Malcolm Boyd, B. Eng '93, Ph.D Eng '97: Malcolm’s career began as an Engineer in Training with Bombardier. After he took a research position with the world’s second largest steel company (POSCO) in Korea for 2 years. Returning to Alberta in 1999 and discovery that there was no aerospace industry or steel production in the area, he landed an Engineering position with ATCO in their power generation division, climbing through the ranks from Project Engineer eventually to Maintenance & Engineering Manager. After a few years in a business development role working on clean coal technology, finished his career with ATCO managing a coal fired power station with a staff of more than 160. In 2015 he made a career change and took on the role of City Manager with the City of Camrose. Although he has a very technical background, his career has evolved to focus on leadership, management, business and labor relations.

Anna Harder, BSc ’93, CPA, CGA: Upon completing her double major in Biology and Chemistry, Anna worked as a sessional instructor at Concordia College in their university chemistry lab; preparing and teaching the lab course component for their undergraduate chemistry students. When her husband’s career path moved him away from the area in 1998, I chose to study accounting primarily for the portability of the skill set. She completed the majority of the CGA requirements by distance and earned her accounting designation in 2006. By this time she had returned to the Camrose area and has been in the accounting industry ever since. While her undergraduate degree seems a long way from her current profession, her BSc fulfilled the degree requirement for her accounting designation and the diligence and attention to detail that it taught her have been invaluable in her career.

Chris Zarski, PT, BSc PT ’03, Med ’15: With a Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy and a Masters in Health Science, Chris has also completed his acupuncture certification through the Acupuncture Foundation of Canada, has been certified in Gunn IMS, and has taken several courses in manual and manipulative therapy. He has spent most of his career working in the areas of sport and orthopedic physiotherapy as well as teaching future physical therapy students. He is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor with the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Alberta and a practicing clinician and co-owner at Camrose Physiotherapy & Sports Injury Clinic.

Nicole Macdonald, BSc ’11, DVM ’15: Dr. Macdonald completed her Bachelor of Science majoring in Biology and minoring in Chemistry and History in 2011 at Augustana. She was accepted into the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) in Saskatoon in 2011, graduating in 2015. She now works in Ponoka as a mixed animal veterinarian.
Meghan Soehn, BSc ’06: Meghan graduated with a major in Environmental Science in 2006 and began her career in 2007 as a junior Enviro Tech with a small consulting firm in Red Deer where she gained experience drilling monitoring wells, writing reports, field sampling, and remediation projects. She then took a position with Alberta Environment and Parks working with the Water Act, the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and the Code of Practice for Pits. After starting a family Meghan also started her own company, Amisk Creek Aggregate Consulting Ltd which works with gravel operators in Alberta.

Joelle Johnson, BMgt ’15: Joelle is an event professional with experience working with Big Valley Jamboree, the Edmonton Marathon, faBLOOMosity, and Kristin Hunter Events & Décor. After 6 years in corporate events, she was drawn to the wedding planning industry where she now owns and operates her own company, Hitched by Joelle. She majored in Economics while at Augustana.

Koren Lightning-Earle, BA ’00 and ‘04, LLB ’07: As the recipient of the 2016 Alumni Horizon award, her bio reads: “Koren Lightning-Earle is a lawyer, leader, mentor, and advocate for Indigenous peoples in Canada. As the founder of Thunderbird Law, the focus of Ms. Lightning-Earle’s law practice is governance and working with First Nations to create their own constitutions. During law school, Ms. Lightning-Earle was president of the Aboriginal Law Students’ Association, a role she says drove her commitment to working with Indigenous peoples. Between 2011-2014, Ms. Lightning-Earle was an elected council member for the Samson Cree Nation, and she is also the co-founder of HUB, a community mobilization program that combines police, social services, education, and health resources in an effort to help reduce crime.

In addition to her law practice and responsibilities as president of the Indigenous Bar Association, Ms. Lightning-Earle spends a considerable amount of time on advocacy work and volunteering in her community. She is vice-president of the Kasohkwew Child Wellness Society, co-chair of the First Nations Women’s Economic Security Council, and a member of the Federal Court Aboriginal Bar Liaison Committee. Ms. Lightning-Earle has also volunteered as a board member for the Alberta Restorative Justice Association and a member of the Law Society of Alberta’s Access to Justice Committee. Closer to home, she is a leader with the Leduc Girl Guides and Brownies where she mentors young children.

When she’s not busy with her legal practice or advocacy work – which she balances with being a parent to two young girls – Ms. Lightning-Earle is also a sessional instructor in the areas of business law, Native Studies, and organizational management at Maskwacis Cultural College, a post-secondary school within the Four Nations of Maskwacis, Alberta. Ms. Lightning-Earle is also a sought-after public speaker, and has presented at the Canadian Bar Association’s National Aboriginal Law Conference, the BC Aboriginal Lawyers Forum Christmas Banquet, the Indigenous Bar Association Fall Conference and the Indigenous Public Safety and Policing Forum.”

