

# President's Update to the College Community

Serving the communities of Northwestern BC

April 21, 2005

## VP Candidate Interviews

### Update

To date, three candidates have been short listed for interviews for the position of Vice-President, Education and Student Support. All the short listed candidates have had a preliminary reference check and are scheduled for interviews on the 25th & 26th of April. Campus visits and candidate forums have been scheduled as time permits; unfortunately with such a large geographic area it is impossible to visit all the campuses so we hope that staff will try to make one of the candidate forums scheduled at a campus closest to them. Each forum is scheduled for a maximum of 45 minutes in length.

Candidate Forums have been scheduled as follows:

#### Prince Rupert:

April 25 @ 10:15 am Room 240	Stewart Kallio
April 25 @ 3:30 pm Room 240	Dave O'Leary
April 26 @ 8:30 am Room 240	Randall Morris

#### Terrace:

April 25 @ 12:30 pm Room 2002	Dave O'Leary
April 25 @ 3:30 pm Room 2002	Stewart Kallio
April 26 @ 2:00 pm Room 2002	Randall Morris

#### Smithers:

April 25 @ 9:00 am Room 110	Randall Morris
April 26 @ 2:00 pm Room 110	Dave O'Leary
April 26 @ 3:30 pm Room 110	Stewart Kallio

Following the forum, staff are invited to forward your feedback to the Selection Committee members by Wednesday noon. Committee members are: Vena Hachevich, Ella Goodlad, Kaarlene Lindsay, Katherine McIndoe, Terrie McAloney, Alice Maitland, Patti Barnes and Stephanie Forsyth.



from left to right: Lora Gogag, NWCC Team Advisor, Culinary Arts students: Prescott Bolton, James Bolton, Tyson Tugwell, and Shawna Davis

### Culinary Arts Team Receives Medal!

A team of NWCC Culinary Arts students travelled with Lora Gogag to Edmonton to participate in the Western Canada Regional Culinary Contest held at N.A.I.T. The team of four placed third. This is a great result! Congratulations!

### Human Rights

The Amnesty International (AI) Film Festival held the week of March 7 across the College region was quite successful and provided the impetus for AI chapters to be established in Rupert, Terrace and Smithers. On March 16, an Antiracism workshop was held on the Rupert campus, providing training on responding to incidents of racism and developing a racism-free environment.

### Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education & Training

On March 11, 2005, eleven different organizations signed an MOU to formalize their commitment to work together on Aboriginal post-secondary education and training issues in British Columbia. This MOU was signed at the recent First Nations Summit held in North Vancouver and included: First Nations Summit, the Strategic Action Committee, BC Assembly of First Nations, United Native Nations Society, Metis Provincial Council of BC, the Federal Government, the Provincial Government, the BC College Presidents, the University Presidents Council of BC, the University-College Presidents and the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association. This MOU marks a significant step in the support of Aboriginal learners. Following the signing of this MOU, the various partner groups will share their expertise and develop strategies to ensure greater post-secondary education and training success for Aboriginal learners in BC.



## Information Technology (IT) Plan Update

As a result of the IT Plan conducted over the last year, the following projects have been identified as priorities for implementation over the next year:

- ◆ Upgrade of both the computer platform and office software: this work will commence this spring and summer. Specifically, Windows XP and Office 2003 will become the new standard for the College commencing July 2005.
- ◆ Telephone System: ICS staff and Diane Ready are working with service providers to write a Request for Proposals (RFP) within the next 60 days. The replacement or upgrading of the telephone system will improve various kinds of communication within the college, including voice mail, teleconferencing and, ultimately, provide capacity for videoconferencing. Timing of implementation of the new system will depend upon both the regional infrastructure and college resources. A plan will be developed when the results of the RFP are received.
- ◆ Web Based Email: ICS staff attended training in preparation for upgrading of the NWCC email to a web-based platform (GroupWise). Implementation is planned for fall 2005.

Further IT updates will be provided as information is available and projects proceed.

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### Education Technology

A symposium on education technology has been organised by the Ed Tech committee for April 28, at the Prince Rupert campus. Interested faculty and staff will have the opportunity to experience firsthand a wide range of emerging technologies. Contact Barb Shaw for more information.

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### Facilities Projects

Among the myriad of repair and maintenance work that typically goes on throughout the year, facilities will also be initiating a 're-keying' of our campuses starting this year with the Terrace campus. The renewal and replacement of College signs both internally and externally will also be continued.

