

Northwest NORTHWEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE Passages



Volume 8, No. 10

Northwest Community College

June 1995

Staff News

Michael Hill, NWCC President, is in Victoria until late August where he has been appointed Interim Chief Executive Officer for the new university "Royal Roads".

Ann MacKay recently retired from the Terrace Cafeteria where she has worked for the past 16 years.

Pat Kucey has resigned as Director, Prince Rupert.

David Himmelman has resigned his Co-ordinator position in the Business department, Terrace as he is off to Abu Dhabi for 3 years.

Alison Johnson, ABE Program Support, Terrace is moving to the Lower Mainland.

Linda Milne, Program Support, Terrace is moving to Vancouver Island.

Fred Adair has recently returned from South Africa where he represented the College as one of three education representative regarding International Education which is to conduct exploratory work on a B.C.-South Africa Vocational Education partnership. Fred indicated he will get a report ready for our next newsletter.

Congratulations to **Ellen Roberts**, Nursing instructor on her recent marriage to her best friend Doug Bodnar. Wedding took place June 11.

Stephen Doyle has recently been hired to fill the position of Natural Resource Coordinator. Stephen comes to us from Langara College.

Terry Stephan, ABE/Applied Tech instructor, Kitimat has been granted a 2 year leave of absence.

Sandy Soares moves from Switchboard, Terrace to ABE Program Support.

Congratulations to **Lucinda & Bill Clarke** on the birth of a baby girl, 7 lbs. 14 oz. on June 10. Lucinda worked part-time as an ABE instructor in Houston.

**New Fax
Number
for.....**



College Board Members

Michael Hill, President

Patrick Rife, Vice-President, Administration/Bursar

Brian Loptson, Director, Education & Student Services

Barb Sheridan, President's Assistant

Rhonda Ross, Administrative Assistant to Brian

Carol Reynolds, Administrative Assistant to Patrick + Newsletter

Newsletter takes holiday

NORTHWEST PASSAGES is taking a summer vacation. There will be no publications for the months of July and August. Publication will resume September.

Submission deadline of the 1st Friday of the month appears to be working well, so this will continue come Fall, with one exception **September**. As this is a busy time for everyone I'm allowing an extra week and extending the deadline to the **2nd Friday of the month**. That means I'll be watching for lots of interesting news Friday, September 8th.

Wishing everyone a great summer with lots of sunshine and will be looking forward to hearing all your news come Fall.

- Carol Reynolds

(604) 638-5461

News Bulletin....from the President's Office

- Barb Sheridan, President's Assistant

I recently attended the annual conference of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) in Victoria. While I was there I had the opportunity to talk with our President Michael Hill about his experience so far as CEO of the new Royal Roads University. The following is a summary of replies from Michael:

Most exciting part?

- The most exciting part of this secondment to Royal Roads is the opportunity to be helping with the beginning of a brand new and different institution and the possibility of influencing change in the post-secondary system in B.C.

Biggest challenge?

- The biggest challenge is all of the work that has to be done in such a short time period. There is much to be done and I am concerned that there is not enough time to make really good decisions as the context is unique and different.

Public response?

- As the announcement of Royal Roads University was relatively quiet, there has not been a great deal of public response. The information has not been available on a large scale as yet. I expect more information about this very different university — the fact that it will have an applied focus and different governance — will generate a lot of discussion.

Are Camosun and UVIC partners?

- I have met with representatives from the University of Victoria and Camosun College and they see themselves as real partners in this initiative. They have been helpful and thoughtful and are considering collaborative action. Royal Roads is seen as complementary not competition.

Present employees at Royal Roads?

- There are a number of federal employees whose futures with Royal Roads are as yet undetermined. These employees have a real commitment to the “place” and their advice is valuable. There is a long history of tradition and it is important to capture this in this new beginning.

Governance and structure?

- The governance of Royal Roads will be different. The university will challenge the traditional academic structure. Federal funding will be provided for a certain length of time and then the university will move toward becoming a self-funded institution with valid partnerships with many sectors of society.

Secondment any credit to NWCC?

- Northwest Community College is a leader in the provincial system in many ways — genuine and different partnerships (Applied Technology Program in Kitimat, First Nations, Community Skills Centres, School Districts, etc.), open and consultative structure, focus on the community — you could say that NWCC is the “mouse that roared!”

The Royal Roads student?

- The Royal Roads student body will be a mixture of high school graduates and mature students, but will be untraditional in terms of that proportion. There will be a strong focus on the mid-career professional.

Happening to date?

- There are two other people working on the Royal Roads University start-up at this point — Nick Rubidge who has been seconded from the Ministry of Skills, Training and Labour and Mr. Hugh Gordon, the government appointed Board Chair. Nick’s role has a lot of value because of his knowledge and experience with international education. The university will have an international focus. The governing board and the university society will be established very soon and legislation will be handled at the next sitting. Federal/provincial negotiations on the transfer of Royal Roads are still underway.

A day in the life of the Royal Roads President?

- It often begins with a visit to the Ministry offices where my itinerary is established for the day. The mornings to-date are usually spent in meetings at the Ministry and making/returning calls. Afternoons are spent at Royal Roads where an office has been established in the library building, or attending meetings in different parts of Victoria. A business dinner is often on the agenda and then night meetings are held with the Board Chair, staff at Royal Roads, etc. As well, there are often social functions in the evening to do with various opening/closing events around Royal Roads.

Message to NWCC?

