

**REPORT TO NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
January 29, 2015**

CAMPBELL RIVER CAMPUS

Biology Students tour internationally acclaimed Science Centre

Submitted by Sandra Milligan

BIO 202 Genetics students toured the internationally acclaimed BC Centre for Aquatic Health Science (BC CAHS), seeing firsthand how molecular biology tools are used to solve real world health problems. Students observed tracking of samples from fish farm coolers, through dissection, protein, RNA and DNA isolation to the final results used for disease diagnosis. They saw scientists with all levels of education working in this stimulating environment and now know that science employment opportunities exist in their home community. Instructor and BC CAHS Board member Sandra Milligan notes that NIC students have been employed at the BC CAHS in the past as volunteers, summer students and research assistants. “This field trip exposes students to a level of science that they have never seen firsthand. They leave excited and thinking about their future career goals.”



COMOX VALLEY CAMPUS

United Against Violence Against Women

Submitted by Richelle Gardiner-Hynds

On December 3rd, NICFA and NISU held a United Against Violence Against Women event in Tye 205 from 4-6 pm. Comox Valley Transition Society Representative and former NIC student, Stasia Hasumi, led the discussion on Community, Silence & Blame, and VIU student, Michael Snodden, led the Consent & No Means No discussion. The RCMP spoke on Party, Date & Bar Safety. Food & Beverages were provided. The event was well received by an enthusiastic group.

New Business Instructor

Submitted by Bill Parkinson

The School of Business is very pleased to welcome Ali Mayboudi as a new instructor in the area of economics and other related courses. Ali has both an MBA and an MA in Economics, making him a very versatile member of our department. Ali comes to us from Simon Fraser University where he worked in the Department of Economics. Ali will also be transitioned slowly into the role of advisor for International Business students as part of his faculty responsibilities. We are excited to have Ali and his partner Mania join us here in the Comox Valley.

Update from the Fine Arts Department

Submitted by Linda Perron

Follow the link below for an article in the CV Record that features two of our students: Lisa Zervakis is currently taking the Communication Design Diploma and took the social media course last winter, and Anne Guilo is a grad from our old Graphic Design program.

<http://www.comoxvalleyrecord.com/news/286144481.html>

Exhibitions and openings

The School of Fine Art & Design will be hosting the official opening of the Satellite Gallery at the CRA Lewis Centre in Courtenay on January 23rd, from 7 – 9pm. *Gestural Regimes* features paintings by students enrolled in the Fine Arts Diploma and the Emily Carr External Degree program at NIC. The write up for the show is attached and a quick view of some of the work can be seen on the FB page for Raven Hall Gallery.

<https://www.facebook.com/RavenHallGallery>

The Way Things Art & How To Be, works on paper, sculpture and performance will be opening on January 23rd at the Comox Valley Art Gallery. Artists Kelly Gough and Joyce Lindemulder are both graduates of the Fine Arts Diploma and Emily Carr External Degree programs at NIC. Joyce holds her MA in visual arts and is a sessional instructor and technician with the School of Fine Arts & Design.

<http://www.comoxvalleyartgallery.com/exhibitions/present/>

Also opening is 'After,' an exhibition of work by second year Fine Arts Diploma painting students. This show will be presented simultaneously at the Comox Valley Art Gallery's George Sawchuck Gallery and the Raven Hall Gallery at NIC. The opening reception will be at CVAG on January 23rd, from 7 – 9pm. The exhibition in the Raven Hall gallery is currently being installed.

<http://www.comoxvalleyartgallery.com/exhibitions/present/>

Annual Spring Art Event will be held on February 14th, 2015 from 7 - 11pm. Once again Shadbolt Studios and Raven Hall will be transformed into a contemporary exhibition space filled with work from students in the Fine Arts Diploma, Emily Carr External Degree and Interactive Media & Design programs. This event is open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

MOUNT WADDINGTON CAMPUS

New Aboriginal Advisor

Submitted by Sarah Deagle

Debra Edzerza joined NIC late in the Fall as the Aboriginal Advisor in Mount Waddington. Deb is Tahltan First Nations and is from the Crow Clan. Her family is from Telegraph Creek, although she lived in Whitehorse, Yukon before moving to Port Hardy. She completed her Masters in Education with a focus on Multi-Disciplinary Leadership from UNBC in December and holds a Bachelor of Education (University of Regina, 2006). She was most recently the Executive Director of Yukon Women in Trades and Technology and has experience as a teacher and outreach counselor (Elijah Smith Elementary School) and as mental health first aid trainer (Council of Yukon First Nations), among other things.

