



ANNUAL REPORT

2021

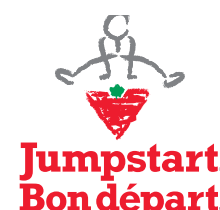
RETURN TO **PLAY**



## NOMADS RUGBY IS GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR 2021 SPONSORS



## DURING 2021 NOMADS RUGBY RECEIVED GRANTS FROM



THANK YOU  
WE COULD NOT ACHIEVE  
WHAT WE DO WITHOUT YOU

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	Sponsors and Grantors appreciation
4	Highlights
5	Honour roll
6	President's report
8	Senior men
12	Senior women
14	Juniors
15	Junior girls
	Junior boys
18	• U 14s
20	• U 16s
21	• U 18s
	Minis
23	• U 6 and U 8s
26	• U 10s
28	• U 12s
30	Alumni
31	Member relations and social
32	Operations and membership
33	Marketing and communications
34	Rugby
35	Secretary
37	Treasurer
38	Financial statements
43	Fletcher's Fields
44	Covid safety
45	Fundraising
46	Investment committee
47	Spirit of Youth Rugby
48	Provisional organization structure
50	Nomads need you
51	Support Nomads Rugby
53	Bring a friend promotion
54	Life member nominee
55	Notice of AGM

# 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

## FEBRUARY

- Delayed 2020 AGM
- Adoption of revised By- laws

## MAY

- John Peel ("JP") appointed as consultant advisor

## JULY

- Nomads' men, women, girls and boys return to training
- Nomads' Lucas Hammond represents Canada at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics Men's Rugby 7s tournament
- Nomads' Tyler Rowland earns his 1st Canada men's 15s cap vs Wales

## AUGUST

- Free Spirit of Youth Rugby day camps in collaboration with TIRF supported by MLSE Foundation
- Nomads' men, women, girls and boys participate in pre-season games and festivals
- Nomads' Club Day featuring minis, juniors, women and men at Eglinton Flats

## SEPTEMBER

- New men's coach, Michael Owen, finally arrives
- Nomads' men, women, girls and boys return to play organised competition, exhibition games and festivals
- Nomads' Asia Hogan Rochester represents Canada women's 7s at HSBC Canada Sevens series
- Back to Rugby Party
- Sale of Fletcher's Fields completed

## OCTOBER

- Nomads' men play Toronto for Stan Woodburn Cup before biggest crowd of the season
- Playing season ends

## NOVEMBER

- Nomads' Laura Russell earns her 50th Canada women's 15s cap vs England
- JP re-signs as 2022 women's head coach
- Laura Russell selected for Barbarians versus South Africa
- 2021 AGM

## HONOUR ROLL

Congratulations to Nomads Rugby's four 2021 Canadian representatives:



### Laura Russell

Women's 15s (captain)  
Barbarians



### Lucas Hammond

Men's 7s  
Canada Olympic Team



### Asia Hogan Rochester

Women's 7s



### Tyler Rowland

Men's 15s

Other notable achievements include:

Vanessa Cifuentes – Philippines Women's 7s

Tyler Rowland - Toronto Arrows [MLR]

Henry Stevenson – Utah Warriors [MLR], Toronto Arrows exhibition XV

Hannah Nicoll – OUA All Star

Stuart MacKenzie – Asst. coach, Ontario u16 Boys 15s and Canada East u18 boys 15s

Kelly Russell – Coach, Rugby Canada Women's 7s; Head Coach, Women's 7s Academy Program; Assistant Coach, Canada Senior Women's Team; Assistant Coach Canada U20's



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



### **Ross Pinkerton**

President

Dear fellow Nomads,

It has been an honour to serve as your President for a third year.

2021 started with uncertainty and concern but ended with rugby for all, a game-changing transaction, confidence and optimism for Nomads Rugby's bright future.

Throughout the difficult past two years our club has been supported by our generous and loyal sponsors, Hart Mobility, Penalta, Hub Equipment and the Carpenters' Union. More recently we have benefited from grants from MLSE Foundation, Jumpstart and Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Without the funding received from sponsors and grantors we would not have been able to maintain the organization and deliver the rugby programs we did. As a consequence of their contributions and prudent management we turned a deficit in 2020 of \$20,104 in to a surplus of \$28,859. Thank you sponsors and grantors – you are very much appreciated.

The other group we cannot exist and function without is our amazing volunteers. The club has close to 50 active volunteers, many of who are featured in this report, some who are not. They are the glue that holds the club together. Thank you all.

For those of you who are not yet involved or want to do more, there are plenty of opportunities, some existing, some new. Please refer to pages 48 to 50 for more information

2021 was a year that revealed Nomads Rugby's members' enthusiasm and resilience.

Thanks to the leadership and efforts of our four Rugby Directors: Dallas Price, Leanne Stillman, Jessica Wong and Andrew Stephens, their respective coaching and management teams and Covid safety coordinators, Nomads players of all ages returned to play.

While some clubs chose not to return to play and, instead, sat out another season, or failed to muster sufficient players to do so, Nomads provided rugby from under 6s to seniors; the old boys had a run too.

Perhaps surprisingly, our overall membership at year-end is close to 2019's pre-pandemic total. Nevertheless, there are some age groups that desperately need additional players to field a 15-a-side team and this has to be a focus in 2022.

In August Nomads Rugby presented two weeks of free Spirit of Youth Rugby (SOYR) camps. SOYR is an important element of the club's community outreach. It introduces kids who would otherwise not have access to organized sport to Nomads Rugby and the rugby club experience. The program is primarily funded by a grant from MLSE Foundation. The SOYR program and camps will continue in 2022 and beyond.

Although the playing season was shortened, it was encouraging to see

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Nomads players, alumni and supporters enjoying rugby and their team mates, club mate and others' company again in a rugby setting. Nomads Club Day on August 28 and the final day of the season on October 23, both at Eglinton Flats, were well attended and enjoyable. It's a pleasure to see so many alumni at games, hear their storytelling and observe the bonds that exist between former teammates long after playing days have ended. Martin Edmonds has done a great job of connecting and communicating with former players.

The most extraordinary and significant event of 2021 was the sale of Fletcher's Fields for \$21.5 million. Thanks to the foresight of Nomads leaders in the early 60s Nomads Rugby is one of only six shareholders. The sale is a game changer for the club. It also means good governance, financial controls, investment policies, management and oversight, compliance and general management are more vital than ever.

As a club we are fortunate to have qualified members who have stepped up to serve on the board of directors, the investment, marketing and other committees. Nomads Rugby is in good hands as we move ahead to the post-Fletcher's Fields phase of the clubs history.

2021 was the year we discovered there are grants available to help the club overcome the financial impact of Covid and support our objective to make rugby more accessible for children and youth who face financial and other barriers to entry. For a primarily volunteer driven organization of our size and limited resources it is encouraging to know that this support is available.

I wish to thank the 2021 Board of Directors. It has not been easy meeting by Zoom through what has been a busy and challenging time. Achieving consensus on the club's objectives, goals and strategies followed by budget setting and implementation of agreed action plans will be the incoming board's priorities.

In particular, I'd like to acknowledge the contribution of Gillian Geremia and Dallas Price who are not standing for re-election. Gillian has been a positive, hard-working and creative Director who has made a significant impact on and contribution to the club's communications, including website and social media, and social life. Dallas accepted the new role of Director of Rugby and has applied her energy, enthusiasm and imagination to it with typical high energy.

Although the club's financial health remains highly dependent on funding sources other than membership fees, none of which is guaranteed to repeat, as we head towards another year and season, Nomads Rugby is in good shape and the future looks bright.

How bright will depend on planning and decision making and the collective resolve, commitment and contribution of members like you and me. If you are as excited about Nomads Rugby's future as I am please consider how you can play a part. Again, pages 48 to 50 provide more information and some suggestions. Please contact me if you need more information or want to discuss further.

Finally, congratulations to Mike Nailor who has deservedly been nominated for life membership in recognition of his contribution to Nomads Rugby and its members over many decades.

Yours in Nomads Rugby,

Ross Pinkerton



## SENIOR MEN



**Andrew Stephens**  
Director



**Lucas Paulino**  
Club Captain



**Michael Owen**  
Head Coach



**Alisdair Piercy**  
Asst. Coach



**Dale Ryan**  
Asst. Coach



**Mikey Cody**  
Asst. Coach

So comes to an end the longest short season in living memory. After a year with no rugby and Toronto still in the grips of the covid-19 pandemic there was no certain future of rugby ahead at the start of 2021. The Nomads waited and as summer began and as covid restrictions lessened, club captain Lucas Paulino's weekly fitness sessions were a hit, drawing Nomads new and old back onto the field. The fifth week of broncos ran much quicker than the first. With the international border was still closed and head coach Mike Owen still in Wales, vital support came from veteran players and our assistant coaches to whip the club back into fighting shape. Dale Ryan moulded our scrum into a powerful force and the backs drilled their kicks, hands, runs, and defence under the watchful eyes of backs coaches Mikey Cody and Alisdair Piercy.

Our first fixtures since Easter Tour of March 2020 finally arrive in late August against tough divisional opponents. Finding opponents to play the seconds was a little harder, but the Nomad spirit animated the club as the Nomads Old Boys Selects assembled a mighty side on short to play against the twos before our club day preseason match. Rugby was back on after a very long hiatus

The international border opened in September and coach Mike Owen arrived days before the first league fixture. The impact on training and the standard was set for our skill and energy to reach. Our summer of training was put to the test in a four game Fall Marshall Competition. While finishing with a 2-2 season record after four closely fought league matches and a disappointing loss to the Scottish in the post-season Woodburn Cup did not fill all our expectations for the fall season, the senior men's team continues to show great drive and potential. We will be taking the lessons learned this year and applying them to our winter training program so the Nomads hit the ground running when the ground thaws in April.

Mixed results on the field aside, our return to rugby was very successful. Despite the closed border and significant uncertainty about the season during covid, the club had the great privilege to welcome many new members from Toronto, elsewhere in Canada, and from every corner of the earth. Strong recruitment and retention of players will be an important factor in our goal to field three sides for the 2022 season. A welcoming environment for rugby development and personal growth remains at the core of the Nomads spirit and will be the cornerstone of our future success.

