

**REPORT TO NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
JUNE 2016**

CAMPBELL RIVER CAMPUS

Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies

Submitted by Sherri Wilson

Human Resources was pleased to once again support the CMHA Mental Health Week (May 2 – 8, 2016) by offering a program of activities at NIC to promote good mental health and wellbeing and to encourage better understanding of the important linkage between our physical health and mental health.

The NIC “**Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies**” event was campus-specific and the activities included:

- “Self-Care Strategies” Seminars: Presented by Homewood Health with sessions in PA, CV & CR, **May 4 & 5**
- Your Mental Health Matters Webinar: Hosted by Manulife, College-wide, **May 3**
- Wellness Activities: Activities varied at each campus and included Yoga, Chair Massage, Learn to Play Ultimate Frisbee, and Learn to Mambo
- Over 100 employees campus-wide participated in various events!
- Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) representatives were on site at most campuses with information and materials for employees.

First Annual NIC Mental Health Team Challenge

The first annual Team Challenge was open to any department/team/group of employees (minimum 3 participants on a team). Self-forming teams engaged in activities during Mental Health Week that supported the following theme “Maintaining your mental health is a lot like staying physically fit: It requires a little effort every day.”

Teams developed and completed a plan of activities that accomplished one or more of the following:

- Build healthy self-esteem
- Build positive networks and encourage involvement
- Build resiliency
- Reduce stigma associated with mental illness
- Can easily be adapted to be part of a daily or weekly routine.

Overall, the week was a great success, and as one of the team challengers noted “We had a lot of fun, tons of laughs and sweaty bodies from the workouts!” and “We are planning to continue on with fitness classes in the Stan Hagen Theatre after the challenge.”

Vancouver Island Library Staff Conference – Friday, April 29, 2016 at the University of Victoria

Submitted by: Katherine Percival, CR Campus Library, and Sherry Kropninski, PA Campus Library

Six NIC library staff members were able to attend the Conference this year. It provided an opportunity to share and learn from a wide spectrum of the Vancouver Island community of library workers. There were several sessions to choose from and we will highlight a few of them in this report.

Transforming Technical Services

Vancouver Island University is working on several projects that enhance the role of the technical services staff. Some of them are:

- Digital preservation of historical slides of Nanaimo, and audio interviews of miners and their families from 1910-1945
- A project to provide open access to faculty profiles and scholarly papers
- An eBook access verification tool which basically locates and identifies the cause of broken links, making it much easier for vendors to isolate and fix.

Books as Gifts

UVIC has built up their Chinese and Korean collection by way of two programs: Window of China and the Korean Foundation with minimal acquisition cost and staff efforts. The recipient library chooses language and topic from a list of books, which are then sent free of charge (including shipping). The application and coordination process, plus contact information was provided at the session.

Innovation in Isolation

The presenters from Vancouver Island Regional Library and the Greater Victoria Public Library spoke about continuous improvement for small libraries. Small steps for big change, understanding your community and trying new breakthroughs was the central theme.

In conclusion we would like to add that the conference was informational and fun – a great combination to inspire and motivate.

Garden at the Mailman Life Skills House

Submitted by Karen Sale

For three years Cathy Patrucco of Access for Students with Disabilities in Campbell River has worked with ASD students to clean up and improve the gardens at the front of the Mailman Life Skills House. As the board is no doubt aware, the school district agreed to locate the life skills house on the grounds with the understanding that there would be no additional costs in terms of maintenance, cleaning, etc.

Cathy has provided work experience students with the opportunity to learn gardening skills while also providing the campus with a valuable service since for people entering the campus through C wing, the Mailman House is part of a first impression of the campus. A former student who took part in the gardening work experience now has paid employment on a lawn care crew.

Since there wasn't a work experience student interested in gardening this year, Cathy partnered with Karen Sale's class attending the Working with the Environment course. Students practiced or learned new specific skills such as weed identification, weeding, trimming, planting, watering and amending the soil. This activity also provided the students with the opportunity to practice work place expected behaviours such as team work, following directions, using tools safely and staying on-task. Students who did not wish to participate in the "hands-on" gardening contributed by researching plants that could be added to the garden, specifically those that were drought and deer resistant.

