“McGill’s strength has always been its people; the people who built the University over the course of nearly 200 years, and the people who are now building its future.”

– Suzanne Fortier, BSc’72, PhD’76
Principal and Vice-Chancellor
McGill University

When patrolling the blue line on the McGill Redmen hockey team, defenceman Mike Richards, BA’60, BCL’63, made life easier for the goaltender. Today, he makes life easier for McGill’s varsity athletes, by having endowed four student athlete awards and creating a bequest to support McGill athletics.

“Athletic Financial Awards like those created by Mike Richards ensure that exceptional student athletes will not be prevented from studying at McGill due to financial constraints,” says Marc Gélinas, Executive Director of Athletics and Recreation. “These awards strengthen McGill’s ability to attract outstanding student athletes who not only excel in the classroom and on the field of play, but who take pride in wearing the McGill ‘M’ and receiving a McGill education.”

Richards, who retired as a senior partner with the law firm Stikeman Elliott in 2010, has a long history of commitment to McGill. As a student, he served as president of the Arts and Science Undergraduate Society, in addition to playing varsity hockey for five years, and was class agent for Arts and Law. After graduating, he was a member of the University’s Board of Governors and Chair of its Building and Property Committee. He also served as Chair of the Alma Mater and Annual Funds, and as a member of the Bequests and Planned Gifts Campaign Committee.

During McGill’s capital campaign, Richards led the effort that raised over $16 million for Athletics, and he now serves as Chair of McGill’s Athletics and Recreation Advisory Board. “McGill marked such an important development in my life,” he says. “I learned my profession at McGill, and whatever I’ve been able to accomplish has come from the opportunities McGill gave me.”

Mike Richards has a long history of commitment to McGill and its student athletes.
Sheila Madill is a McGill graduate, and many of the orchestra members have been influenced by her enthusiasm and passion. "McGill is an iconic, internationally respected institution that represents excellence in Canadian education," she says. Madill’s family has a long history of supporting McGill, and the Madill In-Course Bursaries, both in the Desautels Faculty of Management and Business and the William H. Fuller and Sheila Madill Tuition Bursary, were established to support students who may be facing financial challenges. "This is an investment in a young person's education, and it provides opportunities for people to excel. Our gift is an investment in a young person's education, and its impact can be global. It is therefore our hope that others will be inspired to invest in McGill's future."

Based in Victoria, B.C., Madill is doing her best to ensure that students achieve lift-off. She is an active fundraiser for children in need, and her late husband, Bill Fuller, BCom ’56, which supports the William H. Fuller and Sheila Madill Entrance Bursaries and the William H. Fuller and Sheila Madill In-Course Bursaries, both in the Desautels Faculty of Management. Madill is an enthusiastic and passionate ambassador for McGill in Victoria, promoting activities such as alumni reunions to the Victoria Symphony Orchestra. "One of our conductors in MUSÉE is a McGill graduate, and one of the orchestra members has studied at McGill," she notes.

Sheila Madill is an enthusiastic and passionate ambassador for McGill. She has proudly hosted alumni events, including a recent luncheon with David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, and many of the orchestra members have been influenced by her enthusiasm and passion. "McGill is an iconic, internationally respected institution that represents excellence in Canadian education," she says. Madill’s family has a long history of supporting McGill, and the Madill In-Course Bursaries, both in the Desautels Faculty of Management and Business and the William H. Fuller and Sheila Madill Tuition Bursary, were established to support students who may be facing financial challenges. "This is an investment in a young person's education, and it provides opportunities for people to excel. Our gift is an investment in a young person's education, and its impact can be global. It is therefore our hope that others will be inspired to invest in McGill's future."