

**NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS REPORT  
SEPTEMBER 2021**

**TRADES AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS**

**Report to the Board of Governors  
September 2021**

WELL, we rolled out those lazy-hazy-crazy days of summer...except Trades and Technical Programs forgot the lazy...and the hazy, so that leaves.... What a summer it has been! Six foundation programs, Professional Cook Levels 1(PA) and 2(CR) and three Apprenticeships in Heavy Mechanical, Electrical and Welding kept us hopping through July and August and then the flood gates released a surge of Foundation and Apprenticeship programs in our fall lineup.

Trades and Technical Programs alone have 19 new starts in September. You name it, we got it! The kitchen will be jumping with Professional Cook Level 1 running concurrently with the Culinary Business Certificate and Culinary Business Diploma programs followed closely by a Professional Cook Level 1 funded contract thrown in for good measure. Our first year Coastal Forest Technology students are returning for their second year, while two more cohorts of Coastal Forest Worker Certificate and Coastal Forest Technology Diploma will be joining us at the Campbell River campus. Heavy Mechanical Foundation is full, with a healthy waitlist, as is Automotive Foundation. The Furniture Design and Joinery program in Port Alberni is rocking full numbers and the Carpentry and Plumbing Apprenticeships at the Comox Valley are standing room only.

Coming back into the fold, Industrial Automation is rejoining the Faculty of Trades and Technical programs led by instructor Cory Batch. He has a cohort of 14 eager students ready to step into the advanced world of robotics.

And we can't forget we were awarded funding for two new cohorts of the Automotive Collision and Refinishing Technician Foundation program and Heavy Mechanical Plus Micro-credential which combines three micro-credentials for a supported entry into a Heavy Mechanical trades career.

Also - proud to have been chosen as a pan-Canadian partner with Conestoga College (funded by the Federal Government) to deliver a pilot Welder Foundation Harmonized Enhanced program at the Port Alberni campus. Teamwork!

On the heels of success from the film Production Assistant and Craft Services micro-credentials, we have now added Motion Picture Accounting Clerk Micro-credential slated for November. Over six weeks students will learn basic accounting essentials so in demand for the Film industry. This role is crucial to film production companies and students will learn how to prepare and process bills and invoices, accounts payable and receivables, work with budgets and become familiar with various other financial documents. This is an exciting career opportunity!

Ongoing is the Fabricator-Welder Micro-credential program in Port Alberni which continues until October 15<sup>th</sup>. Students began their journey into the world of Welding with instructor Ivan Peterson to

complete the Apprenticeship Level 1 portion before moving on to the complexities of Metal Fabrication under the skill and knowledge of Karl Plautz. This unique cohort will provide graduating students with their trades' certifications for both skilled trades while they also earn 225 work-based training credits towards the Interprovincial Red seal certification in either Welding or Metal Fabrication.

### **Highlights**

As one of the final projects for the Campbell River Carpentry Foundation students, instructor Tom Klatt introduced students to something they will become all too familiar with on any job site. Concrete. While it seems a simple enough substance to work with – in comes the big truck and Voila! you have a seamlessly poured foundation, right? not so fast! Many factors affect the final product, such as type, consistency, temperature, and time. One wheelbarrow at a time, Tom took students through the steps to a brand spanking new sidewalk outside our C-Wing entrance! Check it out....



Trades and Technical was approached by the Director of Training and Operations for DiveSafe International, Kelly Korol, to offer a short welding orientation to their commercial diving students and instructors. From August 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, under the experienced and watchful eye of Mike Griffin, NIC delivered the basic topside SMAW welding procedures necessary for students to attain their welding competency for underwater welding and Oxy-Acetylene cutting techniques.

**Kelly had this to say:** *“Thank you for hosting our 3-day welding course, it was a resounding success. Feedback from the students was excellent, they enjoyed and learned a lot. My instructors, Reggie and Breton, who popped in to liaison, also reported the students having a great experience and meeting all of our training objectives. Thank you NIC and Mike for making this course happen. We would like to do it again in the spring of 2022 and on-going in the future.”*

Students were also given the challenge of making a “legacy plaque”. This is a 16x16 metal art plate that is fixed to the wall of the DiveSafe barge when students graduate. Not only does this allow the students to apply their new-found welding skills, it also commemorates their journey to becoming commercial divers. Well done!!



