



COMOX VALLEY

ElderCollege Connector

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2021

Greetings

Editor's note: Our ElderCollege exists and thrives because of our extensive course and lecture offerings and the opportunity for seniors to socialize with others who share their same interests. This requires a robust group of volunteers to find and train course presenters and to liaise with NIC to arrange scheduling. Whew!

The Curriculum Committee is taking a much-needed break over the summer but will soon be planning for the Winter 2022 session. Yes, Winter, i.e., February to April 2022! Our fall program was in place by the beginning of May, and over the summer the scheduling of dates, times and Zoom allocations is organized by North Island College. As you know, in May we were still under COVID restrictions for meeting in large groups, so the decision was made to offer courses in the fall only on Zoom.

With the easing of restrictions, we are now planning to offer both in-person and online courses. That is to say, for any given class it would be either in-person or online but not a combination. At this time we do not have access to the technology to offer a blend of the two for any one course, except perhaps in the Stan Hagen Theatre. We will also be asking in-person course leaders to indicate if they are able to revert to a Zoom session, should the situation change over the coming months. As you can see, flexibility is the key during these uncertain times, and we appreciate the support of course leaders and ElderCollege members as we work to meet everyone's expectations.

Sheila Borman, Co-Chair

CVEC Curriculum Committee

Website

eldercollegeCV@nic.bc.ca

250-334-5000 local 4602

Facebook: [COMOXVALLEYElderCollege](https://www.facebook.com/COMOXVALLEYElderCollege)

Important Information Regarding CVEC Membership Registration

In light of system changes at North Island College, the decision has been made to no longer require separate membership registration. If you have renewed your 2021-22 membership, a refund will be provided. This new policy is still in development and more information will shortly be provided.

As always, we encourage you to go to our website to find relevant information.

Fall 2021 Course Preview

It is not long before registration opens for our fall season of classes. Members will be sent registration instructions the week of September 20. Remember: all classes remain online for the coming semester. Read on for a preview of some of the sessions being offered. Keep an eye out for our printed course guide that will be available in the coming weeks at libraries, rec centres, and other locations.

Knights and Needlework

Duration: 4 weeks

Instructor: Alana Gowdy

It has been said that there is only one aspect of the Battle of Hastings on which historians agree--the Normans won! At some point after this undisputed victory, an embroidery known as the Bayeux Tapestry was created. This course will provide a background to England before and during 1066. It will then delve into the mystery and adventure surrounding the making and survival of the Bayeux Tapestry.



Magic Music Box

Duration: 4 weeks

Instructor: Judi Murakami

Each of the four sessions will feature in-depth interviews, performances, musical tips, and interactive discussions with some of the best musicians from the Comox Valley. The genres will include blues, jazz, and contemporary, to name a few. Sit



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back and enjoy or mix it up and talk to the performers.

Potlatch, Then and Now

Duration: 1 week

Instructor: Wedlidi Speck

We will explore the origins of the potlatch, its historical development (pre-contact), colonial disruption (1884-1930s) and the emergence of the contemporary potlatch (1969 - present). You will gain a new understanding and appreciation of the cultural significance and complexity of this unique Northwest Coast First Nations tradition. Wedlidi Speck is a hereditary chief who has been active in many potlatch roles and is a recognized cultural teacher.

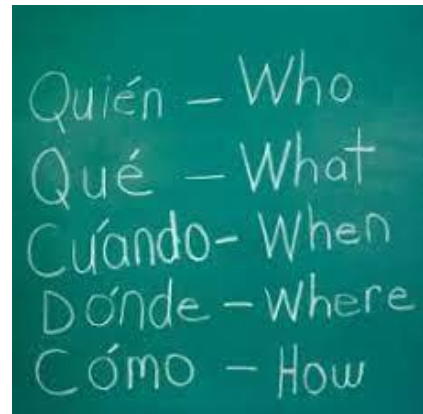


Spanish for Beginners

Duration: 8 weeks

Instructor: Isabel Melado

This course seeks to provide basic skills for everyday communication to seniors with no previous knowledge of Spanish. They will be confronted with real life situations, with an emphasis on those encountered when travelling (introducing themselves, giving or asking for information, ordering a meal, etc.). Oral communication and acquisition of basic phonetics will be prioritized so students learn to understand and be understood. Interaction will be encouraged.

