

**REPORT TO NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
FEBRUARY 2017**

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Programming Activities

Submitted by Lynne MacFadgen

MOUNT WADDINGTON

Continuing Education & Training (CET) and Trades and Technology (T&T) jointly negotiated a unique training contract with the Ministry of Jobs Tourism Skills Development (MJTSD) to offer a 10-week *Aquaculture Pathway Program* at the Mount Waddington (MW) campus. The enhanced funding model supported the hiring of a local CET Regional Training Officer, with Aboriginal ancestry, to coordinate program delivery. In addition to core marine skills training, the program includes applied learning opportunities through visits to fish hatcheries and marine enterprises on traditional territory, as well as in-community cultural events. It also includes essential skills training and English and Math upgrading, so that interested students are prepared to meet admission requirements for the Aquaculture Technician Program scheduled to run in Campbell River. The Pathway Program started on January 23rd with 12 students (seven Aboriginal) recruited from Port Hardy, Port McNeill, Alert Bay, and surrounding North Island communities.

Three additional programs are scheduled to run at the MW campus this quarter, including:

1. The four-week *Pre-entry Tourism and Hospitality Program* funded through the Aboriginal Service Plan. CET is coordinating program delivery (Feb 18-Mar 11) at the MW campus. This is the first of a three-phased laddering program that includes short-term employment and industry certificates for entry-level positions in the tourism sector, as well as encouraging students to develop an interest in continuing to the next phase of the Tourism Bridging Program.
2. The 16-week, Project Based Training (PBT)-funded *Coastal Forest Resource Certificate* prepares students for entry-level positions in the forest sector, and for wildfire crews in BC and AB (Mar 13-Jun 16, 2017).
3. The newly-developed, eight-week, Ministry of Advanced Education (AVED)-funded, and North Island Employment Foundations Society (NIEFS)-supported *From Barriers to Balance Program* is comprised of office skills, computer training, and active job search support for unemployed community members and displaced workers associated with Port Alice mill closures.

PORT ALBERNI

T&T contracted with CET to coordinate the delivery of a 16-week, ITA-funded *Prep Cook Program* in the Culinary Arts Facility at Port Alberni (PA) campus. The program provided entry-level cooking skills and industry-required, short-term certificates to prepare students for employment in the food service sector. Students demonstrating strong skills were also encouraged to continue their studies by entering the Professional Cook 1 (PC1) Program. Five students successfully completed the program on January 13, 2017, and one student has been accepted into the PC1 Program that starts on Jan 30th.

Both the Prep Cook and PC1 students are preparing and serving meals in the PA campus cafeteria (Mon-Thurs) – one of the distinct benefits of having students completing food production training on campus, with the need, and capacity, to provide cafeteria service for on-site students, faculty and community members.

The 16-week, PBT-funded *Coastal Forest Resource Certificate* is well underway at PA campus, with 11 students preparing for entry-level positions in the forest sector, as well as receiving training enabling them to join wildfire crews in BC and AB (Nov 28/16-Mar 31/17).

The four-week, PBT-funded *Building Service Worker Program* started on Jan 16/17 with a full cohort of

12 students. It will provide students with industry-standard, practical custodian training for jobs in the building service industry.

One additional program is scheduled to run at the PA campus this quarter; the four-week, PBT-funded *Enhanced Security Training Program*. It includes basic security training, safety/emergency preparedness, essential skills, industry certificates, and a field placement for applied learning.

CAMPBELL RIVER

Based on the successful, first delivery of the *Hospital Environmental Service Worker Program* with North Vancouver Island Aboriginal Training Society (NVIATS) in December, 2016, a second cohort is now underway, again contracted with NVIATS. It started on Jan 9th with 12 new students.

The unique features of this joint venture are that CET has collaborated with Island Health to offer their *Cultural Safety Workshop* for the Aboriginal-focused program, and the program delivery was customized in consultation with Balfour Beatty/Crothall Compass (the company providing janitorial and housekeeping service for the new North Island hospitals). There is the potential to offer this program again at the Campbell River (CR) campus in April, and at the Comox Valley (CV) campus in May, to address remaining hospital workforce/staffing needs.

The 19-week, industry-recognized *Introduction to Coastal Log Scaling/Log Scaling Practice Program* started on Jan 25th. It includes math upgrading with log scaling theory and practice to prepare students to write the exam to become licensed log scalers.