I had the great pleasure to work with so many dedicated and driven people on the Nomads board, coaching staff, and in leadership amongst the senior teams. The return to play during the pandemic would not have been possible if not for volunteers standing up to make it happen. I am eagerly anticipating the great things we will accomplish in the 2022 season.

Andrew Stephens



**Dorian Robinson**  
Manager

## 1ST XV



**Top Row:** Alisdair Piercy (Coach), Max Hickey, Tom Davidson, Liam O'Donovan, Louis Farnham, Jacob Carrol, Todd Reesor, Kieran Potter, Tyler Harper, Gavin MacDonald, Simon Jolie-Andreu, Robin Ayme, Evan Underwood, Enzo Pezzoni, Henry Stevenson, Dan Wilkie, Cam Greer, Mikey Cody (Coach), Dave McCuaig

**Front Row:** Lucas Paulino, Matt Ackers, Colin McDuff, Andrew Royce, Jaime Santana, Dale Ryan (Coach), Tadgh Ryan (Coach), Chris Carey, Kyle Makischuck, Mike Owen (Coach), Sean Sweeney, Danny May, Duncan Curtis, Darren Elias, Manuel Tisminetzky, Lucas Sakinofsky

## 2ND XV



**Top Row:** Mike Owen (Coach), Liam O'Donovan, Dave McCuaig, Lucas Paulino, EJ Ruth, Paul Jakobowski, Lucas Sakinofsky, Cody Wang, Kaveh Gaynor-Sodeifi, Nicholas Spina, Andrew Stephens, Dorian Robinson, Matt Ackers, Dan Wilkie

**Front Row:** Duncan Curtis, Donte Williams, Jaime Santana, Chris Carey, Tyler Harper, Alex Ferguson, Lorcan Duffy, Adam Siddiqui, Darren Elias, Max Hickey, Peter Braybrooke, Todd Reeso







## SENIOR WOMEN



**Jessica Wong**

Director



**Stuart Mackenzie**

Head Coach



**Erin Bailey**

Asst Coach



**Top Row:** Lauren Rudko (physiotherapist), Krista Carroll, Iman Jeer Jeer, Faith Williams, Pamela Bellerose, Ellie Whittles, Lauren Cranfield, Stephanie Hovdestad

**Middle Row:** Yael Schwartz, (Burlington sub), Madeline Biggs, Cheyenne De Luca, Kelly Nguyen, Carly Forrester

**Front Row:** Julia White, Jessica Wong

**Not pictured:** Dallas Price, Gillian Geremia, Brooke Jensen, Ilesha Brown, Paniz Pahlavanlu, Kailyn Andersen, Vanessa Cifuentes, Sophie Whittle, Janeisha Elliott, Julia Burlaca, Esther Siva, Katarina Boehringer, Selena McCuaig, Armanda Iuliano, Catherine Iuliano, Alina Mai, Nina Patti, Erin Bailey (coach), Stuart Mackenzie (coach)

Despite a late start, The Nomads Senior Women had a full season of exhibition rugby, with games every non-holiday weekend from August 28 to October 30. The team showed great speed, hands, and versatility, playing all versions of the game from 7s to 15s, and all variations in between. Coaches Stuart Mackenzie and Erin Bailey (with two guest appearances from Nomads Women's alumni Jenn Russell), led our 36 registered players. The team won nearly every match, and boasted some of the best registration numbers of any women's rugby program in the province. We hosted a 10s tournament at Eglinton Flats with participants from seven other rugby clubs, and were thrilled to have graduates of our Junior Girls' program join the Senior Women.

Not to be overshadowed by playing, the senior women also had an excellent social season. The team enjoyed many after-match functions at High Park Brewery, cheered on the Senior Men and the Toronto Arrows, and attended the Nomads Night Out event. Many members also enjoyed a Labour Day cottage weekend, which was purely business and no fun at all.

We look forward to the return of full 15s rugby and can't wait to see everyone on the pitch in 2022!

Jessica Wong





## JUNIORS



**Leanne Stillman**

Director, Juniors

This year I would like to give a very big thank you to our volunteers. We had 24 dedicated individuals in our Nomads' Juniors to ensure that our players took the field safely and with the support and guidance they needed along the way. Our volunteers came from: TIRF, our parent group, our senior team, our alumni, and the community at large. We are thankful to all of our parents who enabled us to play the part of coach and mentor to their kids as it was our privilege to get to know and see such amazing kids grow and develop in the sport we love.

The juniors' priorities this year were to build bridges to our community and to create safe and brave spaces for our youth from our neighbourhood. We have a long way to go but offering a free Summer Camp. With the help of Toronto City Rugby Foundation (TIRF) we introduced rugby to kids who in some cases did not have other outdoor activities this year. The camp also enabled Nomads U14s and up to gain leadership opportunities as counsellors and to grow into exceptional leaders. Special thanks to our MLSE grant application writers Lauren Wolman, Ian Wood, Yael Schwartz and Ross Pinkerton and also TIRF for providing support, training, enrolment assistance, leadership, mentoring and coaching throughout, before and during the Summer Camp making this our biggest dual TIRF/Nomads membership year ever. Special thanks to the MLSE Foundation for supporting Nomads Junior Rugby at Eglinton Flats!

Nomads' Juniors would like to specifically thank Krista Carroll, COVID Safety Coordinator and John Peel, Technical Director for their help and generosity to ensure we were granted COVID19 clearance again in 2021 without which none of this would be possible. Additionally, we would like to thank Gillian Geremia and Vanessa from the Nomads Marketing team and our network of parent volunteers including Jodi, Mariko, Lorna, Jan, Jim and Joanne doing outreach behind the scenes and supporting teams on the sidelines without whose help we would not have been successful.

Overall, in Summer 2021, Nomads Juniors effectively, safely and efficiently hosted a Juniors' tournament, Summer Camp, minis-U6-U12 round-robin with 3 other Toronto clubs and had players from U14-U18 age grades playing in various Fall 7s events (often on combined teams working with other clubs to ensure playing opportunities). All age grades trained every Monday and Wednesday this past summer and fall seasons.

Finally, thank you to our sponsors and to those who donated to the No-Player-Left Behind fund for enabling a "barrier-free" access to our programming.

The club is in good hands as we look to bigger and better things in 2022. My personal thank to all those who made this all possible both in small and in large part: U6/8: Bryce, Jan, Esther, Finnie, James, and Paul; U10: Brad; U12: Mike and Nancy; U14 Boys: Stuart, Dave, Kelly, Jim and Max; U14/16/18 Girls: Dallas, Lorna and Lauren and sometimes Jodi; U16/18 Boys: Lafaele, Evan, Glenn, Michael, Kat, Joanne, Jodi, Taya and JP in the pre-season.

Thank you all for your time dedication and leadership and for making it all seem just a little easier than it is.

Leanne Stillman

## JUNIOR GIRLS



**Dallas Price**

Coach



**Lauren Rudko**

Coach



**Lorna Pauptit**

Manager

### Under 16 / under 18 girls

The junior girls stayed well connected online right up until we moved to in person activities. They regularly connected for online workouts or socials. When outdoor sessions were approved, we began training at Oakwood. Numbers fluctuated but ranged between 10-15 players. A huge core of the group was graduating and heading off to post-secondary by September which affected the numbers.

Lorna Pauptit has come on as manager and has been instrumental in helping with communications, game registration, communication with players and parents and checking the attestations at each event. Her help has greatly improved efficiency in the program and will be a huge asset in upcoming years.

In September we moved to Eglinton Flats to be able to support the U14 girls and allow players from the west end to attend practise. Practises were supported by Lauren Rudko who had previously helped with the U14 girls. Unfortunately moving, also lost us a couple players because it was now too far to travel. We picked up 2 new players from the Day Camp and a lot more interest. Running a practise with U14-U18 players was challenging and not ideal. Though it allowed us to have working numbers and the girls connected well together, the skill and maturity disparity was not an ideal learning environment.

We hosted a Try Rugby Day focussed on exposure for the girl's programs. The marketing committee made up a flyer and it was posted online and Flash Reproductions printed posters that were put up all over the west end. The evening didn't bring any new players, but if given more time to promote and market, it could be a great event.

Since September, we have had upwards of 15-20 junior girls reach out to get information about our programs. Some have joined, some just came to try it out and some are waiting until next year. This is a great sign that we are being sought out and that there is a lot of interest in this age group. There were no high school sports so getting into the schools to coach wasn't an option, but we reached out to a number of schools to let them know we were running fall programs and a number of students reached out from those teacher connections.

The Fall 7s season we merged with Brantford. Even with about 8-9 registered players we struggled to have more than 4 able to play on game days. We attended and competed at the London, Oakville and Fergus tournaments. Merging with another team brought some challenges but the team seemed to have fun and a strong positive experience from each tournament.

Even though playing numbers were low, the junior girls are in a good position and grew this season despite the restrictions. Shifting our focus to west end schools will help retain players. Creating a solid recruitment plan and getting more coaching support will be key for 2022.

Dallas Price



## Under 14 girls

The U14 girls were off to a slow start this year, with 3 girls at practice most days. We tried a few different things before landing on one that felt just right for the crew. First partnering with the U12s who welcomed us with open arms but also sometimes came up to our knees..., then with the U14 boys who under Coach Stuart and Coach Dave's leadership were a safe harbour when Coach Lauren couldn't make it across the 401 in rush hour traffic.

Third time's a charm and we landed with a happy home when Coach Dallas brought her U18 and U16 girls over from Oakwood to Eglinton Flats after Labour Day and we were able to join with them to round out our numbers and bring all of the girls together (which has been amazing to experience!). The goal of the season was to build strong bonds between the girls, grow as athletes and rugby players - no record of wins or losses was kept this pandemic year.

The U14s kicked off their season at the TIRF 7s, where we had 4 players and Oakville graciously lent us some girls to round out our team. They then attended 7s tournaments in London, Oakville and Fergus, growing in skill and confidence with each game - as well as strengthening the rugby community as they built friendships with other teams.

The girls are excited for off-season training and what next season will bring.

