

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

TRADES AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

Trades and Technical Programs Update

May/June Launch

The following Trades and Technical programs launched in May and June:

- Electrical Apprentice Level 2
- Electrical Apprentice Level 3
- Heavy Duty Equipment Technician Apprentice Level 3
- Heavy Duty Equipment Technician Apprentice Level 4
- Plumber Apprentice Level 2

May/June/July Completion

The following Trades and Technical programs have completed or will complete in May, June and July:

- Aircraft Structural Technician – AME-S
- Carpentry Foundation
- Carpentry ACEIT
- Electrical Apprentice Level 3 x 3
- Electrical Apprentice Level 1
- Electrical Entry Foundation
- Electrical Entry Foundation ACEIT
- Heavy Mechanical Foundation
- Heavy Duty Equipment Technician Apprentice Level 2
- Heavy Duty Equipment Technician Apprentice Level 3
- Heavy Duty Equipment Technician Apprentice Level 4
- Joinery and Cabinetmaking Foundation
- Plumber Apprentice Level 2
- Plumbing and Piping Foundation
- Professional Cook 2
- Welder A
- Welder B
- Welder Foundation
- Welder Apprentice 1
- Welder Apprentice 2
- Welder Apprentice 3

Under Development

Development has begun for our TV and field crew training programs in Port Alberni and Campbell River. The production assistant stream is geared towards First Nations students, who will receive a motion picture orientation ticket and the certifications required to work as entry-level production, location or office assistants. The trades specialization stream will equip carpentry, plumbing and electrical journey persons, apprentices and students in trade foundation programs with the skills to work in set design and lighting.

Dr. Jesse Ronquillo, our multi-award winning aquaculture scientist, education, researcher and extension worker in the Aquaculture field, has begun developing the Aquaculture diploma curriculum with industry. Dr. Ronquillo has just completed teaching our Aquaculture Technician Level I program where all 10 students have landed full-time employment within the industry.

Gold River Hatchery supports NIC Aqua Tech Program



Dr. Jesse Ronquillo (right) and Scott Peterson at the Gold River Hatchery

Grieg Seafood and North Island College are working together to provide hands on training to students in the Aquaculture Technician Program. In mid-January, Dr. Jesse Ronquillo and David Minato travelled to the Gold River Hatchery to pick up eyed eggs, alevins and parr for the Aquaculture Technician Program at North Island College. The addition of the livestock to the program enables students to work hands on with live animals and to learn aspects of freshwater fish husbandry. This combined effort came about as Dr. Ronquillo contacted the program's former teacher, Damon Woodland, who is now Grieg Seafood's Quality Manager. Scott Peterson, Grieg's hatchery manager was very pleased to provide support for the program and Grieg Seafood wishes all the students great success.

Did You Know

Grieg's processing partner Brown's Bay Packing Company has been operating 11 km north of Campbell River at Brown's Bay for more than 25 years. Their operations are next door to a busy marina, restaurant and RV park, so it is not uncommon for visitors from around the world to drop by for a plant tour, to see our salmon quickly move through the process to boxing and shipment to Grieg's Vancouver buyer, Ocean Quality North America.

Working with Habitat for Humanity

Along with our Carpentry Foundation students, our Electrical Foundation students have now had the opportunity to provide assistance with the Habitat for Humanity build in Campbell River. Over a three-day period, students were able to wire the whole duplex.

Habitat for Humanity does great work in the community, partnering with families in need of safe, affordable housing.

NIC is proud that students can take part in meaningful work like this while earning apprenticeship technical training credit and work hours toward their Industry Training Authority Red Seal Certification.

Habitat for Humanity Vancouver Island North added 10 new photos. 22 mins · 🌐

Thank you to the students and instructors from the North Island College Electrical Foundations program for spending three days wiring our Campbell River build. We were extremely impressed by these students, who our project manager describes as "well-organized, disciplined, polite, and focused."

This is the second year in a row we've partnered with NIC to give their trades students hands-on experience, and to get engaged build volunteers in return. Earlier in the year, we had their Carpentry Foundation students on the build for an extended period of time. We are so grateful for the partnership and opportunity. #buildingcommunity #crbuildsit



Like Comment Share

North Island College

#RedSeal certification. #IamNIC #MakingADifference

Heavy Mechanical and Aircraft Structures Programs

Students from both our Heavy Mechanical and Aircraft Structures programs were invited to the Coulson Aviation manufacturing facility located at the airport in Port Alberni. Students were able to view several 737's being refit to become water bombers.

Students also toured the home of the Martin Mars water bombers located at their hanger on Sproat Lake. Students were able to view significant upgrades that have been carried out on the Mars to bring it to higher aviation and safety standards for modern-day firefighting.



Chris Udy, David Nilson and Aircraft Structural Technician students recently picked up a Cessna 172M donated to the program by Steven Tiernay of Vancouver.



