

**NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS REPORT
FEBRUARY 2020**

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Dean's Office, Faculty of Health & Human Services

Submitted by RaeAnn Hartman, Associate Dean

RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

On September 23, 2019, the Faculty of Health and Human Services (HHS) hosted the annual *A Day for Listening and Learning* event with 360 participants. Faculty and staff from Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), Practical Nursing (PN), Health Care Assistant (HCA), Human Services (HSW), and Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE) joined from across the NIC region. The event took place at the Florence Filberg Centre and focused on awareness and education about the current opioid crisis. After viewing the film, *Painkiller – Inside the Opioid Crisis*, a panel of community partners presented their perspectives and contexts with the opioid crisis. The panel members were:

- Tara Fitzgerald, Island Health Director for the Opioid Response;
- Ashley Hancock, Manager, Aids Vancouver Island (AVI) Health and Community Services, Courtenay;
- Shanyng Simcoe, Outreach Nurse with the Integrated Case Management Team and Mental Health and Addictions with Island Health;
- John Hedican, father who lost his son Ryan to the opioid crisis;
- Sharon Karsten, Principal Researcher with the Community Cultural Mapping project supported by Comox Valley Art Gallery;
- Shona Jensen, social worker with Ministry of Children and Family Development.

The panel convened following the film showing and addressed the questions listed below, as well as others that came up from the audience. HSW students moderated the panel. Students submitted questions to the Dean's office ahead of the event. There were 70 questions received, collated, and themed to arrive at the final set of questions.

1. From your perspective, tell us about the role of trauma in addiction and with addiction services. How does trauma informed practice play a role in services and how is stigma addressed from your perspective?
2. Are safe sites and safe supplies part of your conversation? Why or why not?
3. How would decriminalization of all drugs affect our current problem? Have other countries found effective ways to fight this problem?
4. There is a stigmatized 'face' of the opioid crisis. How do we shift the conversation from being about numbers to being about people. (neighbors, friends, sons, daughters, parents, siblings, etc.)
5. Families are hugely affected by this crisis. What is the best measure you have experienced, or are aware, to deal with the anger, pain, and stress that families deal with?

After the panel and lunch (volunteers from ECCE and HCA), the group was lead through Naloxone training with support from AVI and year four BSN students volunteering at all 40 tables to facilitate the training. We had 150 Naloxone kits for distribution and information for obtaining them in each of our communities across our region.

PN students assisted with the refreshment breaks.

As a large and small group debrief, we had Laurie Michaud, Teaching and Learning Facilitator, lead us through a liberating structure known as the 15% Solution. The process helps answer:

What is made possible? You can reveal the actions, however small, that everyone can do immediately. At a minimum, these will create momentum, and that may make a BIG difference. **15% Solutions** show that there is no reason to wait around, feel powerless, or fearful. They help people pick it up a level. They get individuals and the group to focus on what is within their discretion instead of what they cannot change.

<http://www.liberatingstructures.com/7-15-solutions>.

These were collected from each table with the intention to collate and distribute as a reminder for action from the education and awareness.

On November 13, 2019, Randall Heidt and RaeAnn Hartman welcomed MLA Ronna Rae Leonard to NIC's new teaching space at St. Joe's where Ronna Rae had an opportunity to meet some of the students and share in their enthusiasm and gratitude for the St. Joe's space.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Submitted by Pam Burton, Department Chair

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

We are pleased to announce the recent convocation of three of our Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) faculty: Alan Dack, Cara Tilston and Heidi Deagle, from the University of Victoria Masters of Arts in Health Leadership with a focus on rural and indigenous communities. This unique offering was made possible with the leadership of Dr. Kathleen Haggith, allowing the graduates to study in their own community.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

It has been a busy and exciting Fall semester. The year four students have been busy with their leadership projects as they further develop their competencies in leadership, influencing and managing change, and utilizing research in promoting the health of individuals, families, communities and societies.

Year Four Leadership Projects

You may have noticed in the Comox Valley Record and on social media that Brandi Berry coordinated a clean-up along the shore of the Puntledge River in Puntledge Park on November 5th. In Brandi's words, "I have always been passionate about making climate change and the health of the Earth something that anyone can talk or learn about. This work will help create a cleaner environment and I am hoping to provide some teachings about the Indigenous view of land to raise awareness and share knowledge. By

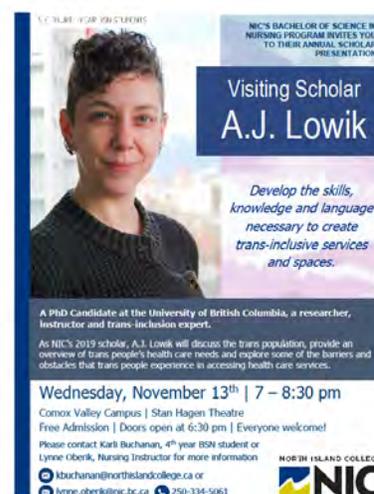
coming together, we can make a healthier environment for generations to live, learn and play in.”

