

**NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS REPORT
DECEMBER 2022**

TRADES AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

November 2022

Where has the time gone? 2022 fall is winding down with 2023 fast approaching bringing with it another busy term for Trades and Technical programs. While the Foundation programs that began in the fall will carry through to the new year, several apprenticeship cohorts wrapped up in October and November with an additional nine completing in December.

Special Event!

The state-of-the-art teaching kitchen at NIC's Campbell River campus was honored to be the chosen venue for hosting the Junior Culinary Team Canada for an amazing world class dining experience that took place two nights only in October. As the team prepared to compete in Luxembourg at the Expogast International Trade Show for Gastronomy, their guests were treated to a spectacular three-course meal of lobster scallop sphere, herb crusted salmon, chicken mushroom terrine, farro croquette, coconut lime roulade and frangipane strawberry tart roasted – and these are but a few of the items on the menu. All proceeds from the event support the team on their endeavors to Luxembourg to be followed by the Culinary World Olympics in 2024. As a Gold Medal competitive meal, there were no pictures to be had!

With front row seats, this event was a great opportunity for the current Professional Cook students to witness the culinary skills necessary for this intense level of competition and to encourage them to pursue challenges such as this in their future careers, especially our level 3 students who are set to write their Red Seal in December. The sky is the limit!

January is going to be chock-full of apprenticeships at the Campbell River (CR) and Comox Valley (CV) campuses. Carpentry Levels 2 and 3, along with Plumbing Level 4, are scheduled to begin January 3rd, while four Electrical Apprenticeships are scheduled to start January 9th. We have the first cohort of Automotive Service Technician Apprentice Level 2 happening on January 16th with instructor Jaylene Van Der Merwe. We haven't even hit December yet and she already has nine eager students signed up.

January also has six foundation program starts. Parts and Warehousing Person will be held entirely online with instructor Coralee Zueff while Motor Sport & Power Equipment, Electrical and Heavy Mechanical foundation will all be at the Campbell River campus. Carpentry and Plumbing foundation will be in full swing at the Trades Training building in Courtenay. The Trade Sampler program still proves to be incredibly popular with Dual Credit students seeking to find the right fit for them in the industry and this cohort is no different with 20 students ready to explore Automotive, Electrical, Welding, Heavy Mechanical and more.

Further into the 2023 winter term, we have apprenticeships in Heavy Mechanical, Carpentry, Plumbing Electrical and Professional Cook. Women in Trades is back with two cohorts with flexible delivery dates to accommodate even the busiest schedules. Details will follow in our next report!

New Additions!

Andre Trindade is the newest recruit to the Trades and Technical programs. Andre joins Trades as our new Program Specialist and is currently coordinating the TV & Film Crew programs. This is not an easy task for Andre considering there are five cohorts to offer students in the training of their choice. Trades and Technical program's goal is inclusion and we aim to provide these unique and popular opportunities to as many individuals as possible which means Andre now has students from Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland and Central BC regions in his charge.

Andre comes to the Trades and Technical programs with an abundance of customer service, administrative and program coordination experience. He has spent the last five years at BCIT as an Administrative Officer for International Student Recruitment, Administrative Assistant for Computing and Academic Studies and most recently as the Program Coordinator for that department. We are so happy Andre has brought his skills and talents to North Island College!

And here we grow again!

We are pleased to add instructor Jacques Gartner as a new member of the Plumbing faculty. Jacques moved from Alberta with his wife and three daughters and is excited to be relocating to Vancouver Island. He looks forward to supporting the delivery of Foundation and Apprenticeship programming. Jacques holds his a Bachelor of Education degree, and is a Red Seal Endorsed (RSE) Journeyman Plumber, RSE Journeyman Steamfitter/ Pipefitter, and RSE B Level Gasfitter. Welcome Jacques!

And here's what the Electrical students have been up to....

The motor control boards pictured below were designed and built internally by the electrical apprenticeship department in the CR campus. We had earlier determined that a hands-on real-world example of motor control was necessary for prospective electricians to experience the logistical constraints of field installations. Students are provided the main parts of the electrical system already assembled on a board, basic wiring diagram and a spool of wire. The process then allows students to remove covers of equipment and terminate to the actual locations in the same manner as what would be expected on a real job site. This real-world approach is in addition to standard lab equipment which has been used in the training program. Now, the lab equipment is used to prove the basic controls concept, while the motor board is used to solidify the application with real equipment. This equipment is intended to bolster existing hands-on training for Level 2, 3 & 4 electrical apprenticeship students here at NIC.

