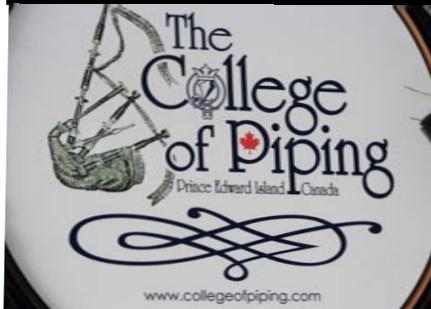


the Celtic Connection

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.**

highland gathering

Planning has been well under way for the 2013 Summerside Highland Gathering for months and June doesn't seem so far off now that we've had some entries make their way to The College. There are going to be a few changes this year to make The Gathering even more entertaining and fun-filled.

friday will see the step dance competition in the amphitheatre during the day and then Highland Storm will hold its opening performance in the evening. After you have seen The College talent at its best you can enjoy even more entertainment in the beer tent!

saturday ensures to be a jam-packed day of everything Celtic. A format change this year sees all of the piping, drumming and pipe band competitions taking place on this day only. The first day of the highland competition will take place in the amphitheatre and the official opening of The Gathering will take place at noon with the massed pipes and drums. In the evening, the beer tent will be rocking with talent such as our very own Highland Storm director, Ryan MacNeil and his brother, Boyd MacNeil, Celtic Rant and the Sprag Session.

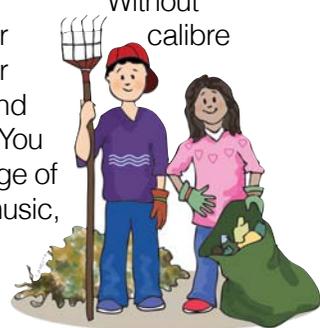
sunday will start with a pancake breakfast and the highland dance competitions will resume in the amphitheatre. There will be heavy-weight demonstrations and our very own College of Piping pipe bands will put on mini performances throughout the day. The afternoon will see a new and exciting event at The Gathering with Celtic Idol taking place on the half shell. This is a weekend that's not to be missed! For your chance to take part, tickets are available at The College of Piping office and on Box Office PEI. Get your tickets now!!!

Volunteers

The African proverb states: "it takes a whole village to raise a child" and I would say that it takes a whole army of volunteers to help stage events such as the Highland Gathering and Highland Storm.

Without volunteers, these events wouldn't be half of the quality or of what they are. Did you know that if you put in a 4 hour shift at the Highland Gathering you will receive a weekend pass to The Gathering and tickets to Highland Storm?! You will also become the proud owner of a very stylish College of Piping 2013 volunteer t-shirt. What's better than great music, meeting new people and being part of fantastic Celtic events?! Call Jane at 436-5377 or e-mail jane.magee@collegeofpiping.com to sign up for your volunteer spot. Don't delay!

Without
calibre



Band Food Concession at Highland Gathering



A summer fundraiser for all three of our bands is the food concession stand at the Highland Gathering. All parents of band members are asked to take a shift at some point over the June 28 to 30th weekend. Please get in touch with band leadership (James, Kylie or Chris) and they will add you

to the list. The earlier you get in touch with them, 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!

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



Snow, wind, ice, sleet, freezing rain, storms

In case of bad weather make sure you check The College of Piping blog at www.collegeofpiping.com or listen to the radio to see if we are closed. The blog will always have up to date information. **We do not always follow the school closings.**

Homecoming 2014

The College of Piping Homecoming

The 25th Anniversary of the College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts will be September 1, 2014. To get ready for this momentous event we are trying to contact 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.

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.



Thank You!

Thank you to all those who supported and helped with the evening of fine dining held on March 9th at the Atlantic Superstore in Summerside. The meal was fantastic (thank you chef, Calvin Burt!) and everyone had a great time. This event helped our Highland Dancers get one step further ahead with their goal of going to Montreal in July for the Canadian Nationals. Thank you!