<https://www.comoxvalleyrecord.com/community/north-island-college-student-organizing-puntledge-river-shoreline-cleanup/>

Another group of year four students organized and hosted an all-candidates forum on October 16th. As noted by one of the students, Lydia Hardy, “We wanted to encourage the public and, in particular, students to engage in the 2019 federal election...students have a significant stake in the future of our country. This event will provide a platform to bring student voices forward to our candidates and present people with an opportunity to connect with their candidates and make an informed decision when voting.”

<https://www.comoxvalleyrecord.com/federal-election/north-island-college-nursing-students-hosting-an-all-candidates-forum/>

Most recently, a group of students led and hosted our 13th Annual Scholarship event at NIC, on behalf of their year four cohort. On November 13th, Visiting Scholar A.J. Lowik engaged the public in a dialogue about the trans population, provided an overview of trans people’s health care needs and explored some of the barriers and obstacles that trans people experience in accessing health care services. On November 14th, the group engaged BSN students across the four years and faculty on the same topic. Both events were well attended and extremely thought provoking.



British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals (BCCNP)

In October, the BSN program underwent its education review by the BCCNP. Following submission of our written report, two site visitors visited NIC and spoke with administrators, faculty, students, graduates and practice partners about how the BSN curriculum prepares graduates to meet the entry-level competencies of a Registered Nurse. We are grateful for the participation of all involved. It was a positive experience as we shared the excellent work done in the BSN program and at NIC in supporting our students. We are awaiting our final report.

RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

This month, several of our students attended the Canadian Nursing Students Association (CNSA) Western Prairie Regional Conference in Abbotsford. Our students were successful in their bid to host the Canadian Nursing Students Association Western Prairie Regional Conference in October 2020, with the theme *Uplifting Indigenous Voices: Indigenous Lenses in Nursing Practice*.

Health Care Assistant

Submitted by Laurie Bird, Department Chair

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Comox Valley Health Care Assistant (HCA) department in collaboration with the Faculty of Health and Human Services (HHS) support staff and lab coordinator, NIC facilities, and other NIC staff have relocated to the NIC at St. Joe's campus.

HCA faculty across the college have worked with other members of the Faculty of HHS and the NIC Elders in Residence to hold Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) events at each campus. NIC Elders, along with local elders and/or members of the local Indigenous communities have provided a welcome to the students and a brief overview of the history of the TRC and Indigenous peoples, and then provided the students with a TRC Calls to Action booklet.

RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

2019-2020 Health Care Assistant Offerings

- Port Alberni:
 - 2019FA – started in September with 17 students; three of these students are in the dual credit program.
- Comox Valley:
 - 2019FA – started at the end of August with 19 students; 10 seats are one-time-only funded.
 - 2019FA Evening/Weekend – this alternate delivery is scheduled all day Saturday and Sunday, followed by Monday/Tues/Wed. evening classes from 4-11 p.m. This one-time-only funded program started in early November and has 10 students.
 - 2020WI – this one-time-only funded program starts January 2020 with 20 students; 10 seats are one-time-only funded.
- Campbell River:
 - 2019FA – this one-time-only funded program started mid-September with 10 students.
 - 2020WI – this one-time-only funded program will start mid-February 2020 with 10 students. This intake was scheduled to attract dual credit students.
- Port Hardy:
 - 2020WI – this one-time-only funded program starts January 2020 with 10 students.

Human Services

Submitted by Kelly Johnsen, Department Chair

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Last semester, several of the Human Services faculty undertook training, courses, and professional development in the forms of certification, attending conferences, and working on peer review. Kelly Johnsen attended an International Indigenous Education conference through Comparative and International Education Society and Susan Shantz attended a conference on Counseling Insights. Kerri Lowey MacKenzie completed several courses towards a Mental Health Certificate through Canadian Trauma Recourse Institute (CRTI). She has one course remaining to complete the full certification. She also attended a conference on Leadership in which popular advocate for girls' education Malala Yousafzai was a keynote speaker.

In addition to this professional development, all of our regular and sessional faculty sit on various local boards and organizations such as Port Alberni Association for Community Living (PAACL), Alberni Community and Women's Services, the Friendship Center, Opioid Crisis Working Group, and the John Howard Society.

