



Sarah Milne (1981-1987), President

In the 80's, I spent 6 years at QMS, attending as a day student from grade 5 through grade 10. The school provided me with a worthy education and safe environment where I could grow from childhood into a young woman. My OOMA involvement began around 2003 and I have been volunteering in some capacity since then. I was born and raised in British Columbia and I have enjoyed a lifetime of exploring and appreciating Vancouver Island.

Why being connected to QMS is important to you?

QMS gave me a stable, safe foundation. I felt a sense of community, belonging and acceptance. I was able to express who I was and made friendships that I have been grateful for all my adult life. As an adult I believe in the values of volunteerism and a broad range of educational opportunities. My involvement with OOMA nurtures these values, allowing me to contribute, in a small way, to a community that was formative in who I am today.



Megan Christensen ('01), Vice-President

Megan is currently working in the investment industry as a licensed Associate with RBC Dominion Securities, however is off on a new adventure in journalism/communications in Ottawa, starting January 2022.

Why being connected to QMS is important to you?

Staying connected to QMS is important to me because it reminds me of where I've come from and of my strength to get me where I'm going. The care and support I received as a student, and now as VP of the OOMA board, has been incredible and made a lasting impact.



Nicole Bond (MacDonald, '88), Treasurer

In addition to coordinating weddings and events in and around the valley, Nicole is the Membership and Registration Coordinator for Interferry. Interferry is the only international shipping association representing the worldwide ferry industry. With more than 260 members from 40 countries, Interferry act as the voice for the ferry sector – including owners, operators, ship designers, shipbuilders, equipment suppliers and manufacturers, government agencies, classification societies and maritime professionals. In her spare time Nicole can be found volunteering at the School.

Why being connected to QMS is important to you?

My two daughters attend QMS and it's important to me that I lead by example and pass on to them the core values of service, responsibility, honour and integrity which I learned while attending QMS.



Dr. Hilary Nixon (1981-1986), Secretary

Hilary is the Deputy Executive Director for the Mineta Transportation Institute at San Jose State University. Dr. Nixon is an active researcher and educator specializing in transportation and environmental planning and policy. Her research focuses primarily on the factors that influence pro-environmental behavior, transportation finance, and the relationship between transportation and the environment.

Why being connected to QMS is important to you?

Not only is it a great chance to reconnect with former classmates, but it is also an opportunity to support the vision of our Founders and ensure that the next generation of QMS alumni are prepared to blaze their own path.



Melissa Montgomery Spencer ('84), Director

Melissa is an actor who lives in Vancouver. She can be seen in Upload, Van Helsing, Bletchley Circle San Francisco, Chilling Adventures of Sabrina, Colossal and the short film The Horses- to be released this fall.

Melissa is also an equestrian and manages Old Southlands Stables in Vancouver BC.

Why being connected to QMS is important to you?

Being connected to QMS is important to me because so much of my success can be attributed to attending QMS. I cherish the time I spent there and am forever grateful for having attended QMS. Go St Mike's!



Elizabeth Abercrombie ('88), Director

Liz is currently is teaching Physical Education, married, raising three children and enjoying being 50! QMS was my school and then my children's school, so we will always remain connected.

Why being connected to QMS is important to you?

It is important to continue the tradition of our founders, to serve, to give to others. Staying connected to QMS will always keep myself and our family grounded and of course, in touch with friends, family and staff.



Melanie Thiede ('99), Director

Melanie completed a BA General Studies and is currently completing an Associate of Science in Community & Public Health. She has published two poetry & short story books and is the mother to two Yorkies.

Her plans are to work with an NGO after COVID travel restrictions ease with a focus on education and wellness for youth.

Why being connected to QMS is important to you?

Being connected to my roots, my home away from home is important because it forms who I am in some way.

Whether you attend or graduate from QMS, some of us will have friends for life, which is like finding gold in your pocket.



Emma Major ('13), Director

Emma went on to graduate Capilano University in 2020 and is currently working as a paralegal in Vancouver.

Why being connected to QMS is important to you?

Being connected to QMS is important to me because not only did I develop invaluable personal and professional skills during my education, it also shaped me into who I am today, and I want to ensure everyone has the same experience.



Taylor Kropp ('18), Director

Taylor Kropp graduated from Queen Margaret's in 2018. I'm currently in my fourth year at the University of Victoria, where I'm getting my BSc in Geography with a concentration in Coastal Studies.

Why being connected to QMS is important to you?

Ever since I became a QMS student I knew that this was a community I was very lucky to be a part of. Queen Margaret's is a big part of my family and after I graduated it was important to me to stay connected to the school that has given me so much. I'm incredibly proud to be a member of the QMS community and I look forward to the future and all of the amazing things to come!



Trudy Byers (Conibear, '56), Emeritus

After graduation and moving about – university, marriage, Vancouver, Calgary, California – Trudy and her family returned to a busy life in Victoria. Trudy worked at the University of Victoria Chemistry Department and Library until her retirement. She was then on the UVic Retirees Board for eight years and on the O.O.M.A. Board of Directors in every decade since graduation and consecutively since 1997! Trudy has also been editor of The Link (2010 on), and led the reprint of Beyond All Dreams.

Why being connected to QMS is important to you?

For me, being an Old Girl and a Director is an honour and a privilege. QMS changed my life (and my sister's). The Board for years rotated between Duncan, Vancouver and Victoria. And still, with graduates all over the world, the “locals” work hard to maintain the OOMA and our QMS Memorial Bursary (1945) – including, of course, much friendship and fun. Now, with digital technology, “meetings” have changed – ZOOM, the 2021 AGM – and people can participate from everywhere! (A loss in this new world is lunch after meetings – at School for years, then at White Spot in Duncan! But then, we can't have it all!)

As Alumni, we are connected forever, and we “carry the Torch”. So, members, near and far, let's keep OOMA going strong! Our 100th Anniversary is coming – June 11, 2027.