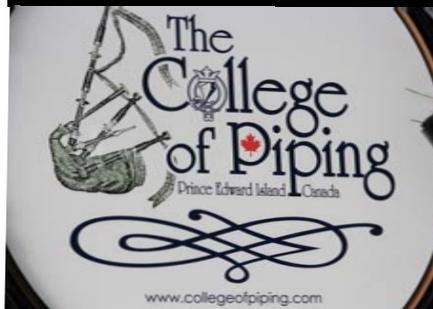


the Celtic Connection

FOR STUDENTS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS



EMAILS

Karen Hatcher

Executive Director

karen.hatcher@collegeofpiping.com

James MacHattie

Director of Education

james.machattie@collegeofpiping.com

Kylie MacHattie

Piping Instructor

kylie.machattie@collegeofpiping.com

Chris Coleman

Drumming Instructor

chris.coleman@collegeofpiping.com

Kearsney Smith

Highland Dance Instructor

kearsney.smith@collegeofpiping.com

Jane Magee

Registrar/Gift Shop Manager

jane.magee@collegeofpiping.com

619 Water Street East
Summerside PE
C1N 4H8
902-436-5377

Our newsletter is published every month. It is available in hardcopy and on our website: www.collegeofpiping.com

The **College website** is a wonderful source of information on the College of Piping and its activities. You will find up to date information on the blog, access to our Facebook page and Twitter account, pictures of events at The College and at events we have attended. Class offerings, staff biographies, College history, competition results, photos and much more can be found on the site. **Take a look and find out more about us.**

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

FOR THE
JUNE 28,29,30
highland GATHERING
CONTACT JANE 436-5377

The countdown is on...less than two months until the Highland Gathering! Are you excited as much as we are?! Soon the roof will be on the amphitheater, competitors registrations are already flying in, the grounds will be cleaned and ready for thousands of tapping feet. That's not all... the tents will be set up, the flowers planted, tickets sold and the performance lists made up. That is only part of the list that will need to be completed before the 27th of June! **With all that needs to be done, we need VOLUNTEERS!!** Starting on the first weekend of May, when we hope to get the roof on the amphitheater, and going through until the completion of The Gathering, there is a lot of work to be done. This is where you come in! On the weekends leading up to The Gathering, many hands will make light work.

Volunteers are also needed for morning, afternoon and evening shifts during The Gathering. Sign up early and you will have your pick of times, activities and venues. If you fill a minimum 4 hour shift you will receive a weekend pass to The Gathering. There will be an information training session in early June to let you know just what you will be doing. The events schedule is on the website www.collegeofpiping.com so have a look and see what you would like to do. Jane is in the office Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm so please call and let her know when you would like to volunteer. As Winston Churchill once wisely said, **"You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give."**



The Highland Gathering is fast approaching and a new contest has caused quite a stir at the College Of Piping: Celtic Idol!

Unlike a TV show that we have all heard of, this contest promotes the Celtic Arts. It is chance for people of all ages to strut their stuff and impress our judging panel: Bob Worrall, Jamie Troy Senior and Kevin "Boomer" Gallant. It also provides a stage for non-professional Celtic enthusiasts of all different talents. The audience can vote for their favorite entertainer for the cost of \$1.00 a vote. First prize is \$500. The judging panel will also decide on the "Most Creative Performer", which has a \$250.00 prize. Bring your bagpipes and fiddles, polish up your dancing shoes and sing us a song that will be heard in the Highlands. Celtic Idol will be fun entertainment for performers and audience alike. See you all on **June 30th**! Applications must be received by **Friday, June 14, 2013** and space is limited. For more information please visit: www.collegeofpiping.com

Educational Handbooks

The 2013-2014 College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada Educational Handbooks are now available. They can be picked up at The College any time during business hours: 9 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday.

Instructors for 2012/2013 year

James MacHattie –
Director of Education

Kylie MacHattie – Bagpiping
Chris Coleman – Drumming
Sam Ramsay – Drumming

Dance

Kearsney Smith – Highland
Brittany Banks–Step(Lead)
Rebecca Dawson – Step
Shanae Rogers – Step

Skype Lessons

Skype lessons are being offered in piping. Contact James or Jane for more information on how you can learn to Pipe from the comfort of your own home.