In the 2018/2019 academic year, two HSW faculty received workload release to undertake an HSW Program Review. The review was completed with feedback from current students, past students, faculty, and administration staff at NIC and from outside community agencies. The results from the program review are currently being finalized with help from the Teaching and Learning Department at NIC. Preliminary program review results are informing our practice and MYPP requests for 2020/21.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

2019 was the first year for Human Services to graduate a dual credit student in the Port Alberni area. Brandee Robinson was successful in her year and has moved on to further studies. We welcomed two new dual credit students at the Port Alberni campus for 2019-20 academic year.

In terms of awards, Frieda Humphreys won the President's Award for Academic Excellence which is only awarded to one Diploma and one Degree student each year. In Port Alberni, Alain Archambault won an education scholarship from PAACL and is continuing from his first year in Human Services Educational Assistant/Community Support program into the Human Services Diploma.

RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Each year we continue to offer cultural awareness through a variety of workshops and events, and this year the entire Health and Human Services Faculty attended a full day workshop on the Opioid Crisis.

Practical Nursing Diploma

Submitted by Barb McPherson, Department Chair

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Practical Nursing (PN) department welcomed two new faculty members this fall. They both come with many years of nursing experience and have made significant contributions to the program.

One faculty member recently started a feasibility study to review the possibility of NIC offering an access pathway for Health Care Assistants to further their education to become Licensed Practical Nurses.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

The PN program has made significant changes to our delivery model and the program is now offered in a blended model of face-to-face instruction and interactive television (ITV). The first year class consists of students from both Campbell River and Port Alberni regions. The students have really bonded as a group and they “see” each other every day via ITV. This is a very innovative change to our program and we are all excited to deliver our program in this way.

Our second year students have recently completed their third clinical rotation in the community. Many of our students were placed in agencies in the community, which have a focus on mental health and addiction. They are now in their final semester of the program and will be graduating in June. One recent graduate from the Campbell River program was given the award for the Best New Nurse. We are all extremely proud of them!

RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

All of our students participated in *The Blanket Exercise* at the NIC at St. Joe’s campus. This program is a unique, interactive and experiential workshop that has been developed in collaboration with Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers and educators. This workshop covers more than 500 years of history, which aims to develop a better understanding of our shared history as Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

All students in the Health and Human Services programs participated in the September 23, 2019 Listening and Learning Day with a focus on the opioid crisis. This daylong event brought hundreds of students together to learn more about this devastating crisis and the impact it has had on people in our community. Faculty and students heard from a panel of experts from our community and a community member who has been personally affected by this tragedy. All students received Naloxone training, which was led by the Bachelor of Science Nursing students. This day had a profound impact on the PN students.

TRADES AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

Highlights

PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Happy New Year! 2020 is going to be one of the busiest years yet for Trades and Technical across all programs. January alone is seeing the startup of 11 Foundation and Apprenticeship cohorts. The Aquaculture Certificate program was launched on January 6th with instructor Jesse Ronquillo at the helm and will run through to the end of April.

The popularity of the partnership between NIC and the local School Districts in the past deliveries of the Trade Sampler program has led to the addition of a Culinary Sampler to run concurrently with the Introduction to Trades. Both programs will run for 12 weeks at the Campbell River campus beginning January 27th. Not only do the Trade Sampler programs expose students to a trade environment but they also contain practical components that may apply to the everyday tasks of that trade giving students a greater insight into their prospective vocational choice.

The Port Alberni campus will be offering a unique and exciting training opportunity specifically targeting women interested in pursuing a career in the Trades industry. Women in Construction Trades is a two-week tuition-free, hands-on orientation to Welding, Carpentry, Automotive, Plumbing and more. Students will also reap the benefits of certification in Occupational First Aid Level 1, demonstrating NIC's commitment to students' health and safety in a work site.

Quick Re-Cap

The 2019 Fall term was both challenging and rewarding. The Culinary Arts program moved into their new teaching facility where they are thriving in an atmosphere that realistically reflects the true workings of a professional kitchen.

The first cohorts of Hatchery Operation Certificate and Coastal Forest Worker Certificate programs were successfully initiated at the Campbell River and Port Alberni campuses – both are set to conclude in the 2020 winter term.



Chef Alan Irving in Port Alberni delivered another outstanding cohort of the Prep Cook Certificate with the students concluding their program by hosting a seasonal buffet with all funds being directed to the NIC Foundation for student scholarships and awards. The effort put forth by Chef Al and his students to make the buffet a success led to a sold out event for both seatings.

Chef Al also facilitated a special learning opportunity with the Alternate Ed students from the Alberni District Secondary School (ADSS) in late November with the focus on orientation to food preparation and safety which was appreciated by all.