Hammerhead Shark



Angler Fish

We can think of only one other thing that may rival the artwork above. THAT would be the talent of the students from the inaugural run of Trades and Technical's Metal Fabricator program. Instructors Karl Plautz and Terry Waters (yes, we brought him back!) guided students through a variety of welding and fabrication techniques as they gained advanced skills for the metal trades. Now *these* are unique barbeques...



September 1<sup>st</sup> reunited Campbell River faculty and staff for an informative and fun Welcome Back! New faces and old friends came together to reminisce, catch up, share current events and participate in some friendly competition as NIC's Top Chefs battled it out with teams Xavier and Sunshine in the kitchen. Chefs laid down the oven mitts, challenge accepted, and the flour was flying as six teams went to war on a scone recipe full of surprise ingredients, extra recipes and hinderances devised by Chef Sunshine to kick it up a notch! One team lost their utensils, another could only use one hand and then we had those who had to sing out their directions and ingredients while another was caught blatantly trying to bribe our esteemed judges as they nibbled their way around the tables. We may just have some budding Chef's in our midst, but for now they've hung up their aprons!

It was, to say the least, a gathering that reminded us all of the day-to-day interaction with colleagues that has been so missed and is such an integral part of the North Island College community.



That's a \$20



## ***Orientation Day!***

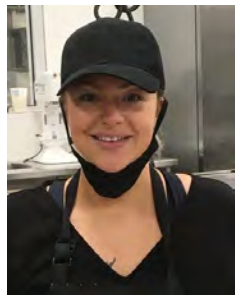
*How surreal!* September 7<sup>th</sup> we officially sprung back to life with the return of chatter, laughter and excited conversation echoing in the once empty hallways when the doors opened to students, faculty and staff. Face-to-face instruction has resumed at the NIC campuses and it was with nervous anticipation 2021 Fall kicked off!

## ***Welcome Aboard!***



Miles Hemmingway is our new instructor for the Automotive Collision and Refinishing Technician program. Miles is a Red Seal Journeyman and a Platinum Steel Structure Technician who brings 12 years of know-how and experience as a Collision and Refinishing Technician. With a focus on detail and a strong work ethic of maintaining high standards in the industry, Miles will hold his students to these same expectations while they gain the skills that will allow them to excel in their chosen profession. Glad to have you with us Miles!

Allan Aikman has joined the Culinary Arts program. This Red Seal Chef is a recent retiree from VIU and will spearhead a Professional Cook Level 1 contract at the Campbell River campus running from September 13 through to May 13, 2022. With 25 years of educational experience working with a diverse range of students, Al looks forward to mentoring a brand new group of students through their Level 1 training. Al was enticed by the beauty of the Comox Valley and Campbell River areas and once he saw the teaching kitchen at the Campbell River campus, he knew this was a recipe for success! He doesn't just consider our kitchen "state of the art", the words "WORLD CLASS" were thrown into the mix!



Sarah Kristian is the newest member of our Cafeteria staff. Sarah is an NIC success story that has come full circle. She started her culinary career right here at the Campbell River campus in 2019 and achieved her Red Seal after completing Professional Cook Level 3 in early 2021. We are proud to have her back with us in the cook position for the Cafeteria.

Bringing 45 years of experience, Eric Skehor is our newest Plumbing instructor at the Comox Valley campus. Eric's certifications are extensive. Not only does he hold his Inter-Provincial Qualification for Plumbing, he is also a Grade "A" Gasfitter, has a Certificate of Competency as Gas Safety Inspector, completed Quality Management Systems Auditor/Lead Auditor Training and has his Associate Certificate in Leadership Levels 1 and 2. With an abundance of knowledge to share, Eric is looking forward to contributing not just to the success of his students, but to technical trade development at NIC.



# Faculty of Trades and Technical Programs Year at a Glance



2020 - 2021

## OFFICE OF GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

### Fall Semester Orientations

*Submitted by Jennifer Barth, Manager Operations, International Education*

On August 30<sup>th</sup> we hosted a live virtual orientation for all our new fall students and had close to 70 participants. While many (40+) of the new students have arrived in Canada, we do have some students who are unable to travel who will study offshore.