HCA Program

Submitted by Gregory Batt

After six months of preparation, student recruitment and admissions, the HCA program began in October and will finish in May of 2015. Attached is a picture of our keen students with their instructor, Roland

Stockham. Students include; Colleen George, Brenda Gordon, Deanna Jewell, Meryn Kelly, Stephanie Macarenko, Jerika McArter, Taylor Soper, Cheyanne Speck, Vanessa Walkus.



English Language Program

Submitted by Gregory Batt

This very successful program under the direction of Dr. Julia Fall-Wood is back for another year. The program relies completely on volunteer tutors. Last year the Program had 14 tutors and more than 42 learners from Sointula, Port Alice, Port McNeill and Port Hardy. This year we are up to 35 learners and 11 tutors. The success of the Program depends totally on recruiting and supporting volunteer community tutors. Attached is a picture of our December Christmas International dinner.



CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Community Collaboration and Engagement

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

- The School is preparing for a review of its priorities and operational model.
- The School continues to support the implementation of annual First Aid, Marine, ElderCollege, general interest and a range of Certificate programs.
- The School continues to support Project Based Training programs across the region including delivery in Bella Bella and Bella Coola. Programs include: Aquaculture Technician Level 1, Marine Training/Aquaculture Prep, Coastal Forest Resource Certificate, Underground Mining in Campbell

River and Dease Lake, Building Service Worker Program, Security Training (Basic), Oil and Gas Foundation Program – Working in Natural Gas.

Programming Activities

CAMPBELL RIVER

- The School has received 13 applicants for the Coastal Log Scaling program in February and there are discussions taking place with the Ministry of Forests with reference to delivery model, examination and access to required training logs.
- NVIATS in the north island area had been working with Western Forest Products to facilitate fire training/safety training for prospective employees. They had contracted NIC Campbell River to provide training from September 23 to October 1 at the Port Hardy campus. All instructors were engaged and schedules finalized. Unfortunately NVIATS was not successful in securing funding and the contract offer was cancelled.
- Room C251 at the Campbell River campus is now a much-needed multi-purpose space for the School. The room supports a range of programs including First Aid, and all gear and supplies have been moved over from the Vigar Road location.
- Staff are busy supporting the ongoing implementation of the Project Based Training programs with Campbell River supporting all deliveries across the region.
- Staff put out a call for proposals for some additional part-time jewellery courses to a variety of jewellery makers. So far we have received 10 proposals. We are also working on a mobile studio to take metal jewellery classes to other campuses.
- Staff attended the Cumberland Winterfaire to promote metal jewellery programs and other Continuing Education courses.
- The School has started research on some new program ideas including, beer sommelier, incubation farm and safety officer.
- The Landscape Horticulture Level 2 apprenticeship finished with all eight students passing their Industry Training Authority (ITA) exam. Staff attended their program-end celebration.
- The Metal Jewellery Design Certificate program also held their term 1 wrap-up party.

Campbell River ElderCollege

- Elder College in Campbell River had a successful week of registrations and will be meeting with the Dean to review the operating model as there is a high dependence on volunteers.

COMOX VALLEY

- The School held an information session for Landscape Horticulture programs starting in February in the Comox Valley. The instructor meeting is scheduled for early January. All scheduling and hiring for the program has been done and we are working on advertising and promotion.
- Staff are in the process of finalizing revisions to Activity Assistant Practice Experience 1 (HSR 170) to go to Curriculum Committee on January 23rd and Education Council on February 13th.
- We are working with Fine Arts Faculty on the coordination of the screen printing studio for programming use and budget expenditures.
- Staff participated in the Human Service Worker Advisory Committee to provide an overview of involvement and the role of Continuing Education and Training.
- Staff met with the St. Joseph's Hospital Unit Clerk Manager to discuss capacity challenges for the upcoming cohort of 16 Hospital Unit Clerk students doing placements in June 2015.
- Staff started research on some new program ideas including; dog grooming and related ideas such as a dog walking business, arts courses, grant writing, and contract courses with clients such as School

District 71 Comox Valley, and Community Development and Strategic Planning.

- Staff presented contract training opportunities to managers at the Comox Valley Airport and Costco in conjunction with First Aid promotions.
- The Activity Assistant Certificate Program completed December 20th with a final evaluation wrap-up session.
- The School is working on changes to scheduled courses for the upcoming term.
- Staff continue to distribute posters for Landscape Horticulture, Nursing Foot Care, Animal Care Aide, and Hospital Unit Clerk.

