

# President's Update to the College Community



*Serving the communities of Northwestern BC*

June 16, 2005

## Appointment to BC Industry Council on Aboriginal Business

At a recent meeting of ICAB, I was appointed to the Board of this fairly new, provincial organization. The Industry Council for Aboriginal Business works to increase economic opportunity by fostering successful working relationships between industry and Aboriginal business.

"ICAB was inspired through an open dialogue between business and Aboriginal representatives who understand that, to be successful, we must work together toward common needs, desires and goals.

"ICAB understands that initiatives emerging from thoughtful discussions that focus on proactive results will produce meaningful and lasting mutual benefits. ICAB provides its members with focused and practical means to establish relationships on the basis of informed dialogue."  
(ICAB Web site: [www.icab.bc.ca](http://www.icab.bc.ca))

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## Board Appointments

Three community Board members are leaving their seats with the Board. Mark Newbery, from Prince Rupert; John Nester, from Terrace, and; Ted Bobb, from Smithers have opted to step down due to work and personal demands. On behalf of the College community, our sincere thanks to all of them for their commitment of time, energy and support over the past three years.

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## Community Events

Our campuses are becoming much more active in community events. Here are some highlights from just two of our campuses.

The Prince Rupert Campus really stepped out to participate in Seafest this year with a number of people involved in helping to prepare a campus float, walk in the parade, help host campus events, and participate as part of the campus canoe team this year. The Prince Rupert campus float won first place in the theme category for their "Cruise North with an Education from Northwest Community College" float.

The campus canoe team won their race and placed 5<sup>th</sup> out of 13 teams.

The Kitimat campus continues to establish a renewed presence in the community by attending regular chamber events and volunteering for relevant committee work and community events.

The campus partnered with the Child Development Centre and the Kitimat Public Library in a grant proposal for cost-shared literacy funds from the provincial and federal government.

The Kitimat campus also hosted an informal meeting with community funding agencies to gather information on their processes/ requirements and to inform the agencies of the college's admission processes and timelines. This was a very useful meeting with lots of good ideas emerging with potential recruitment efforts and student support initiatives that could blend with literacy efforts in Kitimat.

All campuses are again planning to participate in Aboriginal Days which begin this Saturday.

## Graduations

Graduations occurred at both the Prince Rupert and Terrace campuses and were very successful. The Prince Rupert grad was held on May 20<sup>th</sup> for 67 graduates. This graduation saw a continued increase in the number of Associate degrees awarded, an increase in the number of adult dogwoods, and the first Prince Rupert class of First Nations Public Administration grads.

In Terrace, we recognized the achievements of 499 graduates, who studied at one of seven different College locations: Terrace, Kitimat, Laxgalts'ap, Stewart, Hazelton, Smithers and Houston. Not all of the graduates could personally attend their graduation ceremony due to work schedules or personal reasons.

## Signage program at the College

You have likely noticed the arrival of more new, external cedar signs and new internal room signs at the Terrace campus. These changes are part of an overall master plan to slowly replace and upgrade the look of our campuses. A new entrance sign went up at the Terrace campus this week and the UNBC Prince Rupert sign will be installed at the end of this month. Interior room signs are slowly being replaced to reflect the new college standard. Cindy Harmel is also sourcing "directory" type signage for the Terrace Campus and is working on highway college signage for our learning centres on Haida Gwaii.



*NWCC Prince Rupert Campus Seafest Float*