Chef Al's dedication to all students and his enthusiasm for education shines through as he states:

Even though they are part of the high school, these students are not part of the physical building on Roger Street and are often overlooked when NIC and ADSS do workshops or have events here. I decided to do two days with just these students as many of them have never been up to the college before. I was originally going to do two days of the same workshop with two different groups of students. However, the first workshop was so successful that a number of those students wanted to come back for the second workshop, so I ended up doing two different ones.

These students were the most polite, respectful (to me and each other!), focused and grateful I have ever taught! Students enrolled in Alternative Ed do not always have the opportunity to participate in College workshops and were so happy to join one specifically tailored to them. These were such bright, beautiful students! I really hope to continue with this each year.

Professional Cook Level 1 runs at the Port Alberni campus beginning this January and we are so appreciative our students will embark on their culinary careers with their first steps guided by Chef Al.

On November 22nd, Chef Xavier Bauby and his students hosted a special fundraising event for the Culinary Team British Columbia at the Campbell River campus. A world-class meal was prepared and presented to members of the public as they “practiced” for the 2020 IKA World Culinary Olympics in Germany. Culinary Team BC is made up of chefs from around the province who come together to compete. With the Culinary Olympics being one of the largest and most prestigious culinary events in the world, it was an honor and a privilege to have our current Professional Cook students observe the skill and attention to detail these chefs demonstrated.



A very noteworthy highlight: NIC is extremely proud that team member Tina Tang, one of our Culinary Arts Alumna, is a member of Team BC. Tina began her Red Seal training at North Island College's Campbell River campus in 2012 and has recently been named one of Canada's next star chefs by the *Globe and Mail*.

John Carlo, Team BC, Team Manager, had this to say:

While it is impossible to predict the outcomes of the Culinary Olympics, it can be emphatically stated that our team members are already winners because of the kindness and thoughtfulness they have received from NIC and their supporters on Northern Vancouver Island. We wish to convey our most heartfelt thanks to those faculty and staff members who so selflessly gave their time to assist us in achieving success and of course a big thank you to all of the students who spent their time with us during our visit. We could not have asked for a better facility.

On the heels of the Team BC fundraising success, Chef Bauby and his students outdid themselves during the Holiday Buffet on December 19th. The phenomenal menu included grilled vegetable roulade with sundried tomato balsamic dressing, haricot vert with roasted artichoke hearts, grilled salmon with exotic fruit salsa, stuffed chicken paupiette with champagne velouté and traditional glazed ham with port wine to name but a few of the mouth-watering delectables that garnered many rave reviews.

Employee Recognition

December 6th brought an assembly of Faculty, Administration and Support Staff to the Crown Isle Resort for the annual Employee Recognition Event. This is an opportunity to showcase the dedication of the many hardworking employees of North Island College.

Trades and Technical programs spotlighted three of our long-time staffers and acknowledged their contributions and dedication to students, co-workers and the department.

Melody White is a familiar face to anyone who enters the cafeteria in Campbell River. Melody joined NIC in 1999 and has been the friendly face greeting students and staff alike ever since. Mel (as everyone affectionately knows her) always has a kind word for everyone, encouragement for students and an incredible knack for remembering each and every person she encounters. Her official title is Bistro Supervisor, well-deserved and a role she embraces with her genuine personality and excellence in customer service.

Joanne Watson joined the Faculty of Trades and Technical programs twenty years ago as the Cafeteria Supervisor and she hasn't looked back. Joanne's expertise is not limited to just the cafeteria. She is always committed to maintaining the highest of standards in the day-to-day operation of the cafeteria and her extensive knowledge, creativity and appreciation for anything culinary comes to the forefront in her eagerness to participate in campus-based initiatives. Joanne steps into each task with ease and is always up for the challenge.

Sadly, the Employee Recognition event brought about a fond farewell to one of NIC's most valued faculty members. For over 29 years, Rob Hughes has been the rock that both initiated and encouraged growth and change in advancement across the Plumbing and Piping programs. Rob saw the need to go beyond offering foundation and expand into Apprenticeship programming. Always with the students' best interests as his primary focus, with his progressive thinking and vision, the opportunities Rob was able to make available to students have been invaluable to his students, the college and our community as a whole. We will miss him greatly.

Looking Ahead

We are also pleased to announce that because of Chef Irving's active participation and expertise at the Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) Roundtable in September 2019 in Ottawa, NIC's faculty of Culinary Arts have been chosen to hold a lead role in CICan's sodium-reduction initiative to inform the development of sodium-reduction teaching material followed by the implementation and testing of specialized teaching material available for adoption by pan-Canadian culinary educators.