Lauren Rudko



**Front Row:** Dallas Price (Coach), Asia Douglas (visitor), Lloyd Stella (U18), Tueli Pauptit (U14), Rebecca Ship (U14), Acadia Chang (U14), Ayumi Soso (U14), Jade George (U14), Finnie Pauptit (U16), Kiera Irwin (U16), Kate Ayre (U16), Lauren Rudko (coach), Lorna Pauptit (Team manager)

### Not pictured:

U14: Shayla Williams

U16: Zahaire Fletcher-Taylor, Chiara Juggery, Kezia Dyer

U18: Rio Flanagan, Olivia Bell, Maria Barte, Madeline Sahota, Haleigh Di Buono, Claire Kos, Maleah Gill





## JUNIOR BOYS



**Stuart Mackenzie**

Coach



**Kelly Nguyen**

Asst. Coach



**Max Pinkerton**

Asst. Coach



**Dave Morris**

Asst Coach

### Under 14 Boys

The U14 Boys had an incredibly successful 2021 season. We had a good mix of U14 and U13 players and were able to grow our numbers throughout the season. Many players were actively engaged with consistently good practice numbers particularly through the Fall 7s season. From the end of August to the end of October, the team was able to engage in 6 different competitions with 1 game of 13s and 5 separate 7s tournaments! This was kicked off by Jim Logan who was not only manager of the U14s, but organized the first 7s competition for the entire Junior club in 2 years!

Henry Ross, Ko MacKenzie and Georges-Emile Roy engaged in the Rugby Ontario development program over the Summer and Fall with Ko MacKenzie earning a starting spot on one of the provincial U16 sides. Four players have been invited to participate in the Rugby Ontario Winter Academy in the U15 age group.

At the U14 level the focus is on development in the core skills and core values of rugby. This team put in a lot of work and not only improved their rugby skills, but also worked to create an accepting and inclusive environment for all players. Special thanks goes out to parents and volunteers who supported this vision, drove to practices and tournaments and stood endless hours to watch and cheer on all of the players. Without this support the season could not happen.

Stuart MacKenzie



Stuart Mackenzie (Coach), Stuart MacKenzie, Alex Crainic, Ian Peddle, Musashi McGann, Emmett Alexander, Ko MacKenzie, Dekker Kozak-Goebel, Henry Ross, Noah Crilley, Georges -Emile Roy, William Lewis, Max Pinkerton

**[not pictured]** Aidan Hunter, Andrew Logan, Connor Sweeney, Draydon Morris, Ethan Morris, Evan Morris, Finn Graham, Isaiah Allen, David Morris (Assistant Coach), Jim Logan (Manager)





## JUNIOR BOYS



**Lafaele Taua**

Coach



**Glenn Edwards**

Asst. Coach



**Jodi Bacchiochi**

Manager

### Under 16 Boys

The season started late with only have five registered U16 attending training. Three weeks after we began training hockey started and we lost two of our players which reduced us to three U16 boys. At Leanne's request we combined the U16 and U18 boys because there were only six or eight U18s attending practice and they needed a coach.

2021 was a poor year for these two age groups. Because we couldn't put together a Nomads only team for both age groups we asked other clubs if we could join with them. The U16s combined with the Dragons. Two new U16 players joined us near the end of the season but couldn't play at the last tournament because they had not had enough contact sessions leading up to it. We joined Toronto City and Beach to form two U16 teams for the last competition of the season. It was nice to watch our players playing and showing what they're capable of doing in the games.

For 2022, the club needs to work to recruit more U6 and U18 players so we can train as play as Nomads only teams.

- Lafaele Taua



**Top Row:** Lafaele Taua (U16 Coach) Angus Atto. (U16) Reid Stanford (U16), Konnor Chang (U16), Jaivon Sylvan, Max Blackett (U16), Jonah Tau (U16), Marcus Shuffler (U18), Shun MacKenzie (U18), Emerson Pennock (U18), Owen Deguara (U18), Coach Michael Owen (U18 Coach)

**Front Row:** Anders Hoffman (U18), Jodi Bacchiochi Chang (U16 Team Manager)

#### Not pictured:

**U16s:** Anastasios Dimacopoulos, G Gentile, Kasch Kozak-Goebel, Sebastian Gentile, Glenn Edwards (Coach)

**U18s:** Riley Garcia, Graeme Tremain, Jack Conradi, Jeffrey Young, Musa Kamara, Evan Underwood (Coach), Katarina Peric (Coach), Joanne Garcia (Team Manager)

## JUNIOR BOYS



**Evan Underwood**

Coach



**Michael Owen**

Coach



**Joanne Garcia**

Manager

### Under 18 Boys

The boys really appreciated the chance to get out and train this past season. The team was able to participate in several 7s tournaments; at The Flats in August, Belleville in September and Fergus in October. Despite the long time since the boys actually played a game, they did very well and always gave their opponents a good challenge. There were quite a few injuries this past season, which kept our attendance at trainings and numbers at games lower than we wished but we have been able to maintain the same core players. We had 11 registered players. This was the first time in some years that Nomads had a U18 team. It was nice to return to some sort of normalcy and to have a sense of structure.

The boys learned a lot at the training sessions which were held twice per week during the summer and fall. Thank you to coaches Evan, Kat, Peric [not pictured] Lafaele and Michael for their commitment and support. We also had a great group of guest coaches come out including Spencer from TIRF.

Joanne Garcia







## MINIS

### Under 6s / Under 8s



**Bryce Moroz**

Coach



**James Lauritsen**

Coach



**U6s Paul Sochosky**

Coach



**Esther Sivalingam**

Coach



**Finnie Pauptit**

Asst. Coach



**Jan Vopalensky**

Manager

The 2021 season for the U6's and U8's can be summarized in one word "SPECTACULAR!"

We entered 2021 with great uncertainty. We knew that the winter training at Lampport Stadium was a no-go, and that the spring training at De La Salle College, was also expected to be a no-go.

However, as mass vaccines rolled out, combined with other public health measures, the situation changed quickly in a most positive sense. Limited team sports were permitted by the Ontario government in early June, and Rugby Ontario swiftly gave sanction to the Nomads for return to training. Events moved incredibly fast, and our first practise was held on June 23, 2021.

Numbers were good right from the first practise, but it was still manageable to have the U6's and U8's combined.

Coach Bryce built mini Rugby goal posts out of PVC pipe, and we used them for the practise games. We would actually perform conversion kicks after a try. The kids absolutely loved the kicking element of the game, even though kicking is not used at these ages in inter-club games.

One significant practise we initiated was having one of the kids be the Junior Coach for the training session. They were given a paper list of our drills and games the week before, and asked to pick out the ones they wanted to do, and to write down any other games or drills they wanted to do. At the beginning of the session the Junior Coach was given a clip board to put his/her list on, and a new whistle (which they kept - we don't share whistle, especially these days. ). The Junior Coach would then lead the team through the session (with lots of help and direction from the adult coaches). This was a huge success. This was the likely the first instance in their young lives where they had been given a leadership role, with all its responsibilities, and they really engaged in it. Some kids were more effective than others, and the best Junior Coach was an otherwise quiet little six-year old girl.

As mentioned above, numbers were good right from the start, and going into August we numbered about twenty registered players. In August the Nomads held two free week long Rugby camps for Minis, and there was a huge attendance (over 100 registered). Approximately ten of these new players then joined the evening U6's and U8's, bringing our total number of players to about 30. At any one practise session there were on average 18 to 20 players in attendance, and it was at that point that we separated the U6's and U8's into separate sessions.

In August, Rugby Ontario sanctioned inter-club play, and the Minis played a total of four tournaments. For two of the tournaments we were actually able to field two teams of U6s and one U8s. This is in sharp contrast to other clubs which either did not have a U6 team or had only one team.

September 30 was the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The sport of Rugby actively promotes core values such as respect, fairness and inclusion. To this end we marked the day with a min-skits, with most of the players taking on the role of one of our Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Inuit, Metis), and some taking on the role of "Settlers." Using props, the Settlers made one-sided "deals" to obtain the Indigenous Peoples' lands. We then discussed if these deals were fair, respectful and inclusive. Each child was given a plastic covered hand-out illustrating Rugby's core values, along with a fridge magnet, and instructions read the hand-out every morning for the next week.

Finally, we closed the season on October 20, 2021 with a Halloween Rugby practise. The kids dressed up in their Halloween costumes and so did the coaches.

Bryce Moroz



## TEAM PHOTOS

## UNDER 8S



**Top Row:** Bryce Moroz (Coach)

**Middle Row:** Mizuki Suso, Merida Ryan, Tento Jiang, Blake Bartholemew, Luka Marquez, Aiden Moroz

**Front Row:** Arlo Sayers, Ross Stewart

**Not pictured:** Bear Allison, James Alicandri, Jevon Williams, Justine McCabe, Lachlan Milbury, Rose Cagney, Thomas Baraniak

## UNDER 6S



**Top Row:** Jan Vopalensky (Manager), Paul Sochosky (Coach), James Lauritsen (Coach)

**Front Row:** Petro Sochosky, Sebastion Hunt, Tomas Vopalensky, Claudio Marquez, Logan Purkis, Euan Lauritsen

**Not pictured:** Emelio Segovia-Bibikov, Emma Yafalian, Harper Allison, Hunter Yu, Kai Rosales, Luke Alicandri, Micah Ryan, Valentina Grant, William Baraniak





## MINIS



**Brad McCabe**

Coach

### Under 10s

The 2021 u10 program started off slowly with only a few players attending as return to play started. The u12 team was fabulous in conducting joint training prior to their moving to contact training.

Following the summer camp program and again after school started, the u10 team gained a good number of new and eager players enabling us to field teams at all but one tournament.

The focus of the season was on a safe return to play, skills development, an understanding of the game and having fun. Using a mix of skills training with rookie rugby games, the players learned ball handling along with offensive and defensive positioning all in preparation for the number of tournaments that were able to be run toward the end of the season.

Many thanks to the parents who brought their kids out each week and to the Nomads, Markham Irish, City, Dragons and Balmy Beach tournament organizers for creating safe & fun playing environments this year.

Brad McCabe



**Top Row:** Brad McCabe (Coach)

**Front Row:** Chase Bartholomew, Blake Richmond, Justine McCabe, Emma Hurtado, Jaysen Kisakye Kuc, Talia Ship, Andrew Stafford

**Not pictured:** Jaime Stickle, Theo Misik, Victoria Baraniak





## MINIS



**Nancy Vye**

Coach



**Michael Boadway**

Coach

### Under 12s

We were very fortunate to have an amazing, dedicated group for the 2021 U12 junior team. While the pandemic kept us socially distant for the first couple of months, our players adapted and adjusted, focusing on passing, some kicking, and keeping it fun. We kicked everything into high gear once restrictions were lifted, and immediately expanded practices to include more aspects of the game. A quarter of the players were new to rugby, so for most, this meant a transition from flag to contact - a new skill that the players eagerly welcomed and enjoyed putting into practice. They learned the fundamentals of a proper tackle, how to ruck, and were introduced to line-outs. We were very impressed with how well the players worked at learning these new skills and supported each other in their development.

