



PRINCE OF WALES SCHOOL
ALUMNI FOUNDATION

Unlocking Knowledge, Empowering Minds

**POWSAF's Dual Commitment:
Protecting the Future While Participating in the Present
June 2025**

The Prince of Wales School Alumni Foundation (POWSAF) was established by the mandate of Alumni Associations with a focused and disciplined mission: to build a self-sustaining endowment fund that will provide long-term, reliable financial support for the school's rehabilitation and development. This strategic, future-oriented approach complements the more immediate support efforts that many alumni groups traditionally pursue.

At the same time, the Foundation recognizes the importance of addressing current needs and the genuine desire among many Princewaleans to see tangible, near-term improvements at the school. POWSAF has demonstrated a practical way to engage with these "NOW" needs—while remaining true to its investment mandate—through trustee-led Special Project Funding.

A prime example was the 2025 Centenary celebrations, during which Trustees and members raised \$10,000—outside the endowment fund—to purchase instruments for the school band. This initiative not only provided direct benefit to the school but also served as a proof of concept for how the Foundation and alumni associations can work together on timely needs without compromising the long-term vision of POWSAF.

A Model for Balanced Engagement

The Special Fund initiative offered a collaborative template for future efforts:

- Immediate-impact projects can be supported through funds raised outside the endowment, allowing the principal to remain intact and continue growing.
- Alumni associations serve as project sponsors and partner funders, partnering with POWSAF and other chapters to implement initiatives.
- POWSAF acts as a financial steward and accountability partner, ensuring transparency and compliance with its bylaws.

This structure enabled visible, short-term results while upholding the Foundation's commitment to long-term sustainability, but promoting this approach now would inevitably delay the growth of the Endowment.

The Importance of Staying the Course

As enthusiasm grows for more immediate outcomes, it's helpful to revisit the unique role of the endowment. Designed as a long-term solution, the endowment is not a pool for day-to-day spending but rather a mechanism to ensure steady, scalable support for the Prince of Wales School—year after year.

Balancing present needs with future aspirations requires careful stewardship. Preserving the integrity of the endowment not only accelerates the school's path to financial independence and sustainability but also strengthens donor confidence in POWSAF's vision and fiscal discipline.

When the returns are adequate to invest in our school and simultaneously grow the principal, POWSAF will consider the possibility of such investments.

Educate, Demonstrate, and Elevate

Moving forward, our focus should remain on:

- **Educating** Princewaleans about the distinct roles of project-based fundraising versus endowment building.
- **Demonstrating** through targeted Special Funds that POWSAF is both responsive and strategic.
- **Elevating** the dialogue, helping the community see that the Foundation's purpose is to create lasting solutions—not just for today's challenges, but to prevent tomorrows.

In Conclusion

POWSAF has already shown that it can support timely initiatives while safeguarding its long-term mission. What is needed now is continued unity, strategic engagement, and a shared commitment to a dual-track strategy: building a transformative future for the Prince of Wales School while making a meaningful impact today.