

REPORT TO NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS  
NOVEMBER 2016

COLLEGE WIDE

Halloween Fun at NIC!

*Port Alberni Campus*



*Campbell River Campus*



*Comox Valley Registration and Student Services Staff*



### *Finance Staff*



### **Poppy Campaign**

Cindy Greenhill and Heather Scarisbrick volunteered for the Legion Poppy Campaign at coffee breaks and lunch hours to have poppies available for students and staff at the Tyee table. In addition, a donation poppy box was placed at the reception desk in Komoux Hall.

Every year, the Legion conducts the Poppy Campaign to honour those who serve, and to raise funds in support of Veterans and their families. From the last Friday in October to Remembrance Day, all Canadians can be a part of the campaign. Wear a poppy, attend a ceremony, and show your recognition for those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Canadians are fiercely proud of our Veterans... and during the period leading up to Remembrance Day, millions of Canadians wear a Poppy as a symbol of national pride and respect; a visual pledge to never forget.

During the Poppy Campaign, thousands of Legion members from coast to coast to coast volunteer their time to distribute poppies and raise millions that will support Veterans and their families in need. While Poppies are distributed freely, the Legion truly appreciates the generous donations to the Poppy Fund in support of serving and retired Veterans and their families.

Thank you for wearing a Poppy and supporting Canada's Veterans.



## **CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

### **Continuing Education & Training**

*Submitted by Lynne MacFadgen*

#### **REGIONAL OVERVIEW**

CET continues to work closely with our decanal areas to create student pathways and laddering opportunities across our four regions. Examples of our strategic priorities and collaborative programming include the following:

- Expand Foundation/Pathways Programs – We are currently implementing the *Tourism and Hospitality Pre-entry Program* in Port Hardy as part of the ASP-funded Tourism Bridging Program, working with Aboriginal Education and the Department Chair of Tourism. CET and Trades jointly proposed an *Aquaculture Pathway Program* for the Mount Waddington Region that was recently approved by the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training. We are currently scheduling core marine courses, as well as the English and Math upgrading classes that will prepare students to meet admission requirements for future entrance into the Aquaculture Technician Program.
- Diversify Contracts with Industry & First Nation Partners – We were approached by Balfour Beatty to custom design and deliver a *Hospital Environmental Service Worker Program* to address housekeeping staffing needs for the two new North Island Hospitals opening in 2017. The program will include cultural perspectives in care, developed in liaison with Island Health and North Vancouver Island Aboriginal Training Society (NVIATS) staff. The first cohort of students will start their training in December at the Campbell River campus.
- Develop Market-driven, Short-term Vocational Certificates – The Office of Global Education has asked us to complete the preliminary research for designing a career-entry *Cruise Ship Training Program* for a cohort of Chinese students to gain cruise ship employment skills and onboard experience, working with OGE staff to align with intensive English classes (Comox Valley campus). We were approached by Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council (NTC) staff to offer an *Emerging Leadership Training Program* to address the education needs of First Nation youth and adults who are filling/assuming leadership roles that support productive and self-sufficient communities (Port Alberni campus). We are collaborating with NTC staff and the Office of Aboriginal Education to incorporate First Nation values, traditions, and community experiences into the design, with the goal of creating pathways into the new Aboriginal Leadership Certificate.

## PROGRAMMING ACTIVITIES

### CAMPBELL RIVER

- The New Directions for Older Workers program for displaced workers continues to prepare students for workforce re-entry.
- The Coastal Forest Resource program in Campbell River has been rescheduled to begin March 2017. A comprehensive advertising plan is underway for CR, PA, and MW programs. An instructor is being recruited for the Mount Waddington Program, with participant interest growing (2 applicants already).
- The Aquaculture Technician program in Campbell River is scheduled to begin in January 2017, with 15 applicants moving toward program registration.
- Underground Mining Essentials student recruitment is ongoing in Lillooet. We anticipate having a cohort of 12 students, starting November 14, 2016.
- The Coastal Log Scaling program has 12 applicants for the February 20, 2017 program, and seven registrants for the Introduction to Log Scaling course.
- We are working with Balfour Beatty to design/deliver the Hospital Environmental Service Worker program in December, 2016 at CR campus (with 12 students). Targeted advertising was circulated at job fairs in both Courtenay and Campbell River, and NVIATS is helping to recruit participants.
- The Metal Jewelry Design Certificate has 12 students registered (the largest group to date).
- A custom-designed 2-day jewelry engraving workshop, funded by the Metis Nation, was successfully delivered to six Aboriginal high school students on October 20 & 21.
- Implementation planning is underway for the Tourism and Hospitality Pre-entry program for Aboriginal learners in Port Hardy. It is funded by the Aboriginal Service Plan as the first-phase of the Tourism Bridging Program.
- Research has started on a pilot Cruise Ship Operations course for the Office of Global Education.

