# COLLEGE



# YOUR GIFTS, THEIR FUTURES







2009/2010 REPORT TO DONORS



#### A MESSAGE FROM ANN BULLER

Dear Supporter and Friend,

Centennial students are determined and hopeful, passionate and insightful. Some of them hold university degrees, while others are the first in their family to attend college.

But no matter what our students' goals are or what their background is, they all come to Centennial College for the same reason – to receive the best education possible and to gain the skills, knowledge and experience they need to succeed in their future careers.

As a valued supporter of Centennial, you play an important role in the success of today's students, which is why I want to offer my sincere gratitude for your generosity.

Your donations help to provide much-needed financial support in the form of scholarships, bursaries and awards to deserving students who may not otherwise be able to afford post-secondary education. And even more importantly, your support is a source of encouragement and inspiration for the students – an incentive that pushes them to realize their full potential as leaders of tomorrow.

In the pages that follow, you'll read about two remarkable graduates. Both of these students have an inspiring story and both of their stories demonstrate the impact of your support. You will also learn about the incredible generosity of two very special donors, who like you are making a world of difference in the lives of our students.

Once again, please accept my most heartfelt thanks for supporting Centennial students and investing in their future and the future of our communities. Together, with your support, we'll continue to provide access to post-secondary education to more students each year, while fulfilling our vision: To transform lives and communities through learning.

Yours truly,

An Bull

Ann Buller President

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CENTENNIAL COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Dear Supporter,

As a valued supporter and friend of Centennial College, I would like to share with you current information on how your donations are making a difference in the daily lives of Centennial students.

As you will read in this Report – your gifts create enduring benefits not only for Centennial students – but for the community as well.

The Board of Governors is dedicated to increasing the number of scholarships and financial assistance available to Centennial students, ensuring that no deserving student is turned away or has to discontinue his or her studies because of financial constraints.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I extend my most sincere gratitude to you for your support.



Sincerely,

John Montgomery Chair, Board of Governors

#### YOUR GIFTS...

#### ... HIS STEPPING STONE TO SUCCESS



When Vinodan Senthinathan, a recent graduate of Centennial's Business Administration program, received a scholarship as a reward for acquiring the highest grade point average in the program, he didn't accept it as merely a gift, but an investment in his future.

"The scholarship provided so much more than financial relief," Vinodan shares. "It challenged me to continue excelling in my studies so that one day I could show those who believed in my ability to succeed that they've made a wise investment."

Born and raised in Bahrain, Vinodan moved to Toronto with a goal of pursing post-secondary education in the business field that would provide him with a well-rounded, hands-on experience. Through the program's comprehensive courses and co-op placement at Centennial's Health Sciences Department, Vinodan gained the knowledge, skills and experience that he had hoped.

With a diploma in his hands and strong practical experience under his belt, Vinodan is looking forward to starting a career in Human Resources in the banking industry. His words of gratitude say it all:

"Thank you for supporting me in my educational endeavours. I hope that one day I may be in a position to 'pay it forward' to help the next generation of Centennial students as you have helped me."

#### ... HER DOOR TO A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES



In grade 9 a teacher told her that she didn't have what it took to make it to college. A guidance counselor told her to be prepared to work at a minimum wage job for the rest of her life. And at age 16 she ended up living at a shelter for young, single mothers. Most people

would expect a teenage girl in these circumstances to give up on her dreams of post-secondary education. But most people don't know Aneesha Mohamed.

Today, Aneesha has a successful career as a Child Advocacy Worker at a shelter for assaulted women. She is a proud graduate of Centennial's Community and Justice Services program and an even more proud mother of two boys, ages 5 and 3.

Aneesha credits Centennial's H.Y.P.E., a program that helps to reengage at-risk youth in education, with giving her the confidence and motivation to get to where she is today. "As someone who struggled through high school and ended up dropping out, I never thought that one day I'd graduate from college with honours," says Aneesha.

Aneesha is a grateful recipient of a number of scholarships and awards, including the H.Y.P.E. Entrance Bursary, the Richard Johnston Scholarship, the Mary-Anne Chambers Award and the Verdena Francis Momb Scholarship awarded to a H.Y.P.E. student with the highest grade point average.

"Aside from providing financial support, the scholarships and awards I received helped to open many doors I never knew existed," Aneesha shares. "Thank you for supporting me in my guest to better myself, my future and the future of my children."

#### THANK YOU GEORGE FAMILY FOR SUPPORTING THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARSHIPS:

Merit Scholarship

The Verdena Francis Momb Scholarship









### MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Receiving a scholarship can be a truly life-changing experience for a student. Just ask Scherry George, a former Malvern resident and a long-time Associate Registrar at Centennial's Financial Aid Office.