Comox Valley ElderCollege

- 2015 WI Comox Valley ElderCollege Newsletter is now available online. Hardcopies will be available throughout the community and NIC Courtenay campus on January 9th.
- We have a total of 61 courses offered plus the 8 week Lecture series. This represents 16 more courses than we offered for the 2014 FA session.
- The theme of the 8 week Lecture Series is Crime and Punishment – Canadian Style. This series will feature many interesting topics including a look inside a courtroom, how prosecutions are conducted and challenges in the intersection of psychiatry and the law presented by experts in the field. The lecture series will allow drop-ins if there are available seats. The first day of Registration is January 26th at 9am.
- The Information Forum highlighting courses by the instructor is on January 24th. It will be held at Stan Hagen Theatre starting at 10am.

PORT ALBERNI

- The School continues to provide Professional Development training for the Volunteer Fire Departments in the surrounding area.
- The Project Based Funded programs, Marine Training and Building Service Worker, completed in December with 12 students successfully receiving various certificates.
- Staff have been marketing and recruiting for the Project Based Funded, Enhanced Security Training program which will start in late January. We have now met our target enrollment of 12 students.
- Programming for 2015 winter/spring for PA ElderCollege is in progress.
- Staff are working with industry for log access so we can possibly offer the Log Scaling course in Port Alberni in February 2015.
- A 4-day Kitchen Helper Training course successfully took place in December in Ucluelet for Nuu-chah-nulth Employment and Training Program.
- Staff are preparing a quote for Nuu-chah-nulth Employment and Training Program (NETP) for some retail/trades certificate training.
- Staff prepared a quote and were awarded a contract from the Port Alberni Friendship Centre to deliver Foodsafe, First Aid & CPR which will take place in January. There is also a possibility of a 4-day Retail Training course and a Communication & Conflict Resolution workshop.
- The School was awarded a Foodsafe course contract for the Wickaninnish Inn staff in Tofino to run in January.

FIRST AID

- In November we held another very successful OFA Level 3 course with 12 students.
- The meeting with the Comox Valley Airport Commission went well and we have our first course for them scheduled in January 2015. We also met with the Safety Coordinator at Costco and will touch

base with her again in the New Year for training in a February-March time frame.

- We had two contracts in December and currently have four more in place in January and February for a total of five additional courses.
- We are offering the Marine Advanced First Aid course in five locations in conjunction with the Ministry-funded Aquaculture Technician Program. Our trainer will be delivering the course in both Port Hardy and Bella Bella in January.
- Marketing is underway with ads submitted for the Comox Military Family Resource Centre and the Courtenay Recreation newsletters. We have also focused on email blasts to marine/logging clients increasing the contacts in the database significantly.
- Staff continue to promote our Red Cross courses through the Red Cross website.
- Staff are participating in the Continuing Education bi-weekly ads in CV, CR & PA and continue to promote, update and reach out on Facebook & Twitter.

MONTHLY UPDATE—NOVEMBER 2014



Local, direct farm fresh food is now being served by Custom Gourmet to NIC students, staff and visitors. Jaymie Collins, Vancouver Island Farm Products, Sandra Hamilton, Feed Comox Valley Project Lead, and Dawn McRae, Custom Gourmet, load up fresh fruit and vegetables for delivery to North Island College's Comox Valley campus cafeteria.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM NOVEMBER

- CARTI supported the completion of a pilot study of wildlife activity in the Beaver Lodge Forest Lands in collaboration with City of Campbell River, Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations, and Greenways Land Trust. Pilot funding was provided by Western Forest Products.
- Dr. Aisling Brady presented her aquaculture research results to Fisheries and Oceans Canada at a meeting that also included Government, industry representatives and NIC.
- Albert Balbon gave an RWSL demonstration for international agents from India, with Mark Herringer and Colleen Hanley, International Education, in attendance.
- The new RWSL LEGO project development has been released to SD 71 students for pilot testing.
- Coordinated two NISOD Staff Excellence Award Nominations.
- Completed Genome Canada Pre-Proposal; \$7.8 million total project with partners including UVIC, UBC, DFO, Rutgers, UPEI, BCSGA, and Island Scallops.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Advise Canadian Agricultural Human Resources Council on Finfish Aquaculture job competencies

First local food order delivered to NIC Comox Valley Campus Cafeteria, operated by Custom Gourmet, as result of FEED CV project

