



**COCA**notes'03

# COCAnotes'03

welcome

Happy New Year!!!

Well it's been a long journey but it's finally complete and you're now reading the 2003 COCA NOTES ONLINE! You can and should ask yourself where to begin and the answer is just about anywhere!

The committee has worked long and hard to organize the notes so that you all can read them and enjoy them at your leisure. Please make sure to visit all the sections for the best that COCA has to offer – a chance to learn, to know, and to BE the event programmer, associate, board member or alumnae we have grown to know and love!

On a more personal note, thank you for making me your Communications Chair. It has been a joy working with the Communications Committee (Brad Beamish, Stacy Danielson, Jon Levesque and James Waynor), the Board and every single person who sent me a Notes submission. I hope that although this is the first Online COCA Notes, it definitely will not be the last.

Enjoy Your COCA Notes Online 2003!

Cheers,  
Crystal Adair  
COCA Communications Chair  
Ryerson University

welcome

# COCAnotes'03

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# COCAnotes'03

## board notes

### **JOSH CLARK (COCA CHAIR):**

Report from the Chair

Hello COCA-ITES, and welcome to the new COCA NOTES, in its shiny new modern format. I hope everybody's first semester went well, and that you all had some great holidays. I can report both were great for me! Here at Western we had a fantastic O-week (some of the most enthusiastic Frosh I have seen in years). The rest of the semester proved to be just as much fun (with the exception of sweeping frozen Foam away from the back door at 5 am). I haven't heard much from the constituency... so I will assume everything is fantastic out there. I know that the tendency to write or call usually comes when issues arise, but I would love to hear from any and all of you even when things are going smooth... if only to give me something to add to my report for the next COCA notes.

The Board of Directors met in early December in Montreal at the site of COCA '03. Let me tell you; you're in for a treat. The folks in Montreal have put together what promises to be an exciting, entertaining and educational conference. An opportunity to experience Montreal has already been planned; including the nightlife, and all the smoked meat and poutine you can handle. I would like to once again thank Bill Mahon, Ray Corbeil, and Olga Gazdovic for all their hard work, as well as Earle Taylor for his help with hotel negotiations from head office. If you have any questions/suggestions or concerns about COCA '03 please don't hesitate to contact one of the above hosts, Earle Taylor or myself.

The rest of COCA seems to be trucking right along. Our legal documents are very nearly completely translated. It appears as if we are just waiting on the lawyers. The website is also nearly complete: Make sure you keep checking [www.COCA.org](http://www.COCA.org).

I am also happy to report that a new and improved system for collecting directory information is being put together. Although I am sure you will have your directory soon, you should never have to wait this long again.

Thank you also to Crystal Adair over at Ryerson. Crystal has so far proven to be an enthusiastic communications chair while putting these notes together for you; and promises good things to come. I wish the rest of you a successful and fun 2nd semester, and look forward to seeing you all again in June!

Josh Clark

# COCAnotes'03

## board notes

### **EARLE TAYLOR (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR):**

Montreal Offers Much to See & Do,  
So Plan on Some Extra Time

In June, the COCA National Conference will return to Montreal for the first time since 1984. A COCA meeting in La Belle Province is a rare occasion and COCA '03 provides a unique opportunity for COCA members to visit a part of our country that is steeped in history and is culturally "distinct" – if I may borrow a term from the "independentists".

If you can arrange for a few extra days before or after the Conference, I strongly advise you to do so. Our Conference Committee in Montreal (Ray, Olga, Bill, Linda and Doug) will be putting together some sightseeing ideas, but here are a few suggestions from yours truly about my hometown.

Check out some live jazz in night clubs such as L'air du Temps in Old Montreal. Visit the Olympic site and the amazing Botanical Gardens nearby. Take a walk, run or calech ride in the park on top of Mount Royal. Grab a "steamé" or "toasté" hot dog at the Montreal Pool Room on "The Main". Rent a car and drive "up north" to the Laurentians with some great towns to visit such as St-Sauveur (1 hour's drive) and a little further north, Mont Tremblant. The English night club scene is centered on Crescent Street, and the French on rue St-Denis. Stroll around the historic McGill campus. And by all means eliminate the term "fast food" from your vocabulary for a few days and savor some of the incredible cuisine that can be found throughout Quebec. (And I'm not talking about poutine!) If you want to research your options, start with the Quebec government site: <[www.bonjourquebec.com](http://www.bonjourquebec.com)> or just call Olga at Vanier College and she will gladly tell you where to go.

### COCA Biz

The first Conference mailing will go out to agents, artists and suppliers at the end of February. This will include a complete showcase application package and if you know of any potential associate members who wish to be added to our mailing list, direct them to the COCA website <[www.coca.org](http://www.coca.org)> - click on Conferences – send contact info required to COCA via e-mail.

The Awards Committee, chaired by Daina Bowman (Lethbridge Community College), will soon be asking for your nominations for the various Canadian Campus Entertainment Awards. Please start giving some thought to whom you would nominate for the various categories. To see who won in the past, click on History – Awards on the COCA website.

The impending National Conference means its time to consider volunteer involvement with COCA. Whether you decide to run for a position on the Board or offer to serve on one of the standing committees, there is much to be done. If you need more information on what's involved with any position or committee, please drop me a note by e-mail at <[coca@gtn.on.ca](mailto:coca@gtn.on.ca)>.

Best wishes for a great second semester.

Earle Taylor  
Executive Director

# COCAnotes'03

## board notes

### **JASON MOSELEY (STUDENT DIRECTOR):**

I hope that you all are having a great year, and I wish you all continued success at your respective schools. So far this year COCA has been a new experience for me as the National Student rep. There has been many new challenges but nothing that cannot be over-come. This year we held at Centennial the first ever G.T.A wide pool tournament where students from everywhere competed for \$1000.00 and the tournament crown.

