



# NISPA

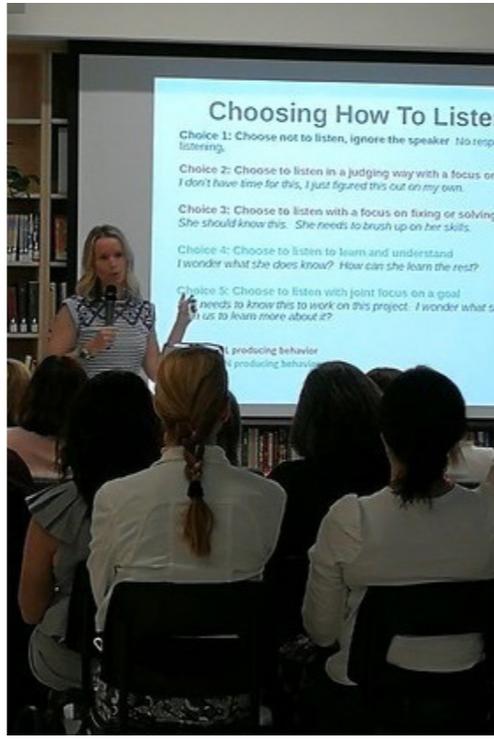
NETWORK OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL  
PARENTS' ASSOCIATIONS OF ONTARIO

**2019/20 Annual Report**

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# 2019/20 Annual Report



## 2019/20 Executive Committee

### **Kerstin Lueck**

#### **PRESIDENT**

*The York School*

### **Cheryl Matthews**

#### **VICE PRESIDENT**

*The Bishop Strachan School*

### **Krystie Robinson-Vincent**

#### **PAST PRESIDENT**

*Pickering College*

### **Rachel Busbridge**

#### **TREASURER**

*The Bishop Strachan School*

### **Julia Kennedy**

#### **SECRETARY**

*Montcrest School*

### **Connie Castillo**

#### **EVENTS**

*Montcrest School*

### **Dominica Coppa**

#### **EVENTS (MARKETPLACE & WORKSHOP)**

*Holy Trinity School*

### **Frances Lee**

#### **EVENTS**

*Upper Canada College*

### **Jackie Sklenka**

#### **EVENTS (MARKETPLACE & WORKSHOP)**

*The York School*

*Crescent School*

### **Tanya Giaquinto**

#### **EVENTS**

*Appleby College*

*St. Michael's College School*

### **Nancy Nash**

#### **MEMBER-AT-LARGE (EVENTS)**

*The York School*

*St. Michael's College School*

### **Patricia A. Graham**

#### **MEMBER-AT-LARGE (GOVERNANCE)**

*St. Michael's College School*

*De La Salle College (Oaklands)*



Thank You to our Executive Committee members who are moving on:

