

Nikola Cugalj

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EDUCATION

Queen's University

Bachelor of Commerce

Kingston, Ontario

2018 – Present

- **Academics:** Cumulative GPA of 3.73/4.3 D.I. McLeod Dean's List
- **Investment Banking Valuation Program:** Learned fundamentals of precedent transactions, comparable companies, discounted cash flow, mergers & acquisitions, accretion/dilution and leverage buyout analysis; presented analyses to panel of finance professionals tri-weekly
- **Relevant Courses:** Financial Accounting (A), Finance I (A), Business Management (A), Managerial Economics (A+)
- **Exchange:** Scheduled to complete the winter 2021 semester abroad at the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland

St. Pius X Secondary School

Ontario Secondary School Diploma

Ottawa, Ontario

2014 – 2018

- **Achievements:** Academic Honor Roll, French Immersion certificate
- **Athletics:** Senior Boys Basketball Athlete

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Burgundy Asset Management

Summer Analyst

Toronto, Ontario

Summer 2020

- Scheduled to complete 16-week internship with Burgundy Asset Management, a Toronto-based asset manager with ~\$30B in AUM

Turtle Holdings Limited

Private Equity Summer Analyst

Toronto, Ontario

Summer 2019

- Conducted due diligence to aid in the evaluation of a \$50M+ prospective investment by assessing financial performance and industry dynamics
- Created four LBO models to assess the maximum purchase price possible while maintaining target IRR and MOIC return thresholds
- Generated and assessed 800+ leads for potential acquisitions of businesses in Ontario and assisted in outreach to founders
- Assessed 15+ CIMs through an investment framework to explore intricacies of businesses and determine the viability of pursuing further

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Queen's University Investment Counsel (QUIC)

Portfolio Manager (FMT)

Kingston, Ontario

2019 – Present

- Work with a team of 33 students to manage a \$1.4M portfolio of Canadian and U.S. equities on behalf of the Queen's University Endowment Fund and Mackenzie Investments
- Maintain equity coverage of the Technology, Media, and Telecommunications sector by creating reports on key industry trends and constructing financial models for security analysis
- Acted as a mock M&A advisor to Pinnacle Foods for its \$10.9B acquisition by Conagra Brands as a part of the 2019 QUIC Deal Competition; presenting a full transaction analysis to a panel of institutional investors at Burgundy Asset Management

Queen's Finance Association Conference (QFAC)

Internal Education Coordinator

Kingston, Ontario

2019 – Present

- Part of an executive team of 28 students in the planning and execution of Canada's top student-run finance conference with a budget exceeding \$100,000, held in Toronto for 100 students from leading schools across North America
- Educate executive team by hosting both internal and public-facing presentations and workshops on a wide variety of concepts to develop advanced financial acumen; covered modelling, market developments, large macro events, and investment philosophy behind various strategies

Team Canada, Queen's Varsity Water Polo, Ottawa Titans

Athlete

Kingston, Ontario

2009 – 2019

- Selected to represent Canadian U18 National Water polo Team in the 2018 World Championships hosted in Szombathely, Hungary; trained 50+ hours a week for 8 weeks in preparation
- Competed with Queen's Varsity Water Polo Team; led team to 2nd place finish at Ontario University Athletics (OUA) finals during 2018 season
- Played for regional water polo club Ottawa Titans for 10 years; trained 5+ times weekly for the last 4 years playing at the most competitive level

Royal Conservatory of Music

Pianist

Ottawa, Ontario

2009 – 2018

- Played piano under the Royal Conservatory of Music program, practicing 10+ hours weekly to present 6 pieces to judges at the end of the year
- Studied and completed intermediate level of musical theory; received numerous awards in piano competitions, such as the Kiwanis Music Festival
- Tutored kids in piano to help develop basic technical piano skills; communicated simplified concepts and theory surrounding basic pieces

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Awards:** 1st place at Kiwanis Music Festival, recipient of \$4400 Quest for Gold athlete grant, Ottawa Titans: Athlete & Team of the Year
- **Interests:** Architecture, music, basketball, soccer, travelled to Croatia, Switzerland, Montenegro, Italy, France, Spain
- **Leadership:** Selected to welcome the 100th Commerce Class as one of 64 orientation leaders at Queen's in September 2019