NIC Heavy Duty Apprenticeship students have access to four transmissions today, thanks to a \$5,000 donation from Bailey Western Star Trucks.

OFFICE OF GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT (OGE)

Living Library

Submitted by Cathy Mutis

The North Island College Office of Global Engagement is working with members of NIC and the greater Comox Valley community to plan a Living Library event to take place on June 3rd at the downtown Courtenay Library as part of Elevate the Arts festival.

The Living Library is a methodology developed in Denmark in 2000 and its primary aim is to bring together people in a safe environment who would not normally have the opportunity to interact, in order to challenge prejudices and stereotypes and to foster greater awareness, understanding, and openness to difference and diversity.



Participants are either:

- Books (people from a variety of backgrounds who are willing to share their story for 15 minutes at a time to different Readers)
- Readers (people interested to hear about the unique experience of the available Books)
- Volunteers (who help keep the event running smoothly)

We have a lineup of 13 Books with titles such as *A Queer Life*, *The High Priestess*, *Growing Up Adopted*, etc. It is shaping up to be a fantastic event.

Philosopher's Café

Submitted by Thevi Pather

Thevi Pather was guest speaker at the Philosopher's Café presentations in Comox on May 3rd and Campbell River on May 10th. While presented in a dialectic format, the intent was to raise awareness of the contributions international students make to the communities that host them.

ELP Re-Design

Submitted by Cathy Mutis

OGE is working with the office of the AVP and faculty to review and redesign the English Language Program. The new program is expected to be implemented in September 2018. The revised program will better serve the needs of non-native English speakers and will incorporate feedback from agents, parents, and students.

China Pathways Initiative

Submitted by Thevi Pather

NIC is working closely with a Chinese partner in Xuzhou to develop an English language pathway program to enhance our recruitment potential in that region.

NIC Celebrates Diversity

Submitted by Jennifer Barth

OGE worked with international Vikas Jain to celebrate World Day for Cultural Diversity on May 19th. The event was well-attended by faculty, staff, and students.



Orientation

Submitted by Jennifer Barth



Just over 40 new students were welcomed to NIC's Comox Valley campus at the beginning of May.

OGE hosted a 3-day orientation which included a trip to Elk Falls in Campbell River. New students marveled at the natural beauty of BC.

SONIC – Students of NIC

Submitted by Jennifer Barth

The Students of NIC campaign was featured in the May edition of *In Focus Magazine*.

Student storytellers Tomoko Ikeda (Japan) and Marielle Virtucio (Dubai) were interviewed for this article and the social media engagement continues to grow.



STUDENT SERVICES AND REGISTRAR

Aboriginal Advising

Submitted by Sarah Deagle

The Aboriginal Advising team is running at 100% again with the addition of two new aboriginal advisors: one in Campbell River and the other in Port Hardy.

Samantha Webster joins the Campbell River team bringing with her experience in supporting First Nations individuals and families from her previous work, including with the Seabird Island Band. With family from the Namgis First Nation in Alert Bay, and having growing up in Sayward, she is pleased to be living and working in Campbell River where she is raising her own family.

Christy Whitmore is from the Haida Nation and has lived in Haida Gwaii as well as Bella Bella and Port Hardy. She is a North Island College graduate who was hired as a Registration Assistant in Port Hardy last December and was the successful incumbent when the Aboriginal Advising position became vacant in April.

Kathryn Jones awarded Vancouver Island's Top 20 Under 40



Congratulations to Kathryn Jones, CPA, CA on being recognized as one of Vancouver Island's top young business and community leaders.

The chartered accountant has worked at Presley & Partners since graduating from NIC in 2011 and is a strong advocate for accessible post-secondary education. She volunteers as NIC Foundation's Board treasurer, mentors students as part of the Chamber of Commerce Global Leaders of Tomorrow program, is an organizer of many charity spin-a-thon teams and is active in the Comox Valley Young Professionals.

Read the full story at bit.ly/2owhpUp.

BBA Student Lands Internship at ELLE Magazine

When NIC business student Melissa Dollheiser began looking for a summer job last year she set her sights high and landed an internship at ELLE magazine in Munich, Germany. Now, with another semester of school under her belt, she is taking part in an academic exchange at the Warsaw School of Economics in Poland.

"My teachers encouraged me to apply for the exchange in Warsaw and put me in touch with NIC business alumni Kelsey Anglin," she said. "Kelsey is very inspirational. She went a few years ago and said going on the exchange helped her career so I knew this was an opportunity that I wanted to pursue."

When she returns to NIC this fall, she will only need three more courses for graduation. She is still exploring her career options but says she is definitely interested in business management. If she can tie that in with her passion for international travel and fashion, that's even better. Learn more at www.nic.bc.ca/business.



Alumni Sisters Run Successful Bookkeeping Business



Terra Brown, (BBA, 2012) says the knowledge she gained in NIC's BBA program is instrumental in the success of her busy bookkeeping company, Tigh Consulting Ltd.

