



IGNATIAN CHALLENGE AWARD
TRIBUTE DINNER

Honouring: Mr. Mark Chipman '78



2024 Ignatian Challenge Award Tribute Dinner Announcement

St. Paul's High School is pleased to announce **Mr. Mark Chipman '78** as the 2024 Ignatian Challenge Award recipient for this year's 29th Annual Tribute Dinner on November 12, 2024.

"It is with great enthusiasm that I share with you that my friend and classmate from 1978, Mark Chipman, is the Ignatian Challenge Award recipient for 2024," states Kevin Booth '78, President of St. Paul's High School. "As an alumnus, Mark Chipman '78 exemplifies the Jesuit ideal of being 'a man for others.' His unwavering commitment to compassionate service and leadership in our community is inspiring. Mark's service to others is a testament to the Ignatian principles of finding God in all things and striving for magis—the deep desire to do more for the Greater Glory of God (AMDG). Embodying the humility, generosity, and integrity that we all aspire to, Mark has been a model of Ignatian ingenuity and innovation. We are honoured to celebrate his remarkable contributions to our community and beyond."

Mark graduated from St. Paul's High School in 1978 and attended the University of North Dakota where he lettered in varsity football while earning an Honors B.A. in Economics and a Juris Doctorate in Law. He began his career as an Assistant State Attorney and later moved to private practice in Sarasota, Florida.

Mark eventually returned to Winnipeg to work for the Megill Stephenson Company and entered the business of professional hockey in 1996 through the establishment of the Manitoba Moose Hockey Club. As President, Mark initiated the merger of the IHL and AHL in 2001 and for the following 10 seasons served as a member of the AHL's Executive Committee.

Together with business partner David Thomson, Mark led the team that developed Canada Life Centre, Hockey for All Centre and ultimately the acquisition and relocation of the NHL's Atlanta Thrashers. The club was re-named the Winnipeg Jets by Mark at the 2011 NHL entry draft.

Today, Mark serves as the Executive Chairman of the Board of True North Sports + Entertainment and Governor of the Winnipeg Jets Hockey Club. He is a member of the NHL Executive Committee as well as the Hockey Hall of Fame Selection Committee. Mark has been the recipient of the AHL's James C. Hendy and Thomas Ebright awards as well as the University of North Dakota's Sioux Award and the Order of Manitoba.

In addition to his business and hockey interests, Mark is actively involved in several community efforts. In 1996, together with his wife Patti, he founded the True North Youth Foundation which delivers a broad range of programming through Camp Manitou, Project 11, and the Winnipeg Jets Hockey Academy.

In 2016, together with former Ignatian Challenge Award recipients Bob Puchniak '65 and Steve Chipman '68, Mark founded Gonzaga Middle School (GMS) to provide an enhanced, holistic, co-educational, culturally sensitive middle school education to Grade 6-8 students from underserved families within inner-city Winnipeg. GMS uses the unique middle school educational framework and best practices from Jesuit Nativity model schools and the Nativity-Miguel Coalition of Schools, adapting them to serve the Winnipeg community.

As a passionate advocate for Winnipeg's communities, Mark is a founding partner and current Chair of the Downtown Community Safety Partnership which provides a network of comprehensive mental health supports in Winnipeg's downtown. As well, together with former Ignatian recipient Mitch Bourbonniere '81, Mark partnered with the community in establishing N'Dinawemak, a shelter which provides resources to highly vulnerable members of the community.

Mark and his wife Patti, have three daughters, Sarah, Annie, and Mary, all of whom live and work in Winnipeg.

Chipman joins a distinguished group of past recipients: Dr. Arthur Mauro, Mr. Paul Albrechtsen, Dr. Michael Phelps '63, Mr. Kevin and Mrs. Els Kavanagh, Mr. Gregg Hanson '69, Fr. Joseph Driscoll SJ, Dr. Angus Reid '65, Mr. Richard and Mrs. Kathryn Bracken, Mr. Joe Stangl, Dr. William Norrie, Mr. Robert Puchniak '65, Mr. Gary and Mrs. Janice Filmon, Mr. Robert Chipman '44, Mr. James Tennant '66, Mr. Hubert Kleysen, Dr. Emöke Szathmáry, Dr. Peter MacDonald '76, Mr. Gary Doer '66, Mr. Paul and Mrs. Carol Hill, Mr. Michael Guertin '76, Mr. Larry Franz, Sr. Lesley Sacouman, SNJM, Mr. Mitch Bourbonniere '81, Mr. Steve '68 and Mrs. Ruth Chipman, Sr. Bernadette O'Reilly and Mr. Phil Chiappetta '75 of Rossbrook House, Mrs. Anne and Mr. Paul '81 Mahon, Mrs. Nancy and Mr. Carmine '76 Militano and the 2023 recipient, Mr. Paul Soubry '80.

The 29th Annual Ignatian Challenge Award Tribute Dinner will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at the RBC Convention Centre. This event raises funds for our bursary fund, an essential aspect of a Jesuit education, ensuring accessibility to all qualified applicants. Your support of the Tribute Dinner is essential for us to meet our challenge of not turning away any qualified students for financial reasons. Sponsorship and ticket information can be found at [St Paul's High School - Tribute Dinner \(stpauls.mb.ca\)](https://stpauls.mb.ca).