The *Underground Mining Essentials Certificate* is well-underway with ten students from St'at'imc Nation at the Avino Gold & Silver mine-site in Lillooet (Nov 14/16-Mar 3/17). Students are beginning to work with Sandvik's simulator for the loader simulator training that will prepare them for their hands-on, mining skills training in February 2017.

One additional program is scheduled to run at the CR campus this quarter; the 12-week *New Directions for Older Workers Program* offering employability skills training, workplace essential skills, and career and job readiness training. AVED funds have been secured to offer another cohort-based program scheduled for Feb 20th. Additional computer training and public speaking/interview preparation skills will be added to the next delivery.

COMOX VALLEY

The six-month *Animal Care Aide Program* (administered by CET) is halfway through its flexible delivery schedule (evenings and weekends) preparing students to work as assistants in vet clinics, animal shelters, and kennels.

The eight-month *Hospital Unit Clerk Certificate* (administered by CET) is also mid-way through delivery preparing students for entry-level employment in hospitals/healthcare settings.

Three Occupational Health & Safety (OHS)/First Aid contracts started in January 2017:

1. OFA level 3 for Western Forest Products
2. Marine Basic Skills for Mama'omas Ltd
3. OFA level 1 for School District 85 (Port Hardy)

Ten additional, stand-alone courses are planned for delivery February-April 2017.

TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

Trades and Technology Programs Update

On January 24, 2017, Premier Christy Clark announced a \$13.5-million investment in a new trades training facility at North Island College that will help prepare students for in-demand jobs in the skilled trades.



Chris Udy, Director, Faculty of Trades and Technical Programs instructs the Premier on operating a front end loader worked on by NIC's Heavy Mechanical students.

Trades and Technology have launched the following:

- Two full cohorts of *Electrical Foundation* in January, with 16 students and one intake being dedicated to Accelerated Credit Enrolment in Industry Training (ACE-IT) students.
- Two full cohorts of *Carpentry Foundation* with one intake being dedicated to ACEIT students.
- Full cohort of *Heavy Mechanical Foundation* in January to accommodate increased interest and a waitlist.
- *Welding Foundation* in January with 15 students.
- An inaugural fee-payer cohort based *Aquaculture Level One* out of Campbell River.
- *Aquaculture Pathway* program which is being supported by Continuing Education and Training.
- ITA Program Innovation Project: Employability Fundamentals & Work Experience Training Pilot.

In addition, the department;

- concluded a *Trades Sampler* in collaboration with the School District involving over 26 students. The program spanned three and a half months, providing students with an introduction to welding, metal fabrication, automotive, plumbing, heavy mechanical and aircraft structures.
- is preparing program reconciliation for Industry Training Authority.
- is preparing for training plan negotiations for 2017-2018.
- concluded delivery of *Prep Cook* program which involved support from Continuing Education and Training.

Prep Cook Video for Funder

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qLx1z2CfKrM&feature=youtu.be>

Aquaculture Technical Level One Certificate Program



Aquaculture Field Trip to Centre for Aquatic Health Sciences Society



Aquaculture Technical Level One Certificate Program “Interim” Aquaculture Lab.

Aircraft Structures Program



Aircraft Structures Program - Student is building a short take-home wood structure wing assembly.

OFFICE OF GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Submitted by Thevi Pather, Executive Director Office of Global Engagement

In December 2016, the Office of Global Engagement (OGE) held a farewell event for visiting students from Kansai Gaidai University.

The OGE held an Annual Holiday Dinner for Homestay host families and international students.

In January, the OGE held an Orientation for 64 new international students with a strong focus on engagement and academic success.

In January, the OGE launched the Leave for Change opportunity for NIC staff in 2017.

STUDENT SERVICES AND REGISTRAR**Parent-Student Information Nights**

Submitted by Kathleen Kuhnert, Director Student Services & Registrar

Staff and faculty hosted information nights for parents and prospective students at the Campbell River campus (Oct 18th), the Port Alberni campus (Nov 9th) and the Comox Valley campus (Nov 15th).

The events provided an opportunity for parents and students to meet with faculty and learn about the breadth of the programs offered at NIC. The event was a follow up to the annual Open House that takes place every February, targeting all grade 11 students. These same students are provided with the opportunity to return to campus in Grade 12 with their parents.

The evening began with a presentation from NIC's Recruitment Officer and a welcome from faculty and administration. Following the presentation, there was time for one-on-one conversations with faculty in each discipline.

Student Services and Foundation representatives were there to answer questions. Feedback from the event was positive and resulted in approximately 50 on-the-spot applications college-wide.