***Campbell River ElderCollege***

- There are 31 offerings planned, to date, for the winter 2017 program, with an active Curriculum Committee. The 2017 Winter newsletter is due December 14, 2016.

**COMOX VALLEY**

- Animal Care Aide, Hospital Unit Clerk (HUC) and Landscape Horticulture Apprentice Level 2 programs started in September and were well subscribed. Another intake of Animal Care Aide is planned, given waitlist numbers.
- Open enrolment courses are experiencing low enrolment rates for September and October (~55%).
- The Ministry-funded Enhanced Security Guard Training is scheduled to run November 14 through to December 9 with 12 students. Approximately 25-30-hrs per week have been devoted to promotions, participant recruitment, coordination (facility rental, curriculum planning, instructor scheduling), since September 1, 2016.
- Lynne (Regional Director, CET) has been actively working with the Dean of Health & Human Services to determine the outcome of three certificates identified for transition to HHS. Findings will be presented to the Senior Education Team on November 23, 2016 (program cancellation and/or revision may be involved).

***Comox Valley ElderCollege***

- ElderCollege is up and running smoothly. Staff are working with the various committees to streamline programming and communications.

**PORT ALBERNI**

- We are scheduling training with Port Alberni Friendship Centre for Foodsafe and Conflict Resolution & Communication.
- Staff are currently recruiting and preparing for the upcoming Coastal Forest Resource program that starts November 28, 2016, as well as the Building Service Worker program that starts January 16, 2017.
- Lynne & Leanne met with NTC, Nuu-chah-nulth Employment & Training Program (NETP) and Kelly Shopland to explore the opportunity to offer an Aboriginal Leadership program for community members.

***Port Alberni ElderCollege***

- We are programming for the winter/spring 2017 ElderCollege courses. In February, ElderCollege will be hosting a session on the NEPTUNE Project delivered by Ocean Networks Canada.

**FIRST AID**

- Marketing activity for Fall/Spring courses continues, focusing on the Courtenay Recreation Reporter, the Comox Military Family Resource Centre Newsletter, email blasts, the Red Cross web site, and use of Facebook & Twitter.

**BUSINESS AND APPLIED STUDIES****School of Fine Arts & Design***Submitted by Linda Perron*

The School of Fine Art and Design is pleased to have been working with facilities to upgrade the corridor exhibition space in Raven Hall. The upgrades have included removing the boarded up windows, the wood chair rail, replacing drywall and painting. The improvements to the corridor will provide a higher profile exhibition space to showcase artwork from both the Fine Arts Diploma and the Interactive Media and Graphic Design Program students. An added benefit to the corridor upgrades is an improvement to the photography studio. The upgrades to the shared wall has greatly improved the functional wall space for studio use for both photography and video applications. The improvements to the photo studio will also mean that the space can function as a small projection viewing room.

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Sculpture and Integrated Practices students were visited and interviewed by Shaw Cable as part of an ongoing series about Art Education in the Comox Valley. The segment featuring NIC students and faculty is expected to air sometime in late November as part of the Arts Beat Program.

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the School of Fine Art & Design in partnership with Emily Carr University will be presenting an Artist Talk with Janice Toulouse in the Stan Hagen Theatre from 12 – 1pm.

**Janice Toulouse** is an Anishinabe kwe artist and instructor, born and raised in Serpent River First Nation, Ontario. She lives in Vancouver and France. She has maintained a dedicated painting practice, exhibiting her work internationally for over thirty years. She holds an MFA from Concordia University in Montreal. Toulouse is a recipient of several awards, such as the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian award and residency in New York. Currently she is teaching Painting and Contemporary Aboriginal Art at Emily Carr University of Art + Design.

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### **Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

*Submitted by RaeAnn Hartman, BSN Department Co-Chair*

#### **PROGRAM – NEW, REVISED, UPDATES**

##### ***Faculty Achievements***

Joanna Fraser is currently working on a Multi Year Program Planning (MYPP) initiative to bring innovation and community engagement together, enhancing the NUR 410 Aboriginal Field School, that is celebrating a successful 10 years! The goal is to look at ways to draw a community of students from year one and three together for mentorship of foundational principles key to our ways of being with First Nations people and groups, particularly within any health framework and with broadening views.

Shelagh Kantor and RaeAnn Hartman are continuing the work to survey graduates regarding the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX), which was a change to nursing regulation in January 2015. We have data for the 2015 cohort and currently planning the process for the 2016 cohort.

