

# OPEN HOUSE **NIC** THUNDERBIRD MALL

**Tłilalaka n's hiłile' sa'naxwa  
ka n's a xstuda**

(Let's gather so everything goes right when we open)

**EVERYONE WELCOME | JANUARY 18, 2 - 4PM**

**THUNDERBIRD MALL, BESIDE SACRED WOLF FRIENDSHIP CENTRE**

**UNIT #140, 8950 GRANVILLE STREET, PORT HARDY, BC, V0N 2P0**

**DISCOVER NIC'S NEW \$1.4 MILLION CAMPUS IN THE HEART OF PORT HARDY,  
INCLUDING A NEW STUDENT-CENTRED LIBRARY AND LEARNING COMMONS,  
INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND MORE.**

# Congratulations!

North Island College  
on Your New Campus!

*Welcome to the  
Thunderbird Mall*



**"The Centre of it All!"**  
8950 Granville St., Port Hardy  
250-949-8623  
[www.thunderbirdmall.ca](http://www.thunderbirdmall.ca)



## NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE AT PORT HARDY'S THUNDERBIRD MALL

# NIC Moves Student Success to the Centre of the Community

A new \$1.4 million campus at Thunderbird Mall opened January 2, making upgrading and post-secondary education more accessible to students and the community.

The new site is more convenient to students commuting by bus from Port McNeill, Alert Bay, Sointula and nearby communities. It is also closer to NIC's community partners, such as the Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre, the North Island Employment Foundations Society and North Vancouver Island Aboriginal Training Society.

"Our new central location is more accessible for students and community members," said campus coordinator Caitlin Hartnett. "It's easy to drop in, register for a course or talk to us about the programs and services you'd like to see offered."

Janet Hanuse, executive director at the Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre, started her degree at NIC and is thrilled to have NIC next door.

"Having NIC at Thunderbird Mall removes a huge transportation barrier," she said. "NIC's previous location was a long walk for a mother of four who just raced home to make dinner and now has to get to night courses."

Not only is the college's physical location more central, so are the services within it. The Library and Learning Commons is now one of the first spaces you encounter.

Students have access to quiet study and meeting spaces, writing, math, research and technical support, peer tutoring and several electronic collections, including 24/7 access to approximately 166,000 e-books, 25,500 streaming videos and 78 research databases.

"We also have a pretty phenomenal book selection," said Hartnett. "We have focused our collections on First Nations, botany, ecology and wild foods to reflect the culture and place here — and anyone can take out books once they register as a community borrower."

The new campus includes an open study area and computer lab, offices and assessment areas, a well-equipped lunch room and a welcoming student lounge with wooden beams and cedar siding designed to emulate the Kwakwaka'wakw aesthetic.

The multi-purpose room is designed to deliver health care and first aid courses. A dedicated Interactive TV (ITV) classroom gives students access to university transfer courses in anthropology, criminology, English, geography and more.

In fall 2017, 22 students began their Early Childhood Care and Education certificate. While most study in Port Hardy, nine Alert Bay students are able to connect remotely via Interactive TV, allowing them to stay in their community while studying.

"The connection is really clear," said Hartnett. "And it's going to be 10 times faster when the new Interactive TV line is installed in June. This allows us to offer high quality programming where students don't have to leave home to study."

At NIC's new campus at Thunderbird Mall, students have access to individual support and flexible study options to reach their goals, whether they need to upgrade in high-school level courses or launch their degrees with first and second-year university transfer courses. Students aged 55 and above can participate in a selection of academic courses at a reduced rate by applying as a Joy of Lifelong Learning student.

There is still room in NIC's Tourism and Hospitality Management certificate which starts January 29, the first time this program has been offered in the region.

"It's exciting to be educating tourism students in a space that reflects our location, both environmentally and culturally," said Hartnett.



NIC's new \$1.4 million campus at Thunderbird Mall features a welcoming student lounge and a dedicated interactive TV classroom. The new campus is closer to NIC's community partners and more accessible for students walking or busing to campus.



Students at NIC's new campus at Thunderbird Mall have access to a wide range of resources such as quiet study and meeting spaces, writing, math, research and technical support to help them succeed.

This spring, 16 students will receive their Education Assistant/Community Support certificates, the first students to celebrate graduation at NIC's new campus. This is great news for Hanuse, who sees a need for community support workers on the North Island.