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, we hosted a series for 4 mid-sized groups (15-30) of students on campus at our CV campus. The groups were scheduled on a rotational basis and were provided masks and sanitizer before participating in a series of outdoor activities including a welcome by the OGE team and Campus Life Assistants (CLA) campus tour, photo contest and then were present with lunch and NIC swag bags. It was wonderful to welcome our students on campus once again.

We are developing a series of activities for the fall semester in collaboration with Student Life, NISU and with 4<sup>th</sup> year nursing students who will be actively engaged with our department this fall.

Work is being done to prepare communities (CV, PA, and CR) for a larger intake of students in January 2022. Suitable, affordable accommodation is top of mind and conversations are being had with local motels in each area to find temporary dwelling for incoming international students until they can find permanent housing. Our homestay provider, Canada Homestay Network, will be actively recruiting more hosts in each of those areas and has agreed to a reduction of some fees to make homestay a more viable option for international students.

### Funding for Study Abroad Scholarships

*Submitted by Romana Pasca, Manager, International Projects, Partnerships and Global Education*

NIC has successfully secured funding for two projects through the **Global Skills Opportunity Program** administered by Colleges and Institutes Canada:

1. The “**Learning and Working together to Build 2026**” student mobility project is a 4 year project that has received \$500000 in funding to provide the opportunity to build on NIC’s previous expertise on student outbound mobility and to support the development of a multi-year versatile and sustainable study abroad program. The project will provide diverse opportunities for experiential and place-based learning to NIC’s students and faculty.
2. The “**Passage from Northwest Canada: Students from northern BC, Yukon, and Northwest Territories Go Global**” project unites five northern institutions from BC, Yukon, and NWT to create and deliver collaborative study abroad opportunities to students from Aurora College, Coast Mountain College, Northern Lights College, Yukon University, and NIC. This project has received \$700000 in funding for a period of 4 years.

Both projects will engage students who, traditionally, have not had the opportunity to engage in study abroad experiences.



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## Update from the Office of Global Engagement September 2021

### **International Recruitment and Enrolment Update**

September term has begun! In September 2020 there was a hopefulness of September 2021 being a “normal” term. It certainly is not and we have learned to let go of all expectations, but the fact that we could safely welcome many international students to Canada is a great success. I am sure that you are already aware of some challenges that international students face during COVID-19 - we have included an article to this newsletter for some insights. In a regular year, international recruitment team will all come together during the orientation week, but with COVID-19 we only were able to welcome one team member from Ontario, Ewerton Lacerda, who handles Americas. Ewerton and I had a great time with new students who showed up to the international student orientation, and our students were very excited and energetic even in small numbers!

This term, we are welcoming about 90 students to NIC. The majority of students have arrived, while some students are still in transit, in quarantine, or planning on late arrival. Considering the massive challenge with study permit processing and arrival planning, 90 is a good number. About 60% of these students are from India, while the rest come from Philippines, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Korea, Japan, Jordan, Iran, Australia, Belgium, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, UK, and Hong Kong. Unfortunately we have about 40 students (aside from 90) that did not receive study permit decision in time and are deferred to the January 2022 term. For January 2022 term, including these deferral students, we have about 140 students who have so far paid tuition deposit. Our international admissions have been working tirelessly to process a large volume of applications that came in over the last month, and recruitment team is busy soliciting tuition deposit. Over the next few weeks we expect the admission numbers to take shape.

In order to keep up the demand in admission, OGE is adding a new international admissions assistant to the team. Once the hiring is complete, please welcome our new staff!

- Junko



## **International Education Articles**

**[How international students heading to Canada are navigating pandemic travel,](#)**  
August 22, 2021, CBC

- *CBC News spoke with four international students whose journeys to pursue post-secondary education in Canada have been anything but ordinary.*
- *Some international students say they are overcoming huge hurdles to get back to campus amid travel restrictions tied to the pandemic.*
- *Indian students who wish to travel to Canada must obtain a negative COVID-19 test result from a third country before coming to Canada due to an extended travel ban on flights from India until Sept. 21.*

**[Canada leads in international student perception,](#)** August 18, 2021, BCCIE

- *As the world begins to open to travel, the IDP Connect Crossroads V survey shows Canada's International Education sector is well positioned for recovery.*
- *Canada led the pack with positive student perceptions in all categories, including welfare of international students, economic stability of the nation, policies for international students, post-study work visa policies, safety of citizens and visitors, and response to the coronavirus.*