Trunk Raffle



The College of Piping Nationals Committee is holding a Summer Trunk Raffle to support the dancers who will be going to Montreal in July to compete in the Nationals. The beautiful hand made wood trunk is full of fun summer treasures. A beach blanket, travel bottles, beach bag, photo album, stained glass Hummingbird chimes and pictures are among the items in the trunk. Tickets are 1 for \$2.00 and 3 for \$5.00. The tickets can be purchased from Highland Dancers or at The College of Piping office. The draw for the trunk and contents will take place at the year end recital on June 16th.

Tartan Day – April 6

Why and how do Canadians celebrate Tartan Day? On October 21, 2010, the Minister of Canadian Heritage officially declared April 6th as Tartan Day. The date is significant because it is the anniversary of the signing of Declaration of Arbroath in 1320, the Scottish declaration of independence. In Canada, Tartan Day originated in the late 1980s in Nova Scotia, where it was declared an official day by the provincial government. It then spread across the country, with many provinces joining in. Each province and territory with the exception of Newfoundland and Labrador have proclaimed April 6th as Tartan Day. Most provinces and territories in Canada have adopted an official tartan, with the exception of Nunavut, and Quebec, which have an unofficial tartan. Tartan Day celebrations typically include parades of pipe bands, highland dancing and sports, and other community gatherings with Scottish-themed events.





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!
😊

Maple Leaf Tartan Canada's Official Tartan



Designed in 1964 by David Weiser to commemorate the new [Canadian flag](#), the Maple Leaf tartan is the official tartan of Canada as of 2011. The four colours reflect the colours of the maple leaf as it changes through the seasons—green in the beginning, gold in the early fall, then red, and brown after falling. Its International Tartan Index number is 2034. The Canadian government has declared it the country's official Scottish cloth, announcing that the distinctive green-and-red pattern has not only been made the national tartan but also an "official symbol" of the nation itself. The designation means the tartan will join the flag, the coat of arms, the beaver and a handful of other objects as state-sanctioned emblems of Canada. The Maple Leaf Tartan represents the contributions that the more than four million Canadians of Scottish heritage continue to make to our country. The Canadian government also recognizes the maple tree as the country's "national arboreal emblem," the beaver as its official animal symbol and red and white as Canada's official colours.

Up-coming Dance Committee Fundraisers

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| April 20 | Pancake breakfast at the Atlantic SuperStore in Summerside |
| April/May | Dominos pizza cards "buy one, get one free pizza" |
| May 11 | Grocery bagging at the Atlantic Superstore in Summerside |
| June 4 | Spaghetti supper at the Atlantic Superstore in Summerside |

Welcome

We welcome **The Water Street Bakery** as a location for our 50/50 Gold Rush Draw. Thank you to all the locations that support The College of Piping Bands with this fundraiser.

Penny Drive



In March we deposited quite a few pennies to help towards the operations of The College of Piping. While this might not seem like much in the grand scheme of things, for a non-profit organization like The College every "penny" counts. Thank you to all who have brought in your extra pennies. If you have pennies at home that are still lying about and you are wondering what to do with them – we will take them off your hands. Rolled or unrolled – we do not discriminate! Thanks to Elaine, Shelly and Jane who counted and rolled the pennies and to Chris and Nancy who lugged the pennies to the bank.

Year End Recital

Remember to put **June 16th** from **2pm to 4pm** on your calendar as you don't want to miss the year end recital. It will be the culmination of a year of hard work and practice by our students, bands and Dance Company. Make sure you are on hand to celebrate and support our students' accomplishments! **The year end recital will take place in the amphitheatre at the College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada in Summerside.**

Highland Dance Concert

The Highland Dance Concert will be held on **Saturday, April 13th at 6:30pm at Gulf Shore Consolidated School in North Rustico.** Featured entertainers are: Ryan MacNeil of The Barra MacNeils, Dakota Oliver, Kathryn Gallant, Olivia Blacquiere, as well as The College of Piping Dance Company and the Pipe Band. Tickets are \$10.00 and are available from the gift shop or the Highland Nationals Group. Help our dancers achieve their goals of competing at the National Championships in Montreal in July!

