

President's Update to the College Community



Serving the communities of Northwestern BC

October 26, 2007

Challenging the Paradigm: De-colonizing Post-Secondary Education

Thanks to everyone who worked to make this conference a success. Participation reached our capacity limits of 150 people, with people coming from as far away as Inuvik, Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Fort Simpson. Feedback has been largely positive, with many participants requesting we host an annual event on Aboriginal education.

The House of Learning & Applied Research (HLAR) is hoping to be able to circulate the proceedings of the keynote speakers as well as notes from many of the workshops. HLAR will also be coordinating professional development suggestions resulting from the conference.

Phase Two of College Technology Plan Underway

The implementation of the initiatives outlined in NWCC's 2005 Technology Plan got underway in May with a call for proposals for videoconferencing equipment for Smithers, Terrace and Prince Rupert campuses. In order to qualify to bid, companies were required to demonstrate their equipment at an NWCC campus, and communicate through voice and video with both internal and external organizations.

Three companies qualified and submitted formal bids in September with the goal of implementation of the end of November 2007. The videoconferencing project is the result of a college wide consultation and the work of the videoconferencing committee comprised of representatives from Educational Technology, the communications team, faculty, and staff. The first major Technology Plan project was the replacement of the college telecommunications system in 2006 to VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) which enables quality voice, video and data transmission.

ACCC Aboriginal Conference in Timmons, Ontario

October 24 to 26, the ACCC hosts a symposium entitled: Strategies for Aboriginal Learners for Meeting the Educational Needs of Aboriginal Learners in Rural & remote Communities. Kaarlene Lindsay and Arlene Herman are representing NWCC and offering a workshop entitled: *Retention Strategies for First Nations Students; Residential School Impacts and Healing.*

Student ID Cards

Tenders have closed for student ID Cards and Jill Girodat and Matt Chayba completed an analysis of the three bids received. We are hoping to have identification cards in place by the end of October, administered and processed through the Terrace library. Prince Rupert, Kitimat, Terrace, Hazelton, Smithers and Houston will all have cameras and the files will be sent electronically to Terrace library for processing. These are the same identification cards used by other universities and colleges, and can be used for a multitude of purposes.

Sheila Peters and Perry Rath launch new book

The Weather from the West was written by NWCC's Sheila Peters and illustrated by Perry Rath. This book of poetry is available from Creekstone Press, Smithers, BC. Congratulations Sheila!

New Program Manual development headed up by Peter Haigh

A long awaited rewrite of the Program Orientation Manual for Welding Training Level C for the Industry Training Authority, was headed up by NWCC's Peter Haigh, welding instructor. The Welding and Articulation Committee of B.C. was responsible for spearheading this project. The manual will be used in welding programs throughout BC. Congratulations Peter!



Prince Rupert Port Opening

The Culinary Arts department came out in full force to support the opening of the Prince Rupert Container Port. This was a significant event for the community of Rupert as people from all over North America and China were on hand to witness and celebrate the occasion. The College donated resources and many students volunteered their time to ensure this occasion was a success. While a local caterer was hired to run the event, equipment and service requirements were beyond what this caterer could support. The efforts of over twenty students, instructors, administrators and facilities staff are to be congratulated; they greatly contributed to the preparation, set-up and flawless service of the buffet event which served over 500 guests. These students and staff did an exemplary job of showcasing the College, the Culinary Arts Department and our standards of excellence. Thank you for a job well done.

Enrolment Update

Enrolments overall remain the same this semester as compared to September 2007, with decreases in some program areas and increases in others (for example: trades, health and developmental education programs). Enrolments are projected to increase with the following additional program expansions starting up over the next few months:

Administrative Assistant (new)	<i>on-line offering</i>
Longhouse Program (new)	<i>winter 2008</i>
Learning Pathways (new)	<i>ongoing (Student Services dept)</i>
Aboriginal Home Support/ Resident Care Attendant	<i>winter 2008 (several locations)</i>
Essential Skills for Work	<i>offered in 8 communities</i>
Community-based Trades programs	<i>several locations</i>

ACE-IT update — NWCC Partnering with Local High Schools to Expand Trades Training

Foundation Carpentry is being offered at:
QCC Sr. Secondary School, Masset, Gingolx, Charles Hayes Sr. Secondary, Prince Rupert & Houston Sr. Secondary

Foundation Millwright is being offered at:
Mount Elizabeth Sr. Secondary School, Kitimat

Aboriginal Service Plan

NWCC, First Nations Council and the aboriginal institutes of the northwest, have submitted a three year plan to enhance Aboriginal student access and success in post-secondary education. The Plan may be viewed on the college website. Funding decisions are expected in December.

Upcoming Events

Proposed Downtown Plan on display October 29

The City of Terrace will be holding an open house to present the draft "Downtown Plan" on Monday, October 29 from 7 to 9 pm at the Coast Inn, Banquet Room.

Northwest Training Ltd. opens new Employment Centre

NWT is having its grand opening for the new employment centre on Tuesday, October 30 from 11am - 2pm at 4624 Greig Avenue, Terrace

Northwest Training Ltd is a partner with NWCC, offering counseling services and the DAWN program in collaboration with the CCP departments in Terrace, Kitimat and Prince Rupert.

Maori Guest Visit November 6 - 9

Three guests from New Zealand will travel to Terrace to visit the NWCC Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art - Gary Nicholas and Joe Harawira of Toi Maori, and Darcy Nicholas, a well known Maori artist. During their visit we will also be welcoming Inge Rumble, Public Affairs & Media Manager, High Commission of Canada for Australia. Inge has been instrumental in assisting the School with events in Australia and New Zealand.

Their visit will include a traditional welcome to the Tsimshian territory, an exhibition of art at the Freda Diesing School, visits to surrounding First Nations communities as well as discussions regarding strengthening relationships between the College and Toi Maori and our work with indigenous art communities in New Zealand and Australia.



Instructional Skills Workshops 2007



Prince Rupert ISW. L-R Back: Paul Eisenhauer, Glenn Groulx, Kevin Basi, John Turner. Front: Mona Izumi, Jan Currie. Eileen Smith is missing from photo.



Terrace ISW. Roxanne Ridler, Helen Hamel, David Bowen



Smithers ISW. Loraine Heatley, Tyler McCreary, Keisha Wilson

More Upcoming Events

Qingdao Faculty Visit November to December

Mr. Peng Haitao and Ms. Yue Hua (Sarah) are expected to arrive the last week of October and will be here for two months. They will be engaged in curriculum development discussions, as well as gaining an understanding of the College's Business Administration program and Canadian culture. The Business Administration faculty will be hosting our guests both in Terrace and in Prince Rupert. This faculty visit will be reciprocated by two NWCC Business Administration instructors in the spring of 2008.

Eco-Blues Dance/Benefit

with Vancouver Goup "Incognito"

- Prince Rupert, Highliner Ballroom, November 9
- Terrace, NWCC Cafeteria, November 10

Terrace Campus Christmas Party

Friday, December 7