2020 Student Open Houses

February 19th and 20th brings North Island College's annual Student Open Houses to the Port Alberni and Comox Valley campuses.

These events are our foremost opportunity to connect hundreds of high school students with our Trades faculty through discussion and hands-on demos. The day starts with students being bussed to the respective campuses, some from as far away as Tofino and Port Hardy, where they spend several hours exploring the many different paths to post-secondary education at NIC. This is where our team shines by showcasing the numerous trades training opportunities available at our campuses. Demonstrations include engine compression testing with the Automotive instructors, hammering and sawing contest with Carpentry, a 3D fly-through presentation of the Beaver Lodge Lands with Coastal Forest instructor, Coleen MacLean, hooking up doorbells with Electrical and Welding skills to name a few.

Our faculty presentations are what spark the interest of the students with the goal of each session sending them away excited about a career in trades.

Welcoming New Faculty

We have the pleasure of welcoming Robin Greig as our newest addition to the Electrical Foundation program. Robin joins NIC from the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT). He has two Interprovincial Red Seal Journeyman certifications as an electrician and electronics technician in addition to his Alberta Master Electrician. Robin spent the first six years of his teaching career at SAIT and further enhanced his instructional skill set by completing the Provincial Instructor Diploma program at the Vancouver Community College. We are excited to have his extensive knowledge and experience as part of the Trades and Technical programs.

The Culinary Arts program has gained a valuable asset with the addition of Red Seal certified Culinary Arts instructor, Sunshine Layton. With over 15 years of instructional experience, Sunshine's leadership skills extend beyond teaching and program delivery. She has been actively involved in curriculum development, networking within industry and community and instituting systems to ensure long-term success of her students. We are confident Sunshine will continue to contribute to the high standards set by NIC's Culinary Arts programs and faculty.

STUDENT SERVICES AND REGISTRAR

LLC Highlights

Submitted by Mary Anne Guenther

Library & Learning Commons (LLC) staff have scheduled a number of library classes throughout the month of January into March. Library instruction includes an introduction to the LLC website, explaining academic supports, research strategies, database tools, citing, etc.

Campus libraries are planning a number of activities and resource highlighting during *Thrive Week*, ranging from meditation and kits for borrowing, stretching stations and group knitting.

LLC staff have given library and supports' presentations to new international students in early January and sessions are booked at CR, CV and PA for dual credit students in the upcoming weeks.

Librarians are embedded in several English, Fine Arts, Psychology and Nursing courses again this semester. Librarians follow students in LEARN as they progress through the course and work with them individually, advising on research topics, locating and evaluating information resources and citing.

Last semester the laptop-lending program proved to be very popular. During the months September – December, we had 1,544 loans of our 12 laptops.

Student Services

Submitted by Felicity Blaiklock

The winter term began on a very positive note with the onboarding of our new Manager, Student Life, Dean Martin. Dean brings with him experience in student housing, student engagement and leadership, judicial affairs/student conduct, crisis management/behavioral intervention, orientation and transition, and student Union relations. He will be based out of the Comox Valley campus with regular visits to the Campbell River and Port Alberni campuses, and other campuses as needed.



The Student Leadership Team held their annual retreat at Camp Homewood on Quadra Island. Approximately 30 participants included active NIC students and faculty, who enjoyed a weekend of camaraderie, growth, and good food in a beautiful environment. The theme of the weekend was mental health and well-being.

Preparations are close to completion for the first annual Thrive week at NIC campuses. Thrive week is an initiative that was started by UBC, to promote mental health literacy and good self-care habits, that was adopted by many post-secondary institutions throughout BC. A variety of fun activities are planned on each campus, which include physical activity, information tables and opportunities to share healthy snacks.



The Port Alberni and Comox Valley campuses are well into preparations for their annual open houses. Students from local high schools will be hosted at the Port Alberni campus on February 19th, and at the Comox Valley campus on February 20th. The students will have an opportunity to become familiar with

their local campus and learn about the opportunities that await them. This year the Alberni District Secondary School (ADSS) will be joined by students from the 8th Avenue Learning Centre.

January is Bell *Let's Talk* month, and NIC campuses are getting ready to show support and promote good mental health on January 29th. Activities on this day will provide opportunity to talk openly about mental health and share ways to maintain a good balance.

The soft launch of Early Assist was very successful with referrals submitted for over 80 students. These students received outreach from support services to help them navigate challenges and get back on track. Early feedback indicates that both students and employees were very happy with this new support tool.