Martha Russell and Jan Meiers, recipients of the Western & North-Western Region Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (WNRCSN) Innovation Award for 2016, are implementing faculty and student focus groups to support the Unfolding Case Study project, an innovative approach that was introduced to students in 2015.

RaeAnn Hartman, Department Co-Chair for the BSN Program would like to share a welcome to Karen Mason, who replaces Jan Meiers as past Department Co-Chair. And a huge thank you to Jan for all her years in the Department Co-Chair role.

Thank you to Margaret Hearnden for her work with us to pilot the Academic Integrity modules with our year one class, sharing the information in an intentional manner.

Thank you to Lynnette Gallant who continues to share her time and experience with our student body that supports success with Academic Integrity for our students.

##### ***Student Achievements***

We have an extremely active and enthusiastic group of Canadian Nursing Student Association (CNSA) leaders, successfully recruiting 11 year one students by week 4 to join them in Edmonton at the Western Regional Conference. We anticipate similar momentum for the National Conference in Winnipeg in January 2017. With membership to the CNSA, our students have many opportunities for leadership, advocacy, and political action with health care and system issues. They have an opportunity to see the democratic process live and utilize an evidence-based approach to presenting information and resolutions. As important, it is also an opportunity to connect with students from all other Colleges and Universities across our Western region and Canada – priceless!



## RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

BSN faculty had an inspiring and amazing faculty development day on September 2<sup>nd</sup> with their partner BSN faculty at VIU, exploring the NCLEX test plan for a Canadian context and within our curriculum. Our next joint curriculum day is planned for December, 2016.

October 4<sup>th</sup>, the BSN program hosted the Elder Luncheon with our students, particularly to create connection with our first year self-declared Aboriginal students. Thank you to Evelyn, Fernanda and Sarah for making it happen! We and our students appreciate the effort, time and wisdom shared.

October 18<sup>th</sup>, we are partnering with Island Health, St. Joseph's Hospital More OB team, and the Comox Valley Child Development Association (CVCDA) in the Comox Valley to host Darci Lang, author of Focus on the 90%. Stan Hagen Theater at 7pm. Please see her bio at: <http://darcilang.com/biography.html>

October 27<sup>th</sup>, our NUR 410 student and community partners will be sharing their experience in the Stan Hagen Theater at 7pm.

November 10<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting our BSN Leadership Conference and Visiting Scholar, organized by a 4<sup>th</sup> year Leadership team. This year, our guest speaker for our student body and community evening is Jan Ference. Jan is renowned for her work in Infant-Parent Mental Health and has been leading a specialized, early intervention Trauma team serving Port Hardy and the Comox Valley.

The team is a community collaboration involving the Children's Health Foundation, Island Health, Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), and the Child Development Association. The education is applicable and relevant to many sectors and systems such as public health, Early Years child care and education, infant development, physicians, juvenile justice and most of all, policy makers and government. Watch for information of the community event Wednesday evening, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Human Services / Social Service

*Submitted by Mary Pat Thompson, HSW Department Co-Chair*

### PROGRAMS – NEW, REVISED, UPDATES

The Human Services (HSW) department is off to a busy start this fall with high enrollments in all its programs located on three different campuses.

The Comox Valley has full enrollment in the Educational Assistant/Community Support Worker (EA/CSW) program and the students are in the process of preparing for their winter placements, which for most of them will be in Community Support Agencies that provide services to persons with diverse-abilities of all ages.

The Social Services Diploma had received funding for a pilot program to increase enrollment to 20. All the seats have been filled, and between the first and second years, and several students enrolled in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year HSW diploma, the enrollment is up to 38. With the increase in numbers, we will be exploring new possibilities for placements further abroad to provide greater options for our students.

Every year as part of the curriculum, all of the first year students partake in the Villages Workshop that has been held at the Komoux Big House for the last couple of years. The workshop helps to integrate Indigenous knowledge into the curriculum and assists the students to develop critical thinking and cultural awareness in their daily practice.

The Port Alberni cohort has a robust enrollment for the EA/CSW Indigenous Focus certificate. There are 15 full-time and six part-time students. Cross cultural awareness is a strong part of the learning for these students. The cultural aspects of the training for the group this fall have included classroom theory as well as ceremony, with the facilitation of local elders, cedar weaving, awareness and witnessing at a potlatch on the territory of the Tseshaht First Nation.

