

Congratulations



"To God Be The Glory"



AD ASTRA PER ASPERA



ICHS ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
TORONTO CHAPTER

Established on June 19, 1978



"Celebrate... Good Times!!"

Our 40th Anniversary



ICHS
160th Anniversary



Food & Nutrition
Lab Rebuild

Rembrandt Banquet Hall

930 Progress Ave., Scarborough, Ontario M1G 3T5
September 30, 2018,

ICHS International Alumnae
5 Henry Street
Somerset, NJ 08873
910-759-3319



ICHS
INTERNATIONAL
ALUMNAE
ASSOCIATION

Connecting Our Sisters Everywhere Virtually!



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the ICHSAA International Alumnae Association, I would like to extend a hearty congratulations to the ICHSAA Toronto Chapter on their 40th Anniversary.

The Toronto Chapter holds a special place in the young history of ICHSAA International. Moreover, as they were instrumental in helping the International Chapter get up and running, they also have a place in our hearts.

The executive and members of the International Alumnae Association chapter regard the ladies of the Toronto Chapter as big sisters. Their countless contributions to our growth includes:

- a) Persistent support and guidance in our effort at inception,
- b) participation in the launch of our chapter,
- c) supporting us in the challenging period associated with the inevitable "growing-pains" we encountered,
- d) their sustained effort to include us in the foster of collective support to the greater Immaculate Conception High School Community.

Toronto Chapter, we can't say enough Thank-Yous. Thank you for your guidance, your expertise, your support, your partnership, your love, your sisterhood and your prayers.

May your chapter continue to be blessed with warm hearts and a giving spirit while you continue being the shining example of true sisterhood. For us, the Toronto Chapter is akin to a lighthouse guiding ships in the night. Your light did not grow dim while you shared your time, talents and expertise. Instead, your light grew stronger.

Sophia Garriques

Sophia Robinson Garriques

President



Alma Mater

Lisa M Narcisse, OD,LRSM

*Her children hail the splendour of her fame
Enshrined the memories clustering around her
cherished name
Let grim and withering years not dim nor dull
her radiant glory
But add fresh chapters to her lovely story*

*Triumphantly we'll sing
Till the vaults of heaven ring*

*Alma Mater, Alma Mater
Immaculate Conception Alma Mater
Alma Mater, Alma Mater
Assissian brown, Our Lady's blue beneath*

*Her children loyal and true
Hymn their joyous praise of you*

*Alma Mater, Alma Mater
Immaculate Conception Alma Mater*



Congratulatory Note

On behalf of the St Georges College Old Boys Association (Toronto Chapter) I would like to Congratulate Immaculate Conception High School Alumni Association Toronto Chapter for celebrating 40 years in Canada. This achievement is no small feat as running any volunteer organization requires consistent determination & dedication on the part of its' Executive and members.

The relationship between both Associations is one which I am very proud to be a part of as we have always made an effort to support each other's fundraising endeavours and activities. The ICHS Alumni members always come out in their numbers and show support and for that my association is grateful.

The goal of any effective Alumni association is to provide assistance/ improvement to the education system at their respective Alma Mater, the ICHS Alumni Assoc. (Toronto) is no different and for that I would like to make special mention for them in achieving their latest goal of completing the Food & Nutrition Lab for their high school in Jamaica. This is a true example of what the power of a group of persons can achieve when they remain focused on a specific goal. I am sure this new lab will provide immense assistance for students considering careers in the culinary field and sitting local exams.

I wish Your Alumni continued success in the years to come and I trust that the bond between both our schools and Alumni Associations will remain strong in the future.

Sincerely

Andre Gregory
President
St. George's College Old Boys' Association Ontario



The President's Message

Welcome to the Immaculate Conception High School Alumnae Association (Toronto Chapter) Annual luncheon "CELEBRATE....GOOD TIMES"

The ICHSAA (Toronto Chapter) extends heartfelt congratulations to IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HIGH SCHOOL (ICHS) on the 160th anniversary of its opening in January 1858.