The process of this build is incredibly involved as there are literally a thousand parts to deal with before one gets to the finished functioning product. Aside from the true components, everything is built from scratch. There is a lot of finicky math and measurements that go into just one of these custom creations so we extend to our apprentices a well-deserved pat-on-the-back!



OFFICE OF GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Journeying Together

Submitted by the Office of Global Engagement

OGE organized a “Guidance from the Office of Indigenous Education and Elders on beginning the journey”, meeting with the Office of Indigenous Education for the “Journeying Together” plan. The meeting was held at the CR *q̄apixidaʔas*.

CBIE Annual Conference in Toronto, Ontario

Mark Herringer delivered a presentation with Cynthia Konza from the Université du Montreal on inclusive practices in study abroad at the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) annual conference held early November. Mark focused on the work that Romana Pasca has been doing in engaging Indigenous faculty, staff and students in virtual and physical international mobility. Mark, Kelly Shopland and Romana’s submission “Pulling Together – Indigenizing International Education: a Vancouver Island perspective” was accepted as a presentation at the NAFSA conference (world’s largest international education conference) being held in May 2023 in Washington DC.

Growing Partnerships in Tanzania

Romana Pasca, Manager of Partnerships, Projects and Global Education and Cheryl O’Connell, Dean of Trades and Technical programs were in Arusha, Tanzania for an orientation to our new four-year institutional strengthening partnership and partners from Nova Scotia Community College and Saskatchewan Polytechnic along with Tanzanian partners Mto wa Mbu and Kilwa Matoko vocational colleges. Partners in this project will develop micro-credentials and short-term programs to encourage girls and young women to engage in trades and essential skills programming. The teams will also work together to build appropriate institutional student support services.



Recruitment & Marketing

Junko Leclair was in the United Arab Emirates, Tanzania, Uganda and Bangladesh this fall working to diversify our recruitment markets. In early 2023, Junko will make her first visit to India to maintain our market position there.

RISIA Certifications

Our RISIA (allows for immigration advising to students) designated employees, Angie Price and Li Yan,

updated their training requirements at the CBIE conference in Toronto. The ~~RISIA~~ College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants (CICC) governing body requires that all practitioners participate in a series of annual training requirements to maintain their designation. Our new advisor Agalya Kathirvelu will begin her RISIA training in 2023 to ensure our International Student Advisors are fully prepared to advise students on immigration matters related to their study permit.

STUDENTS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Submitted by Craig Whitton, Director, Student Affairs

Craig Whitton is now Director, Student Affairs (replacing Felicity Blaiklock who retired last August). Craig is coming to NIC from Alberta, where he served as Director of Student Learning and Development and, before that, the Student Resolution Officer for the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT). Prior to his time at NAIT, Craig worked in Student Housing at the University of Alberta and the University of Guelph in Ontario in various roles. Craig has also been actively involved in our region's professional association – the Northwest Association of College and University Housing Officers – and he's very excited to bring his experience with student conduct, student housing, and general student services to contribute to the already excellent work done by Felicity and the team here at NIC.

CARE² Plan

CARE grant projects are under way, with completion due on January 15th 2023. A total of \$3,500 in funds were awarded for six projects being undertaken to support mental health and well-being at the various NIC campuses in many creative ways.

LIBRARY & LEARNING COMMONS

Submitted by Ben Hecht, Coordinator, Peer Tutoring, Writing and Math Supports

Writing Support

Our Writing Support faculty provide one-on-one support to NIC students, both face-to-face in person and online via Bluejeans. Students can book 45-minute appointments in the CV and CR campuses, and feedback is also available by email. In addition, Writing Support faculty fulfill NIC's institutional commitment to *WriteAway* as tutors while NIC students can submit their writing to this service for feedback. Finally, Writing Support faculty also offer a series of online workshops to NIC students as well as running customized in-class workshops upon NIC instructor request.