The most exciting part of the season was getting back to playing games and attending festivals with our neighbouring clubs. Many thanks to Toronto City, Balmy Beach, Markham Irish, and Toronto Dragons for creating a loop with us and sharing hosting duties. Come rain or shine, the teams showed up and gave it their all. With each festival, the U12s learned and developed their rugby IQ. But most of all, we had lots of fun and left it all on the field.

As we look to 2022, we're thankful to our "senior" players who acted as on and off-field leaders this season. You'll be missed, and we wish you all the best as you move on to the next level of rugby. To our returning players, we can't wait to have you back and continue to build on all the things you learned this year. Lastly, many thanks to the families and friends who brought our players out to practices and games, and supported their love of the game. We couldn't do it without you.

Thanks for a great year.

Nancy Vye and Mike Boadway



**Top Row:** Nancy Vye (Coach), Leanne Stillman (Director, Juniors), Michael Boadway (Coach)

**Middle Row:** Kabo Chang, Mikhalia Stern, Weston McCabe Sarah McCabe, Nicholas Chapman, Will McCutcheon, Caroline Ship, Ewan Crilley, Taylor Richmond

**Front Row:** Adelaide Doctrow Leo Schofield-Fitzpatrick, Julia Boadway Truman Vye

**Not pictured:** Cameron Stickle, Cameron Morris, Charlie Evans, Howie Lee, Emmeline Graham





## ALUMNI



### Martin Edmonds

Director,  
Alumni Relations

This report will be brief. Whereas trying to find something positive to say in this pandemic year is no easy task it is not impossible. When I think about it I could insert last year's report without too much alteration. However there is one notable and welcome addition, rugby was played this year.

During the year we continued to reach out to those Alumni who wished to join in, via Zoom. It is always fascinating to chat with Nomads, not only across the generations but across the globe. Indeed it was with great delight we enjoyed conversations with our main sponsor Andy Hart in China, Derek Wyatt in Australia, as well as many Ontarians and other Canadians.

But, the Nomads were back on the field this year and this meant that a number of Alumni were able to get together, enjoy the games and the camaraderie that ensues from them.

It was especially gratifying to see so many Alumni at the Woodburn Trophy match against the Toronto Scottish. Although the result didn't go our way I have confidence and faith that it will next year and we will be there to support the club.

So what of the future for the Nomads Alumni?

Personally I think it very important, even essential for the Alumni to have a role in the running of the Nomads Rugby Club. The club is certainly going through a transition, as are many of the Ontario rugby clubs. The Nomads are not the only Ontario Club to come into a financial windfall as a result of the sale of Fletchers Fields.

It is at least to be hoped and even expected that many of those clubs will seek to improve their own standings in terms of rugby prowess on the field and financial prosperity off of it.

It is to be hoped and even expected that the Nomads will use their share of the financial windfall to position themselves ahead of the marauding pack of other clubs.

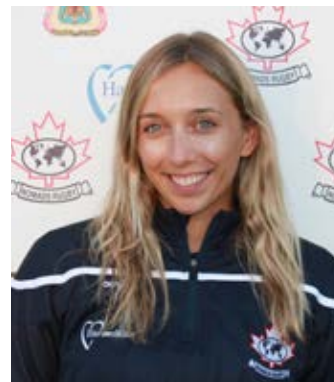
The Nomads Alumni constitute an incredible bank of talent. We have already seen Nomads Alumni step into the breach to provide expertise in managing the newly acquired funds, in a trust. The Nomads biggest sources of funding comes from the Alumni. Within that Alumni there are many other latent talents that are needed to help the Nomads grow and become the Club we all want them to be.

Some really smart fellow once told me that in order to progress, an organization needs a combination of Change and Continuity. I suggest that the Nomads Alumni as well as being an engine of change, are also in the unique position of being one group that can provide that continuity, one might say that by definition they are that continuity.

See you at the game.

Martin Edmonds

## MEMBER RELATIONS AND SOCIAL



### Gillian Geremia

Director,  
Member Relations

What a year it has been! We launched the brand new role of Member Relations with the intent of uniting Marketing, Community Relations, Alumni, and Social together as one united front. Our vision is to have one united club to foster relationships, lift up our members, and recruit new members all while being a leader within the community of rugby!

Throughout the year there were a few key events that were run to bring the club together both virtually and in person while respecting Covid rules! Starting the year we launched Nomads Got Talent, where submissions were entered to win prizes featuring talents such as painting, visual effects, and extreme strength.

Following that we launched the Community/Nomads Spotlight campaign to create a conversation around Black leadership and inclusion within rugby. Many members inside and outside of our club graciously shared their opinions and experiences in rugby, creating an important conversation on the topic!

To shake off some winter laziness, we launched in the Nomads Strava Challenge. Where under 30s competed against over 30s to win the most points! In order to gain points you needed to run and/or bike and track it on Strava for a month. Fifty seven people participated and the over 30s ran away with the win!

Throughout the September long weekend, senior players fired up a Nomads cottage weekend! This was full of activities and friends at a lake house that felt like summer camp again.

A very notable community initiative was the Nomads Day Camp, over 2 weeks players from across Toronto joined this free day camp to experience the beauty of rugby and learn valuable leadership skills.

Last but not least, we ran the Nomads Back to Rugby Party where Nomads of all ages came together at High Park Brewery for some drinks, games, and music.

On top of these events and campaigns, there were many more initiatives run by the directors that make up Member Relations that you will read more about in their reports! There have been enhancements to the website, many communications through our social media and TeamSnap channels, and a lot that goes into creating a great experience for our community!

Thank you to all the Directors that made this year possible! We are excited to return to some of our classic events in 2022 with the hope of a full season ahead!

Gillian Geremia



### Katarina Boehringer

Social Director



## OPERATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP



### Michael Boadway

Director, Operations

2021 was a difficult year for Rugby, but better than 2020. While training with teammates was not permitted for the first half of the year. Nomads were able to enjoy training together virtually by Zoom call. Rugby Ontario and Rugby Canada reduced their fees reflecting COVID-19 and that training would start as non-contact. They made the proviso that fees would rise for contact training should it start.

Nomads Rugby registration opened in May 28 in anticipation of returning to playing rugby. Rugby Ontario's COVID Return to Play guidelines were updated and released. Rugby Ontario, the province and city eventually permitted outdoor non-contact training. Nomads were approved and starting in mid-June, we were able to hit the pitch. Contact rugby was approved by the board on July 19th for Seniors and some Junior teams. By August 16, all Nomads 11 and up were training for contact rugby.

In 2020, the Nomads Board decided to waive the Nomads Rugby portion of our fees to ensure that rugby was available to all members who wanted to train. In 2021, the Board did set club fees, but they were still set much less than they would be in a typical year.

A Nomads Rugby membership is annual. It runs from May 1st to April 30 each year. A 2021 membership entitles a Nomad access to all Nomads Rugby training until April 30 2021.

As part of the COVID 19 procedures, Nomads playing and non-playing members needed to register before attending a practice. This precluded any "Try before you Buy" players, although we did get a bit creative. Social Memberships remained low likely due small amount of social events.

The good news is that we rebounded from 2020 and got much closer to our

2019 membership numbers. The highlights for 2021 are:

- 243 Registered Nomads (vs 253 in 2019 164 in 2020)
- 214 Playing Nomads (vs 223 in 2019 and 145 in 2020)
- 55 Senior Men
- 34 Senior Women
- 126 Junior Players
- 29 Non-Playing Nomads (Coaches, Managers etc)
- U6 and U8 bolstered by camps and word of mouth grew to 32 kids from 8!
- 17 temporary memberships by Old Boys and Old Girls to play a game or two

Last year we are worked on improvements for next year with Rugby Ontario to make the registration process more intuitive. While registration is still not as intuitive as we might like, support calls were significantly down in 2020.

Nomads partnered with Rugby Ontario and Toronto Inner-City Rugby Foundation (TIRF) to allow for dual TIRF/Nomads registrations. This enabled youth from priority neighbourhood high schools and younger kids to have the club experience playing rugby as Nomads and attend our camps.

We salute the efforts made on the part of the Nomads Players, Coaches, Volunteers and Board to ensure that some absolutely awesome rugby was available during these unprecedented times.

Michael Boadway

## MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS



### Vanessa Cuifentes

Director, Marketing

Although it seems that marketing is misunderstood and undervalued by many of the Rugby community, Nomads Rugby recognizes it is key to the club's and the game's future success and growth.

Accordingly, we are committed to developing and implementing a strategic marketing plan that addresses all aspects of Nomads Rugby's marketing including, but not limited to, programs, recruitment, retention, member satisfaction, branding, promotion and communication.

We recognize developing a comprehensive and effective strategic marketing plan will take time and investment, and may entail engaging external resources. A realistic timeframe for completion is the end of Q1 2022.

During 2021 we took an important first step by forming, what we suspect is, Nomads Rugby's first Marketing Committee. Members included Vanessa Cuifentes, Gillian Geremia, Tim Ralphs and Rodrigo Diaz Varela. Several strategic initiatives were identified and costed. A preliminary budget was presented to the Board.

We learned a lot from its experiences promoting the Spirit of Youth Rugby Camps held in mid-August and this knowledge can be applied to facilitate recruitment of juniors for 2022.

Social media was managed primarily by Vanessa Cuifentes and Gillian Geremia in 2021 and Gillian also oversaw the website.

We invite other club members with marketing knowledge, skills and experience who are interested in helping create the next exciting chapter of Nomads Rugby story to join us.



## RUGBY



### Dallas Price

Director of Rugby

The beginning of the year was spent identifying and defining the focus of the position. Most of the areas of focus ended up under another director's job. A few initiatives ended up being taken over by other board members leaving little work for me to do.

Primary focus was to connect and support junior and mini coaching staff. Created a TeamSnap coaches and managers account to use for formal communication. Updated the coaches Facebook group to include more of the current coaches. Regular postings on courses, conferences, articles and other resources for coaches. Communication and feedback was limited, but not having regular events in person was probably a contributing factor.