<h3>School of Trades and Technical Programs</h3>

Provincial and Regional

- The Industry Training Authority (ITA) 2016-2017 training plan has been approved.
- The School is finalizing programming and funding details with AVED for critical seat funding.
- The School is reviewing 2016-2017 capital purchases to support instructional needs spanning the trades

Highlights

- The School is celebrating the achievements of four faculty members who will be set to retire this summer and fall. Congratulations to Mickey Bliss (Electrical), Ruedi Pletscher (Aircraft), Tom Klatt (Carpentry), and Pat Robey (Electrical). We are so thankful for their expertise and contributions to the School of Trades and Technical Programs and wish them all the best in their retirement!
- Most programming ends this month, with the exception of Welding, Metal Fabrication, Plumbing and Piping and Heavy Mechanical will all continue through the summer.
- Plans are underway for our first cohort of the Prep Cook Program to be held in Port Alberni for the Fall of 2016.

Joinery Students present to SLT

On May 18, 2016, instructor Stephen McIntosh accompanied three students to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) meeting for a student presentation. The presentation was given by Jon Winter, Nigel Atkin and Charlie Daigneault. The students enjoyed presenting six small projects they have been working on this year. This was the third presentation from the School to SLT this year. Other programs that participated in presentations to SLT were Carpentry and Culinary Arts.

Specialty Charcuteries from the Cook 3 class



On May 20, 2016 the CR campus Cook 3 students presented their charcuterie platters to an appreciative crowd of NIC Administrators, faculty and staff, as well as members of the local community, Vancouver Island Chef's Association and two International Chefs. Under the direction of Chef Christine Lilyholm, students presented their beautiful food in the Third Course Bistro.

Industrial Automation Open House

Students had an opportunity on May 26, 2016 to showcase their capstone project to the Campbell River Community. The project was “Almost Totally Nuts,” a customized trail mix automatically selected, sealed in a container, and labelled, then served to the customer with a drink (all by a robot, of course!).

Successful completion of the capstone project is a requirement for the program. The project recreates an automated production process in the lab and it includes robotics, automated controls, instrumentation and computer graphic interfaces and produces a useable product.



Thanks to our Donors

Many of our programs are the lucky recipients of the generosity of our community partners. Our donors are enriching our programs with various pieces of donated equipment (some of these pieces of equipment, when purchased brand new, cost thousands of dollars), some provide a discounted rate for our purchases, some donate services in kind, and some provide brand new equipment at retail rates. We are very thankful for these donations, and this year we will be recognizing them with a formal letter of appreciation from the Dean’s Office.

Some of our donors are listed below:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| CR Gear | Spartan Controls | Slegg Lumber |
| ABC Transmissions | Coast Mountain Bus | Youngs Diesel |
| Brandt Tractor | Western Forest Products | She Works She Plays |
| David Allen (SD71) | Cullen Diesel | Sitka Lumber |
| Moretto Family | Finning Tractor | Tigh-na-mara (Chef Eric Edwards) |

ACE-It Students



We have two cohorts of ACE-It students this year; one in Welding and one in Carpentry. Students are able to finish their last year of high school while taking part in a North Island College program.

We normally have a few seats dedicated to ACE-It students in most of our programs, however interest in the welding and carpentry trades this year enabled NIC to offer a dedicated section for these students.

Level Three Carpentry Projects

The level 3 carpenters completed their small cabinet projects in April. Level 3 carpentry offers training in concrete and form work, which the students used to create their small cabinets. Each cabinet had a poured concrete top.



PA Electrical Foundation

Instructor Trevor Petr is leading a very successful electrical foundation class in Port Alberni.

As Port Alberni does not normally hold an electrical program, Trevor has had to be very creative in developing a lab space to teach the practical work. The mock up space is very impressive!



Welcome to our new Faculty

Three retirements in the areas of Aircraft, Carpentry and Electrical have enabled us to hire some amazing new talent to the School. Please meet our new full time faculty members:

Rob Laird, Carpentry

Rob Laird, RSE Carpenter, has joined the faculty of the School of Trades and Technical programs as an instructor in our Carpentry program based out of our Comox Valley Campus.

Rob brings 15 years of carpentry instructional experience to North Island College, as well as having been a successful small business owner in the areas of contracting, excavation and construction of residential and light commercial buildings.

