



2014-2015 ANNUAL REVIEW

2014 - 2015 TEAM CANADA



Rory Flynn of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** was the captain of Team Canada that competed at the 2015 World Schools Debating Championships in Singapore from August 1st – 5th, where the team placed 2nd out of 53 countries, losing the championship match to Singapore. Her Sacred Heart colleague **Mattea Roach** was a member of the Team Canada development squad; both represented Canada at the 2014 EurOpen Championships in Stuttgart, Germany and the 2015 Pan American Championships in Claremont, California. Rory also represented Canada at the 2014 Calvin Coolidge Gala debate held in New York and the Old Parklands Debates in Dallas, Texas.

2015 BLUENOSE TRY-OUTS FOR TEAM CANADA

At the Nova Scotia Try-Outs held in Halifax on February 1st, 2015 **Ben Gillis** and **Jack Farrell** of **Halifax Grammar School** and **Catherine Burke** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** won the right to represent Nova Scotia at the national Team Canada Selection Tournament held in Toronto on April 22nd - 23rd. **Ben** and **Catherine** qualified for the Team Canada pool and plan to attend the national team summer camp in Toronto from August 19th - 25th.

WINNERS OF 2014 OXFORD CUP NORTH AMERICAN TOURNAMENT



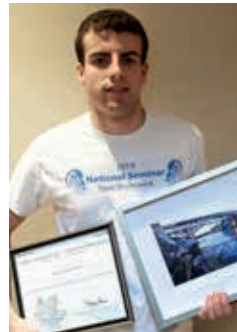
Rory Flynn and **Mattea Roach** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** were the champion team at the 2014 Oxford Cup Tournament held in Montreal on November 16th; individually **Rory** placed 1st and **Mattea** 2nd. As a result, they qualified to debate at Oxford University Senior High School Tournament in England in March 2015. Competing against 90 teams, they became the first Canadian team to reach an Oxford Union

final, losing to the defending champion, Dulwich College, on March 15th. The following week, Rory placed first at the Durham University Tournament, reportedly the largest residential schools tournament in the world.

OUR TOP TEAM AT 2015 OXFORD UNIVERSITY JUNIOR HIGH TOURNAMENT

At the Oxford University Junior High School Tournament held in England in March, 2015, **Ben Gillis** and **Jack Farrell** of **Halifax Grammar School** were the 8th place team. They qualified to attend on the basis of their performance at the 2015 Queens University Tournament.

2014 WINNER OF THE WEEDON AWARD



Kenneth Carmichael of **Riverview Rural High School** in Coxheath was the winner of the Weedon Award at the 2014 National Student Debating Seminar held October 1st - 5th to 11th in Saint John, N. B. The award is presented to the top English debater at a Seminar. As the top Nova Scotian debater, Kenneth also earned a place on the Founder's Cup and an Award of Excellence. He is the third Riverview debater to win this prestigious award, following in the footsteps of Peter Mancini in 1974 and Kerry Burns in about 1980.

RUNNER-UP TEAM AT 2015 JUNIOR HIGH NATIONALS



Gabriel Duguay of **Halifax Grammar School** and **Cecelia White** of **Truro Junior High School** were the runner-up team at the 2015 Junior High Nationals held in Winnipeg, Manitoba May 7th - 10th. They were also Nova Scotia's best individual debaters, placing 15th and 16th respectively.

SACRED HEART WORKSHOPS AND CAMP

The Sacred Heart School of Halifax attracted about 40 debaters to its Novice Workshop on September 27th, 2014. The school hosted a second Novice Workshop on January 17th, 2015, which drew 40 students. The School will host its eleventh annual summer Debate Camp August 17th – 21st, 2015. At press time, 50 debaters from across the country had registered for the event.

WINNERS OF THE 2014 PROVINCIAL IMPROMPTU DEBATING CHAMPIONSHIPS



The **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** captured the Senior High Team Championship and the **Truro Junior High School** won the Junior High Team Championship at the 2014 Nova Scotia Impromptu Debating Championships held at Halifax West High School on October 3rd and 4th. Above are **Mattea Roach** and **Rory Flynn** of **Sacred Heart School of Halifax**, **Gabriel Duguay** of **Halifax Grammar School**, and **Cecelia White** and **Annie McCarthy** of **Truro Junior High School**. **Gabriel** was the top individual junior high debater while **Rory** placed first in the senior high section.

