



President's Update to the College Community

Serving the communities of Northwestern BC

January 7, 2010

Happy New Year and Welcome to the First Term of 2010!

This will surely be a year to remember given the many new program and building initiatives underway at the College, as well as some unique community events. We can look forward to the launch of new programming in a number of program areas – University Credit, Health and Tourism – and new building projects coming to completion. Two high-profile sporting events will provide the College an opportunity to showcase our commitment and importance to the region as Terrace and Prince Rupert host winter games.

The New Year is upon us and I wish everyone an inspiring and enriching year.

2010 BC Winter Games

From March 4 - 7, the BC Winter Games come to Terrace. The Games are an important venture for the community and Northwest Community College will be supporting the event in many ways, one of which is to have several events take place on our campus.

In order to facilitate this, all classes will be cancelled on March 4 and 5. This will allow our students and staff to attend the Games and to volunteer. It will also ensure that there is little disruption to our day-to-day operations, as much of our physical space will be needed for the operations of the Games.

All staff are encouraged to volunteer to assist in the Games and more information about volunteer opportunities will be coming out early in the New Year. These two days are not vacation days for employees. However, staff members who wish to volunteer will be excused from their regular duties, with pay, to assist in the Games.

For faculty and instructors, if you are not able to accommodate the two days of cancelled classes within your teaching schedule, please speak to your Academic Head or Coordinator, who will help you in re-arranging class time.

Many College employees have been helping to organize this event for over a year. I hope you will join your colleagues in demonstrating the College's connection and commitment to the communities we serve by volunteering your time and efforts. I look forward to seeing you at the BC Winter Games!

NEW PROGRAM

Sustainable Tourism Certificate

Designed to encourage and support the development of sustainable tourism (as defined by the World Tourism Organization) in northwestern BC, this program will highlight opportunities for tourism products that are ecologically sustainable, economically viable, as well as ethically and socially equitable.

Watch for more news of this program in coming weeks, or contact Ken Downs for more information.

Applied Coastal Ecology (ACE) partners with Aurora College

Planning is underway for sharing unique field school experiences and knowledge. ACE students would travel to the Northwest Territories to complete a field course focused on caribou migration, biology and far-north First Nations traditions.

In exchange for this experience, students from Aurora College would participate in one of NWCC's intersession or summer field school offerings.

This would be a first for ACE and a great opportunity for students to experience first-hand Canada's circumpolar ecosystems.

Staff & Student Achievements

Kitimat Technologist Receives Today's Woman Award

The *Today's Woman Awards* gala in Prince George recognizes outstanding women living in northern British Columbia. Recipients must be a role model for other women and have demonstrated innovation and a commitment to their area of involvement. Awards are given in 14 categories. The Applied Science Technology and Technicians of BC (ASTTBC) sponsors the Technology Leadership Award.

Cindy Harmel, ASCT, Director of Facilities & Maintenance at NWCC, received the ASTTBC Award for 2009. The Technology Leadership Award recognizes a woman who has demonstrated outstanding performance in her career and provided leadership by serving as a role model while promoting careers in technology. Cindy is a graduate of the BCIT Operations Management Technology program, and also holds 3rd & 4th Class Power Engineering designations. Prior to coming to NWCC, she was the Chief Engineer at Kitimat Hospital.

— Sourced from the 2009 ASTTBC newsletter

Biology Students conduct Hurley Creek Study

The fall 2009 semester engaged second-year Biology students in a unique research study of Hurley Creek in Thornhill. Students learned how to test, assess, and consider creek restoration and, in the process, provided much needed research for the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine. In late November, a wonderful student presentation was attended by many people, including: faculty, students, College staff, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Health, Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine, and others. Once again, we have Dr. Norma Kirby to thank for searching out practical research projects that benefit not only our students, but also community agencies.



Work progresses on the Longhouse. Seen here is the western entrance catching the winter sun. For more, visit the photo gallery on the NWCC HomePage.

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE

Family Literacy Day
January 27

Fine Dining
January 29, Terrace Campus

Olympic Torch Relay
Day 93, January 30:
Houston, Telkwa, Smithers,
Morisetown, New Hazelton,
Hagwilget Village, Gitanmaax
and Hazelton
Day 95, February 1:
Kitimaat, Kitimat, Terrace,
Kitsumkalum, New Aiyansh and
Prince Rupert

(Olympic Torch Relay was on
Haida Gwaii, November 3)

Northern BC Winter Games
February 4 - 7, Prince Rupert

All Native Basketball Tournament
February 12 - 20, Prince Rupert

2010 Winter Olympics
February 12 - 28

Hobiyee 2010
February 26 - 27, Prince Rupert

2010 BC Winter Games
March 4 - 7, Terrace

2010 Paralympics
March 12 - March 21

*First Nations Schools Association
14th Annual Conference & AGM*
April 23 - 24, Vancouver

*Freda Diesing School
Graduation Exhibition*
April 24, Terrace Campus

*Challenging the Paradigm
Gathering, May 5 - 8,*
Terrace Campus

Opening of the Longhouse
May 8, Terrace campus



NORTHWEST
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Take a closer look.