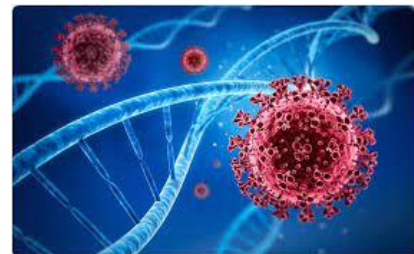


Biofilia: Our Connection to Nature

Duration: 8 weeks

Instructor: Thierry Vrain

Is Nature intelligent? How closely related are we to other living species? Molecular biology is allowing us a peek at molecules at work in living cells, revealing that all cells function with the same protein molecules and genetic code, and the same molecules that energize all organisms. Come and learn the importance of bacteria, plants, animals, and humans, in the natural systems and cycles of the Biosphere. A non-technical course.



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Getting to Know You: Sheila Borman

As the only girl in the family with three younger brothers, CVEC volunteer Sheila Borman took on responsibility which ultimately led to a career in education. With degrees from Western (Ontario) and McGill, she began teaching in Kitimat, followed by positions in Richmond and Langley, before taking principalships at three elementary schools in Burnaby.

Achieving a Masters degree in curriculum development and administration from Simon Fraser, her career path included Ministry of Education work in the social studies, writing teacher manuals for elementary instruction, and working in many professional development roles both as a teacher, and as an administrator.



Following retirement and a move to full-time residence for 11 years on Galiano Island, Sheila continued her active volunteering as chair of the library board, the gardening club, the concert society, and secretary-treasurer of the community water board.

A lifelong interest in boating began with instruction from her father in a 15-foot sailing dinghy on a lake in the Haliburton Highlands. Over the years, she and her husband have owned five sailboats and two power boats. They have had adventures boating in the Mediterranean, Mexico, New Zealand, the Caribbean, and the Intracoastal Waterway, as well as 50 years in our beautiful west coast waters. Moving to the Comox Valley six years ago, Sheila now takes part in a local choir, and worked with Project Watershed before joining the ElderCollege Curriculum Committee two years ago.

Ask not what ElderCollege can do for you ...

Did you know that this wonderful opportunity for life-long learning in the valley counts on approximately 60 volunteers doing committee work and another approximately 60 volunteer course leaders? Without them, CVEC could not function as the dynamic organization it is.

As we approach another academic year, CVEC needs you to consider adding your name to the volunteer roster. From personal experience, it is interesting to find out about the inner workings of Comox Valley ElderCollege and to enjoy the fun and camaraderie of working on a collaborative team.

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We need to fill the following positions at this time, so please consider these opportunities as you make plans for your fall and winter pursuits.

Communications Committee

Speaker's Bureau Coordinator – Arranges for persuasive speakers to address the various clubs and organizations that exist in the valley with a view to attracting new members and volunteers. Assists with the planning and production of the semi-annual course guide and the Connector newsletter.

Operations Committee

Vice Chair – Supports the chair in carrying out the committee's responsibilities, namely leading specific assigned policy review, consulting with other standing committee members as appropriate, and drafting policy discussion/proposal documents as requested.

Committee members – This newly renamed committee has an urgent need for two or three more members to assist with policy review and development.

Volunteer Support Committee

Event Coordinator – Plans the annual CVEC volunteer appreciation event, usually at the end of the winter semester. (Note: during the pandemic, we had to move to mail-out appreciation of our volunteers, but we hope to be back to in-person activities in January.)

If any of the above appeal to your sense of “paying it forward,” please go to cvec.volunteers@nic.bc.ca and fill out the volunteer form stating which position(s) you might be interested in, or if you have any questions before applying, contact clarkkate989@gmail.com.