The Port Alberni cohort has a strong focus on fostering volunteer commitments. In October the group again supported the Family Fun Fair, which is an event that draws the disabilities community and typical families together. It is sponsored by Community Living BC and the Ministry for Children and Families. The students facilitate the various events such as cake walk, basketball throw, bouncy castle, etc. At the event they have the

benefit of networking with others in the field and have even at times received employment from their volunteerism. The cohort in Port Hardy has continued with a robust enrollment of 16 students who are all engaged and committed to the program. Upon completing the fall semester courses the students will be half-way through the program. Plans are underway to have a potluck celebration on their last day of class to acknowledge the hard work they have done in getting to this point. For many of the students they are working fulltime and have family commitments in addition to taking two courses a semester.

## Early Childhood Care and Education

*Submitted by Laurie Tulloch, Department Co-Chair*

### PROGRAMS – NEW, REVISED, UPDATES

Certificate students in the Comox Valley applied their textbook learning about infant and toddler development at their ‘baby guest’ day on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Every year, ten families of children newborn to 24 months are invited to class, giving students the opportunity to try out their milestones charts and interview the parents about their children’s development, bringing to life the theory students have been studying and the amazing amount of developmental difference that occurs in just 24 months! (See picture below).

In our Student Success curriculum, students partnered with members of the Children’s Charter Committee, a sub-committee of the Comox Valley Early Years Collaborative. In preparation for National Child Day in Canada on November 20<sup>th</sup>, the class participated in the assembly of engagement kits which they will take with them to their practicums to engage children in dialogue about their rights through art activities, photographs, written documentation and stories. With the children’s permission, this work will be collected to inform the development of the Charter.

Students learned how Charters demonstrate and support a community’s commitment to young children, and to ensuring that their rights as citizens are valued, visible and protected. The process involved in developing a Children’s Charter is equally important to the Charter itself, as this is where thoughtful engagement happens for children, families, municipal leaders and for community members. Comox Valley has been inspired by the work of Campbell River, where their Children’s Charter will be proclaimed on November 15<sup>th</sup>.



## TRADES AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

**Ministry of Advanced Education - [MLA Don McRae](#)** visits CR Campus, meets students and faculty to announce \$187,000 of trades equipment funding. McRae said, “Skilled trades are in demand on Vancouver Island and throughout BC. Our government’s investment on Vancouver Island in new trades training equipment will help ensure students have the skills they need to become part of the work force in BC.” North Island College will purchase equipment for the electrician, automotive service technician and welding programs.



*Don McRae with NIC students*

### Launched Prep Cook Certificate Program

New faculty instructor Al Irving is launching the new Prep Cook Certificate program in Port Alberni. The program consists of four months of full-time hands-on training, including industry certifications in Occupational First Aid, FoodSafe and WHMIS. Students learn how to safely operate, clean and maintain common kitchen equipment and gain theoretical and applied knowledge relevant to entry-level culinary positions. The program includes instruction on the theory and preparation of basic soups, stocks, sauces, vegetable dishes, salads, sandwiches, cookies and quick breads in addition to essential food safety requirements and standards.



*Chef Al Irving and Prep Cook students – Oct 2016*



## **Employability Fundamentals and Work Experience Initiative!**

North Island College has received ITA Innovation funding for a multi-faceted initiative which dovetails with priorities identified through multi-year program planning to include:

- Develop and implement a North Island College Faculty of Trades program advisory framework/model across the trades.
- Develop and implement a formal work experience/employer expectations training for implementation across Trades Foundation Programs.
- Develop a portfolio course of value for use by Foundation students for job search and career development.

## **Carpentry**

Carpentry programming is doing well with core instructors Erik Harden and Rob Laird. Rob is a valued addition to the team bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to NIC. The team continues to support additional sections to align with high school programming needs and apprenticeship wait lists. Erik Harden is nearing completion of his Master's degree at SFU and has very much valued the program and support from North Island College. Erik feels this undertaking has improved his knowledge as an instructor and given him a very deep understanding of education on all levels, and in post-secondary education in particular. He is looking forward to presenting his thesis upon completion.

## **Heavy Mechanical, Aircraft Structures and Electrical**

On a pilot basis, students have had the opportunity to access additional supports from a Trades Math tutor. The resources have proven to be invaluable for students as they enter the first semester of their chosen trade. Participation was excellent and the support resources will continue to roll out across other core trades programs during 2016.