During her 30-year career at Centennial, Scherry has seen first-hand the impact scholarships, bursaries and awards have for students, especially for those who face financial obstacles.

Having lived in Malvern for a number of years, Scherry is familiar with the financial and other barriers many young people from this and similar neighbourhoods experience, which is one of the reasons she decided to help fund scholarships for deserving students in need. Together, with her husband, Scherry established four scholarships in honour of her family members, including her late son Michael Henry George.

"Being able to offer a scholarship to a student is as much of a blessing to me as it is for them," says Scherry. "The recognition students receive through a scholarship goes far beyond the dollar value. It creates a chain reaction. These students become role models to their children, their family, friends and people in their community, who in turn make a positive difference in the lives of others."

"Being able to offer a scholarship to a student is as much of a blessing to me as it is for them."

- Scherry George

### **DONORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



Making a positive difference in the community is a top priority for the Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs (ACCE), a not-forprofit organization that promotes entrepreneurship in the Chinese Canadian community.

According to Royson Ng, President of the Association, the spirit of giving back to the community has long been a part of the Association's tradition.

Royson Ng

As a valued partner of Centennial for 15 years, ACCE has made a life-changing difference for many deserving students by supporting numerous scholarships. Every year, the Association provides funding for up to four scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 to \$2,000 each. The scholarships are awarded to students who have demonstrated exemplary community service or entrepreneurial spirit, as well as maintained a high grade point average in their studies.

"Supporting students through scholarships not only provides bright and talented minds with the financial assistance they need to complete their education, it also rewards their hard-work and gives them motivation to continue performing well," says Royson. "The Association is proud to play such a critical role in the education and future success of tomorrow's leaders."

"The spirit of giving back to the community sets a role model for the rest of us to follow." — Royson Ng



# A BIG THANK YOU

In 2009/2010 your donations helped to:

- Expand bursary opportunities for our First Generation, Aboriginal, H.Y.P.E. and Francophone students.
- Establish the International Service **Learning Scholarship** that provides students with the opportunity for Global Citizenship experience abroad.
- Reward student success at the Student Awards Night during which a total of \$157,000 worth of awards were presented to 210 students by 77 donors.
- Make Centennial education accessible to more students. Over the past year, the College has seen its full-time enrolment expand by a remarkable 24%.



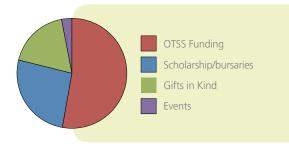
# **BUILDING A BIGGER AND BETTER CENTENNIAL**

Over the past year, Centennial College has seen its full-time enrolment expand by a phenomenal 24 percent. To accommodate this unprecedented growth, we are moving ahead with plans to add more space to the Progress Campus. The infrastructure development includes building of a new Library and Academic Facility and the Athletics and Wellness Centre, slated to open in spring of 2011.

The new and improved facilities will greatly enhance the student experience. The 104,000 square-foot Academic Facility will house a full-service library, 22 new classrooms, more lab space and a large lecture theatre, providing a dynamic and learning-centred environment for more than 1.900 students.

#### **BREAKING IT DOWN:** WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

FUNDING STREAM 2009/2010



#### WE ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO YOU, OUR COMMUNITIES AND THE STUDENTS THAT WE SERVE.

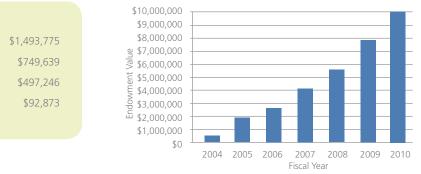
bursaries and awards for deserving Centennial students.

The construction of the Athletics and Wellness Centre will transform the DEL Gym into a fully-equipped modern facility, which will give our students, staff, alumni and local residents a place to pursue their recreational, athletic and therapeutic needs.



Artist rendering of new academic facility

#### ENDOWMENT INCREASED FROM \$7.92M TO \$10.5M OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS



# In 2009/2010, 100% of every dollar you gave went directly to support scholarship,

#### THANK YOU!

# COLLEGE

THANK YOU, our alumni and donors, for supporting the dreams and ambitions of Centennial students.

# OUR MISSION

is to educate students for career success.

# **OUR VISION**

is to transform lives and communities through learning.

To learn more about how you can invest in the future of deserving students at Centennial, please visit us at **www.centennialcollege.ca/development.** 

#### CENTENNIAL COLLEGE

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