Contact

If you have any questions, concerns or words of praise, please contact James MacHattie, Director of Education or Jane Magee, Registrar. They can be reached at 436-5377 or e-mailed at james.machattie@collegeofpiping.com or jane.magee@collegeofpiping.com



Homecoming 2014

The College of Piping Homecoming

The 25th Anniversary of the College of Piping and Celtic performing Arts will be held on **September 1, 2014**. To get ready for these celebrations we are trying to get in touch with as many former College of Piping alumni as possible. If you studied here, volunteered at any of the activities, took lessons, were part of a tour, performed at any of the venues, we would like to get in touch. If you are one of these folk, or if you know of someone who is please get in touch with Jane and she will make sure you are kept up to date. This is a huge project since thousands of people have come through the doors of The College of Piping. Any assistance you can give in getting in touch with people would be much appreciated.

Concession Stand

at Highland Gathering

A fundraiser for the pipe bands will be the food concession stand at the Highland Gathering. All parents of band members are asked to take a shift some time over the Highland Gathering weekend. Please get in touch with Vera MacLean and she will add you to the list. The earlier you get in touch with her, the closer to your requested time you'll get. These are short shifts and a great way to get to know other band parents, so sign up soon.

Early Registration for the Fall

We are encouraging all our students who are planning to continue their piping, drumming and/or dance classes to register early. In the past we have had registration start in the summer and this has been a frustrating experience for some parents as they try to schedule their children's activities. Please get in touch with our Registrar, Jane Magee, and she will be able to get your registration process started. You can reach Jane at 436-5377 or e-mail her at: jane.magee@collegeofpiping.com

Up-coming Dance Committee Fundraisers

May 11	Grocery Bagging at Superstore
May 12	Lobster orders for Mother's Day
May 25	Yard Sale at The College of Piping
June 2	Run to Montreal
June 4	Spaghetti Supper at the Superstore
June 16	Draw for Summer Lovin' Trunk
Ongoing	Bottle Recycle at Don's Bottle Exchange

The Dance Committee will be holding a **Yard Sale fundraiser on Saturday, May 25th** at The College. While you are doing your spring cleaning, please set aside any items you would like to donate. You can bring your items to The College on Thursday nights only between the hours of 5pm and 9pm after the amphitheater roof is up.



A huge **Thank You!** to everyone who came out and supported our Highland Dancers at their most recent fundraisers. There was a concert earlier in the month of April. That included a lively cake auction, great tunes and a lot of fancy footwork. They also served up some yummy pancakes at a well attended pancake breakfast at the Atlantic Superstore in Summerside. They are one step closer to reaching their goal of competing at the Canadian Highland Dance Championships in Montreal. A fantastic time was had by all at both events! Thank you!



Gold Rush 50/50 Draw

Don't forget to put your toonie in for the 50/50 Draw!

You could be the lucky winner. The draw will be made each Thursday evening at the College of Piping in Summerside. If the number drawn on the draw day is a number for a person who did not sign in for that week's draw, that portion of the money is added to the following week's draw. This will increase the amount of winnings until a number is drawn that belongs to someone who has signed in. If you haven't signed up yet, come to **The College or any of the participating locations**, fill out a number slip and add your name to the book. Then all you have to do is put your toonie in each week and wait to be the winner!

Participating locations

- 1) Shell Service Station on Water St. E
- 2) Wilson's Service Station on Water St E.
- 3) Reid's Corner Esso S'Side
- 4) Granville St. Esso
- 5) Samuels Coffee
- 6) Medicine Shop Pharmacy
- 7) Kensington Food Basket
- 8) Gass's Store – New Haven
- 9) Gallant's Store – Rustico
- 10) Race Trac Gas–Stanley Bridge
- 11) Griffins Smoke Shop by Sobey's, Summerside
- 12) Lights Smoke Shop- Granville St., Summerside
- 13) Summerside Butcher Shop
- 14) Water St. Bakery

Pass this message on to your friends and family and get them to enter our weekly draw and support the College of Piping Pipe Bands.

Thank
you!



Year End Recital

This is a reminder to put **June 16th 2 to 4 pm** on your calendar as the Year End Recital at The College of Piping. It will be the culmination of a year of hard work and practice by our students and bands. Make sure you are on hand to celebrate their accomplishments.