- Hello and hope you have a good summer. I continue to “blow Northwest Community College’s horn” at every opportunity. See you in August.

Generic vs Brand Name...

Why Pay More?

Did you know that when using generic drugs there is no risk of paying for an inferior product or compromising your drug therapy?

By Canadian law, generic drugs must contain the identical main chemical (active ingredients) as the name brand product.

Generic drugs are legal copies of patented drugs and must pass the same stringent government requirements that all drugs in Canada must pass.

Refer to the chart for comparisons.

- *WestPro BeneTips,*
June/95, Issue #6

Brand Name Drug		Generic Drug		Cost Difference (%)	
Name	Cost*	Name	Cost*		
Ventolin (1-2 puffs 3-4 times a day as needed)	\$14	salbutamol	\$6	\$8	(57%)
Voltaren	\$66	diclofenac	\$44	\$22	(33%)
Tenormin (1 tablet a day)	\$20	stenoil	\$13	\$7	(35%)
Zantac (2 tablets at bedtime)	\$74	ranitidine	\$28	\$46	(62%)
TOTAL		\$174	\$91	\$83	(48%)

*Approximate cost for a 30 day supply of drug. The dispensing fee is excluded from the calculation since it is constant between brand name and generic drugs dispensed in the same pharmacy.

Central Region

"OPEN HOUSE" - great success

A big thank you to all faculty and staff who turned out for our evening session 'Explore '95' on May 31st. It was a great success.

Representatives from Business Administration, Office Technology, University Credit, Adult Basic Education, Adult Special Education, Natural Resource, Social Service Worker, Addictions Worker, Mental Health Worker, Early Childhood Education, Trades/Technology, Cook Training, Career Foundations, Advising, Registration and Admissions were all on hand to answer inquiries about college programs and services.

Folks came from Kitimat, Smithers, Prince Rupert and Kincolith. The intent of the orientation was to make the transition to college a smooth and speedy one for new students. Tours of the dorms, library and the shops were enjoyed by all. The campus cafeteria provided delicious refreshments.

Raffle winners of a college sweatshirt were Shirley Bolton, Terrace and Sally Hurst, Kitimat.

- *Ella Goodlad*



Help us keep
you informed!

Submission deadline
1st Friday in the month

Deliver contributions by
hand, internal mail or
FAX: 638-5461

to:
Carol Reynolds,
College Services,

Article of interest....

THE OMBUDSMAN

Promoting Fairness for British Columbians

1. If it's information you need...

For current information on provincial government programs and services, call Enquiry B.C.:
in Metro Vancouver: 660-2421
in Metro Victoria: 387-6121
all other locations in B.C.:
1-800-663-7867

If you are seeking information or documents first call the public authority that holds the information. If you are not satisfied, call the office of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Commissioner in Victoria: 387-1992

2. If you think you have a problem with a public authority, try to solve it.

Call first. Contact the public authority by telephone. Determine who can best help to solve your problem.

Be ready. Have your questions and important reference numbers ready when you call.

Ask questions. Determine why and how the public authority made its decision.

Keep a record. Make notes of your calls and the answers to your questions.

Review all information carefully about any review or appeal process to which you are entitled.

3. Have you already explored existing remedies within the public authority?

Prior to investigating a complaint, the Ombudsman will encourage, and sometimes require a person to exhaust existing remedies within the public authority. We can assist you by giving you information about existing remedies.

4. Is your complaint within the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman?

The Ombudsman has the authority to investigate complaints about the

GUIDING PRINCIPLES for the Office of the Ombudsman

RESPECT

Recognizing that everyone is entitled to be treated with dignity and respect.

INCLUSIVENESS AND ACCESSIBILITY

Promoting equality, access and inclusion in all public services and facilities for all persons regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, race, national or ethnic origin, religion or creed, language, and family or economic status.

EMPOWERMENT

Promoting and encouraging self-help for people using public services.

EDUCATION

Educating and instructing public officials about the principles of fairness in order to prevent complaints.

COOPERATION

Recognizing the value of cooperation as the primary means to achieve resolutions.

COMMITMENT

Striving to be consistent, innovative, courteous and impartial at all times with the public and public officials.

LEADERSHIP

Ensuring that the Office of the Ombudsman has in place administrative policies and practices that are fair, and consistent with these guiding principles.

following public authorities:

- * ministries of the province
- * crown corporations
- * colleges and universities
- * schools
- * hospitals
- * local governments
- * governing bodies of professional and occupational associations

5. Is your complaint a matter of administration?

The Ombudsman is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints about administrative unfairness. Her concern is whether the policy, practice, process, guidelines or law that a public authority has applied in your case is fair. An unfair decision is one that is unjust, discriminatory, unreasonable or based on a mistake of law or fact.

6. When you need to contact the Ombudsman...

If you are not sure whether your complaint falls within our jurisdiction, please call us.

BY FREE TELEPHONE ACCESS:

1-800-567-3247 (all of B.C.)
1-800-667-1303 (TTD/TTY)

BY LOCAL TELEPHONE ACCESS:

387-5855 (Victoria)
387-5446 (Victoria TTD/TTY)

BY MAIL:

931 Fort Street
Victoria, B.C. V8V 3K3

2nd Floor, 1111 Melville Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6E 2X5

BY FAX:

387-0198 (Victoria)
660-1691 (Vancouver)

7. When the Ombudsman investigates...

After an investigation, when a complaint has been substantiated, she can make recommendations to the public authority that will attempt to resolve your complaint and promote fairness.