

the Celtic Connection



FOR STUDENTS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS



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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.



Robbie Burns Gala

Thank you to everyone who supported the

Robbie Burns Gala Fundraiser on January 21st at Credit Union Place. The haggis was piped in and a memorable "address" given by Andrew Campbell. Over 175 people enjoyed a wonderful meal, tasted the Haggis, reviewed images of The College year, renewed old acquaintances and made new ones, reveled in The College Bands and Dancers as they presented a terrific evening of entertainment, and supported the Band Fundraising by bidding on items at the Silent and Live Auctions. All this for the cost of the meal and a \$75.00 tax receipt – the best buy of the year by far. The Gala was put on as the major fund raiser for The College of Piping so your support was appreciated to help us get through the year. Thank you also to the businesses who helped sponsor the Gala.

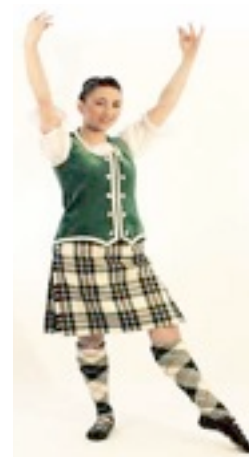
Ceilidh

At 7:00 pm the monthly Ceilidh will be held at The College of Piping. Ceilidhs are a fundraiser for the band committee and dance committee. Enjoy performances by the pipers, drummers, dancers and faculty plus numerous other instrumentalists. Come and join in the fun. Tickets are \$5.00 a person, children 6 and under free. Munchies and refreshments are provided. February's date will be on the website as soon as it is announced.

The Highland Gathering

was great last year –
Let's make it
even better this year!
Reserve June 22, 23, 24 for the return of the best weekend of the summer. The College of Piping will be filled with dancers, pipers, drummers and visitors. In order to make this the best Gathering ever we need your help. If you can volunteer at any time over that weekend, we have a job for you. It can be a couple of hours, a day, or the entire weekend. It takes a lot of hands to make this weekend a success so we are asking everyone in The College of Piping family to help out where they can. There is lots to do in the months leading up to the event as well. Call Jane at 436-5377 and let her know how you want to help.

A Reminder to Dance Parents



get in touch with Kearsney.

There is a complete kilt outfit for sale in the Highland cupboard for about ages 11 to 13, there is a kilt and matching socks for sale, as well as jig dresses. If you would like more information,

Tax Receipts

Receipts for tuition paid by dancers in 2011 will be issued this month. They will be available from your dance instructor on or before February 24th.

Storm Cancellation



There are several ways you can find out if classes are cancelled at The College. The most up to date information will be found on our blog on the College website, www.collegeofpiping.com. The cancellation will be posted minutes after the decision is made. You can also listen to CBC, CFCY, Magic '93, Ocean 100, K-Rock or CJRW for the closure notice.

****Remember, just because school is closed, that doesn't mean The College of Piping is closed.****

Dance Out



There will be a Dance Out on February 5th at 2:00 pm. at Andrews Lodge. All Highland and Step dancers are encouraged to

attend. Let your instructor know if you will be available. Outfits can be supplied. This is a great opportunity for younger dancers to dance in public and to give back to the community. Seniors love the little ones so all are encouraged to sign up.

Thank You

Thank you to the **Dance Parent Committee** for all the lovely new costumes and complete clean-out / clean-up of the dancing costume room. **They did an amazing job.**

Bands Fundraising

Check out the progress map on the wall at The College of Piping. We have some blue dots filled in but there is still a lot of ocean to cross. **Some of the ways you can support the band are;**

- ✓ **Saving** bottles and recyclable drink containers
- ✓ **Purchase** tickets to the Summerside Storm basketball games
- ✓ **Buy** stained glass items from the Beautiful Band Fundraiser collection by Vera MacLean
- ✓ **Support** the Silent Auction at the Robbie Burns Gala
- ✓ **Participate** in the monthly Ceilidhs
- ✓ **Join** in the 50 / 50 Gold Rush Draw that will take place every Thursday

Highland Dance Competitions

A reminder to those who wish to compete, you will need to fill out the 2012 Dancer Registration Forms. You will need Kearsney's signature on the photos and forms. Parents may wish to go onto the Scotdancepei site to look ahead to upcoming competitions and to download the registration forms.