"There are a lot of agencies struggling to find staff qualified to fill positions," she said. "When NIC offers these programs close to home it adds huge capacity to our community."

For a full list of NIC courses and programs visit [www.nic.bc.ca.ca/programs](http://www.nic.bc.ca.ca/programs) or call 250-949-7912



### CONGRATULATIONS NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE!

**Best wishes to staff and students and all community partners in the North Island**

**Rachel Blaney**

Member of Parliament for North Island-Powell River

[Rachel.Blaney@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Rachel.Blaney@parl.gc.ca)

1-800-667-8404



# NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE AT PORT HARDY'S THUNDERBIRD MALL

## Investing in Accessible Education

As North Island College celebrates the opening of a new regional campus in Port Hardy, it gives us an opportunity to look back at our years of service. It's important to recognize all those who have played a significant role in helping students improve their lives through education over the past 42 years.



**John Bowman**

From tutors who drove NIC's mobile learning centres into remote logging camps to community members, provincial funders and staff who helped us achieve today's \$1.4 million investment in a new regional campus, I'm extremely proud of our combined efforts in providing education close to home.

Here is a sample of some of the milestones we have achieved throughout the years.

**John Bowman, President**  
North Island College

### Regional Highlights Since 1975

- **1975** BC's Department of Education establishes North Island College, serving School Districts 71, 72, 84 and 85. Local representatives include Port Hardy's Peter Glenmütz and Alert Bay's Rene Taylor.
- **1976** NIC opens learning centres in Port Hardy and Gold River, and welcomes the Port Alberni School District 70 to the college region.
- **1977** Students at NIC's Alert Bay centre participate in NIC's first aquaculture program.
- **1980** NIC develops Forest Resource Skills courses in cooperation with three major forest companies.
- **1981** The Samarinda II, a 160-foot whaling ship brings NIC to students in remote coastal communities.
- **1982** NIC's Business Office Training programs offers training with specialized machines available in NIC learning centres across the region. Many alumni still live and work in the region.

*"The whole reason I was able to go as far as I did was because NIC offered education close to home. It was the gateway to where I am today."*

*Janet Hanuse, Executive Director, Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre*

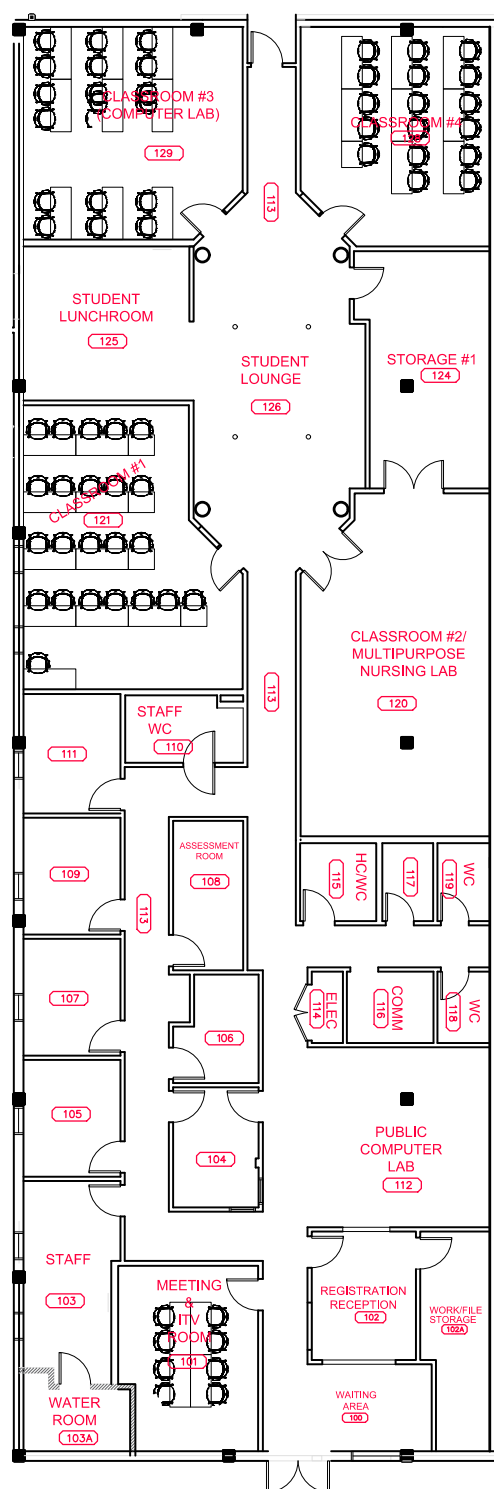
► **1985** Tutors in NIC's Mobile Learning Centres drove into Zeballos, Woss Lake and Nimpkish Camp to provide college access to students in remote logging camps. A mobile home on the outside, the inside is a mini college with audio-visual equipment lab space and resource materials.