Used Modules for first few weeks of return to play. Definitely a positive response, but definitely a lot of confusion on the administrative and execution of those first few sessions. Doing combined activities with all age groups the first few weeks is a great idea to create club culture, even if it's not the entire practise.

Goal was to have 4 new coaches certified this year. RO did not announce a Level 1 course until mid Oct and have at least 1 junior player signed up. Would like to have coaches identify parents or players U16 + that we can speak to about coaching opportunities.

Created a flyer to advertise for men's' coaches. Feedback was all international. Assistant coaches were found internally.

Rugby Day camp was organized and run by the President and TIRF so ended up not being a focus of the Rugby Director.

Ran a successful Coaches Week. Received a flag from Coaches Ontario and featured many of the coaches on our social media. There is definitely room to do more to recognize the hard work of our coaches. Would like to see more player involvement in saying Thank You to their coaches and more official appreciation sent to coaches from the club. But it was a great first-time celebrating Coaches Week.

Initiated getting a backdrop for photos. President took over communications and arranged having this completed.

With a shortened and condensed season, no coach development events were executed. The consensus was coaches were a too busy with things returning to playing quite quickly. With a regular season next year, coach development sessions can be organized every couple months to support coaches learning.

The Rugby Director still has a very vague and undefined role. For future years, specific tasks and duties should be outlined to get the most out of this position, and autonomy given to be able to execute the role and their duties effectively.

Dallas Price

## SECRETARY



### Mark Lewis

Secretary

My first nine months as Secretary of the Nomads has certainly been an eye-opening experience. Our Club may have started-up as a loose group of like-minded men getting together on a Saturday to play the sport they loved but we have certainly moved-on from there. Now entering our eighth decade, our Club has experienced exponential growth. In particular, we are so much broader, in terms of the types of individuals who are part of the Club, and so much larger, in terms of the sheer scale of our overall operations and activities. From a personal standpoint, until becoming a Board member, I had no real idea as to the "size of the operation" and the challenges posed by the Club we have become, to say nothing of the new challenges which arise from our determination to meet our intended future goals.

Throughout each year, one of the primary duties of the Secretary is to record and preserve the institutional history of the Club, and in particular the decisions made by the Board at its various meetings. Since March 2021, I have endeavored to change the manner in which the Minutes of all of the Board's meetings have been kept. This has been done to ensure that there is a clear record of what we, as a Club, are doing and to establish (less there be any doubt) that all of our decisions and actions are being made and undertaken in full compliance with our By-Laws and any applicable statutes and regulations. I believe the manner in which we are now recording our Minutes is far more in keeping with size of our operations and, in particular, with nature and extent of the financial decisions which those operations now involve. In addition, the current system, involving longer and more descriptive Minutes, will hopefully help in the future in terms of the continuity of our operations and their governance when new members are elected to Board positions as they will be able to read exactly what has occurred in past years.

At our (delayed) 2020 Annual General Meeting, we recognized the need to "professionalize" the way we operate. This was done, in part, through the adoption of our new By-Laws and the establishment of our new Board structure. As Secretary, I was given the task of conducting a "watching brief" of the By-Laws and recommending any changes which may be appropriate. Further to this, in October 2021, Ontario's Non-Profit Corporations Act came into effect. Although the By-Laws we adopted in February 2021 anticipated the coming into force of this Act, a review indicated that there were still some minor changes we needed to make to ensure full compliance. The Board has now approved these required changes and I anticipate the Board's changes will be ratified by the Club's overall membership at the 2021 AGM.

Clearly, the two items reported on above may seem small and may even seem indicative of an overly bureaucratic approach to the running of a rugby club. Trust me when I say that I wish that my age and the state of my knees didn't prevent me from being an active part of the truly important rugby-playing activities of the Nomads but I nevertheless believe that the changes I have described above represent important steps in our Club's development. If we want to thrive as a Club then we have to be committed to excellence both on and off the field. Such a commitment means that we have to take the "little things" seriously no matter how boring they might seem. This is especially the case when it comes to the legal framework under which we exist. If we want to be seen as being a professional organization, especially by our sponsors and grant donors, then it is vital that we act like one.



In terms of finances, as Secretary, this year I played a very small role with respect to the sale of Fletcher’s Fields. For the Nomads, all of the heavy lifting related to the sale was done by our President, Ross Pinkerton (and for which he deserves immeasurable credit). All I did was review documents and pose questions but once again I think it is important to stress the need for keeping track of the details. Our share of Fletcher’s Field is/was the Nomads’ most important asset and the proceeds from the sale represent a huge financial opportunity for our Club. In this respect, it was a real honor to be able to be part of a Board which is so committed to making sure that our Club’s financial interests are well protected and that “our money” will be invested wisely and will get used in the best interests of our, existing and future, members.

Finally, I have to report on one of my sub-roles as Secretary, that of the Chair of the Club’s Disciplinary Committee. Unfortunately (or perhaps fortunately given the overall lack of necessity), the Club has not yet adopted its own Disciplinary Code and Disciplinary Procedures. These remain in the drafting stages but I am determined to have them in place by the start of the 2022 season. As of now, the Nomads continue to follow the, general, World Rugby Disciplinary Rules and continue constituting ad hoc hearings’ panels (of three Directors) to hold disciplinary hearings when necessary, which, as noted above, has been minimal.

Mark Lewis

TREASURER



**Stuart Mulcahy**

Treasurer



**Catherine Iuliano**

Assistant Treasurer

A number of activities were undertaken during the year to improve the clubs cash position, accounting and financial control.

We applied to MLSE Foundation, Jumpstart and Ontario Trillium Foundation for grants and were awarded \$115,000 of which approximately half will be received in future years.

Our loyal and generous sponsors, Hart Mobility, Penalta, Hub Equipment and the Carpenters Union contributed a total of \$50,000. However, three sponsors did not return from 2020 which highlights the need to attract new sponsors.

As for 2020, membership fees were lowered significantly in consideration of the uncertainty created by the pandemic, the shorter season and to encourage existing members to return and new members to join. The artificially low membership fees are not sustainable and we will need to get back to pre-2020 levels when we return to a full rugby program, hopefully in 2022.

With a return to playing rugby, this year’s expenses largely consisted of retooling the teams with new kit, practice equipment, balls etc., the cost of returning to play including permits for training fields, tournament fees, referees fees and athletic therapist costs. Two Spirit of Youth Rugby camps held in August were fully funded by the MLSE Foundation grants mentioned above.

Overall, the monies received from grants and sponsorship offset the impact of the loss of membership fee revenue and resulted in an operating surplus of \$28,859, which compares favourably to 2020’s deficit of \$20,104.

During the year we completed the consolidation of senior and junior accounts in Quickbooks. They were previously maintained separately and consolidated manually at year end. Doing so facilitated production of monthly financial reports for presentation at the monthly board of directors’ meetings. Catherine Iuliano, who was responsible for keeping the accounts up-to-date and accurate, was a valuable member of the accounting team.