## **Aquaculture Pathways Initiative**

The Faculty is in the process of implementing a new contract training offering which provides an opportunity for Mount Waddington residents to access upgrading while acquiring the program prerequisites for the Aquaculture Technician Level One program. Programming includes essential skills, upgrading and:

- MED-003 Small Non-Pleasure Craft Marine Emergency Duties (MED A3)
- NAU-005 Small Vessel Operator Proficiency Training
- NAU-016 Restricted Operator's Certificate – Maritime
- OFA-001 WHMIS
- OFA-010 Occupational First Aid Level 1
- Foodsafe

## **Collaboration with Continuing Education and Training**

The department is collaborating with Continuing Education and Training in the planning and implementation of:

- Open enrolment cohort of Coastal Forest Resources Certificate in Campbell River – March 2017
- Open enrolment cohort of Aquaculture Tech Level One Certificate in Campbell River – January 2017

## **Contract Funding Initiatives**

- Coastal Forest Resources Certificate- Port Hardy - March 2017
- Coastal Forest Resources Certificate- Port Alberni - November 2016
- Underground Mining – Lillooet – November 2016

## NIC Program Parent Student Information Sessions

- Staff and Faculty participated in the Program Information Session Events for community and students in Campbell River, Port Alberni and Comox Valley.

## Campbell River Cafeteria

The Campbell River cafeteria is doing very well this semester having gone through a menu adjustment and an update of the service space and image.



*Campbell River Cafeteria*

## Formal Announcement – NIC Welcomes Internationally Trained French Chef

NIC Professional Cook students are learning culinary arts from an international chef whose 30 years of experience includes catering to Bill Clinton and coaching students to win national championships.

Chef Xavier Bauby's passion for food began early. His father was a professional pastry chef and his mother an exquisite cook. He spent his childhood hunting crabs and fishing along the coast of Brittany, France and remembers proudly presenting his catch to his mother to prepare the family's dinner.

"The distinct quality and freshness of those meals has stayed with me throughout my life," he said. "I have been to many countries since then but I always choose my home by the sea."

At 16, he began a culinary apprenticeship in a French bistro. Then, wanting to experience new flavours and cooking styles, he toured France, exploring regions with a reputation for fine dining. He spent many years in Bordeaux apprenticing under Chef Jean Marie Amat at Chateaux St. James before moving on to the luxurious Hermitage Barrière Hotel in La Baule and Hôtel Lutetia in Paris.

"I had the privilege of working with some very talented older chefs. They acted as mentors to me and showed me that cooking could be alchemy," he said. "All of the energy that I bring to my teaching comes directly from these chefs."

An avid traveler, Chef Bauby spent his early twenties exploring Morocco, the Canary Islands, the Cabo Verde Islands, the Ivory Coast, the Congo and Sierra Leone. In each region, he made it a priority to visit local food markets to learn their food culture and expand his repertoire. In 1991, he arrived in Canada, where he has grown his career as a chef and an instructor.

Chef Bauby's experiences include representing Canadian chefs on an international level, first as caterer for President Bill Clinton at the Russian/US Summit held in Vancouver in 1992 and then as part of a team invited by the Canadian Embassy to promote Canadian cuisine in Shanghai, China.

As instructor at Le Cordon Bleu in Ottawa, he coached students to provincial gold and national bronze medals at Skills Canada 2016. He also managed and led a gold-winning team at the Canadian Culinary Federation, 2011-2013.

Chef Bauby enjoys supporting NIC students as they gain hands-on experience in NIC's Third Course Bistro, compete at regional and provincial competitions and take part in various high-profile North Vancouver Island Chefs Association events. He is working closely with culinary students to develop a mouth-watering menu for NIC's popular wine festival on November 18<sup>th</sup>. (For details, visit <http://bit.ly/2eA0TYa>). The menu, which could include savoury decadent French cheese puffs and salmon jalousie (a west coast take on a typically sweet French pastry), is designed to pair with the selection of wine being served.

"By sharing my knowledge and experience with students and apprentices I am able to follow the footsteps of my mentors," he said. "With all due modesty, my dream as an instructor is for my students to surpass me."



Chef Xavier Bauby has catered to former US President Bill Clinton and represented Canada internationally. He teaches NIC's Professional Cook programs in Campbell River this year.



*Chef Xavier Bauby and students with their first sushi presentation.*

### **Student Employment Program and Faculty of Trades**

The Faculty of Trades and Technical programs is grateful for student employment funding and are in the process of recruiting students for Campbell River, Comox and Port Alberni campuses. The program provides students with a rewarding learning and work experience across a range of trades. To date, we have two students working in CR Welding shop, two in our Plumbing program in the Comox Valley, and up to five students for our Joinery program in Port Alberni.



### Campbell River Campus Co-hosted Sysco Food Show

The Campbell River campus welcomed over 100 culinary industry representatives and suppliers who participated in the Sysco Food show on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The event was a great success! The Food Show provided an opportunity for North Island College Culinary students to present a menu of amazing meals prepared with Sysco products. Student engaged with employers, networked with industry representatives and suppliers and had the opportunity to apply their impressive culinary skills and job search techniques.