Although the winner was not from the G.T.A he deserved the title more then anyone else. I must give my congratulations to Todd Bonk of Fanshawe College for his great skills and determination in the tournament. Everyone that is a member of COCA, should be very excited about the upcoming nationals that in May. I must say that COCA is without a doubt the best thing for Programmers today

See You All In Montreal!

Jason Moseley  
Centennial College

### **CHRIS NEWELL (ASSOCIATES' DIRECTOR):**

Good Day Everyone,

Happy New Year, I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday season!!! I would like to start off by congratulating Bob Woods and the team of people who put on a fantastic conference in Guelph last summer. The first Board-run conference was a success on all fronts, the only problem is the height at which they set the bar for future conferences. Luckily the team in place working on the National in Montreal this year is up to any challenge.



Having just come from meetings in Montreal, and having seen the beautiful facility and the plans that Ray, Olga & Bill have in place, I'm sure that this event will be fantastic.

I would like to point out two scheduling items regarding the conference that are of interest to Associate Members. We are breaking from tradition with the date of Biz Hall, instead of being held on the Monday the Business Hall will be on Tuesday June 3rd. This is due to some prior commitments of the hotel, the good news is that all booths will be in the same room so there will be parity for all Associate Members attending. With the change in Biz Hall, accordingly we will be having the Awards Banquet, and Associate Annual Meeting on Monday June 2nd. I hope you can make it.

If anyone has any questions or problems feel free to contact me at anytime.  
See you in Montreal!

All the Best to You & Yours,  
Chris Newell  
Breakaway Tours

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## board notes

### **DAINA BOWMAN (AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR):**

Hey all, hope everything is going well and that you all had a great semester hopefully followed by another good one.

As Chair of the Awards Committee I look forward to hearing from all of you regarding what things you would like to see differently with Awards this year. If there were things that you didn't like or liked last year feel free to contact me at any time and let me know your thoughts.

I have been working with Earle in coming up with nominations and all the material that needs to go out to everyone. I plan on having everything ready to go by reading week, so everyone is prepared to receive a lot of stuff from me.

Good luck with everything you do this year.

Daina Bowman  
VP Activities  
Lethbridge Community College Students' Association  
Chair Awards Committee

### **RAY CORBIEL (2003 NATIONAL CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR):**

All is well for Montréal and that we have a great hotel/convention center and the Sheraton is fully equipped to handle all our needs. This years conference (with the exception of he CME) will all take place under one roof. We are excited to get underway and are positive that all of the delegates will enjoy the experience we are offering. I have attached a tentative schedule to let everyone have an Idea of what is in store. So tell them all to HAVE A BALL IN MONTREAL.

Ray Corbiel  
National Conference Co-Chair

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## conference update

### COCA '03 Montreal

May 31 – June 4, 2003

Updated: Dec. 8, 2002

#### Day 1 – Saturday, May 31, 2003

From	To	Description
9:00	5:00	Registration – Hotel Lobby
TBA		Technical Workshop Registration & Orientation
TBA		Volunteer Registration & Orientation
2:00	5:00	Bus Tour of Montreal (optional)
5:00	7:00	Supper (on your own)
7:00	8:00	Buses leave hotel for CME Showcase
8:00	11:00	CME Showcase – 3 Acts
11:00	2:30	Night clubbing in downtown Montreal.
11:00	3:00	Buses depart downtown for hotel every hour on the hour: (11 pm, 12 midnite, 1 am, 2 am & 3 am)

#### Day 2 – Sunday, June 1, 2002

From	To	Description
9:00	5:00	Registration – COCA Office
11:00	1:00	Orientation, Opening Brunch with Keynote Speaker
1:00	2:15	Ed Sessions I – choose from 3
2:15	2:30	Break
2:30	3:45	Ed Sessions II – choose from 3
3:45	4:00	Break
4:00	5:30	Regional Meetings (East , West & Central)
5:30	7:30	Supper (on your own)
8:00	12:00	Mainstage Showcase #1 – 5 Acts
12:00	2:00	Hospitality Suite #1 – Hotel Club

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## conference update

### Day 3 – Monday, June 2, 2002

From	To	Description
9:00	5:00	Registration – COCA Office
10:00	11:30	Ed Sessions III – choose from 3
11:30	1:00	Lunch (on your own)
1:00	2:15	Ed Sessions IV – choose from 3
2:15	2:30	Break
2:30	4:00	Associate Members' Meeting & Election
2:30	3:45	Ed Sessions V – choose from 3
3:45	4:00	Break
4:00	6:00	Film Showcase #1 - Duvernay
6:00	8:00	Awards Banquet – Hotel Ballroom
8:00	12:00	Mainstage Showcase #2 – 5 Acts
12:00	2:00	Hospitality Suite #2 – Hotel Club

### Day 4 – Tuesday, June 3, 2002

From	To	Description
9:00	3:00	Registration – COCA Office
10:00	12:00	Regional Meetings – Eastern & Western Schools
10:00	12:00	Biz Hall #1 – Central Delegates (Ballrooms 2 &3)
12:00	1:00	Biz Hall Buffet Express
1:00	3:00	Regional Meeting – Central Schools
1:00	2:30	Biz Hall #2 – Eastern & Western Delegates (Ballroom 2 &3)
2:30	3:00	Biz Hall #3 – All Delegates
3:00	3:30	Biz Hall – Teardown
3:30	6:00	Comedy Showcase – 5 Acts (Duvernay)
6:00	8:00	Supper (on your own)
8:00	12:00	Mainstage Showcase #3 – 5 Acts
12:00	2:00	Hospitality Suite #3 – Hotel Club

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## conference update

Day 5 – Wednesday, June 4, 2002

From	To	Description
9:30	10:30	Annual General Meeting - Terrebonne
9:30	10:30	COCA '04 Fredericton – Conference Meeting -
10:30	10:45	Break
10:45	12:00	Ed Sessions VI – choose from 3
12:00	1:00	Lunch (on your own)
1:00	3:00	Film Showcase #2 – Duvernay
3:00	5:00	Singer / Songwriter Circle – Terrebonne
5:00	5:30	Break
5:30	6:00	Cocktails – Ballroom Lobby
6:00	8:00	Closing Banquet
8:00	12:00	Mainstage Showcase #4 – 5 Acts
12:00	2:00	Hospitality Suite #4 – Hotel Club

# COCAnotes'03

## member notes

### **EASTERN REGION**

#### **University of New Brunswick - Fredericton**

Greetings COCA, from UNB Fredericton!