Introduction to Dance Week



There will be an Introduction to Dance Summer School Week this year. It will take place the week of **July 8th**. Dancers ages 4 to 11 are welcome to attend. The schedule will be set up so that children can attend classes in both disciplines. Classes in each discipline will be one hour long Monday to Friday and will include participation in the Mini Concert on Friday. Tuition is \$100.00 for one discipline, \$180.00 if you are attending both disciplines. These classes usually fill up quickly so call Jane at 436-5377 to register.

Piping, Drumming and Dancing Courses at The College of Piping

Piping and Drumming Courses

Piping

Stage Performance Track	April 1 to May 20
Composition Workshop	April 8 to April 29

Drumming

Stage Performance Track	April 1 to May 20
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Piping and Drumming

July 8 to 12	July 8 to 12 – Introduction to Dance Week
July 15 to 19	July 15 to 19
July 22 to 26	July 22 to 26
August 12 to 16	July 29 to August 2 – Highland only
August 19 to 23	August 5 to 9
August 26 to 30	August 12 to 16
	August 19 to 23
	August 26 to 30

Highland and Step Dance

Summer School

Call or e-mail Jane to register

Piping, Drumming, Highland and Step Dance summer schools will be available throughout July and August. Piping and drumming tuition is \$450.00 for 2 hours a day per week. Dance tuition is \$250.00 for dancers with previous experience, \$200.00 for dancers with no previous experience, \$300.00 for a focus on one dance discipline (2 hour/day) and an introduction to the other dance (1 hour/day)

All levels are offered each week in piping, drumming, highland and step dance. Classes are two hours a day with extra practice time encouraged. A typical week includes a mix of theoretical and practical instruction. Classes are tailored to meet the needs of each individual student. For more information check out The College of Piping web site: www.collegeofpiping.com.



Gift Shop

The gift shop at The College is open year round. If you need piping, drumming and dancing supplies: ghillies, College hoodies, dance, pipe band and local artist CD's - this is the place to come. We special order and have gift items for the person who has everything. Gift shop hours are Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm.

Scent Free

The College of Piping has a **scent free policy** in its Summerside building. There are many people coming and going and some of them have scent allergies. These allergies can range from getting a headache to going into anaphylactic shock requiring hospitalization. Please be respectful of these folk and give them a safe place to study, perform and enjoy our programs.

Handicapped Parking

Now that summer is approaching and more people are coming to The College of Piping we need to remind everyone that there are 2 handicapped parking spaces in front of The College. We would ask that you respect these spaces and park in any of the other areas for regular parking north of these spots or in the parking lot across from The College. These two spots are beside the ramp for the convenience of those needing assistance or having difficulty entering the building. Only vehicles with Handicapped Parking stickers should be parking in these designated areas. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Gift Giving Ideas for



Birthdays, holidays or just-because!



A number for the 50/50 Draw



Summer School Gift Certificate



Tickets for the Gathering



Tickets for Highland Storm



A Celtic gift from the Gift Shop

Raffle for a 2013 Jeep Wrangler!!!



There will be an Early Bird Draw of \$1,000.00 to be drawn at the Summerside Highland Gathering on Sunday, **June 30, 2013** - this ticket will then be placed back in the draw for the grand prize. The draw date for the Wrangler will be Thursday, **August 22, 2013** at an event that will take place in the Mary Ellen Burns Amphitheatre at The College of Piping. There will be an elimination draw - first ticket drawn to receive \$1,000.00, every 50th ticket drawn will receive \$100.00, the third last ticket is for \$300.00, second last ticket is \$500.00 and the last ticket drawn receives the Jeep Wrangler. During the elimination draw process, we will be providing entertainment. Tickets are \$100.00 and all proceeds are in support of The College of Piping's educational mission. "Inspiring excellence in Celtic Performing Arts through quality educational programming."



Piobaireachd Challenge and Workshop with Jack Lee

Thank you to everyone who competed at the 2013 Atlantic Canada Piobaireachd Challenge or attended the workshops the next day. This year the Piobaireachd Challenge was hosted by the College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada. It is usually held in Antigonish but the Antigonish Highland Society took a break this year to focus on their 150th Highland Games celebrations this July. A huge thank you to our judge, Jack Lee, who flew in from Vancouver to not only adjudicate but also run the workshops on the weekend of April 27th. Jack just found out that he is to receive an honorary doctorate from Simon Fraser University for his contribution to not only the success of the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band (six time world champions) but the teaching program he has established with the Robert Malcolm Pipe Bands. Over 2000 kids have come through the Robert Malcolm organization.