*Sysco Food Show, November 9, 2016*



*Sysco Food Show, November 9, 2016*



## STUDENT SERVICES AND REGISTRAR

### Library & Learning Commons

*Submitted by Mary Anne Guenther*

The CR, CV and PA Library & Learning Commons (LLC) welcomed 14,411 entries through our doors in the month of September.

Introducing academic supports and software enhancements in a centralized student location have been proud moments for the Library & Learning Commons staff this fall.

The single search interface to library resources (Ebsco Discovery Search) helps to streamline research, self-serve online room booking software gives students autonomy, Student Technical Services helps de-mystify educational technology for students, Writing support empowers students with writing competencies, Peer tutoring connects tutors and tutees and Math workshops on basic concepts from algebra to compound interest connect students and faculty over ITV.

As we near the completion of Phase 1 with new branding, updated signage, services and space, we are celebrating on November 10<sup>th</sup>, November 17<sup>th</sup> and November 23<sup>rd</sup> at PA, CR and CV respectively. We are inviting the entire college community to join us for cupcakes over the lunch hour to showcase and talk about the services of the LLC.



*Group space – CV LLC*



*Lending, Research and Student Technical Services*

### MW Orientation and Program Information Night – October 13<sup>th</sup>

*Submitted by Sarah Deagle*

Student Services in MW hosted a busy evening that included participation from Debra Forsythe (Tourism), Sheila Doncaster (ASD), Thevi Pather (OGE), and Kathleen Kuhnert. Guests were welcomed back to school and information was shared about potential programming opportunities, services, and overseas opportunities. Building on the theme of the famous Dr. Seuss book (Oh, the Places You'll Go), even the littlest people attending had fun.

## Advising off the 'Rock'

*Submitted by Sarah Deagle*

In the spirit of meeting our NIC students where they are – including in community, Jewel Peters (Campbell River Aboriginal Advisor) and Kelly Shopland (Director of Aboriginal Education) travelled to Bella Coola at the beginning of October. The goal was to support students and their instructor with academic planning and other student services. Students involved are participating in ABE programming with the Lip'alhayc Learning Centre and also a combined ABE/ABT program, funded by the provincial government through project funding.

## Support Services for Students

*Submitted by Erin McConomy*

Fall 2016 has been the busiest ever for our Peer Tutoring program. Already this year we have 30 active tutors tutoring over 100 students. Our tutors are supporting students with study skills development and content in 15 disciplines across the college including Business, Nursing, Trades, Math, Sciences, English, Interactive Media and Design, and Adult Basic Education. In addition, we have tutors not only at the Comox Valley Campus, but also in Campbell River and Port Alberni.

In September, the Peer Tutoring program became part of the new Library & Learning Commons and together we launched an online booking system for our peer tutors, faculty writing support, research support, student technical services, and room booking. The introduction of this system has allowed students to search the roster of current tutors and their availability, and to make an appointment directly with tutors. This has played a significant role in allowing the program to grow and in matching students with peer tutors quickly and easily.

In addition to taking advantage of technology to expedite booking peer tutors, we are also continuing to encourage students to use technology to connect between campuses. Skype for Business is being used to connect students with tutors at other campuses when a tutor is not available at their home campus. This is a great benefit for students in Campbell River and Port Alberni especially, and has the potential to serve students at the Mount Waddington campus whenever the need arises.

Everyone is benefitting from the continued expansion of peer tutoring at NIC:

- Students are getting individualized support in the specific areas they find challenging, coming to a deeper understanding of their course content, and developing their study skills
- Student tutors are gaining excellent leadership experience while reinforcing their own knowledge and skills, and
- Faculty are receiving higher quality work allowing them more time to focus on teaching the content and concepts in their courses.

As a result of all of these, North Island College is able to produce stronger students with better knowledge and skills as they move onto other institutions or into the workforce.

## Aboriginal Teachings

*Submitted by Sarah Deagle*

*Photo: Elder in Residence, June Johnson & Aboriginal Education Advisor, Kash Ward at the Medicinal Plants & Herbs teachings offered on November 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Aboriginal Lounge at the Campbell River campus.*

While enjoying a cup of tea served with pastries, June reviewed local healing plants and fruits. The teas she shared were obtained locally and have traditional healing purposes. June will also be giving free lessons on the following topics:

**Cedar Weaving** – Tuesday, November 22, 2016 from 12:00 to 2:00.

June will review some of the traditional uses of cedar and show you how to weave your own bracelet.



**Making Bannock** – Tuesday, December 13, 2016 from 12:00 to 2:00

June will introduce some bannock recipes, and she'll show you how to fry it up just right.