**Cheryl Matthews**

**Frances Lee**

**Julia Kennedy**

**Rachel Busbridge**

**It has been amazing having you all on the team!**

**Thank you for your dedication, commitment and all for that you have done to help NISPA succeed over the years.**

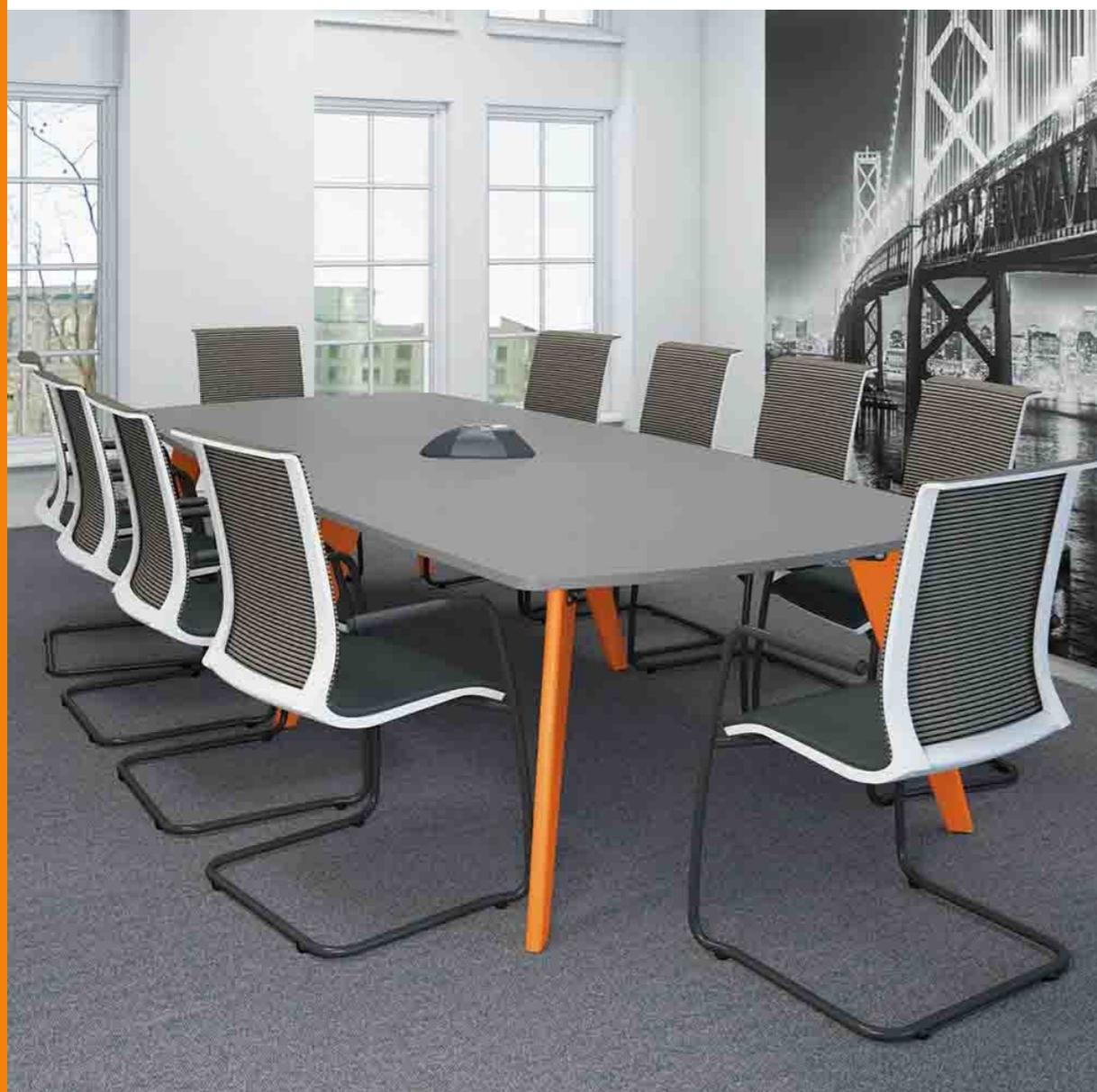
**Your contributions over the years have been invaluable!**

## 2020–2021 Executive Committee Nominations

The Executive Committee is the governing body of the Association and conducts NISPA's business by a majority consensus at regular monthly meetings. Executive Committee members are required to participate and become knowledgeable and active in the management of the affairs of the Association.

Communication takes place on an on-going basis by email and meetings are held in person or via teleconference calls. Executive Committee members participate on a volunteer basis and no remuneration is received.

NISPA's Nomination Committee is pleased to present a slate of Executive Committee members for election at the upcoming Annual General Meeting on May 20, 2020.



## Nominees

**President** Krystie Robinson-Vincent

**Vice President** Domenica Coppa

**Treasurer** Susan Ianni

**Secretary** TBD

Rachel O'Donovan

Jackie Sklenka

Connie Castillo

Tanya Giaquinto

Nancy Nash

Patricia Graham

**Ex-Officio**  
*Past President*

Kerstin Lueck



## President's Message

### 30 Years Strong

As we continue to celebrate 30+ years of successful networking, NISPA continues to build on the ideas and contributions of all of its talented volunteers.



With the launch of the organization's new name, logo and new website last year, the NISPA team has worked to improve the organization's deliverables to its members.

This year and with thanks to the generosity of host schools and the power of volunteerism, NISPA delivered impactful events on a variety of topics, receiving positive feedback from members as well as ideas for next year. NISPA also had opportunities to enhance member engagement as several member schools opened up their speaking events to parents and friends from within the NISPA community.

