

# BRIERCREST

CHRISTIAN ACADEMY — COLLEGE — SEMINARY

## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Grace and peace to you from our God! We have launched into the school year with energy and spiritual passion. Student morale has been exceptionally positive this year, and we are deeply grateful for the students who have brought new gifts and new perspectives to our schools.

While we welcome a new school year with joy and optimism, we also commit ourselves to staying the course on Biblical truth and Christian mission. The very foundations of our institution are rooted in the conviction that “the Word of our God shall stand forever” (Isaiah 40:8), and we remain steadfastly Bible anchored in this volatile age. With confidence in this calling, we pursue Kingdom impact in all areas.

We believe that excellent, holistic education will lead to life transformation at all of our three schools. This year, Briercrest College

was voted top 10 in Canada in the following categories: Happiest Students, Most Athletic Students, Most Academic Students, Most Approachable Professors, and Most Involved Students.

I am deeply grateful for our students, staff, faculty, and financial partners who make such educational successes possible. Thank you all for your prayers and support.

Partnering together,



**Michael B. Pawelke**



## A BRIERCREST CHRISTMAS PRESENTS...

Our staff and faculty are busy preparing for *The Heart of Christmas*, our newest musical production. The story follows a pastor and two sisters as they attempt to build new lives in a town whose citizens are less than welcoming. The danger of a coming avalanche brings to light the shortcomings of the townspeople, as well as the opportunity for forgiveness and hope. *The Heart of Christmas* will be sure to usher families into the Christmas season as it reminds viewers that the finest gifts don't come from the biggest wallets, but from the biggest hearts.

The show runs from November 30–December 2 and is joined by the “Deck the Halls” craft sale in the Edwards foyer that features over 100 booths from local artisans and crafters as well as a turkey dinner before Saturday's show. With performances from College Singers, Resonant, BCA Concert Choir, and Caronport Elementary Choir, this truly is a communal production.

You and your family are invited to join our community to celebrate the beginning of the advent season. To purchase or enquire about tickets, call **1.888.462.2202** or visit **BRIERCREST.CA/CHRISTMAS**.



*“Because I know my identity is in Jesus Christ, I am free to do anything. I learned to play every single game completely fearlessly because I knew I ultimately had nothing to lose.”*  
— Sam Zacharias, Alumna '18

Full story can be found at [student-athletestories.com](http://student-athletestories.com)



*“Football is a good way to make friends. I try and help out the new guys on the team, especially the dorm kids, and give them pointers.”*  
— Hunter Lee, current high school student

## THE CENTRE FOR LEADERSHIP STUDIES

Along with the new students enrolling at the Centre for Leadership Studies, current Briercrest Seminary students and graduates are enhancing their MA programs by taking Leadership Certifications. The Centre offers students both old and new, graduate and undergraduate, certifications in seven different areas of leadership:

- Governance
- Self-Leadership
- Coaching
- Conflict Management
- Team Leadership
- Change Management
- Leadership Communication

In response to a pressing need for Christian leadership, Briercrest created the Centre for Leadership Studies to offer leadership training and support to Christian leaders in Canada. It is an outworking of our vision to inspire leaders to equip the Church and engage the world.

In its first months of operation, the Center is already looking to expand its reach with the construction of an online teaching studio. This project has been fully funded, and will be equipped to offer live online classes, podcasts, and seminars from Briercrest to Christian leaders across Canada.

## CARONPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SPORTS DAY

Three years ago, the Briercrest men's volleyball team began Caronport Elementary School (CES) Sports Day as an opportunity to give back to younger students in the community. The team hosts the elementary students for the Friday afternoon home game and meets again at the school for relay races and other games on the following Monday afternoon. The purpose of this event is for Briercrest athletes to give back to the elementary school students and to see positive interaction between the two schools. Men's head coach Nigel Mullan is excited for the athletes to have the opportunity to take

a step back from the daily tasks of being an athlete and to enjoy the company of younger students. "Whether it is the fact that they are playing with the kids or taking the time just to give a high five when they complete a part of the game, we believe it is having a great impact on both the elementary and college students," said Mullan. The current men's volleyball team will continue to meet with the elementary students once a month doing various games and activities, such as teaching volleyball basics, for the remainder of the school year.

## PRAIRIE HOCKEY ACADEMY'S INAUGURAL SEASON IN CSSHL

Prairie Hockey Academy (PHA) kicked off its inaugural season on September 21st in the Canadian Sport School Hockey League (CSSHL). The CSSHL is a leader in education-based hockey, and is the top development league in Canada for the bantam and midget age divisions. It is a primary feeder for the top junior hockey leagues in the world. Entering its tenth season, the CSSHL has produced 136 WHL players as well as 29 NHL draft picks.



PHA has attracted considerable talent on its teams, yet what is most remarkable is the bigger picture the program offers to student athletes. PHA partners with Briercrest Christian Academy to develop “life champions”: student athletes who mature as

well-rounded individuals socially, athletically, academically, and especially spiritually. Highly competitive hockey is appropriately placed within the context of life as a whole.

Prairie Hockey Academy has two teams, one each in the Elite 15 and Midget Varsity divisions. Elite 15 is a single age group team featuring the highest level 15-year-olds preparing for Major Junior, Junior A hockey, and beyond. Midget Varsity is made up of 15-to-17-year-olds, many of whom are being groomed for Junior A hockey and beyond. PHA has garnered extra support from the local community as the season begins. Alumni from the Caronport Cougars (a previous high school hockey program that produced NHL players Ryan Smyth and Kevin Smyth) have been instrumental in creating a vintage-style jersey that was unveiled on opening night, and acclaimed Moose Jaw artist Yvette Moore has featured PHA's symbol on one of her latest works.



### WAYS TO CONNECT

We would love to hear from you! Tell us what you've been doing lately for a chance to be featured in our newsletter and on our blog. Also, stay tuned for Briercrest Connections events happening in your area!

**FACEBOOK** | [facebook.com/briercrest](https://facebook.com/briercrest) **WEBSITE** | [briercrest.ca/alumni](https://briercrest.ca/alumni) **E-MAIL** | [alumni@briercrest.ca](mailto:alumni@briercrest.ca)