COMMUNITY & INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

BC Applied Research and Innovation Network

BC Centre for Aquatic Health Sciences

BC Colleges

Comox Valley Regional District

Camosun College

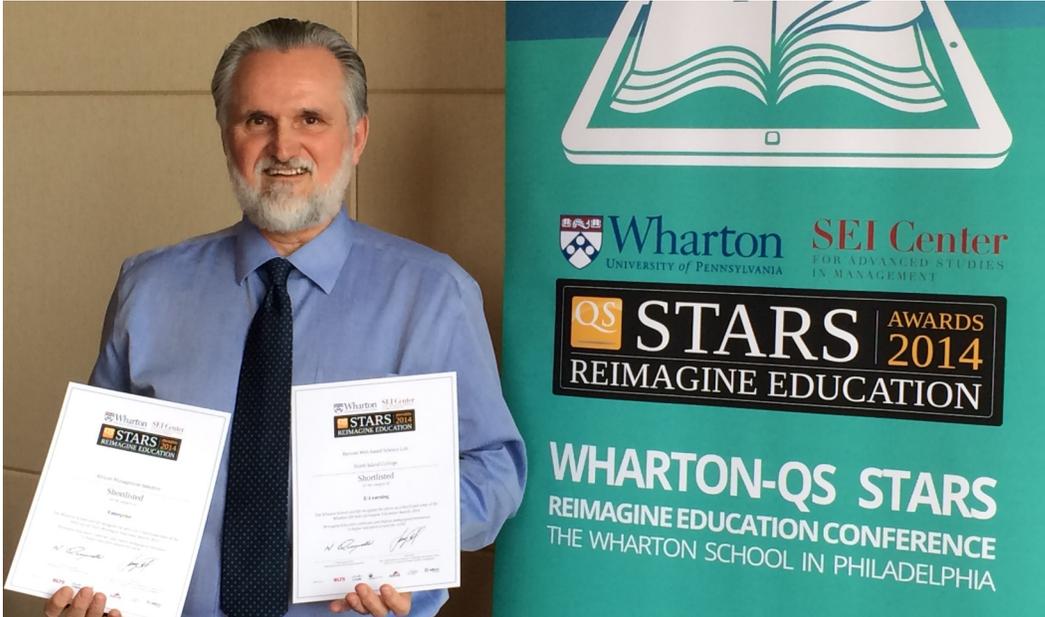
Green Technology Exchange

Innovation Island

Navigate NIDES

North American Network of Science Labs Online

MONTHLY UPDATE—DECEMBER 2014



Albert Balbon with the second place award for the Remote Web-based Science Labs at the Reimagine Education Awards in Philadelphia.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM DECEMBER

- Albert Balbon, along with Randall Heidt and Lisa Domae, attended the Reimagine Education Awards at the Wharton School of Business in Philadelphia. The Remote Web-Based Science Lab (RWSL) received second place award in the Discipline Award in Life Science and Medicine.
- Dr. Stephen Cross submitted Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) 18-month report
- Dr. Stephen Cross discussed applied research opportunities with We Wai Kai Nation
- Dr. Aisling Brady submitted final aquaculture research report to NSERC
- RWSL website launched: www.nic.bc.ca/rwsl
- CARTI featured in Campbell River Mirror, as a result of interview with Reporter

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

RWSL team attended the Reimagine Education Awards at the Wharton School of Business in Philadelphia. Received second place award in the Discipline Award in Life Science and Medicine.

COMMUNITY & INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

- BC Salmon Farmers Association
- BC Applied Research and Innovation Network
- Campbell River Chamber of Commerce
- EMC Fastpass / Labely
- Island Agricultural Show
- Mainstream Biological
- Reimagine Education Awards
- Vancouver Island University
- Vancouver Island Aerospace Alliance
- We Wai Kai Nation

Gestural Regimes

Much like the existentialist philosopher Merleau-Ponty, who supported the idea that embodiment is our primary experience of the world, gestural experimentation with mark making attempts to enrich that experience by suspending our visual dependency on ordering information into recognizable forms and allowing us to simply feel and not think. John Cage, Kandinsky, Henri Michaux, and many other artists believed that only music through its pure abstraction was capable “of expressing the rhythmic dynamism of the thought process and of gaining access to the original inner self” (Parish, *Henri Michaux: Experimentation with Signs*, 2007), however, it could be argued that visual art can reveal just as much of the process if one has committed enough of their attention.

Musical vibration and frequency span much further and are much stronger than the vibration of colors, but just the same - colors and strokes carry emotion and rhythm, and can be decoded into narratives of feeling. Abstract painting is a performance that occurs on an intimate level, and one that requires attention as well as careful consideration of the work. We cannot turn up the volume to hear it better, one must examine the work for what it is and what it is not, and allow it to exist without restraints and compulsions to make it into familiar images which want to rationalize the compositions. The experiences often come from within us and not really from the works themselves; the work is just there to guide us to them.

The exhibition is comprised of works created by students enrolled in the Fine Arts Diploma Program/Emily Carr University. Painting is one of many Fine Art courses offered at the college, and it covers a comprehensive list of styles, artists and movements, as well as encourages students to hone and develop their own preferred stylistic explorations.