**[‘How powerful is place?’ U of T hosts major global academic summit with Times Higher Education](#)**

September 02-03, 2021

- *The connections between our digital and physical worlds are rapidly evolving. The power of place in those dimensions is facing re-evaluation. Consequently, the modern university's status and mission are evolving. Learn more about THE World Academic Summit 2021, in partnership with the University of Toronto, focus on the interrelationship between universities and the places in which they are located.*

**[The Office of Global Engagement supported the 5th PIEoneer Awards. NIC is a proud sponsor of the Progressive Education Delivery Award.](#)**

- **[2021 PIEoneer Award winners revealed at hybrid London gala,](#)** *The PIE News, News and business analysis for Professionals in International Education September 06, 2021*
- *The PIEoneer Awards has recognised the success, achievement and innovation of 21 individuals, companies and associations and their work supporting international students and leading the international education sector during 2020.*

## **September 2021 Orientation and Fall Plans & International Student Engagement**





**On August 30<sup>th</sup> we hosted a live virtual orientation for all our new fall students and had close to 70 participants!** While many (40+) of the new students have arrived in Canada, we do have some students who are unable to travel who will study offshore.

**On September 1<sup>st</sup>, we hosted a series for four mid-sized groups (15-30) of students on campus at our CV campus.**

The groups were scheduled on a rotational basis and were provided masks and sanitizer before participating in a

series of outdoor activities. Students were welcomed by the OGE team and Campus Life Assistants (CLA). Students participated in a campus tour, photo contest, and were then presented with lunch and NIC welcome bags. **Many of the new students have waited many months, traveled with confusing restrictions, and arrived under quarantine requirements--welcoming these students brought joy and smiles to the OGE team.** "Welcome back" campus visits have been planned for both the CR and PA campuses. Various OGE team members will travel to these campuses to be available to students for day visits. The CR visit occurred Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> and the PA visit is scheduled for Monday, September 20.

The CR OGE office is once again operational! OGE staff will be on campus 5 days a week and look forward to connecting with the CR NIC community again

Work is underway to prepare communities (CV, PA, and CR) for a larger intake of students in January 2022. **Suitable, affordable accommodation is top of mind and conversations are being had with local motels in each area to find temporary dwellings for incoming international students until they can find permanent housing.** Our homestay provider, Canada Homestay Network will be actively recruiting more hosts in each of those areas and has agreed to a reduction of some fees to make homestay a more viable option for international students.

We are developing a series of activities for the fall semester in collaboration with Student Life, NISU and with fourth year nursing students who will be actively engaged with our department this fall.

This September, the OGE will begin recruiting students for our new student hire program, International Peer Connector (IPC) Program. IPC's will work with the OGE to support some of the international student specific activities such as connecting with and supporting new international students when they arrive (and those studying offshore), new international student orientation, international education week activities as well as other OGE activities. This position will be open to both international and domestic students.

-Jen

## **Global Learning by Margaret Hearnden**

I hope this Global Learning newsletter finds you and yours safe and well. Whichever way you have spent the summer, I hope it included time to relax and enjoy the sunshine, and opportunities to connect with those you hold dear. I managed to go the whole summer, only getting sunburnt once (no mean feat for me – I can sear in 3 minutes) and in celebration of the new term, I got a haircut – first time in four years.

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Margaret Hearnden. I'm a member of the Centre for Teaching and Learning Innovation (CTLI) and the College's Global Learning Facilitator. My role is to support faculty around intercultural aspects of education. That includes (but is not limited to), collating /creating resources for instructors around diverse and inclusive learning and gathering / sharing information from incoming international students around their learning experiences and needs.



The Centre for Teaching and Learning Innovation website [Teach Anywhere](#) has been created for faculty to support all aspects of teaching and learning.

Along with resources on course design, teaching digitally and learning technologies, there is a section called [Practices and Pedagogies](#), under which you can find the tabs [Diverse Learning](#) and [Inclusive Learning](#).

'Diverse Learning' focuses on ideas for working with International Students, and for students for whom English is an Additional Language). 'Inclusive Learning' focuses on inclusion in its broadest sense.