In addition to our successful events this year, member communications were improved with the renewal of the Association's newsletter and a new and more robust website design. The team also worked to improve the automation of member and event registration processes and is actively expanding NISPA's social media presence to elevate awareness and outreach within our community.

In response to challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the NISPA executive reacted swiftly and worked to update its strategy and plans to ensure the Association continued to experience a high level of connectivity and facilitated the sharing of valuable insights. Last

month, NISPA held a virtual Marketplace Workshop, and this month NISPA will host its first virtual Annual General Meeting.

As scholastic environments face a new normal, it will be more important than ever to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and idea sharing among member schools, and as we endeavour to offer continued excellence and relevance in event topics and communications, we continue to appreciate your feedback.

As your President, I feel humbled and grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside such a dedicated group of volunteers and participants and I thank you all for your willingness to invest your time to benefit our Association and its members.

In closing, I would like to wish you and your families a safe and healthy summer break and I look forward to connecting again in the Fall.



**Kerstin Lueck**  
NISPA PRESIDENT

## Treasurer's Report

As is customary with prior years, the financials are for the 10 months ended April 28, 2020. Between now and our year end of June 30, 2020 we don't expect any significant changes to our financial statements.



NISPA's net income for the period ended April 28, 2020 is \$523. In the prior year NISPA operated at a loss, which was a conscious decision made by our committee members. The accumulated funds were spent on re-branding and upgrading the NISPA website.

NISPA's accumulated funds at the end of the current period are cash and amount to \$8,965.

NISPA's revenues consist of membership dues, marketplace vendor booth sales and an AGM registration fee. Because of our current situation, Covid-19 pandemic, we cannot host the AGM in normal fashion and hence our revenue is down.

During this period of uncertainty, we are planning to operate as per usual and host our member events in fiscal 2021. However, we will follow the guidelines issued by the Public Health Agency of Canada and Public Health Ontario with respect to social gatherings which may limit the number and scale of our events.

**Rachel Busbridge**  
TREASURER

## Marketing & Communications

**NISPA Brand** – This year, we focussed on continuing the development and implementation of the NISPA brand in signage, presentation and communication templates, and other.



**Social Media & Communications** – We are very excited to add Twitter to our NISPA social media platforms! Please visit our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages to keep up to date with photos and information about our events as well as see invitations to other CIS talks and events. Our goal is to increase membership engagement, connect members, elevate awareness and credibility of our association and its members.

**Newsletter** – In addition, we have recently added a monthly NISPA Newsletter where we focus on providing opportunities for sharing ideas amongst our member schools, upcoming NISPA event information, as well as interesting and relevant social media stories such as TED talks.

We will also continue to provide quarterly newsletters where we provide summaries of our most recent NISPA events as well as social media and PA sharing opportunities.

**Member School Events** – As always, if your member school is hosting an event that is open to the public we would be happy to advertise this for you. We are currently working on an online form to streamline this process and allow for timely sharing of these events.

**Krystie Robinson-Vincent**  
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

**The Marketing Committee includes:**  
Krystie Robinson-Vincent (Pickering College)

## Events

As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, NISPA was not able to execute all the fabulous events that were planned for this year and is exploring events to be held virtually during the pandemic.

The year was kicked off with the President's Breakfast held at The York School and followed by the Roundtable Carousel held at St. Michael's College School addressing topics of current interests for Parent Associations.



In October the annual Marketplace took place at The Country Day School which included NISPA's Second Shop Managers/Buyer Workshop where shop managers and buyers had a platform to meet, share and explore hot topics.

In April the Shop Managers/ Buyers Workshop was a first for two reasons; it was the first time NISPA had undertaken this special standalone session, and secondly,

it was the first virtual NISPA run event as a result of COVID19 closures and social distancing. 21 Shop Managers and Buyers, representing 18 schools got together for a workshop session and are very keen to reconvene on a regular basis later this year to hare concerns, successes and hurdles.

Organizing the Zoom workshop could not have occurred without the support of CISOntario. We are truly grateful to Sarah Craig, Executive Director and Sheri Little, Event Manager, for hosting us on their CISOntario Zoom platform and guiding us through this first virtual meeting.