Dance Committee Fundraiser

The Dance Committee is selling tickets on a John Deere D130 Lawn Tractor Hydrostatic with a Drive 42" Mower Deck. The draw will take place on Father's Day but these tickets would make a great Valentine's Day surprise for the man in you life. Proceeds will go to The College of Piping Dancers' Fund.

Tickets: 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$25.

Purchase your tickets at The College of Piping Main Desk.

The dancer who sells the most tickets will win \$50.00. You can also support the Dancers by buying the chocolate bars that are for sale for \$2.00 at The College.

Proudly sponsored by



BBF

Beautiful Band Fundraiser

Vera MacLean has made some very attractive stained glass to sell in the Gift Shop as a fund raiser for the band. There are dance slippers, drums, pipers and thistles. Stop in and see these beautiful pieces, everyone who has seen them has raved about them.

Tickets for the Summerside Storm



Basketball games

Tickets for Summerside Storm games are on sale at The College of Piping. **You can buy individual or season tickets here.** These are flex tickets and The College of Piping family get a discount rate with the proceeds go to the band fundraising. Not only will you see great basketball games but The College of Piping provides some of the entertainment. **Come in to the office or call Jane at 436-5377 for more details.**

Congratulations

Congratulations are in order to **Nigel Waite and Carly MacKenzie!** Nigel and Carly earned their bagpipes.. Both of them passed their four tune audition with flying colours! Nigel and Carly are some of the College's multi-discipline students. Nigel is not only a snare drummer with the College of Piping Grade Five Band but he is now on the road to becoming a Highland piper. Carly is also a successful Highland Dancer with the College and is now on her way to a career in piping. Well done Nigel and Carly!!!

Gold Rush 50/50 Draw

The College of Piping Pipe Bands have just started a 50/50 Gold Rush style draw. There are presently 8 locations where people can sign in for this draw and we hope to add some more locations in the near future.

The draw works like this:

At any of the participating locations you can complete a registration form and receive your personal number that you will use each week. When you register you will get a sticker from the participating location ,

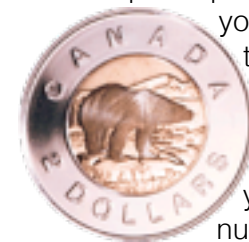
you will place that sticker on your toonie and write on that sticker your personal number, make

sure your number is written clearly as a 6 or 9 or some larger numbers can be mistaken , place that toonie and your registration paper in the draw box. You can have as many numbers as you like, as long as each number is registered. There is no age restriction.

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 weeks draw , that portion of the money is added to the following weeks draw, this will increase the amount of winnings until a number is drawn that belongs to someone who has signed in.

The first draw will be done on February 2nd 2012.



The 50/50 Gold Rush participating locations are as follows

- 1) College of Piping , Summerside
- 2) Samuels Coffee shop , Summerside
- 3) Gateway Petroleum Esso, Borden-Carleton
- 4) Gass's Store, New Haven
- 5) Book Mark, Confederation Court Mall
- 6) Beanz Coffee shop, Charlottetown
- 7) Gallant Clover Farm Store, Rustico
- 8) Kensington Food Basket , Kensington

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.

Piping, Drumming and Dancing Courses at The College of Piping

A reminder that there are several extra courses offered in all disciplines in the new year. Check your Educational Handbook or call Jane for more information on these classes.

Piping

Competition Track	Jan. 16 – Mar. 5
Stage Performance Track	April 2 – May 21
Teaching Skills Workshop	Feb. 6 – Feb. 27
Composition Workshop	April 9 to April 30

Drumming

Teaching Skills Workshop	Feb. 6 – Feb. 27
Competition Track	Jan. 16 – Mar. 5

Highland Dance

Choreography Group	Jan. 9 to June 11
Fitness Class	Jan. 9 to June 11
Teaching Skills Workshop	Feb. 6 to Feb. 27

Step Dance

Choreography Group	Jan. 9 to June 11
Teaching Skills Workshop	Feb. 6 to Feb. 27



Fitness Class

Jan. 9 to June 11

Dance Workshop

On March 4th there will be a Dance Workshop held at The College of Piping with **Kelly MacAuthur**. She will be leading sessions in Highland Dance, Step Dance and Choreography. A pizza lunch and a craft will be included. Dancers can ask their dance instructor what class level they should register for. If you are taking classes in both disciplines you can register for both disciplines at the workshop. **No charge to all College of Piping Students.** This workshop is open to the general public. If you know of someone who would like to attend all are welcome. The cost is \$25 for one discipline and \$40.00 if they are taking both.