Steven Hansen, BA ’05, JD ’14: Steven was born in Camrose and majored in music at Augustana Campus. Following graduation, Steven pursued a career in advertising at the Edmonton Journal, where he worked from 2005-2010. Before beginning law school at the University of Alberta in 2011, Steven worked for the Legislative Assembly of Alberta as a government caucus researcher and speechwriter. He is an avid pianist and serves on the board of directors of the Camrose Regional Exhibition and Agricultural Society (CRE). He is also a founding director of the Nordlys Film & Arts Society. Practicing at Farnham West Stolee LLP. in Camrose, Steven works primarily in the area of corporate law.

Trevor Vinet, BCom ’04: After completing his degree, majoring in finance, at the University of Alberta, Trevor became the Operations Manager for Panhandle Productions and held that position for six years. In 2010 he got involved in industrial land development and management. In 2013 he and a partner acquired RE/MAX Camrose and began selling real estate in 2014.

Sgt. Tony Thomsen, University of Alberta Protective Services: Tony started his career in Municipal Policing at the age of 20 after completing the two year Law Enforcement Program at Lethbridge College. After 25 years of service, Tony joined the University of Alberta Protective Services where he has worked for the past 7 years. As the Sergeant in charge of Augustana Campus, you will see him protecting life and property, rendering aid to those in need and enforcing laws, rules and regulations. Tony is also open to sharing about his intriguing experiences as a Specialized Criminal Investigations Investigator, Forensic Interviewer and Interrogator, Undercover Drug Operator and Drug Project Manager and Court of Queen’s Bench Expert Witness (street drugs and firearms.) Tony is a former SWAT team sniper and Canadian National Pistol Shooting Champion.

Margaret Holliston, Executive Director of Camrose and District Support Services: Margaret earned a BA and MA, both in Philosophy with a focus on gender and social/political philosophy, from Carleton University in Ottawa. She moved to Camrose 30 years ago, and began blending a career with parenthood in ways that have consistently reflected her academic background. Margaret has filled numerous sessional contracts at Augustana Campus, social research contracts with Bonnie Hutchinson, Inc., and has worked with Camrose and District Support Services since late 1999, the last nine years as Executive Director. Margaret emphasises that because education influences how we are in relationships, including the skills and values we pass on to our children, her studies in philosophy have also inspired her greatly as a parent.
Nadia Rebkowich, BA: Nadia completed her degree in Psychology at Augustana Campus and is currently in her third year of a Master’s of Counselling program. Her primary area of interest is child/youth and family counselling. Passionate about issues of domestic violence and childhood exposure to trauma, Nadia has been active with the Camrose Women’s shelter beginning as a volunteer in 2009; she is currently employed as the Volunteer Coordinator. Nadia’s goal is to use her skills and knowledge for the benefit of youth and families in her community and to help build a community which fosters healthy children and families.

Matthew Gusul, BA ’05, MA ‘09, PhD ‘16: Gus is an artist, educator, activist, storyteller, development worker, and community organizer whose has led community-based projects with a diversity of organizations throughout Western Canada, Latin America, and India. Gus’ most recent work focused upon the creation of community-based theatre performances in Tamil Nadu, India with HelpAge India and delivering culturally appropriate and playful literacy projects in Indigenous communities throughout Alberta with Frontier College. He has worked with seniors, inmates in prisons, Canada’s Indigenous populations, young people, GLBTQ communities, and religious groups helping them tell their stories and to have a positive impact on their community. Gus has completed a PhD in Theatre from the University of Victoria, a MA in Drama from the University of Alberta, and a BA in Drama and Development Studies from Augustana University College.

Jerry Iwanus BA ’83, MA ‘86: Jerry is an accredited appraiser, Canadian Institute (AACI, P. App.), with significant exposure to the broad array of agricultural, commercial, industrial, and institutional properties that are encountered within the context of a multi-faceted rural operation with a broad geographical base. Coverage area includes vast tract of east central Alberta. Jerry is also a member of the Camrose County-area Assessment Review Board on behalf of the Village of Bawlf, a University of Alberta Senator, and a junior high basketball coach.

Judy Sommer BEd ’76, MEd ‘07: Judy has build a career in education teaching various subjects in Grades 1-6; much of her time has been as a homeroom teacher in Grades 2, 4, and 5. For the past 14 years, Judy has been an administrator, both as a Vice Principal and Principal in three different elementary schools.

Joël Gervais, BSc ‘12: As an Environmental Scientist, Joël loves the challenge of developing innovative solutions to environmental problems. He is involved in projects throughout Alberta, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories, and the National Parks. His work often includes planning and assessment for construction and reclamation where sensitive fish, wildlife, and plants are involved. Joël’s full alumni profile can be found here: www.ualberta.ca/augustana/programs/degree/environmental/profiles/environmental-scientist