Carol Case

Five key concepts in the ICHS Mission Statement are: 1) To promote Christian values 2) To encourage excellence, 3) To promote the value of reverence for God, self, others and the environment, 4) To generate, virtuous, happy citizens, and 5) To engage students to actively contribute to the general uplifting of people everywhere.

Someone once said "We stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us."

ICHS currently has over 1700 students "standing on the shoulders" of the founding Franciscan sisters from Glasgow, Scotland and subsequent generations of devoted staff, and dedicated communities of family and friends working together to nurture students who manifest the ICHS Mission.

The ICHSAA (Toronto Chapter) was established on June 19th, 1978. We "stand on the shoulders" of Sister Maureen Clare, OSF, (ICHS Principal from 1963 to 1990), who visited Toronto four decades ago, engaging alumnae with her vision of expanding the ICHSAA overseas.

Sister Maureen Clare has joined us to celebrate our 40 years as a voluntary organization that diligently works to raise funds to help our beloved Alma Mater in its mission to "provide an enriching environment where ICHS values can be promoted and exemplified"

THE ICHS MOTTO "AD ASTRA PER ASPERA" inspires us to persist through difficulties to reach the stars.

A heartfelt thank you to our community of ICHSAA family, friends and supporters for your commitment, partnership, and generous financial contributions that have allowed us to make dreams a reality.

On September 5th 2018, at the opening of the two ICHS state of the art, Food and Nutrition labs, I witnessed awe, gratitude and admiration from students and staff alike, at the transformation that had taken place over the summer holidays. This was a joyous life experience that technology can never replace. To God be the glory!!!

Your generous response to the needs of ICHS has helped to "make the impossible, possible". We thank you for joining us as we "Celebrate....good times"



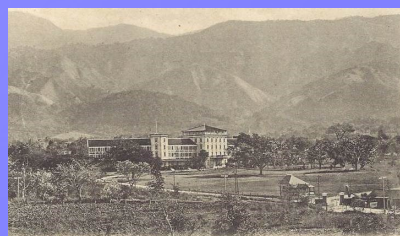
Immaculate Conception High School

ICHS 160th Anniversary—Historical Events



In 1858, the Scottish Franciscan Sisters set up a Preparatory and Secondary School for girls at Duke Street in Kingston. The School was named after Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. Due to a shortage of nuns from Scotland in 1879, the school was handed over to the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany.

On October 23, 1937, the school suffered a devastating fire and all was lost. This forced the school to relocate its premises temporarily to Old Hope Road. Knowing of the school's plight and the availability of the Constant Spring Hotel, Sir Arthur Richards (Governor of Jamaica) contacted Sister Xavier, Franciscan Mother Superior and Sister Davidica, Principal and offered the hotel to the Sisters for the small sum of \$40,000.00.



The three storey stone building was palatial and lacked no amenities. It was in fact the first building in the West Indies to be constructed for earthquake resistance. The grounds were beautifully landscaped and fitted with tennis courts, a rattan gazebo and stables. In addition the golf course was superbly laid out. Furniture and fittings were the most lavish of the times. All this ran the cost of the hotel over \$800,000.00!

On January, 1941, the school relocated to its present site. Its student body consisted of ninety nine students which included sixteen boarders. These students came from small groups of wealthy Catholic Jamaicans as well as from the following countries: Cuba, Haiti, Latin America and Canada. The Eastern block of the hotel was used for the boarding school and the west for the convent. Classes were taught on the ground floor where the bar had been. Music was taught in the servants' quarters and domestic science in one of the cottages. The gazebo was improved and became a summer house and site for physical education. To date the only physical changes to the building has been re-roofing after Hurricane Gilbert, and the addition of doors.



We Did it!!

You Made the Impossible Possible



Stainless Steel Utensils



Sinks, New Windows, Extractor Fans,



Annette Wong, Guila Bernal, Cathrine Sani, Carol Case & Sister Maureen Clare Hall

Teacher's Station

Thank You For Your Contributions

Your Donations helped to make the Future
Brighter for Our Young Sisters.