Terra works closely with her sister and fellow BBA alumna, Natasha Umpleby. They have grown their business to include one full-time and one part-time staff member.

"NIC was a significant factor in my current success," said Terra. "Thanks to flexible course offerings and supportive faculty, I was able to earn my degree while balancing life as a single parent and small business owner."

The family business has an excellent reputation working with clients on a range of projects including accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, government remittances, WorkSafe reporting, business analysis and more. #NICSuccessStories

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Prioritizing Partnerships & Collaboration

Organizations do their best work when they can collaborate with partners who possess complimentary skill sets and strengths. With this in mind, NIC's School of Business continues to pursue internal and external partnerships that make good strategic and business sense.

Our Global Leaders of Tomorrow mentorship program is continuing to grow. Since 2014, we have partnered with the Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce to connect twenty students with business leaders.

Internally, we have been working hard to develop long-term inter-departmental academic partnerships with four other program areas. These agreements are at different stages of development. I promise to share more as details are finalized.

Our external partnerships continue to evolve. We have recently signed a partnership agreement with College of the Rockies, allowing their tourism students to block transfer into Year 3 of NIC's BBA in marketing or general management. We are in the midst of finalizing our first-ever private to public academic partnership with a leading food service company that employs thousands of Canadians coast-to-coast.

We are excited about these developments and keen to explore more strategic partnerships in the future. I am proud of the significant economic and social contributions NIC's alumni make in our community and I look forward to hearing from you to share in your success.



Bill Parkinson, Chair
NIC's School of Business

Alumni Volunteer at High School Open House

How do you know what's right for you? That is the question we posed to 1,100 Grade 11 students from across the North Island at NIC's High School Open House last February.

BBA alumni Allyson Hamilton, Jeff Matkin and Adam Erhart joined faculty Kim Gibson and Bill Parkinson to discuss careers in accounting, banking and online marketing. Allyson talked about what it takes to build a successful accounting career and the importance of getting involved in student life. While a student, she served three years on NIC's Board of Governors. Jeff shared how the international experience he gained at NIC helped his resume stand out when he applied for his first banking job. Adam offered highlights of his career as a digital marketing consultant and agency owner. We always appreciate alumni returning to campus to share their experience with a new generation of students. Learn more about upcoming NIC events at www.nic.bc.ca/events.



NIC sponsors Youth Leadership Award at Chamber Gala

NIC's School of Business attended the Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce annual awards gala in January to present the Youth Leadership Award for 2016.

This year's award recipient was Breanna Brosko, a Comox Valley Grade 9 student who created an 'Adopt-a-Grandparent' Christmas project. Breanna put up a tree at A&W with 40 tags dedicated to individual seniors at Glacier View Lodge and Cumberland Lodge. Community members were invited to choose a tag and return with a wrapped gift for a senior. Breanna and her Pathfinder members hand-delivered the gifts before Christmas. The School of Business has had the honour of sponsoring this award for the past three years. It is always a pleasure to recognize outstanding youth in our community. Learn more about the Comox Valley's annual chamber awards at bit.ly/2p7HXwv.



NIC Receives \$75,000 in Funding for Co-op Education



NIC students continue to participate in co-op work placements to support their career ambitions thanks to \$75,000 in provincial funding to help increase awareness of the benefits of co-op. Co-op students are highly motivated employees with specialized knowledge and skills. "It's like getting a consultant for a reasonable rate," said Jim Brennan of the Immigrant Welcome Centre after working with BBA student Sheldon Falk. If you are looking for fresh ideas and enthusiasm to help your business succeed, we can connect you. Visit www.nic.bc.ca/coop.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, May 16, 6:30 pm

Alumni Association Social NIC's Tyee Hall Lounge

Find out how you can get involved in NIC's dynamic alumni community. This year we will be joined by alumni from other NIC departments as we launch NIC's Alumni Association. There will be a cash bar, a selection of appetizers, live music and free parking during the event. Contact Bill Parkinson at bill.parkinson@nic.bc.ca for more information.

June 16 to 22, 2017

NIC Celebrates 2017 Graduations College-Wide

NIC's graduation ceremony is the highlight of the college year as we honour the achievements of our students. Ceremonies will take place June 16 in Port Alberni, June 20 in Campbell River and June 22 in the Comox Valley.

MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Global Leaders of Tomorrow continues to forge connections between NIC business students and Comox Valley business leaders. The collaborative **mentorship program** launched in the fall of 2014 and was established in partnership between the NIC School of Business and the Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Hire an intern or co-op student. NIC's **Student Employment Services** can help connect you to motivated co-op and internship students with specialized knowledge and current technology skills to help you with special projects or during peak periods.

If you are interested in learning more about hiring a student or becoming a mentor, contact Anita Budisa-Bonneau at 250-334-5007 or Anita.Budisa@nic.bc.ca



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