OUR DELEGATION TO THE 2014 NATIONAL SEMINAR

The Canadian Student Debating Federation held its 2014 National Student Debating Seminar from October 1st - 6th in Saint John, N. B. Nova Scotia was represented by **Brooklyn Frizzle** of **Dr. J. H. Gillis Regional School** in Antigonish, **Oliver Cormier** of **Halifax Grammar School**, **Kenneth Carmichael** of **Riverview Rural High School** in Coxheath, and **Nicholas Belliveau** and **Malik Key**, both of **École du Carrefour** in Dartmouth, our Bilingual debater and French contestant respectively.

WINNERS OF 2014 MCGILL UNIVERSITY TOURNAMENT



Rory Flynn and **Mattea Roach** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** retained their title as the senior high champion team at the 2014 McGill University High School Tournament held in Montréal on October 24th – 26th; in the individual standings, Rory was best Nova Scotian debater, placing 3rd.

WINNERS OF 2014 DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY TOURNAMENT

Jack Farrell and **Kelvin Mansaray** of **Halifax Grammar School** were the best senior high team at the 2014 Dalhousie University British Parliamentary Tournament held on November 7th and 8th; in the junior high competition, **Ailie Sullivan** and **Minahil Nadeem** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** were the best team. **Harper Metler** of **Middleton Regional High School** was best individual senior high competitor while **Eric Liu** of **Halifax Grammar School** was the top individual junior high debater.

WINNERS OF 30TH MOSES COADY DEBATING COMPETITION



With **Professor Steve Baldner** are **Caraid McGinty**, **Ben Gillis** and **Jack Farrell** of **Halifax Grammar School**, the top team at the 2014 Moses M. Coady Debating Competition hosted by St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish on November 21st – 22nd. In the individual standings, **Ben** was also the best individual debater.

TOP NOVA SCOTIANS AT 2015 QUEENS UNIVERSITY TOURNAMENT

Emma McLean and **Katherine Burley** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** were the best Bluenose team at the Queens University High School Tournament held in Kingston, Ontario from January 9th - 11th, placing 10th.

WINNERS OF THE 2015 SODALES ATLANTIC TOURNAMENT



Ben Chisholm and **Brie Duke-shire** of **Cobequid Education Centre** were the top senior high team at the 2015 Atlantic Provinces Tournament hosted by the Dalhousie University Debating Society on January 30th – 31st while **Catherine Burke** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** was the best individual senior high debater.

In the junior high division, **Cecelia White** and **Alexander Robbens** of **Truro Junior High School** were the top team and **Cecelia** the best individual debater.

WINNERS OF 2015 MIDDLETON INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT



(Left) **Jack deGooyer** and **Isabelle Carvalho** of **C. P. Allen High School** in Bedford tied as the best individual debaters at the **2015 Megan Gillis Tournament** held in Middleton on February 14th.



The top team was **Chris Waldner**, **Brodie McInnis** and **John Weston** from the host **Middleton Regional High School** (left).

OUR BEST DEBATERS AT THE 2015 HART HOUSE TOURNAMENT

Rory Flynn and **Mattea Roach** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** placed 1st and 3rd respectively and third as a team at the 2015 Hart House Tournament held in Toronto on February 13th – 14th. They and the **Halifax Grammar School** squad of **Jack Farrell** and **Ben Gillis** were both eliminated in the semi-finals.

2015 PROVINCIAL JUNIOR HIGH DEBATING CHAMPIONS



Gabriel Duguay of **Halifax Grammar School** won the Gold Gavel, emblematic of the individual championship at the 2015 Nova Scotia Junior High School English Debating Championships held at **Truro Junior High School** on February 28th while **Annie McCarthy**, **Cecelia White** and **Alexander Robbins** of **Truro Junior High School** captured the Atlantic Institute of Education Shield as the provincial champion team.