We Did it!!

You Made the Impossible Possible

The Food & Nutrition Labs Rebuild Completed



The Launch took place on September 5th, 2018

Carol Case & Cathrine Sant



State of the Art - F/N Lab

Guila Bernal, Carol Case, Robert Lee
Janet Sharp and Ridsdale Cooke



Immaculate Conception High School

The original building had no doors but Sr. Davidica foresaw the danger this could pose to the girls. In the 1950s the school began construction of classrooms on the lower section of the property. A major building expansion programme was launched in October 1978 and fund-raising plans and drives were accelerated.

On December 8, 1980 a new complex, comprising; Twelve large classrooms
A school chapel, New library, Extension to Book Store, Home Economics Centre, Art and Craft Studio, Audio Visual Rooms, Spacious Staff Room with conveniences and New General Science Laboratories were blessed at a Liturgical Celebration and formally opened with official ceremonies. In the late 1990s a new Sixth Form building and a Performing Arts Centre (the former Commercial Building) were added. The boarding facilities are no longer offered. However, the school continues today as one of the most beautiful High School campuses in Jamaica.



Immaculate Conception High School (ICHS) is a Roman Catholic sponsored public grant-aided school for pupils of all denominations. It is a single sex (girls) grammar school with a core curriculum intended to prepare pupils for three and four years University and Polytechny programmes depending on their exit point. There are two major exit points: Grade 11 with the Caribbean Secondary Examination Certificate (CSEC) at the general proficiency level and Grade 13 with the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE) Certificate.

ICHS has a student population of approximately 1700 individuals ranging from 11-19 years of age. Pupils assigned to the school are drawn from a cohort of almost 80,000 Grade Six Assessment Test (GSAT) candidates. Examinees placed at ICHS are among the top 1000 candidates in the G.S.A.T. examination.





ICHSAA TORONTO CHAPTER

1978 -2018 (40 years)

By Ina Williams & Sadie Wong

The year was 1977. The then principal of ICHS, Sr. Maureen Clare, sat in her office with the Chair of the School Board, Mr. George Brown (Dr. Yoland Chang's dad), discussing money. The lack of money to be precise. The school was growing again and therefore there was a need to build. It was Mr. Brown who said: "Sister, ask your girls overseas for help. You have many graduates established all over the world. They are a great resource."

That September Sister took a trip, stopping first in Toronto, then New York and then Miami. Her first meeting was at the home of Marjorie Lyn, where she pitched the idea of starting an ICHS Alumnae Association chapter outside of Jamaica. A second meeting followed at Sadie Wong's and a third at Adrienne Aarons'. Sadie was appointed convenor and the girls had their first meeting. We took a vote and established our management team: President – Sadie Wong; Treasurer – Juliette Young; Secretary – Shirley Hugh; Asst. Secretary – Larry Phillips. The rest of us became floor members. We asked Sr. Maureen Clare to send a copy of the Constitution of the Jamaican AA. Pamela Chin Fook volunteered to register The ICHS Alumnae Association (Toronto Chapter) was registered as a non-profit organization with the Ontario Government. On June 19, 1978 we became official!

We were all new immigrants, working, with young children. Our main goal was to raise funds, so we decided on a dinner/dance. Equipped with our wonderful ICHS education and a growing network of Canadian contacts, we formulated a plan. I got my pastor, Fr. Matthew Robertz, to be our official Spiritual Leader. He got the hall at Holy Spirit Church for us free. He introduced me to the Gooderham & Worts guy re the bar. Marlene's brother was a DJ. Sadie knew a printer. Richard Chang, was our M.C. because we were all too shy—imagine! Adrienne got Mr Logue to cater a delicious hot & cold buffet. We did everything: set up, pull down, deliver tickets & collect payment (we had no seed money), serve drinks etc. We even worked on praying that the rain clouds would disappear.