Realizing that students have complex identities, this differentiation is purely to make it easier for you to go straight to the resources you need. I'll be adding more to these sections in the weeks / months to come and am hoping you will let me know about resources you need / what you would find helpful in your work.

Please feel free to email me at [Margaret.Hearnden@nic.bc.ca](mailto:Margaret.Hearnden@nic.bc.ca)

## Resources

If you're looking for a refresher or for new ideas on inclusive teaching strategies, check out this article, with useful video links: [Why we're speaking up about inclusive teaching strategies](#)

## Quote of the Month

"Seize the moment. Remember all those women on the 'Titanic' who waved off the dessert cart" (Erma Bombeck.

## Study Abroad & Partnerships

### INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS:

OGE and Trades Department were successful in securing a 3 year international capacity building project in Kenya. This is a partnership with Vancouver Island University and British Columbia Institute of Technology in Canada and Kisii National Polytechnic and Keroka Technical Training Institute in Kenya. The project is funded through Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) and Mastercard Foundation to implement the Young Africa Works in Kenya: Youth Employability through Technical and Vocational Education and Training (Young Africa Works in Kenya-TVET) program in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MOE), other relevant Government of Kenya agencies, and the private sector. NIC will contribute expertise for the development and enhancement of the welding and electrical programs at the partners institutions in Kenya.

### PARTNERSHIPS:

On August 20<sup>th</sup>, a new pathway agreement between NIC and VTC Academy in Vietnam was officially signed allowing students graduating from the from the VTC Academy's Full Stack Web Development and Mobile Application Development programs to transfer

seamlessly into NIC's Advanced DIGITAL Design + Development programs. The agreement is NIC Digital Design + Development's first partnership with a Vietnamese college or university. It lays the groundwork for further opportunities for student exchange, virtual classroom collaborations, and the ability to earn credentials at both locations.



### STUDENT MOBILITY OPPORTUNITIES:

NIC has successfully secured funding for two projects through the **Global Skills Opportunity Program** administered by Colleges and Institutes Canada:

1. The “**Learning and Working together to Build 2026**” student mobility project is a 4 year project that has received \$500000 in funding to provide the opportunity to build on NIC's previous expertise on student outbound mobility and to support the development of a multi-year versatile and sustainable study abroad program. The project will provide diverse opportunities for experiential and place-based learning to NIC's students and faculty.
2. The “**Passage from Northwest Canada: Students from northern BC, Yukon, and Northwest Territories Go Global**” project unites five northern institutions from BC, Yukon, and NWT to create and deliver collaborative study abroad opportunities to students from Aurora College, Coast Mountain College, Northern Lights College, Yukon University, and NIC. This project has received \$700000 in funding for a period of 4 years.

Both projects will engage students who, traditionally, have not had the opportunity to engage in study abroad experiences. The official announcement about the study abroad scholarship opportunities available to NIC students will be made at a later date.

-Romana

Sincerely,

The Office of Global Engagement Team





## CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### **CET Overview**

*Bob Haugen, Director, Continuing Education & Training*

It has been a very busy summer season with courses being delivered throughout the NIC region. Many of our programs have been funded under the Community Workforce Response Grant Program (CWRG). The funding under CWRG is provided through partnerships with community organizations and we have developed many of these this year. In 2021 we have partnered with Chambers of Commerce, Municipal Governments, Regional Districts, community-based non-profits, First Nations and private companies. The courses and programs we are delivering range from Wildfire Response to Digital Marketing, Farmworker and Craft Brewing.

We are continuing to offer many of our programs in online and blended formats where the delivery method meets the needs of our students and instructors. Our Activity Assistant Program has been revamped as a completely online offering and has been very popular with students and with the employer group. We continue to market the program throughout the province. Our online digital marketing program DEEP has been very successful, and we are planning to deliver the program in other regions of the province as well. First Aid and Marine courses continuing with in-person delivery and pre-Covid-19 class sizes with some restrictions following the Provincial Health guidelines.

CET staff members are returning to the office after many have been working for the last 18 months from home. The first quarter has been extremely busy in our department and the CET staff have risen to the challenge.

### **Comox Valley Campus**

*Susan Murray, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer*

#### **First Aid Training**

First Aid training is very busy with contracts, open courses and training for NIC programs. I am working on the programming for the 2021WI – 2022SU.