2015 PROVINCIAL SENIOR HIGH DEBATING CHAMPIONS



Gabriel Rincon of **Halifax West High School** won the Gold Gavel as the best individual debater and **Edison Li**, **Jack Farrell** and **Ben Gillis** of **Halifax Grammar School** the Lieutenant-Governor's Trophy as champion team at the 2015 Nova Scotia Senior High School English Debating Championships hosted by Middleton Regional High School on March 27th - 28th.

WINNERS OF THE 10TH DONAHOE CUP TOURNAMENT



Mattea Roach and **Rory Flynn**, both of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax**, defended their title as the best team in the advanced section of the 2015 Donahoe Cup Tournament hosted by the Sacred Heart School of Halifax on April 18th – 19th and **Rory** repeated as best individual debater. **Annie McCarthy** of **Truro Junior High School** was the top Nova Scotian novice debater at the event, placing 12th.

BEST DEBATER AT 2015 SENIOR HIGH NATIONALS



Rory Flynn of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** (front row, centre) retained the Harold Kyte Award as best debater at the 2015 Senior High Nationals held in Toronto on April 24th – 26th. **Rory** and her Sacred Heart partner **Mattea Roach** placed third as a team, being eliminated in the semi-finals by the eventual champion team from B. C. In the French Competition, **Will Fraser** of **Dr. J. H. Gillis Regional School** in Antigonish placed second individually while he and his partner **Ben Chisholm** of **Cobequid Education Centre** in Truro were eliminated in the semi-finals. Our whole delegation is shown above.

WINNERS OF 2015 DÉBATS DE L'ACADIE



Gabriel Duguay of **Halifax Grammar School** and **Jack deGooyer** of **C. P. Allen High School** in Bedford won the McBride Trophy as top team at the 2015 Débats de l'Acadie hosted by École du Carrefour on May 10th. **Julianna Khoury** of **Dr. J. H. Gillis School** in Antigonish placed first individually while Jack won the right to take the Bilingual position on the 2015 National Student Debating Seminar squad.

NOVA SCOTIAN DELEGATION TO 2015 JUNIOR HIGH NATIONALS



Nova Scotia's delegation to the 2015 Junior High Nationals held in Winnipeg from May 7th - 10th was comprised of **Brooklyn Frizzle** of **Dr. J. H. Gillis Regional School** in Antigonish, **David Sapp** of **Fountain Academy** of the **Sacred Heart in Halifax**, **Gabriel Duguay**, **Matthew Farrell** and **Alicia Jacob** of the **Halifax Grammar School**, **Liam Taylor** and **Danielle Stewart** of **Middleton Regional High School**, **Minahil Nadeem** and **Madeleine Peet** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax**, and **Cecelia White**, **Myles Fox** and **Annie McCarthy** of **Truro Junior High School**.

NOVA SCOTIAN DELEGATION TO 2015 NATIONAL SEMINAR

Students who have been selected to represent Nova Scotia at the 2015 National Student Debating Seminar to be held in Victoria, B. C. from October 20th - 25th are **Maya MacLean** of **Dr. J. H. Gillis Regional School**, **Rebecca Raphael** of **Halifax Grammar School**,

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Christopher Waldner of **Middleton Regional High School**, **Nikolas Starzomski** of **Riverview Rural High School**; French Delegate **Cameron Robertson-Gillis** of **École du Carrefour**, and Bilingual competitor **Jack deGooyer** of **C. P. Allen High School**.

2015 WILLIS MCLEESE AWARD WINNER



Martha Shephard Duguay of Truro was the 2015 recipient of the Willis S. McLeese Award, a national trophy presented each year to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to student debating in Nova Scotia. The trophy is named in honour of the Toronto businessman who was a founding director and long-time Treasurer of the Canadian Student Debating Federation, who passed away on January 4th, 2011 at the age of 97.

Martha has been the debate coach at Truro Junior High School for several years, is serving on the Nova Scotia executive, accompanied a Junior High Nationals delegation, and has hosted provincial tournaments at her school.

