



# BRIERCREST | *Connections*

## BRIERCREST GOES NORTH

During first semester, a group of Briercrest College students visited the northern community of Ft. MacPherson, NWT. The goal of this trip was to expose students to a northern First Nations community, giving them opportunities to participate in the culture and learn from the history and stories of the community.



Madeline Gabor, Jasper Martens, Landon Miller, Jacob Adams, Brody Ramer, Lea-Anne Ramer, Terry Wolverton, Zach Bachmann

By actively seeking opportunities like this, Briercrest College lives into its intent to value, embrace, and forge deep friendships with Canada's Aboriginal people. We have seen our students be impacted in incredible ways by the people they get to meet, and have enjoyed seeing the ways in which they can impact the First Nations communities they visit.

*God is at work in the northern community, and our students are thrilled to be invited into His work.*

Students left with a heightened interest in the culture, a desire to learn crafts like beading, and an even deeper desire to return again.

Many students even talked about taking their degrees or practicums up north to impact the community.

Beyond student interest, there has been an increase in interest externally. Generous alumni from various churches and

businesses have declared interest in seeing this group continue and are coming on board to support future trips.

Briercrest staff and students are anticipating their next opportunity to join the community, and the people of Ft. MacPherson anticipate their return.



Team leader Terry Wolverton saw students developing relationship with mutual value and respect while in Ft. MacPherson.

## 3... 2... 1... TIMBER COFFEE CO.

Dan and Megan Jensen (alumni '11 and '12) were drawn to Briercrest both to study and to deepen their relationships with Christ. Now, the couple look back at the ways Briercrest helped them prepare to live lives of service in ministry to the youth of Sylvan Lake, AB.

The couple moved to Sylvan Lake in 2013. After months of working different jobs, Dan was offered two ministry opportunities almost simultaneously: one as manager of an indoor skate park owned by a local Christian businessman, and one with Youth for Christ (YFC)/Central Alberta Youth Unlimited. Now, he does both.

Both Dan and Megan agree that the best thing about their work is the fruit they get to see. Along with Dan's ministry in local schools, he has been instrumental in starting Central Alberta Youth Unlimited's new initiative, Timber Coffee Co., a coffee shop that provides a safe and caring environment for youth.

For the past six years, Dan and Megan, together with their small group, have been praying for youth to turn to Christ. They have seen 23 youth make a first-time decision for Jesus, and nine have been baptized.

*"God is moving, and I love what we do," Dan shared. "There is nothing else I would want to do than be in Sylvan with our team seeing God moving in the way that He is."*

Dan and Megan trace their desire to live lives purposed for the gospel back to their time at Briercrest. It was there that they discovered the power of God through Scripture and community. Dan recalls, "[Briercrest] shaped my theology and me personally as it helped form my convictions

and character, which have shaped [my] being a Christian in business."

If you're ever in Sylvan Lake, stop by Timber Coffee Co. Be a part of the work YFC is doing and say hi to some Briercrest alumni!



Dan and Megan with their children Evangeline and Lewis

Facebook Timber Coffee Co.  
Instagram @timbercoffeeco

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## ALUMNI OF THE YEAR

### *Jeff and Kendra Neustaedter*

We are happy to award Jeff and Kendra Neustaedter this year's Alumni of the Year award!

The Neustaedters work in real estate development in Calgary, and are actively involved in their community. Jeff is a 1989 graduate of Briercrest Christian Academy (formerly CHS) and a college alumnus from 1996. Kendra studied at Briercrest from 1992-1994, where the two met. They got married in 1996.

Jeff says, "As Christians, Kendra and I strive and desire to help people in all aspects of their lives. We feel an integral part of a Christian's development is Biblical training and Christian community, especially during the very formative post high school years."

The Neustaedters continue to encourage Briercrest with prayers and support. They are passionate about Christian education and the work of Briercrest, remembering their time spent in Caronport often. They are grateful for the many close friends they made here, which are still friends and business partners today.



Jeff and Kendra with their children Emma, Thomas, and Chloe

## SUMMER STAGE

Briercrest Onstage is gearing up for another exciting season of musicals that showcase the talent of our community. We are proud to be presenting *The Sound of Music* and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* this summer!

### SOUND OF MUSIC

May 10, 17, 18, June 7, 8 @ 7 pm  
May 11, 18, June 8 @ 2:30 pm

### SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS

May 24, 31, June 1 @ 7 pm  
May 25, June 1 @ 2:30 pm

Call 306.756.3250 or email [performingarts@briercrest.ca](mailto:performingarts@briercrest.ca) for tickets.

## 2019 SPORTS CAMPS

Athletic camps are back this summer! Our athletes and coaches are excited to train young athletes to become strong competitors for Christ.

### CO-ED VOLLEYBALL

Ages 12-18 | July 28-August 2

### BOYS BASKETBALL

Ages 11-18 | August 4-9

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

Ages 11-18 | August 11-16

[gobriercrest.ca/information/camps](http://gobriercrest.ca/information/camps)

## SINGING AND DANCING FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

This Easter, students from Briercrest Christian Academy travelled across Saskatchewan with the message of the Gospel. The BCA choir and dance ministry team Refined Undignified toured to four communities, returning to Caronport on Easter Sunday for a final performance at the Landing.

Our Easter Tour includes performances that share the message of the cross with audiences through song and dance. While our students aim to bless the communities they visit and the homes where they billet, they often return blessed beyond measure.

Karis Grove, a grade 11 student who has participated in the Easter Tour for the last two years, said, "Going on Easter Tour has greatly impacted my faith as I get to see firsthand how



the Lord uses ministry to reach others. The conversations I've had with the people at the churches and billet homes have proven to be life changing as I have heard how others have trusted God through tragedies, and joys."

The Easter Tour has been going on for over 25 years. This is the sixth year that Refined Undignified has participated in the ministry.

## SUMMER WISH LIST

Thanks to our generous donors, our operations team has accomplished many things around campus, such as the exterior painting of the chapel. As the Lord prompts, we are anticipating further upgrades to keep our institution operating well:

- Adaptations to the Glen Manor boiler
- Heat and water installation in the football clubhouse
- Leadership Centre studio renovations to help us effectively engage in online education

- Updates to the BCA science room vents and counters
- A new curtain in the gymnasium

We are also hoping to renovate the flooring and kitchen spaces in our Sundbo dorm. This renovation will cost \$2,000 per unit and will improve the quality of student life and the longevity of our dorm facility. Would you prayerfully consider partnering with us to improve our facilities for our students?