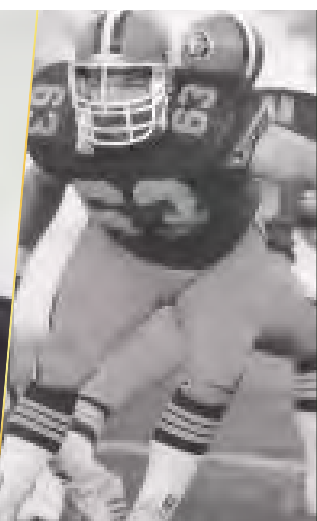
**Rob Forbes** 1956 – 2018. Fullback and Special Teams with the Calgary Stampeders from 1979 to 1983.

**Robert Amedeo "Bob" Vespaziani** 1935 – 2018. Head Coach of the Calgary Stampeders 1986-1987.

**Jerry Keeling** 1939 – 2018. Defensive Back and Quarterback for the Calgary Stampeders from 1961 – 1972. Won the 59th Grey Cup Championship with the Stampeders

# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR **CFLAA MEN OF THE YEAR**

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**BRIAN FRYER**

**HECTOR POTHIER**

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## EDMONTON ESKIMO ALUMNI 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Edmonton Eskimo Alumni Association is excited to be hosting the CFL Community at Grey Cup this year. It should be a great week with an amazing number of scheduled events, bands and entertainment that the Edmonton community has fully supported by selling out most of the keynote events.

A big thank you to the Edmonton Eskimo Alumni that pitched in and sold tables for the Canadian Tire Legends Lunch and earned around \$3,000.00 for the Eskimo Alumni Support Fund. The alumni stepped up and spread the word amongst their friends and the result was a great response from the Edmonton fans, as the Legends Luncheon was sold out before November turned the corner.

The Eskimo Alumni held their 29th Annual Members Golf Tourney at the Links in Spruce Grove and once again we had good weather and raised almost \$30,000.00 to support the programs and activities of the EE Alumni Association. Our Annual Wine Fest at the beginning of June in the Jackie Parker Room at Commonwealth Stadium, was also another success with a larger crowd than we have had in a couple of years. Once again over 400 patrons supported this event and most went home with a case or two of wine to sample over the coming year.

The Annual picnic was held at the Kinsmen Club. Members from both the Alumni and the EE current team spent the afternoon sharing stories, playing games and breaking bread with one another.

Our membership participated in numerous golf tournaments around the province in support of local charities in many communities. Thank you to all our membership who regularly participate in these tournaments that are fundraisers for so many charitable groups.

Congratulations to Brian Fryer and Hector Pothier for their Men of the Year recognition at the Canadian Tire CFLAA Legends Luncheon.

The Eskimo Alumni look forward to all our fellow alumni, from around the country, coming together during Grey Cup Week.

Hector Pothier,  
EEAA/CFLAA Board Member  
CFLAA Founder

# THANK YOU ALUMNI!

The Saskatchewan Roughriders would like to acknowledge and thank our alumni for their continuous contributions on and off the field. All have their own tales of grit, perseverance and triumph and have made their mark on our community and Rider Nation.



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## SNACKS FOR THE BIG GAME!



@olddutch



/olddutch



2018 was another busy and eventful year for the Saskatchewan Roughrider Alumni Association. We have seen our alumni membership grow to well over 100 members and our annual fundraising events raise over \$100,000 with all funds been given out to the different groups and communities that we have proudly supported throughout the year.

It also marked the second year of our beautiful new Mosaic Stadium and our very own Alumni Lounge. We are very proud of our new digs located in the northwest end zone. We invite any visiting CFL Alumni to stop in and be our guests in our new home! We would also like to thank the Saskatchewan Roughrider Football Club for allowing us this opportunity and also for the very special relationship we have with them. I believe this is a relationship unlike any in the league and it truly enables our association to accomplish all that we do!