Previous provincial winners of the award have been Tass Paul Bey, Stephanie Blucher, Effie Boutilier, Gordon Bragg, Geoff Buerger, Lee Cantwell, Brian Casey, Fidel Castro Gomez, Ali Cheri, Peter Delefos, Helen Dickson, Patricia Donnelly, Irina Efimov, Robert Ferguson, David Greene, Christopher Hall, Cathy Hanley, Bonny Hubley, Joshua Judah, Helen Kuniski, Harold Kyte, Marjorie Pettipas MacKay, Agnès Malouf, Allan MacDiarmid, Andra Doherty McGinn, Carol Milne, Karen Pugh Powell, Barbara Read, Pauline Scott, Marilynne Sinclair, Raymond Smith, David Stewart, Regina Tate and Margaret Young, and national nominees John Filliter, Gerry Punké and Cleve Wall.

2015 SISTER ANNE LESOTA AWARD WINNER



Kyla Shields of Middleton was the 2015 recipient of the Sister Lesota Award, which is presented in recognition of outstanding service as a debating judge. The award is named in honour of the late Sister Anne Lesota, who was extremely active in provincial student debating when she was Headmistress at what was then the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Halifax. Previous winners of this award have been Murray Angus, Gerald Aucoin, Kathryn Bjornson, James Bond, Margaret Boyd, Kathleen Butler, Betty-Lou Cameron, Patricia Donnelly, Robert Ferguson, Canon Mel French, Dr. William Gallivan, Jennifer Harnum, Jennifer Henderson, Margaret Johnson, Bonnie LeFrank, Harold MacLeod, Cathy Nock, Sudannah MacDonald, Agnès Malouf, Dr. Fred Matthews, Pauline McGillivray, Regina Tate, Perry Teale, David White, Hugh Williamson and Margaret Young.

The executive also made two retroactive appointments this year, namely, **Harold MacLeod** of Cornwallis District High School in Canning for 1994 and **Hugh Williamson** of Gorsebrook Junior High School in Halifax for 2013.

2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



(From left to right above, Front row:) Provincial Co-ordinator **Patricia Donnelly**, **Clarissa Brisseau**, **Rory Flynn**, **Bonny Hubley**, and **Martha Shephard Duguay**. (Back row:) **Andrei Dezsi**, **Gabriel Duguay**, **David Stewart** and **Harold Kyte**.

REGISTER OF 2014 – 2015 MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

During the 2014-2015 Society Year, 16 schools affiliated with the Nova Scotia Debating Society, namely: (coaches)

- 01: Sydney Academy (Harold Kyte)
- 02: Middleton Regional High School (Bonny Hubley)
- 03: King's-Edgehill School (Manny Alexander Avila)
- 04: Amherst Regional High School (Leslie Parliament-Taylor)
- 05: Truro Junior High School (Martha Shephard Duguay)
- 06: North Nova Education Centre (David Greene)
- 07: Sacred Heart School of Halifax (Brian Casey)
- 08: Fountain Academy of the Sacred Heart (Brian Casey)
- 09: Halifax Grammar School (Josh Judah)
- 10: Dr. J. H. Gillis Regional School (Effie Boutilier)
- 11: Cobequid Education Centre (Scott Hagel)
- 12: Gorsebrook Junior High School (Hugh Williamson)
- 13: Middleton Junior High School (Bonny Hubley)
- 14: Memorial Composite High School (Chris Nicholson/Mary Jane Ross)
- 15: St. Catherine's School (Tanya Nicholson)
- 16: Halifax Independent School (Heather Johnson)

NOTICE OF 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2015 Annual General Meeting of the Nova Scotia Debating Society will be held at the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax**, 5820 Spring Garden Road, Halifax on Saturday, October 3rd, 2015 beginning at 12:30 o'clock in the afternoon or as soon thereafter as possible.

THANK YOU SUPPORTERS!

The Society thanks École du Carrefour, Halifax West High School, Middleton Regional High School, the Sacred Heart School of Halifax and Truro Junior High School for hosting provincial debating tournaments this year; Gail LeBlanc for designing the Annual Review; retired teacher and debate coach Colin Campbell for maintaining our website; and John Filliter, the Willis McLeese Foundation, Cleve Wall, and Your Canada, Your Constitution for making donations to the Society. (The Society is a registered charity.)

The **Annual Review** is published and distributed to all junior and senior high schools in Nova Scotia each September, along with an invitation to join the Nova Scotia Debating Society. The Society website is <http://www.debatingsociety.ca/ns>.

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