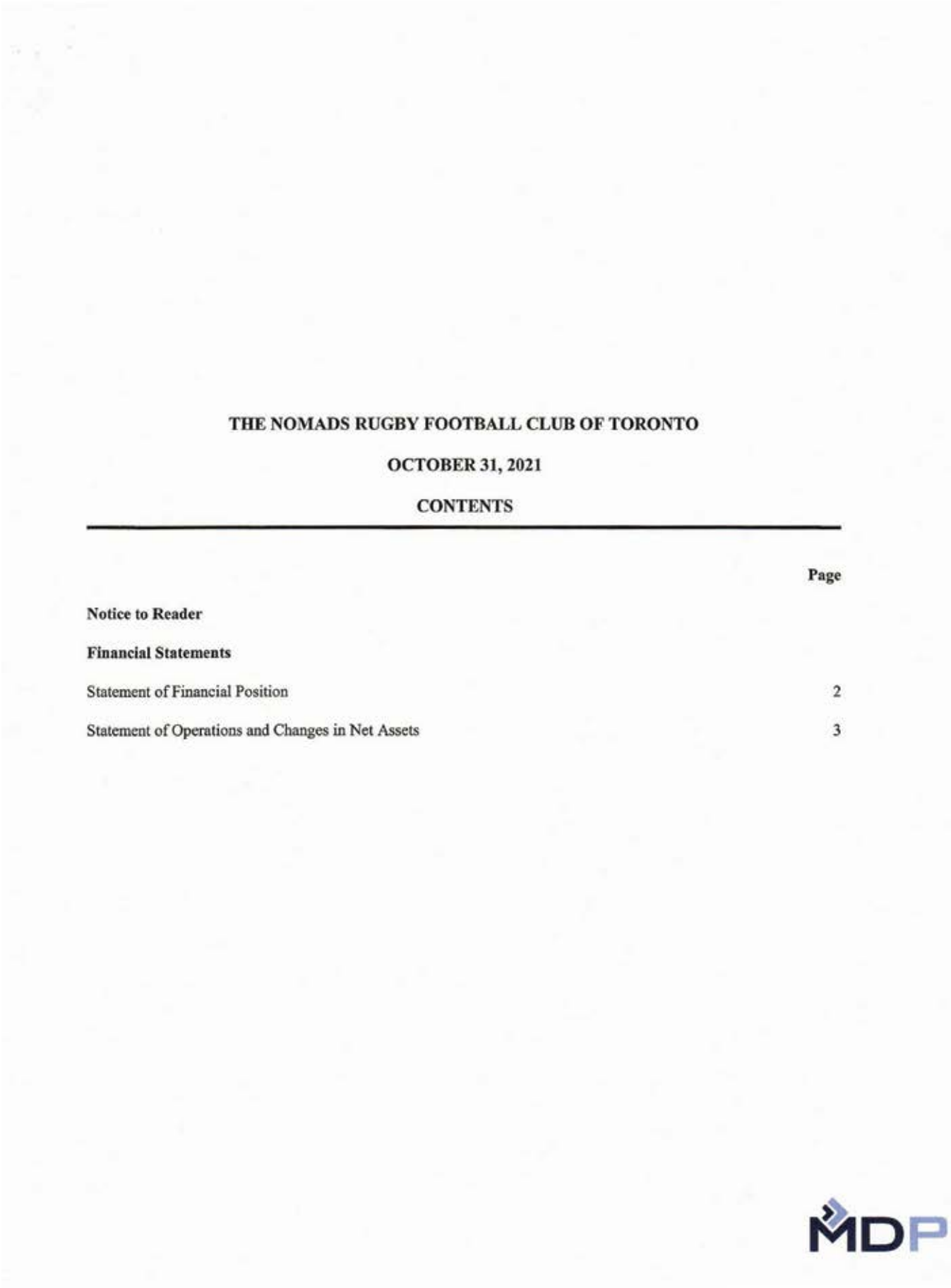
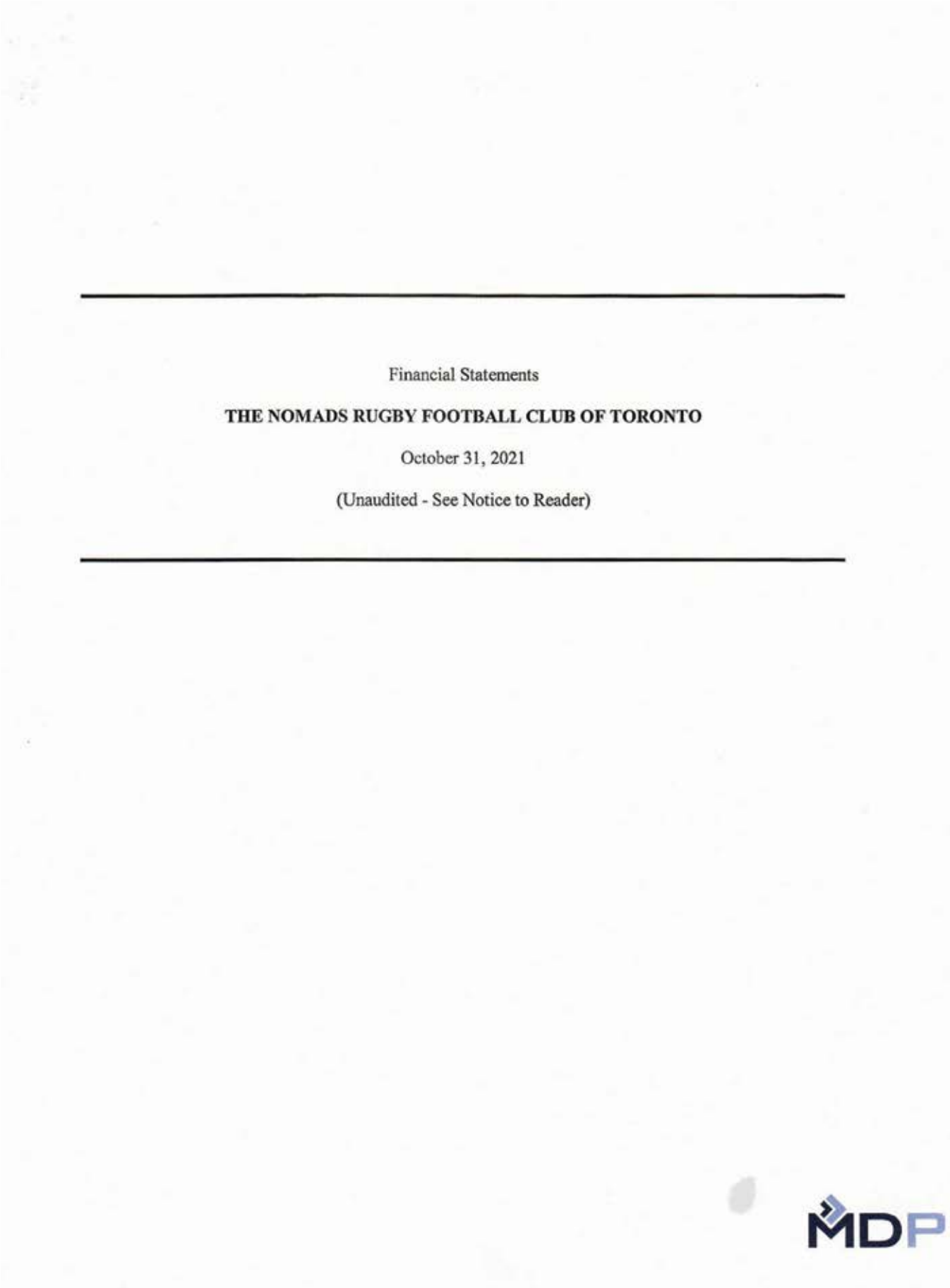
Other improvements in financial control introduced during the year included an annual budgeting process that will be fully rolled out next financial year and more detailed scrutiny of all expenses.

We filed the annual T2 return with CRA and received a nil assessment confirming our not-for-profit organisation status.

Martyn Dooley and Partners (MDP) received our year- end financial data and provided the financial statements and Notice to Reader that follow on pages 38 to 42.

Stuart Mulcahy









200-610 Chartwell Road  
Oakville, Ontario L6J 4A5  
T 905.279.7500  
F 905.279.9300

1-42 King Street East  
Stoney Creek, Ontario L8G 1K1  
T 905.388.7453  
F 905.279.9300

400-4310 Sherwoodtowne Blvd.  
Mississauga, Ontario L4Z 4C4

**NOTICE TO READER**

We have compiled the statement of financial position of The Nomads Rugby Football Club of Toronto as at October 31, 2021 and the statement of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended from information provided by management.

We have not performed an audit or a review engagement on these financial statements and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

*MDP LLP*

Chartered Professional Accountants  
Licensed Public Accountants

Oakville, Ontario  
November 8, 2021

THE NOMADS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB OF TORONTO			
Statement of Financial Position			
October 31, 2021			
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)			
	2021	2020	
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current</b>			
Cash	\$ 55,905	\$ 33,030	
Accounts receivable	-	142	
Fund held in Trust by Sport4Ontario	31,693	336	
Loan Receivable - Fletcher's Fields Limited	2,000	-	
	89,598	33,508	
<b>Investment-Fletcher's Fields Limited</b>			
	1	1	
	\$ 89,599	\$ 33,509	
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current</b>			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 2,535	\$ 3,782	
Deferred Revenue	40,455	11,977	
	42,990	15,759	
<b>Fund Balances</b>			
<b>Net assets</b>	46,609	17,750	
	\$ 89,599	\$ 33,509	



THE NOMADS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB OF TORONTO  
Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets  
Year ended October 31, 2021  
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	2021	2020
<b>Revenues</b>		
Apparel Sales	\$ 6,224	\$ -
Donations-Help Nomads Make History Campaign	-	26,966
Donations-Other	1,560	379
Sponsorship	50,000	45,000
Membership fees	13,792	3,757
Fundraising	58,599	3,068
Events	992	6,841
Programs	-	390
	131,167	86,401
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Accounting and legal	622	2,825
Administration	2,785	5,465
Eglinton Flats #7	1,512	26,966
Equipment	5,782	6,399
Events	1,440	9,956
Facilities rental	12,604	7,672
Fletcher's Fields levies	-	6,911
League and Tournament Fees	730	1,090
Loss due to fraud	-	6,275
Marketing and communications	4,646	6,714
Medical and supplies	145	1,522
Player Development and Support	2,435	-
Referees	740	-
Staff	19,441	21,888
Supplementary Programs	16,743	-
Team Expenses	3,560	-
Uniforms and apparel	29,123	2,822
	102,308	106,505
Excess of revenues over expenditures (expenditures over revenues)	28,859	(20,104)
Net assets, beginning of year	17,750	37,854
Net assets, end of year	\$ 46,609	\$ 17,750

FLETCHER'S FIELDS



Ross Pinkerton  
President



Tim Lorimer  
Advisor

The sale of “Fletcher’s Fields” to the City of Markham for \$21.5 million dollars was completed in September.

Fletcher’s Fields was originally established in 1966 and served the needs of the rugby community in Ontario for over 55 years. In that time Fletcher’s Fields hosted club, major Ontario and provincial championships and Canada versus England, Ireland, Wales, USA, Argentina and Japan international games.

Increasing maintenance costs, the need for capital improvements and a desire to provide improved access to rugby throughout the GTA, led to the decision to sell.

Fletcher’s Fields will continue uninterrupted operations until October 2024. Nomads Rugby has already established its new home field base at Eglinton Flats. All shareholder clubs anticipate having new facilities ready for the 2025 season.

Proceeds from the sale will be reinvested in local rugby facilities and programs to promote participation in rugby.

The six shareholders of Fletcher’s Fields Limited are: Aurora Barbarians Rugby Football Club, Markham Irish Canadian Rugby Club, Rugby Ontario, The Nomads Rugby Football Club of Toronto, The Saracens Rugby Football Club and Toronto Scottish Rugby Football Club.



## COVID SAFETY



### **Krista Carroll**

Club Covid Safety  
Coordinator

It was with happy hearts and well sanitized hands that the Toronto Nomads Rugby club welcomed players back to full contact rugby this year! With much uncertainty in the spring, the leadership team worked behind the scenes to get all paperwork ready for sanctioning as soon as the green light was given by Rugby Ontario.

In June we received sanctioning to return to in person training with limited attendance and social distancing. But that could not dampen our spirits, Nomads across all age groups quickly got themselves registered and we were out on the pitch again. As Covid case counts lessened and more and more people got vaccinated, we slowly saw the lifting of restrictions. By mid-July it was time to start looking at full contact rugby!

The Juniors managed to successfully run training and summer camps. Unfortunately Rugby Ontario decided not to run a Women's league this year, but Nomads Women's Director Jessica Wong pulled together with other clubs to ensure that the Women would still get games. The Women were able to play in a handful of tournament style games across the GTA. The Senior Men's team was able to play a shortened season against local clubs.

Thank you to all the people across the club, including Directors, Coaches, Covid-safety volunteers and players, who made this season possible.

Finally a big thank you to everyone who followed the club Covid Safety rules, ensuring that we could safely return to contact rugby. Thank you for trusting your leadership team to create a safe place to learn and love rugby. The Toronto Nomads Rugby Club reported no cases of Covid transmission or outbreaks due to Nomads events.