- NIC students made a total of 88 appointments with Writing Support (available 15 hours per week) during the 2022 Spring/Summer term (May-August);
- NIC students made 24 submissions to *WriteAway* between May and August 2022;
- Writing Support faculty delivered a series of eight online workshops to NIC students during the 2022 Spring/Summer term;
- NIC students have made 131 appointments with Writing Support (available 34 hours per week) in the first two months of the 2022 Fall term (September-October);
- NIC students have made 20 submissions to *WriteAway* during September and October 2022.

- Writing Support faculty have delivered five out of a scheduled eight online workshops to NIC students in addition to delivering three customized in-class workshops by NIC instructor request.

Math Support

Our Math Support faculty provide one-on-one and small group support to NIC students, both face-to-face in person and online via Bluejeans. Students can book 30-minute appointments in the CV, CR, and Port Alberni (PA) campuses, and there are also scheduled online drop-in times (no appointment necessary).

- NIC students made a total of 69 appointments with Math Support (available seven hours per week) during the 2022 Spring/Summer term (May-August).
- So far, NIC students have made 132 appointments with Math Support (available 17 hours per week) in just the first two months of the 2022 Fall term (September-October).

Peer Tutoring

Our Peer Tutors are available for virtual appointments via Bluejeans or face-to-face meetings on campus (60 minute-sessions), during which they support student content and skills learning one-on-one in a variety of disciplines including Business, Math & Sciences, English, Sociology, Digital Design, ABE, Practical Nursing, English, and Spanish.

- NIC students made a total of 50 appointments with six Peer Tutors who were active during the 2022 Spring/Summer term;
- So far, NIC students have made 91 appointments with Peer Tutors in the first two months of the 2022 Fall term (September-October), and there are currently 14 active Peer Tutors in the program.

STUDENT LIFE

Submitted by Meesbah Jiwaji, Associate Director, Student Life

Orientation:

NIC welcomed new and current students for Fall 2022:

- Four virtual sessions were held, providing information and connection;
- In-person events included a lunch and took place at all campuses. Marketplaces were held in the CR and CV campuses, with tabling events in PA and Mixalakwa (MX) campuses. There were 450 attendees in CR, 140 in PA, 550 in CV and 20 in MX;
- Student Life thanks the Board of Governors and Leadership Team that participated in the chili lunch event in the CV and CR campuses.

Thrive

The month of October was busy with Thrive events on all campuses:

- Student Life partnered with People, Equity and Inclusion, Office of Global Engagement, NISU and members of the NIC community to offer events that enhanced mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being. The events included online mental health and inner strength workshops, a movie and pizza night, a turkey drawing contest, Forest Bathing, yoga, salsa dancing, and chair massages;
- Student Life partnered with NISU to offer a free lunch at the CR, CV and PA campuses;

- Drum-making and traditional Indigenous plants and medicines workshops were facilitated by Elders Daryle Mills and June Johnson.

Breaking the Closet

Student Life partnered with Alfie Esperanza and Mercedes Dysserick, two BS Nursing Students for their Fourth-Year Leadership Course and JDEI (justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion) - focused project. Alfie and Mercedes created an audio book of twelve 2SLGBTQ+ stories from the NIC community to encourage empathy, connection and shared human experience; the book is available to all NIC students and employees through the Library and Learning Commons website until May 2023. This project included two book launch events on the Comox Valley and Campbell River campuses and featured live readings.

Workshops

Two workshops were held this fall in partnership with the College of the Rockies and Selkirk College:

- *Starting a Conversation about Mental Health* was facilitated by our own Amy Rowes from NIC;
- *Active Bystander Intervention* was presented by the College of the Rockies. This workshop helps learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to recognize and intervene in an incident of sexual violence, as well as discuss strategies for creating a safer campus community. It also uses the 4D's (Direct, Distract, Delegate, Delay) Active Bystander Intervention Model.

Two more workshops are scheduled for February and March 2023: *Supporting Survivors of Sexualized Violence* and *Starting a Conversation about Suicide*.

Other Activities

The Student Life team continues to support student through a weekly newsletter that is sent to all registered students featuring events, supports and recipes, and also through *Early Assist*, a one-stop-shop to connect students in need with campus and community resources. Students can self-refer or be referred to this service by others.