Here's what's been/will be happening here this year...

After relentlessly trying to acquire a "mainstream" headliner for Frosh Week, we ended up bringing "BULL-FROG featuring Kid Koala" (kudos to Courage Artists) in from Montreal. Those that came were exposed to something truly remarkable and lots of fun!

Our next main event (Treble Charger) was postponed from mid September to late November due to unavoidable circumstances. The band played a great set to an appreciative audience, but the timing took the wind out of ticket sails (punny!) a little bit.

Oh, yes...we (and 400 others) had Sex with Sue (Johanson) in September. That made up for everything.

For Halloween, Grand Theft Bus (Fredericton) and The Jimmy Swift Band (Hlfx.) played three and a half hours of non-stop music to a sold out crowd of nearly four hundred. We'll be doing this one again in February for winter carnival in a larger venue and expect to sell about five hundred tickets. I have contacts for any interested parties.

Ticket sales are going great for Sam Roberts (with Joel Plaskett support) in late January. Looks like another sold out show in the Ballroom!

We are also looking forward to a couple of lectures; one by Gil White on how to "Travel Europe on 84 cents/day" and another by Stanton T. Friedman entitled "Flying Saucers are Real!"...and hoping that The New Deal come through for March!

Lastly, The Cellar Pub & Grill continues to be the hot spot in town for local and touring bands alike with about four shows a week...and the ever popular "Fatty Grilled Cheese" of course.

As the kids like to say... Peace in the East!

Bruce Devlin  
UNBSU Promotions Coordinator  
Eastern Region COCA Director  
Fredericton, New Brunswick

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## member notes

### CENTRAL REGION

#### Carleton University

Since September '02, Carleton and Oliver's have hosted a capacity date with Matthew Good, a parking lot party with Swollen Members and Not By Choice, the MTV Campus Invasion with I Mother Earth, Ember Swift and Alix Olson, the Grammy-nominated Texas punk cowboys Bowling For Soup, underage rockers LiveonRelease and the always hilarious Tony Lee along with local BJ Woodbury. Popular rumour has it that members of Sum 41 stopped by after a downtown show and were ejected due to intoxication. The ever-popular student watering hole Rooster's has been renovated into a coffeehouse, pita counter and computer space. Oliver's also launched Retro Thisty Thursdays to wide acclaim, extensive sales and many, many, many \$1 draughts.

Kevin Duffy,  
CUSA Programming.

#### Conestoga College

"It's Wunderbar"

School rivalries didn't stop almost 2,000 students from having a great time this fall. Continuing with the success of last year's event, Conestoga Students Inc. invited Fanshawe, Ryerson and Sheridan to party with Conestoga students at the annual CSI Oktoberfest event with polka guru Walter Ostanek.

It's the second straight year that Conestoga students have invited other students in Ontario to party with them at North America's largest Oktoberfest festival. Last year Conestoga invited students from Centennial College and all the way from Windsor, St. Clair College.

Initially, Conestoga wanted to make this event strictly a college student night, similar to the University Night event run by the Sigma Chi fraternity. But current Conestoga Students Inc. president Jon Olinski thought it would be great to invite more schools. "All students love to have a great time, whether at their own pub or at a big event like Oktoberfest," he said. "Having them party with other college students is just a bonus."

Besides having the sounds of polka music to keep revelers entertained, there was a pie eating contest, strangely won by a Conestoga student. The X-Box on Campus event team showed up and gave students something else to do besides making hilariously awesome attempts at dancing to polka music.

Wafting through the air to keep the students well fed was the delicious Oktoberfest fare that is sausages, sauerkraut and pretzels. And of course there was the tasty beer that students got to sample.

Oktoberfest happens every year and everybody who goes has a great time. Where are you going to be this October and how much fun will you be having?

Jody Andruszkiewicz  
Conestoga College

# COCAnotes'03

## member notes

### CENTRAL REGION

#### Nipissing/Canadore

The Frozen North is Alive and Well!

How should one begin to describe this year at Nipissing University and Canadore College...Out of Hand! Our monthly theme parties like Shinerama Beach Bash, Oktoberfest, Corona Turkey Party and Belated New year's Eve were crazier than the parking lot of the Arnie after close...or waiting for a cab at Sault College and have become the stuff legends are made of. With Mardi Gras and St Paddy's Day left who'll know what kind of shenanigans are upon us. The man-the myth-the legend-the not so honorable Tony Lee had another sold out show and is booked for a follow up in early Feb. Also making the trip up to the frigid North Bay campus are Simple Plan and everyone's favorite hard working band Not By Choice. Since Bif Naked's Frosh Week show was sold out and she rocked, the boys will have some huge shoes to fill. Big shout out goes to T.K. for convincing some of his bands to come play our tiny campus. The highlight of the year has been our two pub nights...Toonie Tuesdays and FireWall Fridays, it is safe to say that the Wall is where the students want to party. Since I almost died on the way to Regional and didn't make it, I would like to send out some hugs and kisses to everyone. Hopefully I won't have to drive to national! Smell Ya Later.