### **Drum Making Sessions**

Elder in Residence, Daryle Mills will teach registered students how to make their own drum. The sessions are free for NIC students and are offered – Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 to 2:00. All three sessions are necessary to ensure enough time to complete the drum.

- On November 16<sup>th</sup>, over a warm bowl of soup, Daryle will convey some of the traditional ways of knowing surrounding the formation of the drum and the importance of drumming. He will teach students how to prepare the materials needed for the drum and get students started on their own.
- On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, Daryle plans to carry on from the previous week's teaching, showing student how to tie their drums.
- On November 30<sup>th</sup>, Daryle will continue to work with students who have not yet finished their drums and teach others how to make their own drumstick. Students will need to bring a wood branch for this project.

### **Student Employment Services**

*Submitted by Anita Budisa-Bonneau*

The office of Student Employment Services was pleased to host a hiring fair on campus during the September 6, 2016 annual Orientation Day event. NIC welcomed 12 local employers who were accepting applications and doing interviews on the spot for current opportunities for students looking for part-time employment while they're studying. This is the first time we have also hosted a hiring fair during orientation and the feedback from both students and participating employers was very positive. Most of the employers would like to return next year as well.

On September 23, 2016 Student Employment Services and the NIC School of Business collaborated to host "Together We Are Better" a one-day conference held on campus to strengthen connections with non-profit organizations and people in the Comox Valley. Approximately 60 attendees from the community and local NPO organizations learned more about NIC's student employment programs, such as co-op education and internships, while also participating in a networking session with students. Participants and students could chose to attend any of the following workshops:

- Why Networking with the Right People is Essential for Success Today, with Garland Coulson
- Successful Grant Seeking, with Jennifer Barnes van Elk
- How Policy Governance Builds the Foundation for the Healthy NPO, with David Stapley
- Navigating the New Changes to the BC Society's Act, with Trish Reimer, Jill Sinkwich & Tona Hetherington

The event was successful and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive as community members and local NPOs were pleased that they were able to learn with relevant workshop choices, connect with each other and students while also sharing success stories and proposing new projects for future partnerships.

## Connecting Communities Through Research on Vancouver Island

### OPPORTUNITY: STUDENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers and research students are needed at Yucalta Lodge in Campbell River for the Falls Prevention Project.

Student volunteers will work closely with staff to identify, implement, and monitor activities with residents who have been identified as having a high risk of falling. Students will gain relevant experience in health care, research methods, and will also make personal connections at a local seniors health-care facility.

For more information or to discover other volunteer opportunities, call Carmen Christensen at 250-850-2420.



Student volunteering at Yucalta Lodge

### NEW PUBLICATION FOR BSN STAFF

Evelyn Voyageur and Joanna Fraser's paper, *Crafting Culturally Safe Learning Spaces: A Story of Collaboration Between an Educational Institution and Two First Nation Communities*, was accepted for publication in the Spring issue of the *Engage Scholar Journal*. This paper tells the story of engagement between North Island College, the Wuikinuxv Nation of Rivers Inlet and the Dzawada'enuxw Nation of Kingcome Inlet to offer a field school in the remote First Nations communities over the past 10 years.

### SPOTLIGHT: NCLEX POST-GRADUATE SURVEY

Shelagh Kantor and RaeAnn Hartman have completed the NCLEX Post-Graduate Survey. This survey is intended to provide the BSN faculty at North Island College, and potentially nurse educators across Canada, with information related to the student preparation experience related to the NCLEX-RN exam, a required component for RN licensure. The completion of the survey also affords participants the opportunity to provide feedback related to their personal experience, something that is not available within the actual exam writing process. This NCLEX process and exam are new to Canadian graduates and began in Canada in January 2015.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Island Health is looking to strengthen collaborations with NIC and any faculty members interested in exploring collaborative planning, processes, events, or obtaining real-world research topics for students.

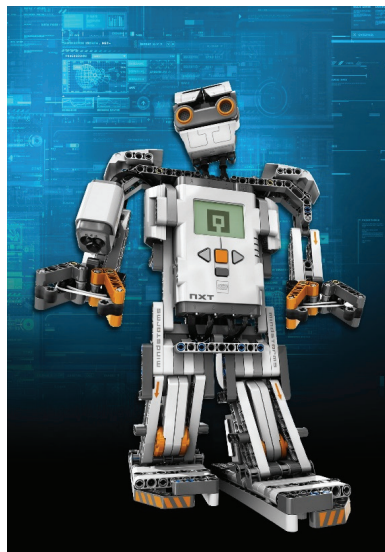
For more information, go to: <http://www.viha.ca/rnd>

### SPOTLIGHT: NICBotCamps

NIC offered its first Lego robotics camps for up to 140 elementary school students across the North Island this summer, thanks to a \$42,000 grant from the Canadian Internet Registration Authority with an additional \$7,000 from North Vancouver Island Aboriginal Training Society, Creative Industries Council, Professional Engineers of BC, and Canada Summer Jobs.