*"It didn't matter what the road was like on the way home, when one person found success you left motivated," Nigel Bailey, former NIC tutor and learning centre operator, with wife Adele. They are seen here with their son Chris, a network systems analyst at NIC's Comox Valley campus.*

- **1991** NIC appoints David Hudson director at NIC's regional campus in Port Hardy. When he first started with NIC, he would often travel to students' homes to conduct lectures because there were no facilities.
- **2000** Gladys Latty, is appointed associate dean, community learning Centres, overseeing 12 Learning Centres from Tofino to Port Hardy.
- **2007** The first class of Practical Nurses based out of Port Hardy celebrate their graduation.
- **2013** Alert Bay student Emmalina Stadnyk, an upgrading student at the Cormorant Island Community Learning Centre, received NIC's top award for academic excellence.
- **2015** NIC names Caitlin Hartnett, NIC upgrading instructor as campus coordinator. NIC's Indigenous and International Foods Project, in partnership with the Kwakiutl Band Awi'nakola Project and Island Health, concludes with a multicultural community feast in T'saxis.
- **2018** NIC opens its new central campus at Thunderbird Mall in Port Hardy.

For more NIC history, visit [www.nic.bc.ca/about\\_us](http://www.nic.bc.ca/about_us)



Front Entrance



❁ Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre Staff and Board of Directors would like to welcome the North Island College staff and students to their space as our new neighbours!! We look forward to this great opportunity and wish you all the best in your transition.

8950 Granville St., Port Hardy | 250-902-0552



# STUDY WITH **NIC** AT THUNDERBIRD MALL

## Tourism & Hospitality Management Certificate

Gain in-demand skills to launch a career in BC's growing tourism industry. Experience regional and First Nations tourism approaches through field trips, all while learning from industry experts, in this two-year part-time certificate program. Apply now to start January 29, 2018.



## Complete Year 1 of Your Degree

You don't need to leave Port Hardy to complete the first year of your degree. Study a variety of university-transferable courses in person, via distance education and by interactive television. Receive full credit for your NIC coursework when you transfer to university.



## Upgrading (All Levels to Grade 12)

NIC offers a wide range of courses in math, English and sciences. Receive individual support and flexible study options as you prepare for your career in health, tourism and hospitality, early childhood education, social services and more.



## First Aid

Choose from two Occupational First Aid courses in Port Hardy this February. Learn entry-level first aid with OFA-010 or, go further, and earn your transportation endorsement with OFA-015. Both courses are certified by WorkSafe BC.



## Joy of Lifelong Learning

If you are aged 55 and up, you can participate in NIC courses at reduced rates. Access NIC's exceptional faculty, facilities and more in academic, semester-long humanities courses such as anthropology, criminology, geography and liberal studies.



## Applied Business Technology Certificate (Office Assistant I)

Qualify for office support positions and develop core skills to advance your career. Applied Business Technology online courses are available 24 hours/ seven days a week and qualified students are admitted on a continuous basis, subject to the availability of space.



## Awí'nakola Land-Based Learning

This program blends outdoor exploration with indoor instruction English and math. Completing this course will help you meet the entry requirements for college and university programs or towards your BC Adult Grad.



## Kwak'wala Language Courses

Learn basic conversation, structure, and pronunciation in an immersion setting. Gain insight into the way of life of the Kwakwaka'wakw and how Kwak'wala is essential to who the Kwakwaka'wakw are.



To learn more, join us at our Open House  
January 18, 2 - 4 pm

[www.nic.bc.ca](http://www.nic.bc.ca) | 1-250-949-7912

NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE



*Congratulations North Island College on your new campus!*  
*We're proud to have your presence in our community.*

District of Port Hardy 7360 Columbia Street, Port Hardy, B.C. 250-949-6665 [www.porthardy.ca](http://www.porthardy.ca)