#### Ryerson University

Hugs and cuddles from Ryerson University!

It's been a long and hectic year out here in Toronto (centre of the Universe according to Dawn Murray). This year RyeSAC has seen scandal, heartbreak and the loss of my favourite gossip-queen turned event planning pro, Dawn Murray, to the dark dungeon of Health Plan.

As I have been programming alone here at Ryerson for the past three months and pulling my hair out it is finally time to hire another pro to do the job. So I want to give a big welcome to the newest member of RyeSAC, Jeff Zoeller, formerly of York University. His transition will be starting soon as we here are all looking forward to see what he can do!

In other news, Ryerson's Week of Welcome (WoW), was tremendously successful with our first ever Ryerson Street Party and beer garden! We also worked hard on a carnival and the 45th Annual Ryerson Parade & Picnic!!

Programming has been interesting this year with focus on new events, field trips, etc. We actively participated in the GTA-Wide Pool Tournament (although we did not win) and in Conestoga's Oktoberfest Trip.

As a side note, the upcoming conference in Montreal will be my last as I prepare to continue my educational pursuits overseas and rock the event-planning realm in the UK! I look forward to keeping in touch and seeing you all again soon!

All the best for 2003!

Cheers,  
Crystal Adair  
VP Student Life & Events  
Ryerson University

# COCAnotes'03

## member notes

### CENTRAL REGION

#### Sault College

Here at Sault College we have battled obstacle after obstacle in trying to program effectively. This year's Orientation was designed specifically to keep the neighbours in our area happy. (Not our students) This year we met with citizens who found our pub's noise levels too loud. We made many expensive steps to help keep an open relationship. Over \$6000 was spent on a specialist who gave us an appropriate sound level that we may play at, that was agreeable. We have installed governors that would not exceed these levels. We isolated the speakers and instructed artists performing to follow these strict guidelines. We have agreed that we will no longer feature popular artists. Who's running the Student Life Centre here? Doesn't seem the students have a lot to say about it. Apathy is rampant here.

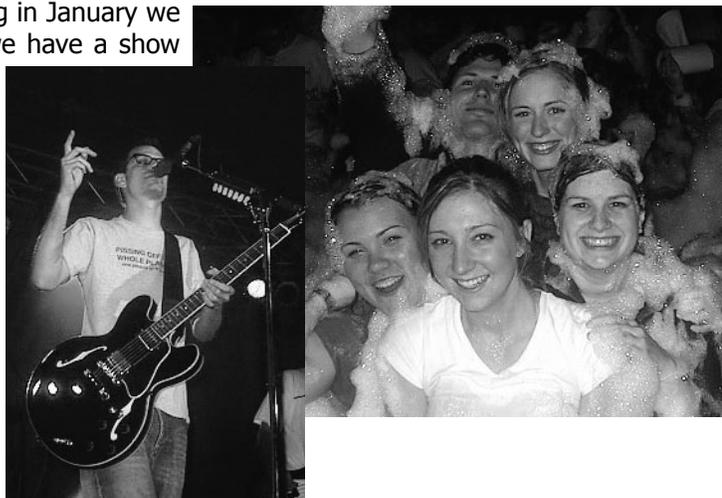
It has been difficult for Sault College to emphasize its strategic location in Canada. We are a great stopping point for national tours. Due to an incident in late Sept. we had been shut down for six weeks. This cost the Outback approximately \$75000 and put over forty students out of work. Our neighbours took advantage of this incident to demand our closure. We are struggling to keep it together. This note is just to inform that when a programmer loses focus and has to politic too much; the quality of student life will definitely suffer. After a few suggestions from COCA, Sault College looks forward to being back on the map.

Thanks,  
Dave Sutcliffe  
V.P. Programming, Sault College.

#### Sheridan College

This year at Sheridan has been a great one for events. September was a month full of events, orientation ended on a strong note with a sold out show by Swollen Members. From there on we held our first Foam Party here at Sheridan, which was a huge success. Nearing the end of the month Matthew Good made his appearance with a sold out show that blew the students away, there was a lot of high energy and the show couldn't have gone any better. Next we had a show booked with the Funky Technicians that ended up with a disappointing turn out. Starting in October we hold Lounge Nights once a month that are going over real well, it's like an open mic night with martinis and a relaxed atmosphere that students are enjoying. Sex with Sue went over well as expected students got very involved with asking questions and we held a Sex and Fetish Pub to follow that had a good turn out. Starting in January we have many things booked for the New Year, we have a show with Simple Plan & Not by Choice, hosting our 2nd Annual Super Bowl Party, taking part in DJ Warz, hosting a show with "Screech" from Saved by the Bell and many more things to come!

Jennifer Pratt  
Director of Social Affairs  
Sheridan Student Union – TRC  
905-845-9430 ext.2304  
oaksusoc@sheridanc.on.ca



# COCAnotes'03

## member notes

### CENTRAL REGION

#### York University

York University Student Centre

Yorkfest 2002 was a massive success with over 10000 people taking part in this one day music festival on September 18, 2002. Performers included the Weekend, Bullfrog and Bif Naked. Treble Charger played our annual Homecoming Concert on Saturday, October 5 with over 400 people in attendance.



After a \$1.5 million renovation, the Underground reopened with a bang on Tuesday, October 29. Over 500 guests were invited to this VIP event and Danny & Joey from the Watchman performed an amazing surprise set for those in attendance. We are currently running 3-4 evening events per week including IndieMusicMondays, Karaoke, Dirty Bingo, Queer Night and our weekly Pub Night.

Coming up this semester we have Kardinal Offishall, Second City, Tony Lee and Sam Roberts plus our regular weekly events. We are in the process of launching a monthly urban music night later this month as well as our DJ Spin Off and battle of the band competition.