**Jackie Sklenka**  
EVENTS

**The Events Committee includes:**

Connie Castillo (Montcrest)  
Domenica Coppa (Holy Trinity School)  
Frances Lee (Upper Canada College)  
Jackie Sklenka (The York School/Crescent School)  
Nancy Nash (The York School/St. Michael's College School)  
Tanya Giaquinto (Appleby College/St. Michael's College School)

## Sponsors & Supporters



NISPA would like to express our enormous gratitude to sponsors & supporters who through their generous support make our initiative possible. We wouldn't do what we do without you!

### EVENTS

- The York School
- The Country Day School
- St. Michael's College School
- Royal St. George's College (postponed due to COVID-19)
- Crescent School (offered as a virtual event due to COVID-19)
- Trinity College School (postponed due to COVID-19)

### OTHER

- Aramark
- CIS Ontario
- A fantastic group of Store Managers (Workshop and Marketplace)
- All round table hosts at the SMCS event
- Kirsten Siggins, Keynote Speaker, [instituteofcuriosity.com](https://www.instituteofcuriosity.com)

*Extra special thanks to CIS Ontario for facilitating the online Workshop meeting on Thursday, April 23rd 2020 via their Zoom platform.*



## 2019/20 Event Highlights

### September 2019

#### THE YORK SCHOOL

##### **The Power of Curiosity: How To Stay Calm, Cool & Connect in Conflict**

- Keynote Speaker: Kirsten Siggins, Institute of Curiosity

### October 2019

#### THE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

##### **Marketplace & Workshop for Shop Managers**

- **Stock Control:** Inventory Control, markup levels, suppliers and POS
- **Integrating Spirit Wear beyond the Hoodie:** House swag, parent and alumni gear, apparel, hard goods, blankets, and holiday/event-based products
- **Changing-Up Uniform:** Trends, gender-neutral, environmentally & sustainable fabrics, used uniforms

### February 2020

#### ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE SCHOOL

##### **Carousel**

- **Use of Technology as an Advanced Communication Tool**  
Olga Tchetvertnykh, Upper Canada College
- **Engaging Fathers**  
Jakob Kolakowski, St. Michael's College School
- **Volunteering in the School Shop**  
Diana Alepian, The Bishop Strachan School

- **Alumni Parent Engagement**  
Hannah Ulrich, Ridley College; Sheri Del, St. Andrew's College
- **Engaging Expats and Boarding Parents**  
Debbie Bryane, The York School; Helen Pei, Pickering College

**April 2020**

**CRESCENT SCHOOL / CIS ONTARIO**

**Virtual Workshop for Shop Managers**

- **PNCA / Trimark: Supply Chain Challenges during COVID-19**

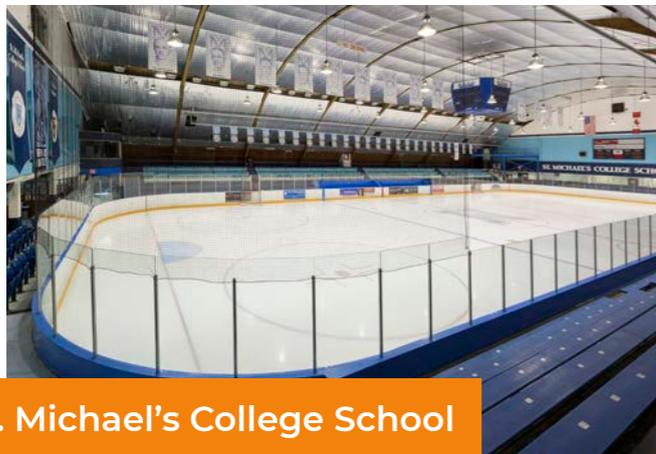
FEATURED  
SCHOOLS



The York School



The Country Day School



St. Michael's College School



Royal St. Georges College



## About NISPA

NISPA's purpose is to foster communication and facilitate the collaborative sharing of ideas and information among CIS Parent Associations and Guilds.

Founded in 1991 and first initiated in 1989/90, NISPA endeavours to bring awareness to topics that impact all members and parents by hosting a number of annual events. These events focus on thought leadership and awareness generation as well as an event that showcases different suppliers for school shops and personalization items.

Our members are representatives from Independent Schools based in Ontario who are also members of CIS Ontario.

<https://nispa.ca>

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