NICBotCamps allowed students, aged nine to 12, to build, program and remotely control Lego robots at summer camps in Port Alberni, the Comox Valley, Ucluelet, Port Hardy or Campbell River.

"Everyone loves building Lego but these camps add a new element of programming," said Naomi Tabata, manager of NIC's Centre for Applied Research, Technology and Innovation. "Students spent a week building robots, and improving their digital literacy. After camp, students can keep learning by accessing remote robotics technology online developed here at NIC."



### SUBMIT YOUR STORIES

Do you have an interesting story that you think should be in our newsletter? Simply send it to April at [carti@nic.bc.ca](mailto:carti@nic.bc.ca) and your story may be in our next edition!

#### CONTACT US:

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Connecting Communities Through Research on Vancouver Island

## RESEARCH UPDATES

### NIC Announces Artists In Residence Program

*Sara Vipond*

NIC's new Artist-in-Residence program brought local and Saskatchewan based artists Joanne Bristol, Barbara Meneley and Clive Powsey to NIC's School of Fine Art & Design during the summer.

"We are very proud to have artists of this calibre available to Comox Valley residents," said Sara Vipond, an artist and instructor at NIC. "It's a great opportunity to experience their art and learn about their research. We hope they are the first of many more artists-in-residence to come at NIC."

The project is a component of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) project, Where is Here: Small Cities, Deep Mapping and Sustainable Futures, created in collaboration with Vancouver Island University, North Island College, Thompson Rivers University, UBC Okanagan and the Comox Valley Art Gallery.

The residency provides artists with access to NIC studios, MAC labs and production equipment while the Comox Valley Art Gallery features their work in a MAP: MAKE, ART, PLACE exhibit. Meleney and Bristol will stay at the McLoughlin Gardens, which provides visiting artists accommodation in a charming waterfront cabin near Merville, BC.

"NIC's School of Fine Art & Design recognizes and promotes art-based research as a mode of creative inquiry," said Vipond. "This residency offers a creative space and platform for professional practicing artists to conduct active research in NIC's fine art studios."

In developing work for this project, artists explore various mediums and modes of research to investigate how artistic practices can influence, expand and subvert our understandings of mapping, cartography and sense of space and place.

### Kelp Collection Complete

*Dr. Stephen Cross*



Kelp harvesting for the Sustainable Aquaculture project was completed this summer with kelp fronds measuring anywhere from less than 1 meter in length to more than 3 meters. The kelp is now being analysed for elemental content and results will be available in November, 2016.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Take the Floor: Bigger Than Work with Eric Termuende: Stan Hagen Theatre

*Thursday, October 6, 6:00 pm*

Learn about investing in employees and how your business can develop succession plans, attract loyal customers, invest in the community, and retain employees. Learn how to identify and bridge issues between multi-generational employees. By 2025, 75% of the workforce will be Generation Y: What does this mean for the future of work?

For more information, go to:

<https://comoxvalleychamber.ticketit.ca/>

### NIC Information Nights:

Join us for an evening to learn about programs at NIC!

**Campbell River:** *Tuesday, October 18, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm*

For more information, go to:

[http://www.nic.bc.ca/about\\_us/events\\_notices.aspx?e=2265#event2265](http://www.nic.bc.ca/about_us/events_notices.aspx?e=2265#event2265)

**Comox:** *Tuesday, November 15, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm*

For more information, go to:

[http://www.nic.bc.ca/about\\_us/events\\_notices.aspx?e=2272#event2272](http://www.nic.bc.ca/about_us/events_notices.aspx?e=2272#event2272)

### Upcoming Funding Deadlines

Please contact CARTI to discuss your research ideas for submissions in advance of the funder deadline or regarding any projects that involve NIC. Additional funding programs may be available to suit your initiative. For more information, visit NIC's CARTI portal, call 250-923-9700 ext 7814 or email at [carti@nic.bc.ca](mailto:carti@nic.bc.ca).

FUNDING PROGRAM	DEADLINE
BCARIN Seed Funding - Applications accepted starting April 15, 2016. Contact CARTI for an application package.	Ongoing
NSERC - Engage and Applied Research & Development Grants	Ongoing
NSERC - Idea to Innovation	2016-Oct-3
NSERC - Applied Research Tools and Instruments	2016-Nov-1
Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada - Contributions Program Fund	2016-Dec-2