



President's Update

TO THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



Serving the communities of Northwestern BC

August 11, 2010

President search

The College's Board of Governors has selected the Geldart Group to conduct the search for a new President for Northwest Community College. A constituency-based search committee has been struck and various meetings have occurred as the committee moves to publicizing the opportunity. The posting for the position will be out this month and the committee hopes to secure a new President by January 2011.

My last day of work will officially be Sept. 24, but I will be away most of September. The College Board Executive Committee has appointed Cathay Sousa, Vice-President, Finance & Administration, as Interim President until a new President is in place.

Welcome New Administrators

I am delighted to welcome three new administrators to the College community:

Beverly Moore-Garcia joined NWCC June 1 as Vice-President, Education & Student Services

Beverly came from Miami Dade College in Florida where she held the position of Associate Provost for Faculty Initiatives. Beverly has more than 20 years experience in post-secondary education, holding such positions as Associate Academic Dean, Chairperson, Program Coordinator and Instructor. A native of New Brunswick, she is completing her PhD in Higher Education Administration and holds a MA of Science and a MA of Education.

Beverly has moved here with her husband and two sons and is one of the few people in Terrace who has been enjoying our 35 degree weather!

Kristine Kofoed joined NWCC Aug. 1 as Director, Communications & College Advancement

Kristine moved to Terrace from the Greater Toronto Area where she was working as the Web Communications Coordinator at the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies (OACAS). Originally from Grand Rapids, Mich., Kristine has a MA in Public Relations and a BA in Advertising from Michigan State University. She has worked in corporate communications at OACAS since 2001 and in the non-profit sector over the last 20 years. She has worked as a child welfare worker at a Children's Aid Society in Newmarket, Ont., a case manager for homeless women and their children at a transitional housing program in Grand Rapids, a re-entry counsellor for felony youth offenders at a boot camp in St. Petersburg, Fla., a clinical supervisor at a runaway shelter in Portland, Ore., and as a counsellor at an experiential wilderness camp for at-risk youth near Tampa, Fla.

Kristine has moved to the area with her husband, George, who is originally from Terrace.

Suzanne LeBlanc joins NWCC Sept. 1 as the incoming Director, Employee Relations

Suzanne is currently employed as Executive Director of the UNBC Faculty Association. She has a broad background in labour relations and holds a PhD in Sociology, a MBA and a MA in Sociology. Suzanne has held various faculty and research positions with UNBC and the University of Toronto, as well as being involved in research for the private sector and as an independent contractor.

School of Exploration & Mining welcomes Robin Curry as Director

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Robin Curry as Director, Northwest Community College School of Exploration & Mining, effective Oct. 1, 2010. Ms. Curry will lead the School through its important next phase, as it implements national curriculum training for employment in northwest BC mines and adds certificate programs to its course offerings. She will work with a dedicated team based at NWCC's Smithers Campus (and will report to the College's Dean of Trades and Continuing Education, Margo Van der Touw).

Ms. Curry has more than 20 years of experience in BC's mining industry, most recently as Superintendent of Administration for Northgate Minerals' Kemess Mine. Since leaving Kemess in 2007, she has been engaged in contract and volunteer work that facilitates capacity-building, sustainable regional economic development and a better understanding of the mineral industry among the residents of northwest BC. Robin holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University and is a Certified General Accountant. She sits on the executive of Smithers Exploration Group, industry partner to the NWCC School of Exploration & Mining, as well as the executive of the Minerals North Association.

The NWCC School of Exploration & Mining has been recognized by regional, provincial, national and international awards for the success of its training. The School's programs incorporate applied education models based on an industry-driven curriculum that is culturally relevant and focused on learner success. Ms. Curry will bring her knowledge of BC's mining industry as well as her professional experience in leadership and administration to the School as it positions itself to meet the training needs of Northwest BC's growing minerals sector.

Administrator portfolios

Once again there have been some changes within the administrative team as some people have left the College and others have joined us to fill various vacancies. As a result, administrator portfolios have necessarily had to change and shift. Please see the attached "NWCC Administrators.doc" to view overview of administrator portfolios for an update on responsibilities.

Welcome new faculty and staff

There have been various retirements, education leaves and maternity leaves! More than a dozen staff members or spouses are off on maternity leave right now, resulting in a number of employee changes and new people joining the College. Here is a quick introduction to *some* of the staffing changes. I am sure I am missing some, so be sure to come to Galts'ap Day to meet our new colleagues.