A huge part of our vision in 2018 continued to be growing our presence in the great province of Saskatchewan and continue to give back to this community that was supportive of us when we played. Through our fundraising efforts such as our Alumni Golf Tournaments in Saskatoon and Regina, our Whiskey and Wine Festival in Moose Jaw, and our support of the first annual "Believe in the Gold Walk/Run" to benefit childhood cancer as well as numerous other events we were able to meet our goal to financially support many groups and associations across the province.

The Alumni Association appreciates the efforts of all our Alumni in helping make 2018 another successful year. With our commitment of hard work we continue to serve to build community but most importantly friendships and unforgettable memories. We also want to thank our Fans all over this country for their support and generosity!

All the best in 2019

Rob Bresciani  
President



## GROWING FOOTBALL IN CANADA

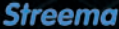


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# WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS ALUMNI 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Winnipeg Blue Bomber Alumni, with the ongoing support of the Winnipeg Football Club continue to deepen our roots and make an impact on the amateur football community in Manitoba.

The Winnipeg Football Club continues to provide a first class experience for Alumni members at all Blue Bomber home games in Walby's Den. The Den is an Alumni only room, allowing our members to meet before the game for some great food & drink and then move out to their seats in the stadium. It is a perfect place to watch the game if the weather turns nasty!

On October 9th, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers inducted former player Robert Gordon and Builder Bob Miles into the Blue Bombers Hall of Fame during a gala dinner. Congratulations to these men, who over the years have been such an integral part of our community.

At this past year's AGM held in January, our new Board of 15 members was voted in by the membership. The board members are: Jayson Dzikowicz (President) Brendan Rogers (Vice President), Noel Dunford (Treasurer), Brett MacNeil (CFLAA Club Rep), Nick Miller, Paul Robson, Glen Scrivener, Mike Hameluck, Jermese Jones, Kito Poblah, Jason Enns and Chrissy Kucinic (representing the Bomber Alumni Cheer Team). We added three new members Glenn January, Petar Pejovic and Bob Sokalski.

The Bomber Alumni Association upholds the following core values that are at the centre of our volunteer and fundraising activities:

- a. To support each other and to foster good fellowship between its members, and to secure and retain close relationships with all those who were members of the Winnipeg Football Club,
- b. To assist the Winnipeg Football Club in its endeavors,
- c. To assist in the development of and provide financial support to amateur football in Manitoba,
- d. To preserve and enhance the heritage of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers and the Canadian Football League,
- e. To promote, assist and champion those causes which advance the interests of the Association and which enrich the quality of life of our community.



To that end, we continue to build on our success from 2017 and deepen our relationships and enhance our fundraising efforts. We provide an annual Blue Bomber Alumni Scholarship to the most outstanding player in the Winnipeg High School Football League and continue to strongly support the Winnipeg Rifles of the Canadian Junior Football League. Plus many more great causes and needs in our community.

To that end, we continue to build on our success from 2017 and deepen our relationships and enhance our fundraising efforts. We provide an annual Blue Bomber Alumni Scholarship to the most outstanding player in the Winnipeg High School Football League and continue to strongly support the Winnipeg Rifles of the Canadian Junior Football League. Plus many more great causes and needs in our community.

Our main fundraising efforts included the Annual Whiskey and Wine Night which drew over 200 guests and alumni alike. In addition to the Whiskey and Wine samples, each attendee received a chocolate cigar wrapped in Blue & Gold courtesy of Morden's Chocolates. This year the weather was perfect, so we were able to enjoy our taste testing and food on the rooftop patio at Tavern United.

We expanded our role with the Riverview Health Centre's Cycle on Life, as we became the Official Partner in helping to create awareness for this Manitoba based independent Palliative Care Hospital, specializing in brain injuries. The Cycle on Life, through many sponsors and efforts had over 300 riders and the Bomber Alumni helped to raise a record amount of funds for the cause, with this year's fundraising directed specifically to the upgrade of the Alzheimer's/Dementia Units.