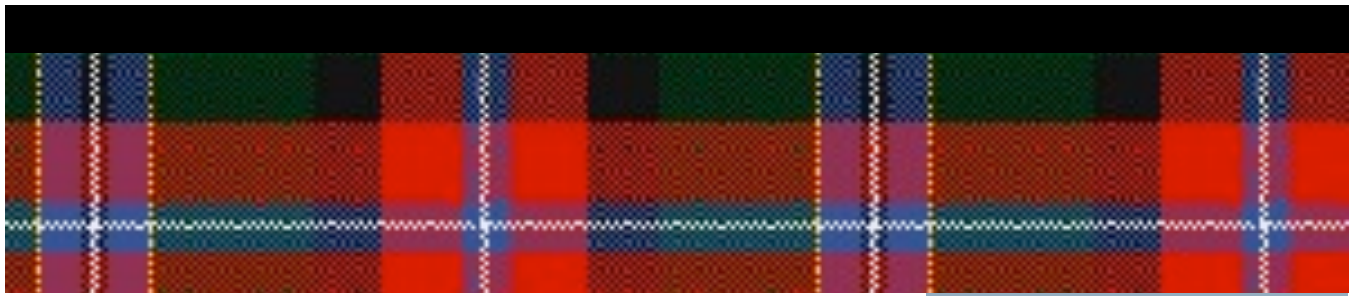
Workshop Schedule

9:00 – 10:30 am:	Beginner/Novice Highland Dance
10:30 – 12:00 am:	Arts & Crafts morning group
10:30 – 12:00 am:	Intermediate/Premier Highland Dance
12:00 – 1:00pm:	Pizza Lunch
1:00 – 2:00pm:	Arts & Crafts afternoon group
1:00 – 2:00 pm:	Choreography for both Highland Dance and Step Dance
2:00 – 3:00 pm:	Beginner/Novice Step Dance
2:00 – 3:00pm:	Arts & Crafts 2 nd afternoon group
3:00 – 4:30 pm:	Advanced Step Dance



Instructors and Assistants for 2011/2012 year

James MacHattie – Director of Education
 Kylie MacHattie – Bagpiping Instructor
 Sarah Simpson – Bagpiping Assistant, Gr 5 band
 Shanae Rogers – Bagpiping Assistant, Gr 5 band
 Chris Coleman – Drumming Instructor
 Sam Ramsay – Drumming Instructor - Summerside and Charlottetown
 Kearsney Smith – Highland Dance Instructor
 Samantha MacKinnon – Step Dance Instructor (Lead) – Summerside and Cornwall
 Charlotte MacKenna – Step Dance Instructor – Summerside
 Rebecca Dawson – Step Dance Instructor – Charlottetown
 Shanae Rogers – Step Dance Instructor – Summerside



Dates to Remember

This will be a busy year at The College of Piping. Here are some dates to mark on your calendar.

- February 05** Dance Out at Andrews Lodge
- March 04** Dance Workshop for Highland and Step Dancers
- June 17** End of Year Recital
- June 23 – 25** Summerside Highland Gathering
- July 2** Highland Storm Preview Night
- July 3** Highland Storm Opening Night
- August 4**
Grade 3 Band Competing at Inverkiething or North Berwick
- August 5**
Grade 3 Band Competing at Bridge of Allan
- August 11**
Grade 3 Band Competing at World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow

Note to those who are going to Scotland

Any payments made towards the trip by Visa, MasterCard or Interact will have 3% added to them to cover the service charge. The 3% will be over and above the amount that you are paying on your travel account.



Newsletter
Produced by Jane Dunn,
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