Student Services Renovations in Campbell River

Submitted by Sarah Deagle

Great anticipation of an expanded Student Services spaces is being met with great progress! Before many more weeks pass, Student Services in Campbell River will be renovated fully and will be proudly used alongside with the other new spaces at the campus. By the end of January, the Skype technology will be installed, painting will be completed and frames for the glass front installed.

When complete, the Student Services area will be closer to the main entrance, the Student Commons and the Office of Global Engagement. We will have advisors and “forward facing” staff closer to Registration. The quieter activities – like assessment and counselling – will be tucked towards the back of the space. A new large meeting room with Skype capabilities will allow for larger Campbell River meetings as well as inter-campus meetings and workshops across departments. For instance, we can now host group advising sessions or program information sessions in Student Services.

It is with great thanks to many (too many to mention!) that this is all coming together after many years of planning.



*Albert & Mike
installing the Skype
equipment on
Friday, January
24, 2020*



*The Registration area looking in
through the Reception opening.*

Continuing Education & Training Board of Governors Report

JANUARY 2020 - CET REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

In this Winter semester submission, we are using the opportunity to share updates about new partnerships and programs that are responding to in-demand skills-training and economic development needs across our regions. In most instances, these represent joint initiatives (externally funded) that have increased local access to College courses and programs, and that will lead to sustainable jobs and local workforce development. Listed below is a selected sample of these partnership initiatives:

PORT ALBERNI FOOD HUB:

At the end of September, we learned that the PA Food Hub proposal was one of two in BC to be approved for funding. The former Port Fish building (17,000 sq. ft. facility) is being converted into a regional seafood processing hub for small producers to handle and process finfish, shellfish and seaweed; terrestrial farmers will also have a small processing area in the Hub, with a focus on finding sustainable ways to use the facility and to add value to their produce and expand their market. The facility also provides a commercial kitchen for local small-scale food processors to ramp up their production. With respect to training plans, we are in the initial stages of working with Community Futures to develop a suite of courses to assist local producers with food production and distribution improvements. The proposed training will focus on food safety, production, packaging, and marketing.

COMOX VALLEY FOOD HUB:

While the initial CV Food Hub proposal was not successful, we are working with the Comox Valley Economic Development Society to rewrite the proposal and to implement the review team suggestions. As part of the process, NIC is developing a new Small-Scale Sustainable Farming program (integrating results from the Market Gardener Training Pilot offered in Port Alberni, in partnership with the Port Alberni Shelter Society). This training will assist local producers with their product development and marketing. In addition, we are proposing a new Craft Brewing and Malting Program to add to the mix. If the 2020 proposal is successful, we intend to implement the Small-Scale Food Processing program in 2021.

WEST COAST DRIVER TRAINING:

Preliminary discussions are underway with the District of Tofino to support their approved regional plans for a fixed route Tofino-Ucluelet Transit Service, with stops in the First Nation communities of Hitacu, Esowista and TyHistanis. We are looking into the feasibility of offering Class 2 Driver Training in Tofino, to prepare community members to operate school buses, city buses and those vehicles requiring Class 4 licenses. Based on community feedback, we also hope to include training that supports year-round employment in the local labour market (e.g. Security Guard Training, Building Maintenance/Janitorial Services). Key stakeholders are discussing the need to pursue joint funding for offering skills training that will expand workforce capacity and help community members secure and retain employment in their home communities.

Continuing Education & Training Board of Governors Report

Port Alberni

LEANNE MOORE, TRAINING OFFICER

MARKET GARDENER PROGRAM:

Based on the successful program pilot last year, we are offering another Market Gardener Program in partnership with the Port Alberni Shelter Society. It is scheduled to start on April 6th, at the Port Alberni campus. The program duration has been adjusted to meet funding criteria for those reliant on Ministry support, and funding sources are being sought to help students' tuition fees.

PA ELDERCOLLEGE:

Another semester of Port Alberni ElderCollege courses is scheduled to start soon. The courses include: a Health Series, Home Maintenance Series, the Chemistry & Biochemistry of Food, LGBTQ Information Session, Dominant World Leaders in the 1930s, Generations in Stories, the Significance of Living Cedar.

Comox Valley

SUSAN MURRAY, TRAINING OFFICER

NEW! SMALL-SCALE SUSTAINABLE FARMING:

This exciting new program is designed to familiarize students with the main theories, concepts and practices of small-scale mixed farming. The course includes modules in greenhouse propagation, mixed livestock, farm equipment operation, sustainability, climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as market garden production. Participants will also develop business management skills, marketing skills as well as crop planning, and budgeting. The course will be presented by experienced organic farmer and horticulturalist.