Final CVEC Financial Statement for the year ended March 31, 2021

The Financial Statement presented at the 22nd Annual General Meeting on May 8, 2021 was preliminary. The Financial Summary Report for the year received from North Island College, upon which this

statement is based, was not available by the date of the AGM. This is a normal and expected timing issue. Therefore, in order to produce a Financial Statement for the AGM, we estimate revenues and expenses based on expected final data.

The preliminary Financial Statement was quite accurate. The only significant difference between it and the final is the transfer of 50 per cent of membership fees to North Island College which was not transferred at year end. If it had been included, the difference between the preliminary and the final would have been minimal.

This, of course, has had the effect of transferring the expense for 50 per cent of membership fees from the 2020-21 year to the 2021-22 year. This transfer was not included in the 2021-22 budget presented at the AGM.

Any questions or comments should be directed to David Clark, Finance Officer, at 250.339.3651 or at clarkdavid916@gmail.com.

CVEC Financial Statement for the year ended March 31, 2021		
	Year to Date	Budget
REVENUE		
Tuition Fees	22,798.00	24,000.00
Membership Fees	4,125.00	4,000.00
Donations	150.00	
Total Revenue	27,073.00	28,000.00
EXPENSES		
Volunteer Support	5,484.42	5,600.00
Tuition Fees	11,400.00	12,000.00
Membership Fees		2,000.00
Curriculum Courses	561.25	700.00
Finance and Administration		200.00
Facilities Support	9,339.37	9,339.37
Communications	45.60	1,000.00
Member Support	132.14	300.00
Lecture Series	1,286.69	1,100.00
Executive Committee	11,648.20	10,600.00
Total Expenses	39,897.67	42,839.37
Revenue Less Expenses	-12,824.67	-14,839.37
Notes: 1. not included in this financial report is a 'carry forward' surplus from past years of \$73,070.16.		
Financial Statement_2021-06-24_v03_Clark.pdf		

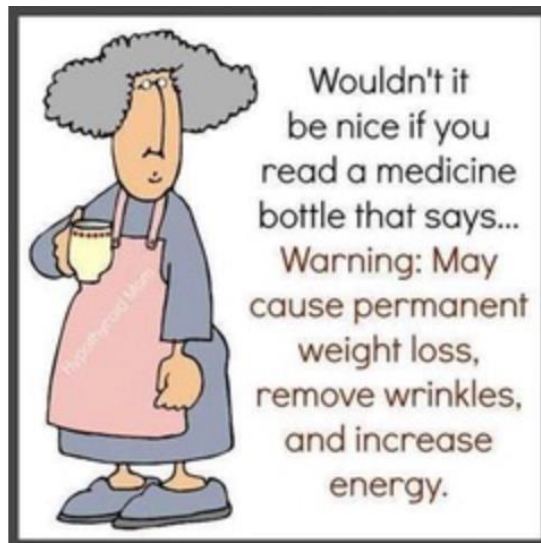
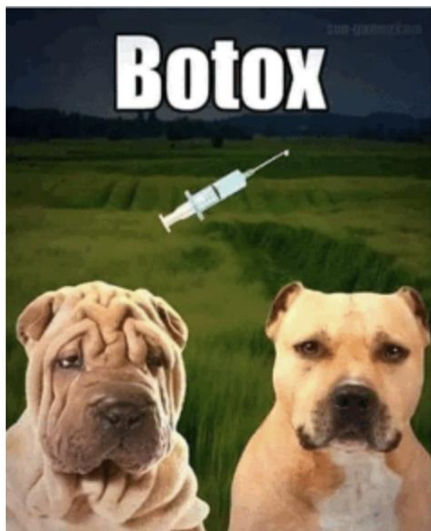
For Your Enjoyment

Good for a chuckle

- Be careful when you eat at Sam and Ella's diner.
- Water is heavier than butane because butane is a lighter fluid.
- I never finish anything. I have a black belt in partial arts.
- I pulled a muscle digging for gold. Just a miner injury.



"She complained about the porridge. She complained about the chairs. She complained about the beds. Let's see if we can make it four for four."



Video viewing



Check out this [giant 3D billboard ad](#) in Tokyo.



How about [bears in your backyard?](#)



Ever wondered about [raising a baby stout?](#)