

President's Update to the College Community

Serving the communities of Northwestern BC

April 15, 2005

College Fundraising Update

Fundraising efforts continue for the Prince Rupert building campaign. Along with two recent significant industry donations we have also received personal donations from employees. The College has also sent over 40 letters to businesses, financial institutions and First Nations Band Councils asking for support. Donations of artwork are being requested of First Nations Bands. The College is matching any financial donation of over \$2500.

Fundraising efforts are now benefiting from the addition of Lynne Nordstrom to college services. Lynne's new position has her working half time on fund-raising events (the other half of her time is spent supporting the new Dean of Student Services and Developmental programs). Lynne has been a long time employee of the College and is also the Chair of the local BCGEU Support Staff Union.

Under development is a multicultural dining fundraising event. This event will feature ethnic foods from the prominent cultural groups in the Terrace area. Working in cooperation with the Culinary Arts program, this event is scheduled for Saturday, May 21st. Another initiative underway is the development of regional fund-raising committees to raise funds for student scholarships and bursaries. Anyone who would like to participate on these committees is encouraged to drop Lynne Nordstrom an email at lnordstrom@nwcc.bc.ca



Prince Rupert Campus

Pleasant Valley Learning Community Cooperative

Houston Link to Learning has received funding of upwards of \$400,000 from HRSDC for a three year project aimed at determining the extent to which a model for building community capacity and social capital through technology based learning and skills development will serve to help individuals prepare for and keep employment and participate in further lifelong learning activities. NWCC is a significant partner in this project providing staff and administrative resources and program development assistance. This project is also being supported by: Houston and District Chambers of Commerce; Houston Forest Products; Nadina Community Futures; Houston Community Service; Houston Public Library; and the Regional District of Buckley Nechako.

Graduation Dates:

NWCC dates:

Friday, May 20th
Prince Rupert, 1:00 pm
Performing Arts Theatre

Saturday, May 28th
Terrace, 1:00 pm
REM Theatre

UNBC, Terrace

Sunday, May 29th

WWN, New Aiyansh

Monday, May 30th

Strategic Plan in Final Phases

Final consultations on the strategic plan began on March 7th. We anticipate having a final draft ready for the June Board meeting. A rough draft has been reviewed with First Nations Council as well as each campus, the strategic plan task force, the management team and Board of Governors.

We are now in the final phase of our work and encourage everyone to please offer comments and feedback on the draft plan to Heather Stewart at: heatherstewart@telus.com. The latest draft of the plan can be found on the NWCC Strategic Planning Site off the intranet/portal under the NWCC Staff section. Note: A password is required to access this area, please contact a member of the taskforce committee if you require this password.

The final strategic plan will be presented and distributed at our NWCC Day this August.



Program News at NWCC

This fall, two new Trades programs will commence: **Entry-level Electrician** at the Prince Rupert Campus, and **Process Operator** at the Kitimat Campus. These programs are being funded through the reallocation of existing trades program resources and have been initiated in direct response to industry demand.

Starting this spring is the community-based **Carpentry/Timber Frame** program. This program is being offered in partnership with the Kitselas Band and integrates CCP coursework with our entry-level carpentry and timber framing programs. The program is running at Gitaus and students will be working on building projects required by the community. Discussions are underway to deliver the same program in New Aiyansh with WWN. Both of these programs are supported with funds received through grant proposals written by the College.

In other news, the **Bachelor of Science in Nursing** program begins in September at the Terrace campus. This program is being delivered in partnership with UNBC, the College of New Caledonia (CNC), and Northern Health. CNC is providing us with curriculum resources and UNBC will be delivering the third and fourth year of the program at its Terrace campus, as well as conferring the degree.

The **Home Support Resident Care Attendant** program returns to the Terrace campus this fall and will reside in the Cedar building along with the LPN program. This will be the third health program to be offered in Terrace this year and will be joined by other Health professional development offerings slated to run through **Continuing Education**.

The **First Nations Artist in Residence** program has moved to Prince Rupert for this academic year. Henry Green has been selected as the Master carver for this Rupert program. To accommodate funding deadlines we are moving the start date of this program from the original Feb 14th date. We are optimistic a full class will be in place soon.

An **Early Childhood Education** program will start this fall in Skidegate on Haida Gwaii. This program will be delivered in partnership with the Skidegate Band and will be delivered by Joan Turecki. A research project, funded by the Victoria Foundation, will run concurrently with the ECE program which seeks to develop an ECE program model that integrates various levels of ECE training with family capacity building and community development.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Conference May 5 - 7, 2005

NWCC is an active sponsor in the upcoming FASD conference to be held in Hazelton from May 5 - 7. Initiated by the Ministry of Children and Family Development, the conference seeks to:

- ♦ Create a better understanding of the causes and consequences of FASD
- ♦ Explore methods to effectively reduce or stop consumption of alcohol during pregnancy
- ♦ Increase the availability of FASD diagnosis in the Hazelton area, and
- ♦ Develop a community-based strategic plan to prevent FASD and to support families affected by FASD.

For more information on this conference, please refer to the web link:
<http://142.28.12.9/FASD/index.html>

New Dean of Instruction, Trades & Career Programs

I am pleased to announce that Dave O'Leary, currently of Capilano College, will be joining the College in the position of Dean on May 16th. Dave is a multi-faceted educator with a record of excellence in teaching, program development and innovation. He is a pioneer in multi-method distance education delivery and was the winner of the 2002 Association of Canadian Community Colleges' Leadership Excellence Award.

Dave has a long history of involvement and teaching experience with First Nations communities both in British Columbia and northern Alberta, and managed the development and implementation of the National Aboriginal Financial Management Program.

He is the co-founder and President (now Director) of iGEN Knowledge Solutions Inc., a privately held company, developing web services; a business advisory to start-up companies; the former Secretary to the Capilano College Faculty Association; President of the Association for Cooperative Education, BC & Yukon, as well as being intricately involved in the renewal of the Co-op Computer program, the development of the Business Administration Co-op program, and the developer for the first Network Specialist Program.

Dave has a Master of Education from the University of British Columbia, a diploma in Adult Education from the University of Alberta and a Bachelor of Arts in Science Education (Physics) from Memorial University in Newfoundland. Dave will reside in Terrace and is eagerly awaiting the return to rural living.