Hope everyone is doing well and I look forward to seeing you at the National...jeff

Jeff Zoeller  
Marketing & Event Manager  
York University Student Centre

# COCOAnotes'03

## member notes

### WESTERN REGION

#### University of Alberta

It is with great annoyance, as of late, that I have noticed an increase in the lackadaisical attitudes of performers toward their audience. A certain standoffishness seems to have pervaded the music industry, in which the artist puts themselves above the role of entertainer and succumbs to their own egotistical yearnings to present performances that are tossed away in order to appease the masses.

While it is true that many fans are happy to pay 35+ dollars simply to bask in the presence of celebrity, the ethos of "musical performer" as "stage entertainer" has been pushed aside in favour of a cooler-than-thou stance. There are exceptions. Those who make their livings on the basis of pleasing crowds, such as singers who perform the songs of others, will always have to put in the extra effort on stage. While those who can rely on hit singles and legendary reputations seem content to ignore issues of stage presence, crowd interaction, personable reference, and all the other live aspects that create memorable performance.

It would be nice to presume a temporary trend in these pedestrian performances, but I fear the only wake up call will come with empty houses. There is little we can do other than encourage audience attendance at, and education in appreciation of, genuine performances. This, as opposed to somnambulist hero worship, might prod those artists that would take their fans' money for nothing into investigating the art of entertaining.

Greg Curtis  
Programs Director  
University of Calgary Students' Union

#### Lethbridge College

Well what can I say, WHAT A YEAR. As a student programmer I have learned a lot about the entertainment industry. I have had a HUGE concert this year and it was Default on September 12, 2002. It was quite a challenge for me considering it was my first time doing a concert. Everyone in Lethbridge who came had a great time and as I look back I start to think that maybe I had a good time too.

I do have to say that I think James Cunningham does a great Lecture and if anyone is looking for a lecture he is the guy you should get.

Also I have had quite a few smaller bands, Sandcastle Theory from Guelph Ontario, The Travezty from Taber Alberta, Downtime from Drumheller Alberta, and Dated Delay from Lethbridge Alberta. Each of these bands were great and hopefully they will come back to the D.A. Electric Barn again.

All in all it has been a great semester and I can't wait for it to continue. I would also like to thank everyone for helping get started you know who you are and I appreciate your cooperation in making me the programmer I am today.

Have a great year.  
Daina Bowman  
VP Activities  
Lethbridge Community College Students' Association (LCCSA)

# COCAnotes'03

## member notes

### WESTERN REGION

#### Mt. Royal College

It was a busy first semester at Mt. Royal and in particular the Liberty Lounge. We put on forty-four acts either as a package or stand-alone and the crew really needed the holiday break!

Some of note, though too many to mention, was Buck 65 and K-OS, both brilliant in September. The intimate Liberty Lounge transported to another dimension with stellar performances by The Lowest of the Low and 54-40. Big Sugar out of this world at our win to get in "Close Encounter" event. Also, a great collaborative effort with SAIT and the UofC on a Blue Rodeo show (thanks to the Rodeo's as well). As always our thanks to Danny Michelle and an effervescent performance by Kathleen Edwards. Keep an eye out for Aussie performer Xavier Rudd.

In addition to this we ran two awareness weeks and a host of one-day special events, once again in all to much detail to get into.

Thanks to all the acts and agents who support our endeavours ... on behalf of my staff I wish one and all the very best in the New Year.

Keep Live Alive on Campus!!

John Bowers

Director: Programming / Operations  
S.A. Mt. Royal College

#### Red River College

Red River College is now "state of the art". That's at least how the marketing department is spinning the opening of our new downtown campus. Despite a few minor glitches such as the lack of computer services, phones or even clocks on the wall, the new campus looks great. Scheduled to be fully completed next September, it will be home to about 2000 new students. The main campus will still be our Notre Dame location near the airport where the SA office, most of the college programs and 5600 students are held. This year has been great so far.

Attendance is up at events and, seeing as this is my second year, things are going a lot smoother. In September we hosted two Manitoba grown bands in one concert; The Watchmen and Sonic Bloom. Prairie Music Week also took place during this week and it was great to see fellow colleagues at our Western COCA meetings (yes, even Melnychuk).

Our 19th Annual Meltdown Week will take place in February, along with our annual ski trip. In March, I will join 36 students for fun and controlled mischief in Mazatlan, Mexico. Want to have fun but not end up in jail.

I can't believe I owe \$20 to the E.D. from St.Mary's (stupid Huskies and their back to back Championships). I can't believe I broke my thumb playing hockey.

Note to self for next year - stop students from smuggling bottles on bus trips. Ahhhh! I mean really am I supposed to pat everyone down. Maybe we should do cavity searches, I don't know. What else can I say...busy, busy, busy...life is good at RRC.

Michael Blatherwick  
Red River College  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

# COCAnotes'03

## associate notes

### THE AGENCY GROUP

Happy New Year!

It's been an exciting Fall/Winter so far for The Agency Group. Steve Herman formerly President of Clear Channel Entertainment Canada has joined the Company as President of Canadian Operations and Jean Wilkinson has joined him in our office as well as his assistant. We're moving as of February 1st to the following address #2 Berkeley Street, Suite 202, Toronto, ON M5A 4J5. Phone, fax and email will stay the same.

We're happy to announce the additions of Danko Jones and I Mother Earth to the roster, look for both acts to be available in early spring as well as next fall.

Orientation Week was a smashing success again this year. Default played to huge crowds across Western Canada, while Big Sugar, The New Deal and The Watchmen performed to eager crowds across Central Ontario.

