



# ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGIATE

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# GRAD 2017

PARENT'S GUIDE

**Grad Committee:**

**Mona Winters** – Grad Co-Captain, Communications and Dry Grad Captain, Grad BBQ

**Tonya Morris** – Grad Co-Captain, Treasurer/Accounting, Grad BBQ

**Gwen Harder** – Grad Co-Captain, Pub Night Co-Captain, Grad BBQ

**Dave Walker** – Pub Night Co-Captain, Grad BBQ

**Shar Hayek** – Grad Breakfast Co-Captain

**Lorna Acosta** – Grad Breakfast Co-Captain, Pub Night

**Tili Negus** – Grad Breakfast Co-Captain

**Millissa Palmeri**, Grad Breakfast Co-Captain

**Mimi Lunot** – Commencement Reception Captain

**Shandra Feenan** – Grad Gifts, Grad Breakfast

**Ciaran Feenan** – Grad Gifts, Grad Breakfast

**Mary Vic Gumboc** – Grad Mass & Commencement Receptions

**Jilian Stajduhar** – Grad Mass & Commencement Receptions, Grad Breakfast, Dry Grad, Pub Night

**Mariafe Geneza** – Grad Mass & Commencement Receptions, Grad Breakfast, Dry Grad, Pub Night

**Edlyn Labrador** – Grad Mass Reception, Grad Breakfast

**Perry G. Evangelio** – Grad Mass & Commencement Receptions, Dry Grad, Pub Night

**Lina Thomson** – Grad Mass Reception Captain

**Maylanie Aglubat** – Grad Breakfast, Commencement Reception, Dry Grad, Pub Night

**Tracey DeBonis** – Grad Breakfast

**Josie Mauro** – Grad BBQ and Dry Grad

**Lurinda Lum-Tong** – Grad BBQ, Pub Night

## **INTRODUCTION**

***Congratulations!*** Your son or daughter is graduating! This is an exciting but often confusing time. This Parent's Guide booklet has been assembled by parent volunteers to give you an overview of your child's Grad Activities at STMC and an idea of what you and your grad can expect. We have included as many dates and times in the booklet as are available at this time, but please remember that this is a working document in that many dates and times and events have yet to be finalized.

A copy of this Guide will be uploaded to the STMC website – [www.stmc.bc.ca](http://www.stmc.bc.ca). PLEASE NOTE – If events or details change we will advise parents and update the web version of the booklet. We will make every effort to keep you as informed as possible!

## **GRAD ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

Each year a grad committee is formed by parents to organize activities for STMC Graduates. This information is provided to give grade 12 parents an overview of what can be expected for the upcoming 2017 grad season.

The people listed on the front of this booklet volunteered in response to our initial email requesting Grad Committee volunteers in September. We have tried to give you contact names for all events, but truly this committee is a group effort and everyone helps with everything! While this group will serve as the central hub of organization, more ideas and volunteers are very welcome! The more grade 12 parent involvement, the lighter the load and the better the experience for everyone!

## **GRAD ACTIVITIES/EVENTS**

***We strongly suggest that you mark these dates in your calendars!***

### **GRAD MASS RECEPTION – THURSDAY MAY 25, 2017 @ 7:00PM**

A Grad Mass will be held at Our Lady of Mercy at 7455 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Burnaby, (right behind STMC on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> Ave and Kingsway). Directly after Mass, a reception will be held in the STMC cafeteria for all grads and their attending, where light refreshments will be served. (Refreshments are generally desserts and coffee, tea and some cold drinks). This event really kicks off the 'Grad Season'. It is a lovely ceremony that you are strongly encouraged to attend.

This event will be coordinated by grade 12 parents, (including the purchase of food, decoration, etc.), but will be run on the day by grade 11 parents so that grade 12 parents can enjoy the event with their grads.

CAPTAIN: Lina Thomson  
GRADE 11 LEADER: VACANT

The Grad Committee funds this event. Estimated cost \$1,900

### **GRAD BREAKFAST – THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017 @ 8:30AM**

The Grad Breakfast is held in the STMC cafeteria and is open to all grads. A large, catered breakfast is served. Grads do not have to wear their uniforms but are asked to come dressed in 'dress-casual' attire – no jeans, sweatpants or shorts.

Captains: Shar Hayek, Lorna Acosta, Tili Negus and  
Millissa Palmeri

This event is funded by the Grad Committee. Estimated cost \$6,000

### **COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY – FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017 @ 5PM**

Commencement is the formal graduation ceremony, held at Massey Theatre in New Westminster. This is organized by STMC staff and not part of the grad committee's responsibilities, (other than ordering and funding grad caps and tassels, which grads are welcome to keep). This is for all grads, parents and families to come together and celebrate your child's official graduation. Each grad will be given 2 reserved tickets for seating. These can be used by any members of your family. Additional seats are not reserved and located in the higher section of the theatre.

### **COMMENCEMENT RECEPTION – FRIDAY JUNE 23, 2017**

Following the commencement ceremony, graduates and families are invited to a reception held in the STMC cafeteria. This reception includes sweet and savoury snacks, and hot and cold drinks. This reception represents the chance for people to socialize more informally after the formal program.

The Commencement reception will be coordinated by grade 12 parents, (including the purchase of food, decorations etc.), but is to be run by grade 11 (or other) parents so that grade 12 parents can enjoy the event with their grads.

CAPTAIN: Mimi Lunot  
GRADE 11 LEADER: VACANT

This event is funded by the Grad Committee. Estimated cost \$6,000

## **GRAD DINNER & DANCE – SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017**

This is organized by STMC staff and is not part of the grad committee's responsibilities. This is for all grads, parents and staff to come together and celebrate your child's graduation.