Continuing Education & Training Board of Governors Report

FIRST AID TRAINING

The first aid training department continued to be very busy through the fall right up to the final class on Dec 20th. Between Sep - Dec we ran training for 10 external contract clients from Nanaimo to Port Hardy. We were able to provide 28 first aid courses to a variety of internal trades, health care and early child care programs. The winter term will continue to be very busy with little breathing room for our fantastic instructors. We are continuing to expand our Red Cross Instructor courses as one of only two designated Red Cross Instructor Development Centres.

GENERAL INTEREST COURSES

The fall term of general interest courses in CV went well with a wide variety of arts, culture, agriculture and personal growth courses. The biggest hit was definitely the new Clay - Wheel Throwing course which filled up fast, only days after scheduling.

JULIAN BENEDICT, TRAINING OFFICER

NIC CONTINUING EDUCATION LAUNCHES NEW WINTER 2020 COURSE GUIDE:

We are excited to launch our new, Winter 2020 Course Guide - showcasing intriguing programs, courses, lectures, forums and special events scheduled across its three main campuses, and Centres. Distributed through regional newspapers in Campbell River, Port Alberni, Comox Valley, and beyond, residents will see the guide appear across the regions in early January. The Winter Guide represents a departure from the unit's established annual guide, distributed in August – moving instead to a more colourful, compact, bi-annual guide. At the same time, CET is continuing its website upgrades, with an expanded social media and email marketing campaign headed into Fall 2020.

ACTIVITY ASSISTANT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM:

Given the growing demand for age-friendly health and memory care support services across the province, the Activity Assistant Certificate Program is expanding its offerings in 2020 - scheduling its first cohort at Port Alberni campus in September 2020. We hope that this dynamic, in-community program will attract a new group of students who would not otherwise commute to the Comox Valley campus (where it has been traditionally offered). The 4-month intensive certificate combines relevant theory and two in-community practicums, providing students with a foundation in the many complexities of older adult memory loss, and other cognitive impairments. A free information session is scheduled at the PA campus for Wednesday, March 11, 2020 @ 6 PM.

Continuing Education & Training Board of Governors Report

ANIMAL CARE AIDE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM:

The Animal Care Aide Certificate Program has begun accepting applications for the Fall 2020 in-take. It remains one of the most popular certificate programs in our Department. The 8-month, part-time training program, targeting those seeking a career in veterinary hospitals, animal shelters or kennels, filled its placements in the 2019-2020 academic year and is already on track to do the same in 2020-2021. The program covers everything about the growing field, from domestic animal anatomy and physiology, to basic laboratory procedures and hospital care. A free information session scheduled for Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 6:30pm and is already half full. With dozens of veterinary hospitals in the Comox Valley and beyond, facilities across the North Island are keen to support the next generation of animal care givers.

CRAFT BREWING AND MALTING PROGRAM:

Preparation and planning for this exciting new program is already well underway, and prospective students are contacting Continuing Education to express interest after only publishing one ad in a local newspaper. Working in collaboration with Comox Valley Economic Development Society, the Craft Brewing and Malting Program will prepare students for a dynamic career in the growing field of Craft Brewing, as well as help those interested in starting their own craft brewery. This part-time, evening and weekend program will be held at NIC's Comox Valley campus, starting in May 2020.

COMOX VALLY ELDERCOLLEGE:

Over 1,040 silver learners (55 or better) have already signed up for a new slate of stimulating lectures, courses and specialty programming (in Arts and Music, Brain Games, and Health) scheduled throughout the 2019-2020 academic year. The busy winter term will begin in February 2020. CVEC's continued membership growth and participation rates have already surpassed those in the 2018-2019 academic year.

Campbell River

SUZANNE JOLLY, TRAINING OFFICER

MARINE TRAINING:

Marine training's newest instructor, Captain Harry Johnston, has now been approved by Transport Canada to offer the three most in-demand marine courses (MED 003, NAU 016 and NAU 005). In February, Captain Johnston will begin offering these courses at the Port Alberni campus, as well as begin shadowing the delivery of higher level marine courses, Master Limited/Fishing Master IV, with the intention of him being able to offer this level training on a contract basis by the Spring 2020. In this way, we intend to expand marine training offerings for higher level skills training. While registration in January marine courses started slowly at first, we are now seeing an increase in registrations for February and March, (our busiest season).