## FUNDRAISING



### **Yael Schwartz**

Director,  
Fundraising

This year was the Nomads Rugby Club's first foray into the world of grant applications, and we were rather successful if we do say so ourselves! Call it beginners luck or whatever you may, but the dynamic duo of President Ross Pinkerton and Senior Women's team member Yael Schwartz, the club was able to secure three out of the four grants we applied for. That's not a bad record, for a novice team! We focused our funding requests on grants to be used for eliminating barriers to participation for children and youth and providing COVID-19 relief funding, to help offset the loss of revenue and participation over the pandemic. The three secured grants were: JumpStart Sports Relief Grant - Operational stream (\$15,000); MLSE Foundation's Community Action Grant (\$50,000); and Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) Community Building Fund (\$50,000).

The Jumpstart Sport Relief funding helped the club to recover from the impact of Covid-19 in 2020 and allowed us to operate and offer minis and juniors program to the fullest capacity permitted by Provincial regulations and Rugby Canada in the summer and fall of 2021.



### **Ross Pinkerton**

President

Funding from the MLSE Foundation's Community Action Grant is designated towards providing children and youth, who would not otherwise have the opportunity, to participate in organized sport and enjoy the rugby club experience with the chance to do so, over 3 years. We call this new program that we are proud to offer, Nomads Rugby's Spirit of Youth Rugby.

Finally, the most recently awarded grant from Ontario Trillium Foundation's (OTF) Community Building Fund will go towards funding our Junior and Senior (women and men) sides, specifically, operating and staffing costs, purchasing equipment and expanding our online presence in order to reach and recruit new club members.

Yael Schwartz



## INVESTMENT COMMITTEE



**Tim Lorimer**

Chair

In March 2020, Ross Pinkerton approached three friends of the Club to consult on establishing an Investment Committee. The Club's Development Plan emphasised the growing need for a dedicated administrative infrastructure, which, in turn, required managing the financial resources that would be needed to support that development.

Under Ross's guidance, Don Cranston, Tom Stevenson, and I quickly agreed to organise this new committee and by the fall of 2020 had written the club's Investment Policy and obtained the Board's approval of it. The underlying objectives of the investment policy are to maintain the financial resources of the club while earning a reasonable return, sufficient to help fund the club's strategic priorities.

All this activity was taking place against the background of an initiative to sell Fletcher's Fields and the need to be prepared for managing the proceeds.

The major activity for the Investment Committee in 2021 has been supporting Ross Pinkerton in his role as a Director of Fletcher's Fields as an advisor to that board, and we are glad to report that our involvement made a valuable contribution to the successful sale. At this point, it is important to acknowledge, with thanks, the invitation from the board of Fletcher's Fields to work with them in executing the sale and consulting on all the decisions that have been involved in it.

Looking ahead to 2022, the Investment Committee is looking forward to putting Nomads' money to work for our members. It is an exciting time to be involved with Nomads Rugby. The Investment Committee's role is to establish a strong financial foundation that facilitates attainment of Nomads Rugby's long-term objectives.

Tim Lorimer



**Tom Stevenson**



**Don Cranston**



**Ross Pinkerton**

President  
(ex officio)

## SPIRIT OF YOUTH RUGBY CAMPS

Nomads Rugby's Spirit of Youth Rugby program, funded by MLSE Foundation's Community Action Grant and delivered in collaboration with Toronto Inner-City Rugby Foundation (TIRF), kicked off its 2021 activities during August with two weeks of free summer camps held at Eglinton Flats, Toronto for children and youth aged between 6 and 16 years.

The purpose of the Spirit of Youth Rugby program is to provide kids who wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to participate in organized sport with access to summer camps and year-round programs organized and delivered by Nomads Rugby.

Although the lead time between receiving the grant and delivering the camps was short, the 2021 Spirit of Youth Rugby camps were a huge success. Highlights included:

- 102 children registered for the camps
- The number registered for week 1 was 29; registration of a further 73 for week 2 resulted from satisfied week 1 campers returning and new 'word of mouth' recommendations
- 95.5 % of respondents rated overall satisfaction with the camp as either 4/5 (13.6 %) or 5/5 (81.8%)
- 95.5% reported that the camps being free was either very important or somewhat important
- 81.8 % of respondents would consider enrolling their child in a future Spirit of Youth Rugby camp
- 95.5% would recommend Spirit of Youth Rugby camps to others
- 32% of the camps participants have continued their involvement with Nomads Rugby's summer and fall programs

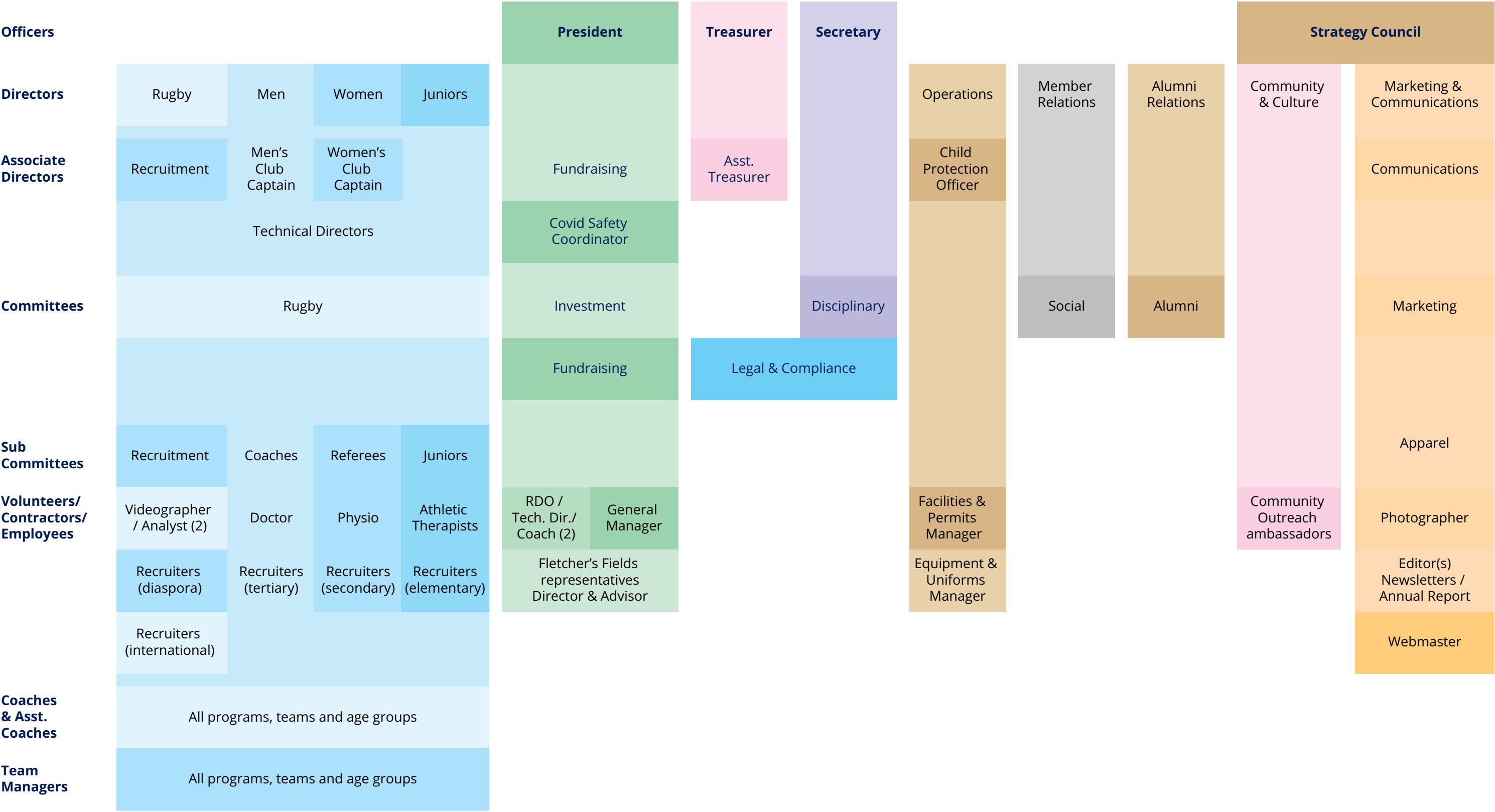
It was amazing to see kids who had not previously participated in organized sport, and in many cases did not even know of rugby, learning and having fun, particularly after a challenging year.

Nomads Rugby is very proud of what we achieved with short notice this year and it augurs well for Spirit of Youth Rugby programs in 2022 and 2023. We are grateful for MLSE Foundation's support and TIRF's immense contribution; we could not have provided the Spirit of Youth Rugby camps without it.





PROVISIONAL NOMADS ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE



\*This provisional organisation structure is the personal view of current President, Ross Pinkerton. At the time of publication it has not been approved by Nomads Rugby's Board of Directors. Its purpose is to stimulate thought and discussion.





# NOMADS RUGBY



## NEEDS YOU!

Nomads Rugby is entering an important and exciting phase of its seventy plus years of existence.

The future is bright but how bright will largely depend on the combined effort of the club's volunteers.

The club needs a team of qualified volunteers to guide and manage its development and growth.

Please consider volunteering some of your time to help Nomads Rugby fulfill its potential.

Experience the pleasure and satisfaction of being part of a team that delivers first class rugby programs, social events and related activities to Nomads Rugby's community of players, parents, alumni and supporters.

Many jobs and roles can be shared so volunteering need not be overly time consuming.

There are many ways to help - you don't need to be a Rugby expert to make a difference. In fact, we need a broad range of people and commercial skills including:

- Board and committee members
- Coaches\* and assistant coaches\*
- Referees\*
- Team managers\*
- Marketing committee members; to develop and oversee execution of a comprehensive club marketing plan,
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity working group members
- Club ambassadors
- Player recruitment champions
- Player wellbeing coordinators
- Fundraising (sponsorship, grants, etc.) champions and administrators
- Writers, photographers, editors
- Administrators / accountants
- Event coordinators and helpers
- Team communicators to provide news and photos for teams' TeamSnap, website and social media
- Schools' liaison (elementary and secondary)
- University and college liaison
- Community outreach and liaison
- Uniform and equipment managers
- Sponsors and donors

\* Training provided and paid for.

### Get Involved – Make a Difference

to offer your services or discuss opportunities Please\* contact the club president or a Director

## SUPPORT NOMADS RUGBY

Many thanks to the many members and supporters who donated to Nomads Rugby during 2021.