Fresh off his trip across Canada opening for The Tragically Hip, Sam Roberts is about to embark on a cross Canada tour this winter, be sure to catch this much buzzed about performer in your town.

Theory of a Deadman has continued the successful Canadian invasion of US Rock Radio, they are currently on tour with 3 Doors Down across North America but will be available for shows from April 2-19 in Canada.

We're excited about COCA Montreal and have many exciting acts to showcase for you, as always please surf to [www.theagencygroup.com](http://www.theagencygroup.com) to check out our full roster or give us a call for availability and pricing.

Omar Al-joulani  
The Agency Group Canada  
Tel (416) 368-5599  
Fax (416) 368-4655  
[omar@theagencygroup.com](mailto:omar@theagencygroup.com)

### BREAKAWAY TOURS

Thank you for all your support and Happy New Year!

We just arrived back from hosting the largest New Year's parties in Quebec and Montreal and we would like to thank the 6,000+ students that joined us! Once again, your support made us the largest tour operator in both cities!

We are getting ready for Spring Break and expect 18,000 students to join us from all over Canada and the US! The most popular destinations are Daytona Beach, Panama City Beach, Acapulco, Montreal and Quebec. If you need additional promotional material or would like the Breakaway promo team to visit your campus, give us a call. We have a few campus dates still available, but they are going quickly!

Again, thank you for all your support. We have become one of North America's largest Student Travel companies because of your loyalty and we greatly appreciate it. I look forward to seeing you all at the next National and hopefully on the beach for Spring Break!

T.J. Donnelly  
President, Breakaway Tours  
[tj@breakawaytours.com](mailto:tj@breakawaytours.com)  
[www.breakawaytours.com](http://www.breakawaytours.com)  
Phone: 905.501.9774 or 1.800.465.4257



# COCAnotes'03

## associate notes

### **CHRIS COLEPAUGH AND THE COSMIC CREW**

Chris Colepaugh has been a hot commodity this past year. Performing in Boston at the Legendary House of Blues, a live performance on the televised East Coast Music Awards and touring, touring, touring! Recently, Chris won the 2nd annual NB SONGWRITERS Competition and received a complete Home Recording Studio. He also just won ( December 2002 ) the Great Canadian Talent Search with Canadian Musician Magazine and will be appearing on CBC on February 12th as one of five finalists in the GREAT CANADIAN MUSIC DREAM contest ( yes, both contests have similar names ). If there's a contest to be had, CHRIS COLEPAUGH AND THE COSMIC CREW are in and winning it!!

They will also be in the studio in January to record their fifth independent album to be released in the summer of 2003. Way to guy kids!

Thanks,  
CCCC

### **COURAGE ARTISTS & TOURING**

COCA regional was a successful showcase for the Salads and Skitz resulting in many bookings in new schools. Thanks for the shows!

The Daredevil Opera Stunt Show is a new project that will blow you away.

Take elements of Jim Rose Circus, Cirque de Soleil and a comedy play and you have entertainment on a grand scale. Best set in a theatre environment but can configure to almost any room. Great promo available. Just ask.

The Salads-New single called Get Loose is out in Feb. Video at Much. Looking for Feb/April Ontario. Mad Bomber Society ska/punk heroes working on new CD available for Western dates.

Ashley MacIsaac has a great new CD. Touring with full band, national tour March / April, on Universal records international.

Torture King is available Late Feb into March. He has a show running this March in Las Vegas!

Fishbone available for select dates this spring. Great end of school bash band.

All Systems GO! new CD called Mon Chi Chi on Aquarius/EMI. Available late March.

Jello Biafra new spoken word 3 CD set out now. Available for select engagements.

Atomic 7 new CD on Mint featuring Brian the guitarist from Shadowy Men on a Shadowy Planet.

For the very brave Gwar are available for select shows this spring. Call Greg Curtis for feedback on his show.

Call Steve or James for more information on these acts and the rest of the roster.

James MacLean  
Courage Artists & Touring Inc.  
[www.courageartists.com](http://www.courageartists.com)  
416-598-3330 ext. 305  
416-598-5428 fax

# COCAnotes'03

## associate notes

### **DAMIAN THE HYPNOTIST**

Damian the Hypnotist had an excellent year, travelling across Canada and the United States for his amazing and spellbinding performances. His energetic sold-out shows left the audiences laughing all night enjoying what is the ultimate in live entertainment. Damian's hypnotist shows are completely interactive with the audience and fifteen to twenty volunteer on-stage participants who are hypnotized to perform hilariously outrageous skits for a dynamic and exciting form of transcendental comedic entertainment. The schools found it was a great way to raise funds for their student association. The shows range from "PG" to "XXX" rated.

On a funny note, one of Damian's more memorable moments on the road included crossing the U.S. border from Ontario by accident, in the 35 foot purple tour bus. Damian and his crew were detained by the Customs officers pending their search of the tour bus. Unfortunately while under detention, Damian did not have the opportunity to film the reactions of the Customs officers when they came across the show props (i.e. inflatable pigs, cows, sheep, and several bedroom unmentionables!!!).

Be sure to check out Damian at his website, [www.damianthehypnotist.com](http://www.damianthehypnotist.com), and book him for your upcoming event!

Thank you.  
Damian

### **THE IMPONDERABLES**

"You sit they're and think, "This is stupid. Why am I laughing at this? "But you are." (Edmonton Sun)

Since the last two COCA conferances - Guelph and Hamilton - The Imponderables have started to make some interesting headway.

First off, showcasing their talent at the Regional conference in Hamilton helped them land five gigs in the months of January and February alone, and the phone is still ringing! (A big thanks to Jayne Woods, and Earle Taylor for making this all happen.)

To accommodate this shift in business, the Imponderables have hired some help with bookings. For booking info, please contact Danielle Weinriech at 905.628.9097 or email < [dmweinr@attglobal.net](mailto:dmweinr@attglobal.net) >.