Renovation and expansion of our Smithers campus remains our number one capital request to the Ministry. While we have not completely abandoned the idea of Chandler Park School, to date, the costs of occupying this building remain prohibitive. As a result, I will be initiating discussions with the Smithers campus about our facility needs now and in the future, and seek to have drawings prepared over the next fiscal year.

### Recruitment Activities

An amazing number of recruitment activities are taking place throughout the region as well as in the Lower Mainland. Trade shows, career fairs, high school visits and campus tours for high school students, have been going on for some weeks now and more are scheduled to begin. Next week two Aboriginal recruitment events are taking place in Vancouver: one targeting Aboriginal Education Coordinators from Bands throughout the province and the other targeting Aboriginal students in grades 8-12, again from throughout the province.

My thanks to the Advisors, faculty, staff and the Communications & External Relations department for their work on these many activities.

### Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a

A large contingent from the College presented an overview of our programs and services at an information session in New Aiyansh on March 14. Students from the High School and the Learning Centre attended and received information on Business Administration, Trades, Nursing, Early Childhood Education and the College in general. Kim McIntyre did a great job organising this successful event.

### Day of Mourning

In recognition of the Day of Mourning, Northwest Community College will be lowering the Canadian Flag at each of its campuses on April 28.

The Day of Mourning is a time to remember workers who have been injured, disabled or killed on the job. It is also a time to reaffirm the importance of workplace safety.

More information on the Day of Mourning can be found at <http://www.clc-ctc.ca/campaigns/4-28/backgroundA-e.htm>



April 28 Day of Mourning



## Natural Resources Programs

The Coastal Integrated Resource Management Program has undergone a review and substantial revision designed to increase recruitment and retention, especially of First Nations Students. There are more entry and exit points, improved laddering and much more fieldbased study in the new model.

The former Integrated Resource Management Program is undergoing similar modifications and a mining and exploration focus is being developed for the program, which is slated for delivery in Smithers in September 2006.

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## 'Educating Women for Global Management'

On March 19, Beth Davies left for Finland and Sweden to wrap up the project 'Educating Women for Global Management'. Seven NWCC students and one faculty member participated in this project; we also received two students from Finland participating in the program last year. Although this year is the final year of HRSDC funding for the program, Beth's recent visit established that we will continue this program for student exchanges, albeit unfunded.

Beth also was able to spend some time with our student, Tarah McPherson, who is working on a research project into the purity of the river water flowing through Vasteras.



## Mark Your Calendars

The next **NWCC Day** will be held at Terrace Campus on Wednesday, August 31, 2005.

More information to follow.

*NWCC's All Nations Education Pole*

## Youth Empowerment Conference

The Youth Empowerment Conference was a great success with ninety (90) students from the region in attendance. This conference was aimed at youth with the intent to help them develop their personal and educational growth while maintaining their cultural beliefs. The event was held at Skeena Junior Secondary School in Terrace and was catered by Lora Gogag and the Food Services Department.

## Canada Winter Games 2007

In the winter of 2007, Culinary Arts students, instructors and the Food Services supervisor will assist Yukon College in their task to cater the Canada Winter games. This experience will prove invaluable for the 2010 Winter Games scheduled here in Terrace.

## BC Winter Games 2010

The City of Terrace was awarded the 2010 BC Winter Games. NWCC assisted the city with its bid by preparing a proposal for the food services. The achievement of this bid will result in the college preparing approximately 25,000 meals over the 5-day period. The meals will be broken into 5 settings for breakfast/dinner at 500 participants per sitting.

## Literacy Now

Prince Rupert and Smithers have been identified as pilot sites for the Literacy Now initiative funded by Legacy 2010. The College is playing a lead role in the Prince Rupert project, working with a wide spectrum of community groups. The intent is to develop a network of multigenerational literacy activities that is inclusive of the remote coastal communities.

## Congratulations to Terrie McAloney!

Beth Davies has just been informed that Terrie has been selected for the Support and Service Award. This Award is one of the 2005 Innovation Awards in Education Technology for the BC Public Postsecondary System. Thanks to the initiative and leadership of Steve Doyle, Terrie was nominated by NWCC. (Thank you Steve!)

This is terrific recognition of Terrie's efforts and contributions, and is great recognition for the College too! Please join us in congratulating Terrie!