

Donor Partnership Award 2018

The presence of the Class of 1958, celebrating their 60th reunion, is a testament to the special bond that developed between them sixty years ago as students in the BSN program. Back then, the class was involved in what has come to be known as the "sandwich program." The top slice was 2 years at UBC, the "meat" was 28 months of learning at Vancouver General Hospital, and the bottom slice was another year back at UBC. Despite dividing their time with VGH, these students were extremely active at UBC, being involved in such diverse activities as a blood drive, Homecoming, the Senior Tea (which celebrated receiving black bands for their caps and white shoes and stockings), and a charity football game in which, by the photographs in the yearbook, it appears the nurses not only cheered the team, they were the team. To a penchant for science, sports, and philanthropy, the Class of '58 added artistic ability, seen in the design of their graduation pin. If, in designing that pin, they sought to become unique, they already were. They have branded themselves as a group who sees what is needed and steps up to get the job done. A decade ago, at their 50th reunion, the Class of '58 remembered the good times, but also that some had struggled to make ends meet as students. They honoured their milestone anniversary by creating an endowment to provide emergency financial aid so that current and future generations of nursing students might not have to experience the financial challenges they had experienced themselves. Since its establishment, this emergency support has assisted students with paying for their tuition, textbooks, groceries, and even rent. Support from the fund has enabled these talented nursing students to continue their studies by alleviating some of the outside pressures. In several cases, the recipient's education would have halted without this support from the Class of 1958. This dynamic, passionate, and inspirational group