Continuing Education & Training Board of Governors Report

METAL JEWELLERY DESIGN:

The Metal Jewellery Design Program has an enrolment of seven students in the Winter term and we are pleased to welcome back Joan Irvin, who has been our Winter term visiting instructor. Her extensive background in metal jewellery and fine arts, as well as her experience teaching at the Alberta University of the Arts, is a great asset to the program. We are also pleased to once again welcome visiting artists Leanne Helin and Gordon Dick, who will be teaching Northwest Coast First Nations Art & Engraving II. Leanne Helin was featured in a wonderful article in the Campbell River Mirror for her work in the program: <https://www.campbellrivermirror.com/entertainment/trailblazing-first-nations-artist-passing-on-trade-to-students-at-nic/> We are also very excited to change the annual Open House format to an evening event this year in the new Campbell River Commons space. We are collaborating with the Culinary Arts program so that the Bistro will be open for dining, during the event. We hope it will draw more of the public to explore the graduating students' works at this popular annual event (taking place on Thursday April 16, 5- 7 pm).

The individual Metal Jewellery workshops show great promise, as the first workshop, Silver Jewellery Express, has already filled. This course is a great beginner level class that serves as a stepping stone for students interested in taking additional metal jewellery courses, or registering for the full-time program.

SANDY ROSE, TRAINING OFFICER

HOSPITAL UNIT CLERK:

Students started off the Winter term with a session on cultural safety facilitated by Kathi Camilleri, Cultural Safety Practitioner. In her own words, "during this experiential workshop participants explore their own personal role in supporting the revival of the values that worked so beautifully in indigenous villages for thousands of years. As a group, they also explore in-depth the effects of Residential Schools and Canada's Policy of Assimilation on Indigenous communities. This workshop is geared to solutions rather than recrimination and is a great forum in which to ask questions. Participants in these often emotion-provoking workshop experiences comment that while they understood a bit about the issue on a cognitive level, after participation in Building Bridges Through Understanding the Village© they understand on a deep emotional level as well. The workshop is done from a non-blame and non-shame perspective and invites all participants to become a part of the healing that IS already happening." Students were also provided a personal copy of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's Calls to Action booklet as an important reference resource.

WILDFIRE CREW MEMBER TRAINING:

We are patiently waiting for the Ministry's Community Workforce Response Grant funding call to open, as we are well-positioned to submit proposals for 3, 4-week deliveries of Wildfire Crew Member Training across our regions. We are working directly with Strategic Natural Resource Consultants, with locations in Campbell River, Port Alberni and Port McNeil. Online interest lists are already capturing lots of potential students, which indicates that these skills remain in-demand.

Continuing Education & Training Board of Governors Report

TIMBER CRUISING / WASTE & RESIDUE:

Work is underway for designing a Timber Cruising/Waste Residue program, and we look forward to moving curriculum developments forward this year.

COASTAL LOG SCALING:

The next offering of Coastal Log Scaling will be February 2021. With already strong program interest, marketing over the coming weeks is expected to continue to increase enrollment. There are some curriculum changes expected, once the Ministry clarifies next steps.

CAMPBELL RIVER ELDERCOLLEGE:

An information session was held on Friday, January 10th and was attended by over 80 people (standing room only) who are interested in attending Winter/Spring 2020 classes. We may need to seek an alternate space on campus to handle these crowds in the future. In the past, Timberline Theatre was used as the venue for Information Sessions. The Theatre is no longer an option, as the high school uses the theatre as a classroom during school days. Registrations went live on January 13th with brisk activity and all 22 classes met their minimums. A highlight for this term is a special event taking place on April 17th with guest speaker/author, Michael Layland. Michael is an award-winning Victoria-based writer and he will be introducing his third book, delving into the progression of European knowledge of Vancouver Island. The book, In Natures Realm, celebrates how diverse local flora and fauna captured the interest of naturalists and early explorers, settlers and visitors.

PATHWAYS TO CARPENTRY - KYUQUOT:

A wonderful celebration ceremony was held on December 5th in Kyuquot to celebrate the 12 students who started and successfully completed the 12-week, Trades Discovery program. The event was well attended by members of the community and NIC representatives, and students took pride in receiving their framed Certificate of Completion. Work is underway to complete the reporting for the female students who participated in the program, with the aim of celebrating their accomplishments and satisfying the ITA Women in Trades funding requirements.

PATHWAYS TO CARPENTRY - GOLD RIVER:

Thirteen students began training on December 3rd in the 12-week, Trades Discovery Program in Gold River. Sadly, one student sustained a serious injury outside of class and was unable to return, due to medical issues. The remaining 12 students have completed the first 5-weeks of training, with completion scheduled for March 6th. As with the Kyuquot cohort, class engagement has been very strong with great student attendance and participation – a testament to the strong instructional team and the support of the community. Even the weather couldn't dampen the enthusiasm of this group, who are building their legacy project outside!

Continuing Education & Training Board of Governors Report



Kyuquot Group



Gold River Group