TRAVES AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

PROGRAM OFFERINGS

The following Apprenticeship and Foundation programs will be commencing in April:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carpenter Apprentice (Harmonized) Level 2 - CV</td>
<td>2019-04-29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carpenter Apprentice (Harmonized) Level 3 - CV</td>
<td>2019-04-29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plumber Apprentice Level 4 – CV</td>
<td>2019-04-29</td>
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Ending in April:

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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Plumbing Apprenticeship Level 3 – CV</td>
<td>2019-04-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carpenter Apprentice (Harmonized) Level 1 – CV</td>
<td>2019-04-18</td>
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The Port Alberni Welding Foundation and Automotive students wrote their ITA exams on April 4th, and the Campbell River Automotive Foundation class wrote their ITA exams on April 11th. These are the only foundation classes that are required to write ITA examinations.


NIC researchers Dr. Jesse Ronquillo and Allison Byrne, together with Nanwakolas Council President, Dallas Smith, represented the project at a conference in Ottawa March 11 – 13, 2019. The conference was titled “Strengthening Indigenous Research Capacity: A National Dialogue” and brought together researchers from the 116 Connection Grant projects from across Canada, senior leadership from all of the federal research funding agencies, Indigenous Elders, and elected politicians. Through group discussions and breakout sessions, the conference attendees helped inform a new strategic plan that is being developed by Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) to increase Indigenous communities’ access to research funds and capacity to conduct research.

NIC is collaborating with the Nanwakolas Council on a 6-month, $50,000 Connection Grant project funded by the SSHRC. The purpose of the research collaboration is to foster mutually respectful engagement and inform curricula development and student learning activities for aquaculture programming at NIC. Preliminary findings are informing future engagement plans while emphasizing the importance of traditional, ecosystem-based approaches to food production, environmental sustainability, and resource management. Interviews and consultations with Knowledge Keepers will continue through May 2019. These discussions represent the beginning of a long-term vision for NIC, to incorporate Indigenous knowledge and practices into responsive programming, through meaningful and respectful collaboration with local Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers.
Gathering Our Voices (GOV)

On March 21st NIC was pleased to participate in the 17th annual Gathering Our Voices: Indigenous Youth Leadership Training event. GOV is organized by the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and provides a forum for Indigenous youth from across the province to celebrate Indigenous culture among their peers. Gathering Our Voices has grown into one of the biggest gatherings of First Nations providing opportunities to participate in cultural activities and ceremony with holistic workshops on life skills and youth issues as well as educational and career training.

Both our Roger Street and Tebo campuses in Port Alberni hosted First Nations learners from all over the province to view our Port Alberni facilities and try their hand in four trades; carpentry, welding, plumbing, and electrical. These workshops were presented through NIC with the assistance of the Industry Training Authority (ITA) and BCAAFC. We’d like to thank our instructors for helping with this event, which you could tell was a success from the smiles on participants faces! So thank you Doug Cross (plumbing), Jim Lawson (carpentry), Trevor Petr (electrical), and Chris Udy (welding). Also, a special thanks to everyone at Tebo for allowing the disruption of the day-to-day routine and embracing this event with enthusiasm.

2ND Annual West Coast Nibbler, March 21, 2019

The West Coast Nibbler is a community fundraiser for various organizations in Port Alberni. A variety of restaurants, brew pubs, candy makers, etc. participate by donating their time and food. The people attending the event pay for the prepared samples and then vote on the best products (meat, seafood, and vegetable). This year, the Professional Cook Level 1 students prepared beef tenderloin and local smoked bacon skewers with a yogurt horseradish cream, and sesame honey garlic chicken skewers. Chef Alan Irving and his team made 450 pieces and were completely sold out in the first two hours of a 6-hour event. Even though they were the first restaurant to leave, they still won "Best in Meat". There were 24 different business competing for the three awards. Next year the goal for NIC is to take all three awards!
International Student Activities

Submitted by Nadine Biggs

The Office of Global Engagement (OGE) events that took place at both the Comox Valley and Campbell River campuses over March and April included Lunch and Learns, Holi Festival Celebrations and Pizza and Movie Nights.

The topics covered by Lunch and Learn included Renter’s Rights and Registration planning, hosted by Angie Price and Kim Kobus. Lunch was provided at all sessions by OGE, and included pizza and soup with sandwiches. The session concluded with a question period at the end for any students in attendance to ask the advisor questions they may have related to their studies.

Pizza and Movie nights were held at both campuses. Approximately seven students attended in Campbell River movie night and 25 in the Comox Valley.

