

**June 21, 2010
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NIC Celebrates Graduates

On Wednesday, June 16th, over 150 people gathered to celebrate the graduation of 10 students from NIC's northern campus.

In her address to graduates, NIC President, Dr. Jan Lindsay spoke of the value of education, noting her belief that education is the single most important ingredient in the development of a just and civil society. She encouraged the graduates to pursue their passions with vigour and to always continue learning. Dr. Lindsay concluded her remarks by quoting the words of Andy Everson, the northwest artist who designed NIC's credential parchments, "The graduate, through education, is grounded by the strength of the bear, but is carried to higher heights on the wings of the eagle."

Nine of the ten graduates were from the Health Care Assistant program, which was offered at the Port Hardy campus for the first time this past year. The Health Care Assistant program is designed to prepare students for work as front-line health care providers.

Graduate Patsy Cook also addressed the crowd and noted the program was a life changing experience for all of the graduates. She thanked her classmates and her instructors for the care and compassion they demonstrated over the past 10 months.



Graduate Muni Lata Sandeman receives her scroll from instructors Jessica Stirzaker and Jean Wheeler.



Graduate Nicola Richards receives congratulations from NIC Vice President, Arlene Herman and NIC Board Chair, Judith Round.

The following individuals were granted their Health Care Assistant Certificates:

- Selina Child
- Patsy Cook
- Andrea Dalton
- Paula Klatt
- Gabrielle Momot
- Jessica Petereit
- Muni Lata Sandeman
- Leigh Swanson
- Shannon Ward

Leigh Swanson was presented with the Dean's Pin for academic excellence and excellence in practice, achieving the highest grades in the program.



Leigh Swanson receives the Dean's Pin from Dr. Jocelyne van Neste Kenny, NIC's Dean of Health & Human Services.

Also graduating with her BC Adult Dogwood Diploma was Nicola Richards.

The evening concluded with the presentation of student scholarships and bursaries to nine individuals:

- Teresa MacKenzie received the David N. Hudson Award
- Marianne Lingley received the Lyle Wesley Scholarship
- Keisha Korhonen received the North Island College Foundation Entrance Bursary
- Autumn Scheppe received the Pat Bevan Rural Student Bursary
- Andrea Dalton received the Pat Bevan Women's Bursary
- Donna Adlington received the Port Hardy Campus Administrators' Award
- Marion Nelson received the Port Hardy Adult Basic Education Bursary
- Amber Sparks received the Port Hardy Campus Applied Business Technology Bursary
- Destiny Herman received the Port Hardy Campus Math/Science Award



Graduate Patsy Cook addresses the crowd.

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