Those interested in the Imponderables can see them perform every Friday and Saturday night in February at the Staircase Theatre in Hamilton, two weeks in March at The Tim Sims Playhouse in the lovely Second City, and periodically at The Rivoli in Toronto.

Of course, instead of reading this, you could just go to the website for information, video download, and stupid pictures. <[www.theimponderables.com](http://www.theimponderables.com)>

The Imponderables  
905.628.9097  
[info@theimponderables.com](mailto:info@theimponderables.com)  
[www.theimponderables.com](http://www.theimponderables.com)

### **DAN VALKOS**

Greetings and Happy New year from Canada's Psychotic Psychic. A number of very good things have been happening to me over the last four months. If you are not aware, my syndicated television show on Rogers out of London has been getting rave reviews and they are talking about national syndication in the new year. Keep your fingers crossed. I have been performing at a whole bunch of new coca schools and the students have enjoyed me. (It helps to be psychic and accurate.)

Anyway, to all the people out there who know me and those few who do not, have a great year.

Dan Valkos

# COCAnotes'03

## associate notes

### LEG EVENT MANAGEMENT

LEG Event Management Inc, Kyle Long and James Cunningham would like to thank everyone for another great year as we all continue to break new ground with FUNNY MONEY and a new approach to programming for a younger student audience.

B.J. Woodbury and Mista Mo have teamed up to perform one the most powerful two hour comedy shows ever; Leaving all audiences with great memories and many great jokes they will want to tell to their friends.

Anger Management 101 Wrestling tour has been a complete success in 2002 hosting performances across Canada and into the US. Some of the headliners we have brought to campuses across Canada include KING KONG BUNDY, HACK SAW JIM DUGGAN, JIM THE ANVIL NEIDHART, BUFF BAGWELL, BRUTUS THE BARBER BEEFCAKE and JOHNNY SWINGER.

"We all look forward to performing on campus Canada; the student audiences of Canada are much more intelligent and more appreciative than those in the US!"

- HACKSAW JIM DUGGAN

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at COCA Montreal and for those who are driving please remember when driving in Quebec – "Tabernac Este, Obtenez outre de la route. Vous conduisez pour ralentir!"

LEG Event Management Inc. est un évalué des agences supérieures de variété au Canada.  
Délégués de bienvenue à la conférence 2003 de COCA, Montréal.

Kyle Long  
Leg Event Management Inc.  
519.885.9940  
[www.legevent.com](http://www.legevent.com)

### PAQUIN ENTERTAINMENT

Paquin Entertainment Agency has moved their Toronto office, please update you information to:  
3rd Floor, 110 Bond Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5B 1X8  
Phone (416) 962-8885; Fax (416) 962-3331  
[www.paquinentertainment.com](http://www.paquinentertainment.com)

Representing Hawksley Workman, The Weakerthans, The Constantines, Cuff the Duke, Roller, Royal City, The Snitches, The Waifs...and more.

Thanks,

Meaghan Sproule  
Paquin Entertainment  
3rd Floor, 110 Bond Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5B 1X8  
Phone: 416-962-8885 Fax: 416-962-3331

# COCAnotes'03

## associate notes

### SEMS ENTERTAINMENT

Happy New Year COCAholics! Glad to see everyone survived the holidays and is back safely for 2003. These past four months have confirmed an already huge success for SEMS Entertainment across Ontario with 7 shows. Looks like 2nd semester proves to be very promising throughout COCALand for The Arrival Tour.

Dates & venues for 2002 included:

- Seneca College the 11th of September
- University of Waterloo the 24th of October
- Queens University the 9th of November
- Durham College the 14th of November
- Brock University the 15th of November
- Sault College the 6th of December
- Blue Mountain Ski Resort the 21st of December

The Arrival Tour features an all-star cast of some of the most notorious unsigned artists reppin' the TDOT streets. The tour's headliner, Syntifik, has been hard at work in the studio putting together hot new tracks ready to hit radios and mixtapes across Ontario. His freshly pressed Trickin' vinyl will be distributed through Nuff Entertainment and in stores across North America and UK in February.

Look forward to meeting you this semester. We're now booking for February, March and April. For more info on The Arrival Tour, hit up [www.shabesque.com/sems](http://www.shabesque.com/sems) or call Jon @ 647-299-SEMS.

### S.L. FELDMAN

To COCA Associates, Members & Delegates:

S.L. Feldman & Associates would like to thank you again for another great year in 2002. Without you it would not have been as successful as it was!

It was exciting to see everyone out last year at the COCA National Conference in Guelph, where the infamous White Cowbell Oklahoma hosted the awards night with their witty introduction songs. During the showcases The Full Nine rocked the house at the beginning of the night and Not By Choice actually got people to stand up and move around during their stellar set.

We have added some new bodies to our company over the past year, and a lot of the Associates at COCA got a chance to meet them at the Regional Conference in Hamilton this past November. One of our bands that played the showcase night, Pilate, received a great response from the crowd, and The Getaway shook everyone up at the end of the night.

So thank you again for everything so far – you guys have been great! Can't wait to see everyone again at this years COCA National Conference in Montreal, June 2003.

Best Regards,

S.L. Feldman & Associates  
Tom Kemp  
Sarah Lutz

# COCAnotes'03

## associate notes

### TNT TOURS

COCA NATIONAL CONFERENCE TNT TOURS FREE TRIP WINNER BRINGS IN THE NEW YEAR WITH 750,000 IN TIMES SQUARE!!

Once again, TNT Tours had another successful New Year's in Montreal with hundreds of students taking advantage of our lowest prices in the industry and our pre-New Year's barhop included in our price! There were no damages, nothing but praise for our quality downtown hotels, and plenty of smiling faces!

