



**Thank You New College**

**A Shoulder to Lean On**



I can't believe it's over. 5 years of university. Most people can honestly say they're glad to finally leave after spending years of misery struggling to juggle classes. Me, on the other hand, I'm sad to see it go.

For me, I didn't spend my days going from home to school and back home. I spent most of my time in a building which on my first day of frosh, I couldn't even find. Atkinson has become my home away from home but its more than just a building. It's home to the best college, and it's not even close.

When people hear New College, they laugh and sometimes look down on it. "Ha! New College, that's not even a real college" or my favorite, "New College doesn't even have a name." That last one is just erroneous. New College has been like a second family. It is a place where I wasn't forced to be anything but myself. It allowed me to grow on my own, make my own experiences, my own friends, and my own path. New College is special because they don't try to fit you into little boxes so that students can become "like them." If you want to be shy, go right ahead, you may open up with the right group of friends. If you're always down to party, there are people that are ready to party.

If you want to be involved, they always have a fantastic council that lets you experience new things and really feel like you are making a difference in the NC community. I know I am so lucky to have been a part of New College Council for 4 years. I have learned so much about myself, acquired a multitude of useful skills such as communication, time management and cooperation.

I have made friends here, that I wouldn't have made anywhere else. These are the people that I played sports with, people I've been on social trips with, people I've worked with on council and even people I met at an event I almost didn't go to, frosh.

To everyone reading this, I have two words; get involved. I know being a university student is stressful as it is but free time isn't found, it's made. Set time aside for sports, outings, dinners, clubs etc. Most of you already have been involved by participating in quite honestly the best frosh week ever! But it doesn't have to end there. There is council, sports, and tons of social events in which to participate. Getting involved makes university that much more enjoyable, and I wouldn't have had this much fun in a college that had a "real" name.

*Anthony Di Vito (5<sup>th</sup> Year, VP Finance, New College Council)*

As the late Milton Berle once said, "If opportunity doesn't knock, then build a door." What better way to start the construction than to visit York's Career Centre. They'll provide you with all the tools needed to succeed in interviews, job searching, networking, resume building and the list goes on. Words can't describe how useful this service is but I'll give it a shot. Whether you're a first year student, or a graduate, looking for employment is not easy.

The Career Centre provides students with a myriad of workshops that occur on campus throughout the year. Workshops include resume and cover letter writing, manners and etiquette, LinkedIn webinars, employer recruitment sessions and many more. These all take place around one to two times a month so don't stress yourself out if you miss a session, another one will take place before you know it. From summer jobs to paid internships to full-time employment, the Career Centre is the link to job fairs.

If you're smart enough to visit the Career Centre website, be sure to check out the "My Career Plan" section. It essentially breaks down the job-finding process into four main categories; making connections, learning about yourself, exploring your options, and lastly, looking for a job. The website also has a calendar with the location and time of each and every workshop and event. The website provides you with job postings, the option to sign up for an email subscription, and the ability to book a one-on-one appointment.

It's never too early to start planning your career, or even your future. If you're dealing with uncertainty, visit the Career Centre for some words of wisdom. They'll help you find a job that best suits your personality and interests and come interview time, their guidance and support are unmatched.

The Career Centre is home to thousands of job postings every year with recruiters and employers actively seeking new student employees. The positions range from part-time to full-time, on-campus to abroad, an office to a playground etc. Make your life great again and visit their website at <http://careers.yorku.ca/> or their office in 202 McLaughlin College for more information.

*Robel Adugna (2<sup>nd</sup> Year, BAS Management)*





### Networking and You

Networking and professional events can be intimidating, I get it. It's all about marketing your personal brand. You create your public image by choosing how you present yourself. Your outfit, your posture, facial expression, tone of voice, etc. play a role when meeting professionals in your respective industries. Here are some pieces of advice;

- Dress Code: You NEED to know what you're walking into. Do research on the event and dress appropriately.
- Business Cards: The idea is to make sure they remember who you are. A conversation can only go on for so long. Make it count.
- Put the "work" in "networking": I'm not lying to you when I say professionals and recruiters can easily point out who is and who isn't prepared. Know which company representatives will be present, know the recruiters of the event, know the keynote speaker(s), prepare questions and have a plan.

How do you do this you ask? Well, there's usually a Facebook page for these. You can also start with LinkedIn, to look up profiles of many industry professionals and/or talent acquisition specialists. Give yourselves an advantage; go in with a cheat sheet. Show them you did your research, and you will stand out from the crowd. Don't forget to ask non-business related questions (i.e. hobbies, family, awards etc.).

Know when to disengage. We don't always connect with everyone, and if you get the sense that the conversation isn't going anywhere, or you don't have common interests to hold up a decent conversation, be polite, thank them and move on. This applies to conversations that are going well. Don't be afraid to end the conversation while they're still interested. To paraphrase Batman, it's better to die a hero, than live long enough to see yourself become a villain.

After the meeting, send them a thank you email, perhaps ask to have a cup of coffee together. It only gets easier from there.

*Dominic Ong (4<sup>th</sup> Year, President-Elect, New College Council)*

### Mom, Dad, I Think I'm an Eagle

I can remember that I wasn't sure what to expect when my friend brought me to Atkinson during Frosh Week. I can remember we all had that squeaky clean look, like we were fresh out of the box from high school and hadn't yet experienced the university

lifestyle. Nevertheless, because it was the first week, and I was sticking with the people I knew, I ended up tagging along to New College. That's how I ended up, sitting in a basement on a September afternoon, listening to Jack Onorati ramble on and on about his 'unique' experiences in university. I remember thinking, "Why are we listening to this hippie looking-guy in a basement? Is he actually telling us something important?" And then I looked around only to find the other freshmen sitting crossed-legged, enraptured with his stories. It suddenly clicked: he was giving us the possibilities for our next four years. We all believed him, as he made these stories not sound like memories, but a promise for us to make our own stories as well.

Somehow, I found myself signing up with Matisse for more and more New College events and sports teams, even the ones I didn't particularly like. Full confession: I barely knew how to play softball when I joined the intramural team in the first weeks of fall, and yet I now look back on it with fond memories. Not because we played well, I'm pretty sure we lost all our games except for the one the other team defaulted, but because I was starting to feel a part of the community.

This has continued, throughout sports, wing nights at the Underground and open mic nights, and one spectacular weekend in Blue Mountain. Honestly, if I had had any doubts about New College before, they were wiped away on this trip. It was like a trip with 40 of your closest friends, with the added bonus of a ski hill. What a time!

I feel people often lose sight of the fact that you should be making friends and connections at university, and that it isn't solely for the degree. At a commuter school like York, this can be hard. The thing with New College is that in a university as large as York, the college has managed to establish itself as a team, a community, and even as a family. And it is this community (correction, family) that has made my own university experience as fantastic as it has been.

*Olivia Graham (1<sup>st</sup> Year, BA Communications)*

### Eagles of the Month

Just because you're not presented an award at formal, doesn't mean it is any less special or honourable. With that being said, April's Eagles of the Month title goes to all the winners of the Winter election. Your dedication and spirit before and during the campaigning week has earned you a spot on the prestigious New College Council. Congrats to you all.

*Robel Adugna (2<sup>nd</sup> Year, BAS Management)*

