



FALL | WINTER 2018

Hello Southridge Alumni,

We are pleased to share with you the Fall/Winter 2018 alumni newsletter.

This issue unveils a new Southridge alumni logo that will now be used in our alumni communication materials. Also included is details for the upcoming 2018 Alumni Christmas Reunion.

A special feature story is about two of our alumni that met at Southridge and recently got married. Wait until you see their stunning pictures!

Finally, we have included some valuable information about Southridge's upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and how you can ensure that you are notified about special events and initiatives that will celebrate this significant milestone.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue. If you have any questions, or would like to provide feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are always looking for alumni stories to share with our community!



Sincerely,

Jasmine Boyes  
Community & Alumni Relations Manager  
604-542-1799  
[jboyes@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:jboyes@southridge.bc.ca)

## Feature Stories



### Check out the new Southridge Alumni Logo!

We are very excited to announce the creation of a new logo dedicated to our alumni!

The alumni community has grown significantly over the years; from just 14 graduates in 1999 (our first graduating class), to well over 1,000 graduates today!

With such a significant alumni population, we thought it was time to create a symbol to reflect this important group of people who are integral to the Southridge story. The creation of the logo included input from members of our Alumni Association whose feedback helped us arrive at the finalized design.

You will see we retained many elements of the school's familiar crest logo, but adopted a distinguished look and feel enhancing the gold elements and transforming the traditional crest into a circular shape. We also decided to use the school's classic font to make a connection to our humble beginnings.

In the upcoming weeks, we will update our alumni social media channels, marketing literature, and online presence with the new logo. We hope it reminds you all that you are and will always be a valued member of the Southridge community!



## #PagingtheKainths – A Southridge Love Story

These days it's not very common to hear of high school sweethearts who fall in love, stay in love, and get married. But that is exactly what happened to two Southridge alumni who recently tied the knot.

For Marisa Friisdahl and Amit Kainth, Southridge proved to be much more than a place where they studied, participated in fun activities, and graduated. It was also the place they met their soulmate and fell in love.

Their story began in 2002 when Marisa started Grade 8 at Southridge and Amit Grade 9. They had the same circle of friends and both participated in many team sports at the school. "Amit found out I had a crush on him and later asked me out. We went on the typical cliché South Surrey date – to White Rock beach," says Marisa.

The couple credits Southridge for giving them the tools to be successful while staying grounded. "We loved our experience at Southridge. The teachers and coaches were incredible, and we made so many lifelong friendships there," she said. In fact, out of Amit's 12 (yes, 12) groomsmen, half of them were close friends he met at Southridge.

But their relationship didn't come without its challenges. After graduating from Southridge, they went to different universities and dated long distance for more than five years while finishing their respective degrees. Amit completed a biochemistry degree at



UBC, while Marisa was working towards a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Toronto. “By the time I transferred to UBC, Amit had moved to Seattle to work at the UW Medicine Center. However, I always tell people that our time apart is what made it work in the end. We were able to mature, grow, and develop ourselves individually, which I think helped make it long lasting.”

In 2016, they were both living in Seattle and working at Harborview Medical Center, which is where they got engaged. “I was on shift in the operating room that day and I thought Amit was working offsite,” says Marisa.

“Some of my colleagues asked if I could help participate in an educational video to help train new nurses. They began filming us prepping a patient in the operating room. I started applying pieces of surgical drape to someone on the operating table with only his hand exposed. As I went to grab the final piece, the words ‘*Marisa, will you marry me?*’ were written on it. I thought it was a joke, but then I realized Amit was the one lying on the table. He proceeded to get down on one knee and asked me to marry him – it was perfect.”

This past September they tied the knot, and it wasn’t your average wedding – it was six days of festivities incorporating their families’ blended background and faiths. “Amit’s father is Sikh, and his mother is Hindu,” Marisa said. “My family is Catholic. Therefore, we wanted to incorporate all three religions into our wedding.” This made for almost a week of celebrations, including a welcome party for family and friends, a Sikh ceremony, a Hindu ceremony, and a Catholic





ceremony. On the Saturday, they wrapped everything up with a final reception.