It was very encouraging to see that support for New York City is alive and well! With a record year and TNT's numbers up 300%, the Big Apple was the place to be! Duncan Massie, President of the SAC at Fleming College in Peterborough, was one of close to 750,000 people to join in the festivities in Times Square! He was the lucky winner of this trip at the COCA National Conference last year! The best part of the trip may have been the hotel upgrade that TNT was able to arrange for their clients! The group was upgraded to the Sheraton Hotel right by Times Square – step out of your front door and look to your left and you see the ball dropping in Times Square, look to your right and you see the fireworks over Central Park!

We are now gearing up for another TNT unique experience – Mardi Gras in New Orleans! With Colleges and Universities from Sudbury to Peterborough and all over the Toronto area selling our packages for this special event Reading Week/March Break 2003 is sure to be a memorable one!



### TWIN WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT

LIVE WRESTLING!!! The hottest action packed show on the Campus Market had a breakthrough year. With live wrestling shows all over Canada Twin Wrestling Entertainment is sports entertainment at it's finest.

With wrestling legends King Kong Bundy, Hacksaw Jim Duggan, Kamala, Brutus The Barber Beefcake, The Honky Tonk Man, The Million Dollar Man Ted Dibiasi and Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka and current stars The Godfather, Buff Bagwell, Konnan, The Disco Inferno, Scott Hall (Razor Ramon), and X-Pac (to name a few) on our roster, we are the best sports entertainment product in Canada.

If you missed out on the 2002 Campus Invasion Tour be sure to be a part of next year's tour, we have already signed some new talent, straight off the WWE roster. Personalize a show by getting some of the student council members involved in a match. The TWE is including a live press conference/autograph session at all schools for next year's tour. Half time dance troupes, press conferences, autograph sessions, a live dj, tables, ladders, chairs, hardcore matches, high flyers and action packed wrestling will never be the same. Book an appointment now with one of our agents. You won't want to miss it! To insure customer satisfaction we meet, match and reduce any price.

Here are some past schools and places that saw the Campus Invasion Tour: York University, University of Toronto Erindale, Seneca College, Durham College, Lakehead University, Sault College, Lethbridge College, St.Clair College, Inuvik Northwest Territories and many more.

[www.twinwrestlingentertainment.com](http://www.twinwrestlingentertainment.com)  
905-764-2100

# COCAnotes'03

## alumni notes

### MEGHAN SYMSYK (UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO)

On Dec 30th in lovely Hamilton, Ontario, a few COCA alumni got together at The Hip show!



L-R

Jay "Dawg" Duggan (McMaster Programmer...still...just kidding J!!), Meg Symsyk (former UWO student programmer and graduate of Pete Stanbridge School for Rock Chicks (PSSFRC), currently Universal Music girl), Peter Stanbridge (former UWO Programmer, and President of Pete Stanbridge School for Rock Chicks), Tristin Chipman (former York Programmer, PSSFRC grad as well and now tour manager extraordinaire...for The Hip that night!), Emmanuel Patterson (former Guelph programmer and current House of Blues big shot) and Wayne Barry (former COCA Notes Editor and current internet guru).

Meghan Symsyk  
Universal Music Canada  
Marketing & Promotion (Interscope/MCA)  
Direct: 416.495.3450 Fax: 416.491.2057  
UMUSIC.CA

# COCAnotes'03

## alumni notes

### DAWN MURRAY (RYERSON UNIVERSITY):

"I've looked at COCA life from all sides now...  
(sing to the melody of Judy Collins famous tune- "Both sides Now")

The three sides of COCA in my life started as an associate member in 1992/93, then I assisted hosting a National COCA conference in 1998 here at Ryerson with the charming and crazy David Steele and the wonderful Mrs. COCA

herself-Leatrice Spevack, then the past two years as a staff programmer I attended two regionals and two national conferences as a school delegate, so there you have it, I can honestly say I have seen COCA from all sides now!

I just recently switched jobs at Ryerson, for the past two years I was the Programming & Campaigns Co-ordinator at RyeSAC, and now I am the Health & Dental Plan Administrator, a more regulated 9-5 office job is required in my lifestyle, as a single mom now raising a young boy in Junior High. Those wacky long hours in a pub or at an event, no summer vacations and not being able to even have a normal one hour conversation with my family in late August/early September are over until my son (Tyler) is too embarrassed to walk down the street with his mother (any parents reading this will totally relate)!

I now am left to recite the same answers over and over again each day to students about OPT-OUTS, Greenshield Identification Numbers and what really is a "scaling" on their dental plan

Through COCA I have shared a hotel room with our current president-Darren Cooney for a week in Calgary in June 2001, and even though he partied till the wee hours most nights we had a fabulous time, meeting and greeting all the COCA folks for both our first time as school delegates. Despite the madness of the multi-stream conference that year there were bonds made that will last us both a lifetime.

And then there was a special little weekend in Oakville at the 2001 regional conference when your COCA Notes 2003 chair-Missy Crystal shared a room with me, well let's just say after she met some certain "Breakaway boys" the rest is history! (Editors Note: Did I mention Dawn is the Ryerson/COCA Gossip Columnist? Alongside myself and Stacy!)

After all the partying and jokes aside there are some really good people with COCA, some belong to the old boys club, I know they all have big hearts and care about their work and the students they work for an with.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their advice over the years, the love, support and good times. The COCA family is unlike the one we are born into, the drunken Uncle Joe at a cousin's wedding will never remember your name like your COCA relatives will-even if it is a special nickname for a weekend regional (Ryerson boobs) or in the designated party room at a certain National.

I wish you all the best for the rest of your year and future adventures, enjoy your time as a member of COCA it can really benefit you later in life. Believe me as I say I have looked at "COCA life" from all sides now.

