



# Northwest Passages

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Northwest Community College

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HERE'S THE  
*Latest!* **Staff  
News**

.....from the  
*Human Resources  
Department*

*Donna Marken* is the successful applicant for the two year half-time appointment of *Purchasing Coordinator*. Donna replaces *Flip Cervo* who has been seconded to the Open Learning Agency in Burnaby for the next two years.

Welcome to *David Evans* who has recently been hired in our Eastern Region as the *Coordinator* for our *Wilderness Guiding program*.

*Congratulations go out to Alan Gilchrist, U/T Instructor (Terrace Campus) and his wife Jane* on the arrival of a baby girl, born January 20th, weighing in at 6 lbs. 9 ozs.

*Congratulations to Patti Bruce, Cashier Receptionist, (Houston Campus) and husband Richard* on the arrival of a baby boy, Travis Wyatt, born February 8th, weighing in at 8 lbs. 3 ozs.

## *Good-bye.... for Now*

I would like to "thank" my many friends throughout the College for their on-going support and patience over the past 18+ years while I attempted to do my job in the best manner possible.

I view my departure, not as a "good bye" rather as an extended vacation where I will have the opportunity to grow and learn. At this time, I do plan to return to Terrace at the end of the 2nd year secondment, but it is difficult to guess what the future holds. In the meantime my replacement is Donna Marken, and I would ask you to give her the same support you gave me. "Thank you" again and best of wishes for your futures!

- *Flip Cervo*

## ARTS PROGRAM REVIEW

The Arts Program at NWCC is currently under formal review.

As part of this review process we are eliciting commentary from support staff. If you have any observations or recommendations you would like included in this review, *please direct them to Sylvia Golke at the Learning Resource Centre in Terrace.*

Information which may be pertinent could include your perception of the Arts Program and it's value to the college, improvements that could be made, your contact with students in the Arts Program, working relationships between support staff and faculty, etc.

Commentary can be verbal or written and will be held in confidence.

Your participation will be appreciated.

- *S. Golke*  
*Staff Sub-Committee*  
*Arts Program Review*

## Eastern Region

### Prior Learning

Two Early Childhood Education students have successfully completed the Prior Learning Assessment for ECE 251.

The committee is working on developing the policies and procedures for Prior Learning Assessment. Applied Technology, Office Administration, and Natural Resources are working on Prior Learning for their programs. Prior Learning should be available in all these programs for September 1997.

All programs are encouraged to implement Prior Learning. Anyone who wants further information please contact Terrie McAloney at Ext. 5808.

#### Benefits to Learners

Gives credit where due, Opens doors to employment, Opens doors to advanced training, Takes less time, Confidence building, Fosters positive change, Helps clarify goals, Helps in Self understanding, Focuses on outcomes of achievements, Frees candidates from traditional classroom training and Builds their strengths.

- Terrie McAloney  
Smithers Campus

### Co-operative Education at NWCC!

I've just done a statistical report on Co-op at NWCC for the calendar year 1996 and thought I'd pass some information on to everyone.

Co-op volumes are usually counted in placement weeks rather than numbers of students placed in employment because some students may do more than one work term in a year so could be counted twice. Placement weeks are the full weeks that all Co-op students worked in paid employment for Co-op employers over the past year. In 1996, Northwest Community College students worked a total of 1,531 placement weeks up from 806 in 1995, an increase of 90%.

Wages ranged from \$7.50 to over \$16.00 per hour with the average being approximately \$12.00 per hour. That translates into almost \$700,000 going into the northwest economy from Co-op wages alone.

The male/female mix is 57% male, 43% female.

Students worked throughout the northwest in Prince Rupert, Terrace, Kitimat, Stewart, Hazelton, Smithers, Houston and Burns Lake.

If you would like more information about our Co-op programs, feel free to call me at Ext. 5258.

Sandy Bullock,  
Industry Liaison Officer,

## Southern Region

### Letter to the Editor... NWCC Education Council News Section

*This article is in regard to your submission to the January 1997 edition of "Northwest Passages"*

We in Kitimat were most interested to read that the Education Council represents each centre. We naturally turned to the list of representatives and came up with the following number of representatives from each centre:

Terrace - 8  
Prince Rupert - 4  
Smithers - 3  
Hazelton - 1  
**Kitimat - 0**

Are you trying to tell us something? Have we been overlooked, or, closed down and we just don't know it yet?

Please let us know.

- Anxious Kitimat Staff

#### Cancellation of March Newsletter

I'm afraid our newsletter for the month of March will have to sit on the side burner as I will be working on our yearly 1997/98 Program Calendar.

The next "Northwest Passages" will happen in April so please hold your submissions until then. **The deadline for the April edition will be Friday, April 11/97.**

- Carol Reynolds

## Western Region

### AND THE WINNERS ARE...

ATM and Company was the winning team in a local investment contest held among Business Administration students at NWCC. Team members, Tina Pack, Matt Brown, Aina Rudman and Colleen Bucknell, outperformed the market. In a six week period, their \$100,000 portfolio grew almost \$14,000, an approximate annualized return of 112%.

The contest was patterned on similar competitions run at other colleges and universities. It was administered by Larry Jones, a 2nd year Business Administration student. Larry acted as the broker to his fellow students, charging a "commission" for his services.

According to Larry, "The early lead in the contest was taken by the instructor's team but was short lived when newly learned financial techniques were used by the student teams. The hotly contested battle between the top student teams resulted in a virtual draw. It was only after I deducted my brokerage commissions and margin interest that a clear winner emerged".

- John Shepherd  
Business Administration  
Instructor

### NEWS FROM EXTENSION SERVICES, PRINCE RUPERT

#### Stop'N' Go Now Open

On their own initiative, Retail Sales students turned their "mock Shop" into a real store. The **Stop'N' Go**, sells chips, pop, and baking to fellow students in the *Employability Skills* program. This exercise proved to be an invaluable lesson in inventory control, cash register operation, teamwork, basic bookkeeping and customer service! As this session draws to a close students are beginning to prepare for the final phase of the program - their work experience. The month has been full and exciting with the introduction of interac, credit card processing, merchandising, inventory control, telephone techniques and customer service.

#### Front Line Personnel

The first intake of students are out on their workplace assignments, confident that the skills they have learned will enable them to do well with their temporary, and possible prospective employers. They have covered all topics with enthusiasm and have become confident in their ability to deal with the many aspects of being a front line employee. They are looking forward to practicing their newly acquired skills.

#### Integrated Natural Resources

As part of the UFAWU contract this program will begin with two cycles starting February 10. The following people have been hired to teach the different com-

ponents of this program; *Todd Parker*, Salmon Identification and Management (CIRM 101), *Sheila Dobie*, Pacific Herring and Groundfish Identification and Management (CIRM 102), and Commercial Fishing Methods (CIRM 202), *David Rekdal*, Fisheries Regulations (CIRM 103), and *Brian Bawtinheimer*, Fish Habitat and Restoration (CIRM 303).

#### Oona River

Oona River Stream Enhancement Project is currently coordinating funding through Human Resource Centre of Canada for delivery of Occupational First Aid Level I, Transport Endorsement, Outdoor Safety and Fish Habitat and Restoration.

#### UFAWU

This has been a busy contract for Extension Services, with such varied courses as Occupational First Aid Level I, Transport Endorsement, Artifact Handling, Outdoor Safety, and more. Student interest in this program has been very high. *Lisa Clark* is instructing the Occupational First Aid Level I, and *Bruce Fisher and Kate Waring* are instructing the Transport Endorsement.

- Emilia McConville  
Program Assistant