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

Did you know that there are two handicapped parking spaces in front of The College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada? We would ask that you respect these spaces and park in any of the other areas for 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

Celtic gift from the Gift Shop

Highland Storm Update

Well hello folks! We are now well into 2013 and Highland Storm is shaping up to be one of the best shows yet. We are very excited to have another great creative team which includes our resident teachers: pipers James and Kylie MacHattie, Chris Coleman from our drumming department, and our dance choreographers Kearsney Smith on highland and Brittany Banks on step.

Creating the Highland Storm show starts with a collaborative process which involves brainstorming, gathering favorite standards from the Celtic traditions, and breathing life into new tunes and arrangements.

The College of Piping has shown many improvements in the past year; two of which will have a huge impact on our show; the introduction of the new Dance Company and having a third competitive pipe band. The Dance Company's emphasis on performance and choreography will provide the level of talent and support needed for the show, and having three pipes bands will insure a wide selection of talent. They will both help continue the Highland Storm tradition for years to come.

The audition and selection processes are well underway and things are shaping up quite nicely. My second year of directing Highland Storm has given me a better understanding of the job at hand: to provide the most entertaining showcase of talent from The College of Piping, and to inspire excellence in music and performance throughout the world! See you this summer!

Ryan MacNeil

Director of Highland Storm 2013



Introduction to Dance Week



The **Introduction to Dance Week** takes 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
Composition Workshop

April 1 to May 20
April 8 to April 29

Drumming

Stage Performance Track

April 1 to May 20

Piping and Drumming

July 8 to 12
July 15 to 19
July 22 to 26
August 12 to 16
August 19 to 23
August 26 to 30

Highland and Step Dance

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

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 the College of Piping website for the latest photos and results. There are contests held throughout the Maritimes to keep dancers, pipers and drummers motivated through the cold winter months. Check out the College of Piping website to see how our students are doing! We also post photos from most of the events that our students attend. These can be found under the photo gallery on the website. If you have photos from a competition, dance out, fundraiser, gig, etc., please send them to the College. The photos will be vetted for quality and variety, so not all photos will be put up.

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!

Summer School

It is not too early to register for Summer School programs at The College of Piping. Classes in **Piping, Drumming, Highland and Step Dance** are available. Classes are 2 hours a day, usually one hour in the morning and one in the afternoon. On Friday you are invited to take part in our 11:30 am Mini Concert to show off what you have learned. July 8 to 12 is the **Introduction to Dance week**. This is designed for children ages 4 to 12 to try out Highland and or Step Dance. Classes are one hour a day in the morning for each discipline. The schedule has been set up so that you can take both Highland and Step or just Highland or Step. Get in touch with Jane, 436-5377 or e-mail her at jane.magee@collegeofpiping.com for more details.



July

2013 Atlantic Canada Piobaireachd Challenge

Calling all piobaireachd (pronounced pee-brock) enthusiasts! I know you're out there... somewhere! Circle the dates of **April 27th and 28th** on your calendar. The College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts is proud to announce that **we will be hosting and running the 2013 Atlantic Canada Piobaireachd Challenge**. We have the privilege of **Jack Lee** (pipe sergeant of the six time world pipe band champions, the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band and one of the most decorated and award winning Canadian and international pipers of our time) judging this prestigious event. After a full day of judging, **Jack will host a workshop the next day from 10am until 3pm. Don't miss out! You don't have to compete in the challenge to attend the workshop. Everyone is welcome! Sign up now!**



H. G. Hardie Chanters

The College of Piping partners with H.G Hardie of Scotland to stock practice chanters and pipe chanters. A selection has just arrived so check out The College gift shop. There is also a set of Hardie RHG02 Bagpipes for you to investigate. We stock Hardie practice reeds, hemp, tape and other piping supplies. The gift shop is open from 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday or you can call Jane at 436-5377 for more information.



Congratulations to Calum Brydon!

Calum placed first in both of his events at the Halifax Citadel piping competition this past month. Calum plays in the Grade 5 band and competes in the Grade 5 solo category. He has worked extremely hard this past winter and it shows!

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.

Newsletter

Produced by Jane Magee

Edited by Kylie MacHattie

Designed by Anna MacDonald

Designed by Anna MacDonald