National Volunteer Week



The week of **April 21st to 26th** was National Volunteer Week. The College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts relies on the kindness of volunteers to help with The Gathering, Highland Storm, field clean up, fundraising, maintenance, the list could go on and on. The College is extremely lucky and privileged to have such fantastic support from our community and province. It is the generous support that we have that makes a not-for-profit like ours succeed. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers, new and experienced, that have graciously given their time to The College. We wouldn't be here without it! As William Shakespeare once said, "I can no other answer make, but, thanks, and thanks!"

Keep Informed

You can find out what is going on at The College of Piping in many ways. Kylie updates the blog at least once a week (and remember to look there for storm cancellations), facebook and twitter has up to the minute information, our sign out front tells you what is coming up, we try to keep you in the loop with e-mails, and now there is the column in the Journal Pioneer. Of course you can always call The College 436-5377 or send us an e-mail if you have any questions.

jane.magee@collegeofpiping.com

Don't forget!

Don't forget to check out our photo galleries and competition results page on our website. Now that spring is in full gear and summer is just around the corner, the pages are being updated weekly. Keep up-to-date on what is happening at The College!

Penny Drive

The College is offering to take pennies off of your hands! After February 4th, cash transactions will have to be rounded to the nearest 5¢ increment but electronic transactions will still be calculated down to the individual cent. Finance Minister Flaherty announced in his March 2012 budget that the penny would be phased out, saving taxpayers an estimated \$11-million annually. It costs roughly 1.6¢ to make each penny. We all have pennies sitting on dressers or in drawers, jingling in pockets or falling out of our wallets. Help The College help you by putting your excess pennies in our Penny Banks. At the moment there is one at The College of Piping in Summerside but we hope to have more out and about soon. Remember "every penny counts" as we work to get our deficit down. Thank you very much for your help. It is very much appreciated!

Newsletter

Produced by Jane Magee

Edited by Kylie MacHattie

Designed by Anna MacDonald

Designed by Anna MacDonald

Administrative Professionals Day

April 24th was Administrative Professionals Day.

On behalf of the College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada and those who grace our doors everyday or even occasionally, a big thank you to **Jane Magee** and **Elaine Lyon** for all of the hard work that they do at the registration desk. From answering phones, ringing in sales, listening to positive and not-so-positive feedback, welcoming tourists and islanders to our facility and for every job that they do (it's a pretty big list), thank you for your fabulous work. We wouldn't be able to succeed without you! Thank you!



Run To Scotland

Come to The College of Piping on **June 2nd** and help support the Dance



Committee as they raise funds to travel the National Championships in Montreal in May. There will be a 5km and a 10 km run on the Confederation Trail which is located just behind The College. Registration will start at 5pm and continue until race time. The registration fee is \$10.00. A pre-registration will soon be available at The College. Prizes to the top three finishers, male and female, will be tickets to Highland Storm and the Summerside Highland Gathering.

College Of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts

Ceilidh

Our next ceilidh will be held on **May 10th starting at 7 pm**. Doors open at 6:30pm. There will be a \$5 admission to the event and free refreshments will be provided. At the end of the scheduled entertainment there will be an open mic session for anyone who was inspired by the night's entertainment and wants to get up and perform themselves! Come and have a toe tapping good time! Everyone is welcome! This is the last ceilidh of the year until the fall. Watch this space and the blog for fall/winter ceilidh dates! Thank you for your support throughout our ceilidh season.

Maritime Highland Games Schedule:

June 22	Moncton Highland Games
June 28-30	Summerside Highland Gathering
July 1	Pugwash Highland Games
July 13-14	Antigonish Highland Games
July 20	New Glasgow Highland Games
July 27-28	Fredericton Highland Games

Annual General Meeting

College of Piping
and
Celtic Performing Arts
of Canada

On **Tuesday, May 14th at 3:00pm** in the Main Hall, The College of Piping AGM will be taking place. All of the College family is invited and encouraged to attend this meeting. You will hear about highlights from the past year, financial status and plans for the upcoming year. We need your participation, ideas and insights to make The College a success. Please mark May 14th on your calendar and plan to attend.