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Over the 40 Years



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*The Alpha Academy Alumnae Association
(Toronto Chapter)*

*congratulates the ICHS Alumnae Association (Toronto)
on it's 40th Anniversary of support to the students
at it's Alma Mater.*

Best Wishes and Continued Success.

Over the 40 Years



ICHSAA TORONTO CHAPTER



Our special guests were Fr. Robertz and Sr. Nora of Epiphany Parish who had never before known Jamaican or their music! That was the beginning.

ICHS was one of the first alumni associations established in Toronto and the first of the Jamaican Catholic schools. In those days there wasn't much going on socially. We enjoyed fantastic support for our dinner/dances (400-500 people!) and established the tradition of an annual dinner/dance.

The grand attendance of the inaugural ICHS picnic was about 10 families! That idea



morphed into our ICHS/Alpha/St. GC picnic with an attendance of about 30 families!

Our first project was to equip the new science lab for Sr. James Vincent. Our latest project (2018) is remodeling the Food & Nutrition Labs with all the Chapters. Another first to note is our newsletter a 2 page circulation totally initiated and managed by Secretary, Mary Mogg in the early '80's. After a years of dormancy, it was relaunched

in 1988 by Susan Read & Karen Lue Tam as "Ad Astra" with photos and their iconic logo of a maple leaf with a banana tree.



Both in Jamaica and Canada, the charitable work of this association has included providing goods, equipment and a bus for the school; financial aid for students and charities; scholarships; physical help for worthy causes; and promoting contact with all past students.

We are forever grateful to all our donors and supporters. Without your help we would not have been able to succeed. 40 years of fun, work, gratitude, friendship, feelings of accomplishment, belly laughs, and wonderful, wonderful memories. Wow! THANKS to all of you who have stepped up!



MESSAGE TO TORONTO CHAPTER
on the
Celebration of their 40th Anniversary
and
160th of the School



Sister Maureen Clare Hall

May our good and gracious God continue to reward each of you for your generosity, your love, your fidelity to your Alma Mater—your “giving-back” to your school and your country, Jamaica.

This Chapter spear-headed and brought to fruition in record time an almost impossible task—the renovation of the school’s FN Labs to “State-of-the Art” standard. The lessons of courage, perseverance and teamwork that this undertaking has produced will forever be stored among the pleasant memorabilia of our lives. In unity, there is strength, especially when those who are united are working for a precious cause. You are to be congratulated for bringing together the five Alumnae Chapters—spread throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and the International Chapter—to bring to reality, what seemed at first to be an “impossible dream”.

Yours was the first Chapter of the Association to be founded outside of Jamaica and you have faithfully and consistently responded throughout your 40 years to the cries of help from your Alma Mater, beginning with the equipping of the additional Science Labs when the school expanded in 1980.

Through your hard work and dedication to the Immaculate Conception High School, you have participated in “nation-building”, promoting excellence in every aspect of the development of the young women of Jamaica.

I congratulate you, and thank you for living out in a practical and tangible way over the years, your school motto, “AD ASTRA PER ASPERA”.



Celebrate Good Times!! Programme

Welcome— Master of Ceremonies -Jonathan Case

National Anthems— Canadian/Jamaican—Nigel Johnson

Grace— Sister Maureen Clare Hall, OSF

Cutting of Cake— Carol Case & Sister Maureen Clare Hall, OSF

Lunch ~ Musical Interlude—Victor Shim

ICHS Updates—Carol Case, President

Core Values of an ICHS Education — Sister Maureen Clare Hall, OSF

Message— Special Guest



Entertainment

Medleys - Cello/ Piano - Jean Bresse & Johanna Lyn
Song - Nigel Johnson

Fashion Show - Melanie Lyne accompanied by Victor Shim

Medleys - Cello/Piano - Jean Bresse & Johanna Lyn
Song - Nigel Johnson

Fashion show - Melanie Lyne accompanied by Victor Shim
Medleys - Sax —Victor Shim

Prizes

Presenting Past Presidents and Present Broad Members

The Singing of the Alma Mater
Alumnae Meeting