

## About Tracy Arsenault



Tracy was born in Brampton Ontario in 1962 and grew up at a time when girls had no access to organized hockey. Nevertheless, Tracy was a lifelong hockey fan: her favourite team was the Toronto Maple Leafs. In 1986 she married a Montréal Canadiens fan, so she knew the value of a good-natured rivalry.

In later years Tracy was excited by the advent and growth of women's hockey and often wished that she could have played when she was younger. She often attended St. Thomas University women's hockey games and was thrilled to see players that she had watched go on to graduate and become leaders in their communities.

Tracy earned a Bachelor of Science degree with Honours in Biology/Chemistry from UNB, and a Master of Science in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from McMaster University. Tracy was a high academic achiever: amongst other awards and scholarships, she received several Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council summer student awards and held a Medical Research Council of Canada Graduate Fellowship throughout her graduate studies. She went on to work in the pharmaceutical industry and later became the manager of the Microbiology Lab at the New Brunswick Department of Environment Analytical Services Laboratory, a position she held for nearly 20 years. In 2016, she received the Protecting the Public Award from the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors in recognition of her contributions toward improving environmental public health in New Brunswick.

Tracy was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 50 and fought through surgeries and chemotherapy back to good health. She joined a CrossFit gym and trained to the highest level of fitness and strength of her life and was healthy and happy for several years. However, in 2018 her cancer returned as advanced metastatic disease, and she died in November 2018 at the age of 56.

The Tracy Arsenault Memorial Women's Hockey Scholarship was established in her memory by her widowed husband based on a proposal made by Tracy herself prior to her death.