Of course, with several different ceremonies and events, that meant several different outfit changes for the couple and their loved ones. “We were lucky enough to go to India back in February with both of our families to shop for wedding attire and do some sightseeing. That trip was really special and is something we will remember for a very long time.”



Their wedding photos over the six days are colourful, eclectic, and fun, just like the couple themselves. They even came back to Southridge to take some shots around campus. “From the moment we got engaged Amit and I agreed that we should get some photos done at the school where it all began. It was nostalgic coming back to Southridge and seeing the school again, which was both familiar and different 11 years later.”



The couple are currently living in St. Louis, Missouri. Amit is the Chief Resident of General Surgery at St. Louis University School of Medicine. He will graduate this coming July and then start his fellowship in Vascular and Endovascular Surgery.

Marisa is a Registered Nurse in the operating room and is completing her Masters as a Nurse Practitioner at St. Louis University. After that, they hope to move back to Vancouver, or somewhere in the Pacific Northwest where they can be closer to their families. But one thing is for sure, they are grateful for meeting each

other back in the halls at Southridge and for everything that life has brought them after that.

“We can’t wait to see where life takes us from here.”

Congratulations to the happy couple and best wishes for your future together!



## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations – Make sure you are on the list!

Believe it or not, next year Southridge will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary! As part of this big milestone for the school, there will be numerous events and initiatives held throughout the year for our entire school community that we hope you will be a part of.

This past summer, we hired Erin Salh (class of '16) on a temporary contract in the role of Alumni Research Assistant to reach out to fellow graduates and let them know about the school's upcoming anniversary. In this role, Erin also worked hard to update alumni contact information so that grads receive invitations and announcements regarding 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary events and initiatives.

If you did not get a chance to connect with Erin over the summer, we hope that you will take a moment to complete [this short online form](#) to ensure your personal information is up to date. This way you can be sure that you are 'on the list' and receive invites and announcements regarding special milestone activities.

### What events and initiatives can alumni look forward to?

There will be several activities taking place throughout the 2019-2020 school year for the various groups of our community, including alumni. For instance, grads can look forward to a special 25<sup>th</sup> Alumni Christmas Reunion which may incorporate elements of the famous school Feast. Also, we look forward to recognizing some of our alumni's achievements during

the year, as well as celebrating alumni and alumni parents at a special event.

What other things are happening as part of the school's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary?

Details are still being finalized for many different activities that will be organized for all groups of our school community. We plan to have a very special 25<sup>th</sup> Gala and Country Fair, as well as a special event for our current students and parents.

Stay tuned for more information!



### Save the Date - Alumni Christmas Reunion

The annual Alumni Christmas Reunion is coming up on Friday, December 21 at Southridge! At this event, we invite our alumni to come back to the school to reminisce and re-connect with teachers, staff, and each other.

This is a casual and fun evening including music, beverages, door prizes, food, and more! We hope to have representation from every grad year and celebrate the holiday season with all of you. This is the alumni event of the year, so make sure to be there!

### Alumni Christmas Reunion

Friday, December 21, 2018

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Southridge School - Alan Brown Great Hall

To see the full list of 2018-19 alumni events, [click here](#)



## Upcoming Events

### [Alumni Christmas Reunion](#)



DECEMBER 21, 2018

6:00 – 9:00 pm  
Southridge School  
Alan Brown Great Hall

### [Alumni Association AGM](#)



APRIL/MAY 2019

7:00 pm  
Southridge School  
Alan Brown Great Hall

### [Class of 2009 – 10 Year Reunion](#)



MAY 2019

Time: 8:00 pm  
Location: City Side Winery (328 W 2nd Ave,  
Vancouver)

### [Alumni Basketball Tournament](#)



MAY 11, 2019

Time: TBA  
Southridge School

## [Alumni BBQ](#)



MAY 11, 2019

11:30 am – 2:00 pm  
Southridge School

## Recent News

[The Pursuit of Happiness](#)

[Oh, the Places You'll Go!](#)

[A Journey to Canada's Highest Court](#)

[Alumni focused Spirit Magazine](#)

[Access the Southridge Alumni Network on LinkedIn](#)

## Alumni Photos



## Quick Links

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