Rob also spent time in Vancouver as a scenic carpenter on many popular movie sets for Twentieth Century Fox, and has international building experience as a residential housing contractor in Japan. Rob has been a regular volunteer through Habitat for Humanity, and has recently been working in collaboration with NIC as the Carpentry Ace-it Coordinator for School District 71.

To compliment his Carpentry RSE, Rob completed his Instructors Diploma and B.Ed in Technology, and then went on to complete his Masters of Education in Curriculum Studies at the University of Victoria. Rob is a strong promoter of trades and trade occupations and we are pleased to have him onboard as of summer 2016 to support programming at North Island College.

David Nilson, Aircraft Structures

David Nilson has been confirmed as our incoming instructor for the Aircraft Structures Technician program based out of our Campbell River Vigar facility.

David holds his AME Credential as approved by Transport Canada and he brings a background in design, manufacturing, service development, quality management and team building.

David has owned and operated a specialized company based out of the Comox Valley serving national and international markets since 1992 which was preceded by years in industry as an Air Craft Structures Technician.

Having a desire to share his experience and knowledge with others, David chose to pursue a rewarding career as an educator and looks forward to supporting the ongoing success of the AST program at North Island College.

Trevor Petr, Electrical

Trevor Petr, RSE Electrician, has joined the faculty of Trades and Technical programs at North Island College! Trevor will support instruction based out of the Campbell River Campus as of fall 2016.

Trevor joined North Island College as a sessional faculty member over two years ago and has had the opportunity to instruct programming at both the Campbell River and Port Alberni Campuses. In addition to instructing Trevor has been very engaged in student recruitment initiatives and has become an active member of the North Island College community demonstrating commitment to student success, quality education and teambuilding.

Trevor comes to us from SAIT Polytechnic where he spent over eight years as an electrical instructor teaching foundation and all apprenticeship levels. He has been in the electrical trade for 15 years and holds his Red Seal, Alberta Masters certification, FSR Class A Certification, as well as his Provincial Instructor Diploma program.

In addition to being an educator Trevor is an entrepreneur which has strengthened his working relations with IBEW and industry.

COMOX VALLEY CAMPUS**School of Business Alumni Dinner/Mixer**

Submitted by Bill Parkinson

Below is a group photo of the School of Business 4th annual alumni dinner/mixer at the Black Fin Pub in Comox. Our event grows in size and reach every year. The School of Business works very hard to maintain good alumni relations with our past graduates. Photo taken May 12, 2016



NIC's First Ever Snow-to-Surf



North Island College with Martha Russell and 4 others.

Published by Emily Kendy [?] · April 25 at 10:14am · 🌐

NIC staff and faculty had a fabulous day at the Royal LePage Snow to Surf, Comox Valley relay on Sunday, April 24. Great teams, great support, great food, great fun. Looking forward to next year! #IamNIC #SnowtoSurf



PORT ALBERNI CAMPUS**Magic at NIC for Young Students**

Submitted by Jessie Broekhuizen

Port Alberni campus will be presenting Introduction to Chemistry for elementary school students in the Alberni Valley.

Last year we had three schools join in on these energized sessions. This year, with interest from the community, we have decided to present to four elementary schools. We had a kindergarten class come the last week in April and three more classes will be coming in the month of May. The ages range from kindergarten to grade six.

NIC welcomes these young students into the world of post-secondary and shows off the magic that happens in the chemistry lab. Instructor/mad scientist Kathleen Heywood will be facilitating these sessions.

NIC Student Publishes Article/Blog

Submitted by Jessie Broekhuizen

Our student, Kane Schlichting, enrolled in the ET/CL program has his first article published on the Alberni.ca website.

Enjoy his upcoming blogs at <http://www.alberni.ca/blogs/16-05-04/nic-employment-transitionconstruction-labour-program>

CENTRES**Ucluelet Centre**

Submitted by Bill Morrison

NIC continues to build on the success of its ITV offerings in Ucluelet. Recent technical upgrades have allowed the first-ever course (ENG 115) to be broadcast from UC centre to other campuses. Instructor Nick Van Orden is delivering the course from CVC on Mondays and from UC on Thursdays.