Our generous sponsors, Hart Mobility, Penalta, Hub Equipment and The Carpenters' Union contributed a total of \$50,000.

Thanks to the collective generosity of its donors, sponsors and donors, Nomads Rugby not only survived but grew stronger in 2021!

Looking to the future, as Nomads Rugby strives to be the best it can be, we will continue to rely heavily on sponsors and donors to bridge the gap between increasing annual operating costs and revenue from membership fees.

If you are in a position to support Nomads Rugby financially and are inclined to do so, we welcome your interest and are pleased to provide the following options:

**Non-Playing Membership (Annual)** - for an annual fee join your club as a non-playing member. Non-playing members enjoy full membership, including voting rights. To register as a non-playing member at a cost of \$70.

**Charitable Donations that qualify for and receive a Charitable Donation Tax Receipt.** As a member of Sport4Ontario Nomads Rugby accepts donations to, and issues Charitable Donation tax receipts from, 2 distinct funds:

- a. **The No Player Left Behind Fund**, the sole purpose of which is to enable players who could not otherwise afford it to play Nomads rugby. For more information and/or to donate [click here](#).
- b. **The Rugby Operations Fund**, the purpose of which is to contribute to the cost of rugby operations including programs, facilities, equipment, coaching and administration costs. For more information and/or to donate [click here](#).

Please note Sport4Ontario charges approximately 3% to use its service so the net donation received by the Club will be slightly less than your total donation.

**Donations direct to the Club – where a Charitable Donation Tax Receipt is not required or provided.** Donors who do not require a Charitable Donation Tax Receipt, may donate directly to the Club by cheque (payable to "Toronto Nomads Rugby Club") or e-transfer to [treasurer@torontonomads.com](mailto:treasurer@torontonomads.com) Direct donations avoid the approx. 3% fee charged by Sport4Ontario.

Donors may specify their donation be applied to a preferred Fund, event or other purpose. For more information and/or to donate contact either [treasurer@torontonomads.com](mailto:treasurer@torontonomads.com) or [president@torontonomads.com](mailto:president@torontonomads.com).

**Sponsorship and Corporate Gifts.** Sponsorship options are available at Club, Division, Team and Event levels. For more information contact [fundraising@torontonomads.com](mailto:fundraising@torontonomads.com) or [treasurer@torontonomads.com](mailto:treasurer@torontonomads.com) or [president@torontonomads.com](mailto:president@torontonomads.com)

**Matching Gifts** Many businesses will match a portion of employee donations or volunteer hours. Check with your employer for more details.

**Bequest** Making a bequest is one of the easiest ways to make a lasting and meaningful gift to Nomads Rugby. It is the perfect way to leave a legacy that will continue to build champions on and off the pitch.



Including the Nomads Rugby in your estate plan is easy. Ask your estate-planning professional to include the following language in your will:

"I, [name], of [city, province, postal code], give, devise and bequeath to Nomads Rugby [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property] for its unrestricted use and purpose."

**Memorial and Honorary Gifts** If your life or the life of someone close to you has been impacted through rugby, consider making a gift to honor that person.

**Planned Giving** Consider Nomads Rugby as a beneficiary for tax planning and estate planning purposes. Ask your financial advisor or accountant for ways to make an impactful gift to Nomads Rugby while also receiving benefits that may include immediate tax deduction, capital gains tax avoidance, or future tax benefits to your heirs.



### Nomadsmobile(s)

The current Nomadsmobile (pictured) most recently used by the senior men's head coach, Michael Owen is nearing the end of life and will soon need replacement.

It is a 2006 Volvo CUV that was given to Nomads Rugby in 2017 by the parents of a junior player who chose to donate it instead of trading it in. It is beautifully wrapped and promotes Nomads Rugby - it is our moving billboard and, as such, has been instrumental in attracting new players.

As mentioned in the Presidents Report Nomads Rugby has appointed two Rugby Development Officers (RDOs), to take the Nomads brand to, and coach in, schools, particularly West-end high schools.

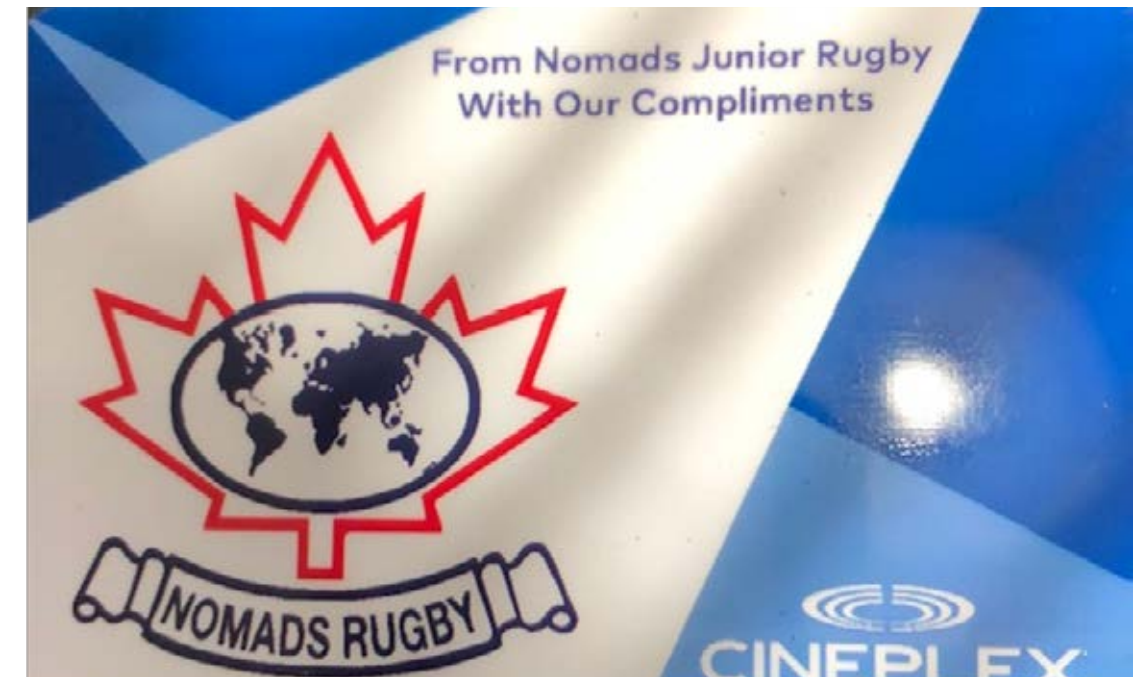
The RDOs are due to commence on March 1, 2022. To cover the schools effectively we need at least one, preferably two, additional Nomadsmobiles. If you or someone you know has a vehicle with a few good years left in it (make, mileage and age aren't important) please consider donating it to Nomads Rugby. The Club will take care of transfer of ownership etc. If you can help please contact [president@torontonomads.com](mailto:president@torontonomads.com)

**Thank You for Your Consideration**

## BRING A FRIEND PROMOTION

Invite a friend to try Nomads Junior rugby.

If they decide to become a Nomad and register for the full 2022 season you will receive a \$25 Cineplex Odeon Gift Card



Contact your Coach or Team Manager to redeem your Gift Card

This offer applies to Junior members only and is available while stocks last.



## LIFE MEMBER NOMINEE – MIKE NAILOR

Mike Nailor has been involved with the Nomads since 1970 both as a player and a benefactor.

In fact to quote Uncle Remus (John Curry), “Mike was often, “dipping into his pocket if the club was in the %\*+#!”

But Mike is more than that; he is a 100% Nomad.

As a player he was a very useful as a Wing-Forward/Flanker. He was a renowned tackler which probably had at least a small connection to his Black Belt in Judo. The laws concerning tackling were more flexible back in the day.

Mike was also a great tourist but while he was not much for the bus ride he would invariably turn up, having flown down or driven down in some luxurious sports car.

Mike hosted the first Strawberries and Champagne event at his one-time Lakeshore residence and it set a high standard for elegance and class, which now so typifies Nomad’s events. Ahem!

Over the years Mike has helped a number of young Nomads by providing them with employment and helped them on tour but not only young players. If a Nomad found themselves “between jobs”, Mike was often there to help them over the hump, with employment.

More recently Mike’s company, Nailor Industries, sponsored Nomads Rugby’s junior program over many years and from 2017-2019 boosted their support even further to become Club Sponsor. Mike and Nailor Industries have been significant contributors to Nomads Rugby’s survival and current relative prosperity. Mike is a worthy recipient of a life time membership not only because of the often crucial sponsorship he has provided over the years, but also because he has contributed in so many other ways over six decades, as a player and club member.

Martin Edmonds

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Saturday November 27, 2021

TIME: 4:00 PM

LOCATION: High Park Brewery, 839 Runnymede Rd., Toronto

The Club’s 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in person, at the High Park Brewery, on Saturday November 27, 2021 commencing at 4.00 PM.

Only current members are eligible to attend the AGM and vote. If you are not a current member but wish to attend and vote you may register as a non-playing member (along with paying the required non-player registration fee) up to 2 days in advance of the AGM.

Member registration, for the purposes of the AGM, will close at midnight on Thursday November 25, 2021.

PLEASE NOTE: Entry to the AGM will be governed by the applicable health directives concerning mandatory COVID-19 vaccination requirements established by the Province of Ontario for the High Park Brewery (as a bar and restaurant) and by Rugby Ontario for all Ontario clubs for all club events (and therefore binding on the Nomads). Accordingly, if you are unable to meet these requirements, we would urge you to grant your proxy to a member who is able to attend, and will be attending, the AGM by completing and filing the relevant Proxy Form.

In addition to all and any other business, at the AGM the Club will be seeking nominations, and holding elections, for the positions of: President; Director of Rugby; Director of Women’s Rugby; Director of Men’s Rugby; Director of Junior Rugby; Director of Alumni Affairs; and, any other Board positions which may be vacant as of the start of the AGM. In addition, at the AGM, the members will be asked to approve all changes to the Club’s By-Laws, made by the Board of Directors since the By-Laws were last approved by the members at the Special Membership Meeting of February 27, 2021, as required by, and as provided for in, the Non-Profit Corporations Act.

Mark J. Lewis

Secretary, Nomads Rugby



# NOMADS RUGBY

See you in  
2022!



[information@torontonomads.com](mailto:information@torontonomads.com)

[torontonomads.com](http://torontonomads.com)