Retirements/Replacements

- Catherine White joins us in Terrace as the new biology Professor replacing Norma Kerby
- Seth Downs replaces Ken Downs in Terrace as the new Coordinator/Instructor for Sustainable Tourism
- Cheryl Wyatt has taken Ada Sarsiat's place as CCP Coordinator and Cluster Chair
- Jessica Hrechka Fee is the new Joan Turecki for the ECE Department
- Cindy Motschilnig replaces Lynn Bennett as Admissions Officer
- Lorelle Kluss replaces Cindy as Registration Clerk/Cashier
- Haley Dacey will replace Lorelle Kluss as Reception/Support Clerk
- Jolene Wesley is filling a new half-time First Nations Access Coordinator position
- Stacey Mann joins us as the new Accessibility Coordinator
- Kim McIntyre has joined the CCP department

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- Paul Brady is the new Learning Assistant Specialist replacing part of Lianne Gagnon's former position
- Chris Picard is a new part-time Professor at Prince Rupert Campus
- Mark Wong is a new part-time Professor and Assistant Academic Head at Smithers Campus

Maternity/Parental Leaves

<i>On Leave</i>		<i>Replacement</i>
Sharon Henry	—	Allison Conway
Janal Gillies	—	Noelle Bulleid
Michelle Rutsatz	—	Courtney Pritchard
Sylvie Krabes	—	Alan Hooper and Edward David
Lora Gogag	—	Shauna Levesque
Linda Wilson	—	Sheila Dyck
Rachael Pozzo	—	Lu Ann Dietrich

Budgets tighten as Government battles deficit

Colleges in BC finally received their budget letters and news in late June. This is extremely late, as typically financial news comes in early February before the start of the new fiscal year on Apr. 1. The budget information outlined a much bleaker picture than originally anticipated, with severe cuts to our repair and maintenance budgets, and constraints on how we can spend the money we have generated or acquired through prudent fiscal management. This has meant long hours of revisiting the draft budget presented to the Budget Task Force and the Board of Governors; it has also meant streamlining costs even further and making some reductions to many budgets across the College.

While we attempted to find savings outside of program delivery budgets, nothing was immune from scrutiny as we strove to maintain program and staffing levels. Revised budgets will be posted on the Web budget tool, EasyR, this week, so please have a look and make sure you are familiar with any changes that may have occurred to your budget. In this financial environment, obviously no budget "add-ons" were granted—travel, photocopying, printing, and inter-campus mail delivery have been cut back and meetings are encouraged to take place via one of several distance mediums.

We are also urging all employees to explore ways in which their departments might secure additional funds to bolster the operating budget. This might be through the writing of grants and funding proposals or keeping an eye on potential applied research or program funding opportunities. Principals and Managers at every campus will be taking the lead on grant and proposal writing and the House of Learning will be the repository for the same. More information will be released on this issue in the near future.

NWCC has weathered financial storms in the past and we will again, but the storm brewing this year is particularly harsh. We have been fortunate to date that we have not had to issue layoffs or cut programs but we are, unfortunately, not in a position to renew all pilot projects or temporary contracts as we may have wished. I am calling upon everyone to assist in ensuring that efficiencies are found and spending is kept to a minimum.

One-Stop Shop for students at the Terrace Campus

Students will encounter enhanced services this fall as the long-wished-for move to create a one-stop shop for students services comes to pass. All employees of the Registrar's Department are moving to the Waap Sa'mn building over the next few weeks, consolidating all student services in one area of the Terrace Campus. Student Records, Financial Aid, Admissions, Registration and Advisors, are closely integrated services and the move will improve service and efficiencies.

House of Learning moves to Waap Galts'ap

House of Learning and Applied Research (HLAR) personnel, Anita Davis and Audrey Woods, have moved into Waap Galts'ap. Louise Lefebvre, who returns from sick leave in September will oversee HLAR as Dean, House of Learning & Applied Research. HLAR will continue to deliver applied research support and oversight, support for the bicultural journey, Challenging the Paradigm Gathering and instructor and faculty instructional support, including distance learning support and workshops.

Galts'ap Day

Don't miss Galts'ap Day, Monday, Aug. 30 at the North Pacific Cannery in Port Edward. Galts'ap Day is the one time of the year that we gather the entire College community to meet new employees, share information, discuss College directions and have some fun. The program will start at 10am and lunch and snacks will be provided. There are two general themes for this year's event: *Learning from Place* and *The Ocean!* Preparations are well underway, including a pre-Galts'ap Day event, the *Tsimshian Canoe Quest*. This workshop is being offered to NWCC employees at a very special rate of \$50 per person. Space is limited, so register ASAP.

Totem pole project underway at Kitselas Canyon

Mark Sept. 11, 2010 on your calendars! It's the day that three poles, carved by Freda Diesing students with master carvers and Freda Diesing School instructors Dempsey Bob, Stan Bevan and Ken McNeil, will be raised at the Kitselas Canyon.