The Bomber Alumni Annual Golf Tournament was held in July at the beautiful Glendale Golf and Country Club. Once again, we had a sold out tournament, a beautiful day and a lot of fun.

In 2019, we hope to continue all of our current annual fundraising events and include a new event, a Bomber Alumni Walk in conjunction with Concordia/Deer Lodge Centres in early spring. Deer Lodge Centre services the needs of our Veterans and is a rehabilitation and long term care facility and Concordia is the knee and hip centre here in our city – a cause that resonates with many of our alumni.

On top of all the fundraising that we do as a collective alumni group, a majority of our membership base also volunteer countless hours in support of many great causes all throughout Manitoba. We are so proud of the many Blue Bomber Alumni members that continue to make significant differences in our community.



## Need a brain check-up?

**The Canadian Sports Concussion Project, in association with the CFLAA, is seeking CFL alumni, *with or without a history of concussion*, to participate in a study investigating the effects of concussions on the brain**

### What's involved?

- MRI brain scan
- Testing of your thinking skills
- Testing of your motor skills

### What do you get out of it?

- Assessments by experts in the field
- Feedback on your performance
- Access to programs aimed at managing symptoms and improving thinking abilities

**Travel costs to and from Toronto, as well as accommodations (if required), will be provided.**

For more information, our contact is:

Mozhgan Khodadadi, 416 603 5800 x4025 [Mozhgan.Khodadadi@uhn.ca](mailto:Mozhgan.Khodadadi@uhn.ca)

For more information on the Canadian Sports Concussion Project:

[www.canadianconcussioncentrehn.ca](http://www.canadianconcussioncentrehn.ca)

### Testimonial

As I read about the effects of concussions that occur in the sports world, I am growing increasingly concerned about what, if any damage my brain may have sustained and what measures are available that may reverse or slow down any ill-effects. Participating in this study has given me new insights and tools to strengthen and improve how my brain functions. I highly recommend investing in this worthwhile activity.

– **Alumnus, Toronto Argonauts**





# CANADIAN CONCUSSION CENTRE

Research | Diagnosis | Solutions



The **Canadian Concussion Centre** is the world's first program dedicated to a four-pronged approach to concussions: research, education, diagnosis and treatment. The project is based at the Krembil Neuroscience Centre at the University Health Network's **Toronto Western Hospital**, and is led by internationally acclaimed concussion expert, **Dr. Charles Tator**. The team includes world leaders in brain injury, cognition, imaging, mental health and clinical care working together to determine how concussions can affect us all

The CFL Alumni Association has taken a leadership role in promoting research and awareness of brain injury and concussion. The advisory group includes former players, **Leo Ezerins**, **Matt Dunigan**, former CFL Commissioner, Honourable **Roy McMurtry**, former NHL hockey player **Ken Dryden** as well as a number of prominent business executives, led by SmartCenters owner **Mitchell Goldhar**.

**The research is designed to better understand the full spectrum of concussions, in particular, persistent symptoms of concussion and the delayed effects of multiple concussions.**

The **MISSION** is to identify who has and who is at risk of developing the delayed neurodegeneration associated with multiple concussions. We are developing better **diagnostic tools** to detect the effects of multiple concussions, and we are trying to figure out the **underlying causes** of their long term effects. All of the above information is used to **develop mechanism-based treatments** to prevent or minimize the enduring effects of multiple concussions

**If you are interested in being a participant in the research study or to donate your brain, please contact:**

**Project Coordinator, Mozhgan Khodadadi, 416-603-5800 ext. 4025  
Email: Mozhgan.Khodadadi@uhn.ca**

**NOTE: There will be coverage for all of the travel expenses (hotel, transportation, and per diem) incurred to participate in the research program. Plan on two days of testing.**

With the help of all the participants (**71 former CFL players**) who generously donated their time to our research program we are starting to make some strides in better understanding concussion and the delayed effects of multiple concussions. We thank to all participants!

# “Right Place, Right Time”



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