Both the Comox Valley and Campbell River campuses hosted Holi Festival events. The first took place on March 21st in Campbell River with approximately 25 students and staff attending. The Comox Valley event was held April 3rd, followed by a Baisakhi Festival Celebration in the Stan Hagen theatre until 9pm. The event included a DJ and traditional Indian sweets and treats. Approximately 60 students attended this event!

APAIE Malaysia Annual Conference

Submitted by Mark Herringer

Mark Herringer and Lisa Domae attended the annual APAIE (Asia-Pacific Association for International Education) annual conference from March 26-28, 2019 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. While there, NIC connected with multiple institutions, educators and delegates including the Philippines and Vietnam trade commissioners, the BC Trade Commissioner in Indonesia and several University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) partners. From the many potential partnership meetings, NIC plans to pursue partnerships with the University of Burgundy in France, University Savoie Mont Blanc in France and SRH University Heidelberg in Germany. Next year, the APAIE will be hosted in Vancouver for the first time outside of Asia.
Seen above is Randall Martin, Executive Director of BCCIE; Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur.

**EduCanada Fair in Tokyo, Japan**

*Submitted by Jennifer Barth*

Jennifer Barth, Manager Operations, OGE, accompanied Lisa Domae, EVP/COO to Japan March 13th to 17th. The purpose of the trip was to visit key partners, Nagoya University of Foreign Studies (NUFS) and Kansai Gaidai University and then to recruit at the EduCanada Fair in Tokyo on March 15th & 16th.

*In photo: Nagoya University of Foreign Studies (NUFS) institutional partners.*

*Left to right: Backrow: Jakub Marszalenko, Exchange Coordinator, Philip Rush, Dean International, NUFS; Jennifer Barth, Manager Operations OGE NIC; Emi Tamba, International Relations Director NUFS; Lisa Domae EVP/COO NIC*
Library & Learning Commons (LLC) Update

Submitted by Mary Anne Guenther

After thirteen years of using the QuestionPoint software for AskAway, the provincial post-secondary chat reference service, libraries are currently preparing to implement and test LibraryH3lp and go live May 13, when the service re-opens for the summer semester.

Sherry Kropninski, Library Technician at the Port Alberni campus retired on March 31st. Her replacement, Julie Staven joins the college on April 15th.

The student laptop lending pilot at the Comox Valley library has been a great success; the library started with 4 laptops and this past month, based on popularity, 2 more laptops were purchased for CV and the service is now being introduced at both PA and CR libraries. CV recorded 376 laptop loans to students in the month of March!

On March 31st, visual artist and author, Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas spoke to a captive audience in Stan Hagan Theatre; his graphic novel, Red: a Haida Manga was showcased on two giant whiteboards and received much praise from him. The display, which was assembled by Erin Mcleod, CV Library Technician resides in the CV LLC at the current time.

As we near the end of April and look back at the previous eight months, the LLC is proud of many group achievements, including the successful Late Night Against Procrastination (LNAP), creation of Subject Guides on Truth and Reconciliation, Fake News and Citation styles. Plans are already underway for June to celebrate the National Indigenous History Month with displays and rotating First Nations collections between campus libraries.
Student Affairs update

Submitted by Felicity Blaiklock

1. At the beginning of March, an NIC delegation including BOG member – Jane Atherton, Director Student Affairs, Manager Student Life, Faculty member (Laurie Michaud) and one of our international students attended the Healthy Minds/Healthy Campus Summit in Vancouver.

2. On January 31, CR, CV and PA campuses engaged students, staff and faculty in Bell's Let’s Talk campaign to remove stigma about mental health.

3. In February, we offered Naloxone Awareness education at CV, CR and PA campuses.

4. In March, two of our 3rd year BSN students have been travelling to each main campus to ask students about their thoughts on mental health and wellness. We plan to use their findings to help us inform aspects of the Mental Health and Well-being strategy which is in the works.

5. In April, a group of faculty and staff (soon to include students), met to begin the development and implementation of an Early Alert system. This is an online referral system, which will offer timely supports to students identified as struggling with academic and/or personal issues.

6. In early May, Felicity Blaiklock will be meeting with SLT to present a proposal for an NIC Mental Health and Well-being strategy, which will potentially include the adoption of the Okanagan Charter.

7. In April, Felicity Blaiklock will be presenting the Death of a Student policy and procedure for approval from SET. This policy will inform and guide a compassionate, respectful and timely response to the death of an NIC student.

Note: Reports from Continuing Education and Training (CET) come out three times a year: March, June and September.