**Date: Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Location: Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, 900 West Georgia (at Burrard), Vancouver, BC**

### **Schedule:**

**6:00 – 6:30 – Reception**

**6:30 – 7:00 – Grand March**

**7:00 – 9:30 – Dinner Buffet**

**9:30 – 01:00 – Dancing**

Tickets: Starting at \$110 (subject to change) per person attending, depending on date purchased. Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of May and may be purchased through Mr. Muise. There is a limit on the number of tickets per student. Any student wishing to purchase more than five tickets must see Mr. Muise to check for availability. Please note GRADS must purchase a ticket for themselves.

**Table assignments:** When students bring their money in to pay for their tickets, please let Mr. Muise know the names of the people attending and who they are sitting with. Students sometimes sit with their parents, sometimes with friends and parents sit as a group elsewhere. It is up to you! Any grad who does not tell Mr. Muise their table arrangements, will be put in tables by him. Tables sizes are 7 to 12. Tables consisting of less than 7 people may have additional people added to them.

***IMPORTANT NOTE \*\*All bookings at the Hotel Vancouver are subject to change/cancellation until three months before the actual event, so it is possible that the date and/or the venue may change.***

Parents purchase tickets for themselves and the Graduates

## DRY GRAD – SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH – SUNDAY, JUNE 25TH, 2017

The Dry Grad is NOT a school-sponsored event. It is hosted by volunteer STMC parents. This event is coordinated by Grade 12 parents, (including booking venue, organizing food and party rentals, securing volunteers, etc.), but organization and supervision on the day of the event is handled by Gr. 11 parents. (Grade 12 parents will have been at the dinner/dance and so are unavailable to assist with the running of the event).

The Dry Grad is an event organized to provide a safe and alcohol free party for the grads to have fun and socialize with their fellow grads.

Location: 8 Rinks Complex - Burnaby

Time: Approx. 12:00 am to END TIME STILL TO BE DETERMINED  
(Grad Leaders will work with PA and Development Office to organize Grade 11 Volunteers)

DRY GRAD CAPTAIN: Mona Winters

GRADE 11 LEADER: VACANT

The Grad Committee funds this event. Estimated cost \$18,000

### MISCELLANEOUS

There are several miscellaneous costs for graduation, some known and some that will certainly 'spring up'. This is a list of possible costs that are known at this time and are only estimated.

**Grad Hoodies:** It is a tradition that all grads are given a grad hoodie. These are in the process of being ordered and will be handed out at the Grade 12 Retreat. Estimated cost \$5,500.

**Grad Caps:** The 2014 Grad class started the tradition of using grad caps/tassels that serves as a keepsake for the grad. We will be ordering these in May. Estimated cost \$1,010.

**Grad Gift:** Some years the grad class is given a surprise souvenir gift, *depending on the financial situation*. Grads have received keepsake

boxes for their annuals, chocolates, etc. No estimated cost is being listed as this will depend on the financial situation closer to the end of the year.

**Grad Legacy Gift:** Whenever possible the grad class leaves a legacy gift. Past classes have given benches, trees, the ice machine in the cafeteria and part of the dance floor in the drama room. This also depends on the overall budget at the end of the year.

**Buses:** For the past 3 years, buses were hired to provide no charge, safe transportation between the Grad dinner/dance and the Dry Grad. While some students may opt to use limos or other methods of transportation, the buses are very popular as the whole class can travel together. It also limits access to alcohol in between these events. Regardless of whether students use the buses or not, driving their own cars is not allowed. The whole point of Dry Grad is to keep our students safe! Students driving themselves face the temptation of drinking in between events which we certainly do not want. Also, the grads are exhausted when leaving the Dry Grad and must be picked up, so having cars there simply isn't an option.

A notice will be sent home to all grade 12 students mid February asking for confirmation of intent to ride the buses. Buses will be booked early March for those interested.

Estimated cost \$1,200.00.

## **FUNDRAISING**

Now for the fun part! As you can see by the events listed above grad is a special time with many events and activities...and expenses! In the past, it has involved a lot of fundraising. This year we are minimizing the amount of fundraising by collecting \$250 from each graduate. We are hoping our Pub Night will be successful enough to be our only fundraising event. If there is a shortfall, we will look at doing a few minor fundraisers (such as hot lunches).

If you have an idea or a way to contribute – please let us know! Previous years STMC families involved with catering have donated or provided low cost food for the receptions and Dry Grad while other



families provided a break for costs like tenting. Anything like this is very welcome and appreciated!

*Please remember, any Grad activities and fundraising events are subject to change at this time and are subject to the approval of the STMC Administration.*

***THE OVERALL PROJECTED BUDGET FOR GRAD EVENTS IS  
APROXIMATELY \$48,000\****

\*This amount is based on last year's costs and does not include gifts (keepsake boxes) or any legacy gift.

**Grad Fees \$250 (128 families x \$250) = \$32,000**

**Dry Grad Ticket Sales – charge only for Grad Dates**

A nominal fee of \$15 will be charged to all non STMC GRAD dates.

**PUB NIGHT:**

We have a group of parents already working on this event. We hope to hold it sometime in January, 2017. Details will be emailed once confirmed. **Any donations for the silent auction would be greatly appreciated.**

CAPTAINS: Dave Walker and Gwen Harder

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$15,000**

**OTHER MONIES RECEIVED**

**FISA Grant \$1,000 goal**

**Walkathon - \$2,500 – NOT RECEIVING**

**PA Contribution towards Grad Breakfast - \$2,500 – NOT  
AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVING...ONLY IF REQUIRED**