#### **Sustainable Farming Program**

The sustainable farming program started on June 9<sup>th</sup> with this being our second year. The course is going extremely well with a wonderful engaged group of students. We had the good fortune of receiving funding again this year. The training will once again be held at Lentelus Farms and our community funding partner is LUSH Valley.

Program Video: <https://youtu.be/x4tkBPw1rCA>

#### **Craft Brewing & Malting Program**

The first Craft Brewing & Malting program wrapped-up on June 9<sup>th</sup> and was a huge success. The second program started in August and is going well. We were very lucky to receive funding again this time and are working in partnership with the Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce. This fully funded 8-month program has provided the students with excellent credentials to continue their way to brew master status or work at local craft brewery establishments.

Program Video: <https://youtu.be/8PamYNa5eNs>

## **Digital Elevation Expertise Program (DEEP)**

We are in the process of interviewing students for an upcoming fully funded DEEP course in partnership with the Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce. This program will assist students to update their skills and work for a local business or start their own digital consulting business. Participants will have access to a laptop computer, childcare and other supports. By the end of the program participants will be equipped to master sought-after skills required by employers in our region.

## **Comox Valley Campus**

*Julian Benedict, Project Lead-Regional Continuing Education/Training Officer*

## **Advanced Memory Care Micro-Credential Pilot Program**

North Island College Continuing Education successfully launched its new Memory Care digital course on Sept 9, 2021. The 8-week intensive course - designed specifically for caregivers working on Long Term care facilities - explores how the brain functions, and how to better support those living with Dementia. The course has attracted a lot of attention - the instructor was even featured on CKNW radio 980's Lynda Steele show. Once the first cohort is completed in late October 2021, feedback from the pilot course will be gathered to further enhance the curriculum. A new course has already been scheduled to begin in mid-January 2022 given heightened demand. Students who complete the training will receive a Certificate of Completion from North Island College. To learn more, visit: [www.nic.bc.ca/memory-care](http://www.nic.bc.ca/memory-care). To learn more, visit [www.nic.bc.ca/memory-care](http://www.nic.bc.ca/memory-care).

## **Activity Assistant Certificate Program**

The North Island College Activity Assistant Program continues to draw students from across the province. This innovative and digitally delivered credential develops highly trained recreation aides for public and private care facilities. The program's fall cohort was completely full and began training on Sept 8, 2021. Applicants are already applying for the busy Winter cohort, which begins in early January 2022. The program is expanding its reach to non-traditional students from across Vancouver Island and increasingly more remote areas, such as northern BC, where hazardous winter weather driving has presented a barrier to on-campus learning.

## **Animal Care Aide Program**

The North Island College Animal Care Aide Program continues to be one of the most popular programs at the College. Fall 2021 applications exceeded available spaces for the early October start date, and an additional cohort is already filling up that is scheduled for early January 2022. The pandemic transitioned many workers from the office to home; as a result, many Canadians were finally afforded an opportunity to enjoy the company of a beloved pet on a full-time basis. Now more than ever, professionally trained staff are needed for positions across the animal welfare sector – pushing demand for front-line staff. The digitally delivered North Island College Animal Care Aide Program is committed to meet the growing demand of this sector across Vancouver Island, and beyond. To learn more, visit: [www.nic.bc.ca/animal-care](http://www.nic.bc.ca/animal-care).

## **Comox Valley ElderCollege**

Comox Valley ElderCollege (CVEC) has decided to extend its all-digital learning program throughout the Fall 2021 semester. Expanding its suite of courses and lectures to well over 50. Organizers hope to attract even more than the 800+ online registrants they had last Fall, as more people become familiar and comfortable with online learning. CVEC has also been very successful at attracting a broad range of new instructors interested in providing online courses, many from outside the Comox Valley area. CVEC volunteers also decided to reintroduce their popular paper course guide this fall, along with a comprehensive digital guide to supplement the online delivery of classes. CVEC will return to on-campus course delivery starting in the Winter 2022 semester but will continue to offer digital courses as well. To assist students further, CVEC has introduced a shortened website URL: [www.nic.bc.ca/CVEC](http://www.nic.bc.ca/CVEC).

## **Campbell River Campus**

*Sandy Rose, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer*

### **Hospital Unit Clerk**

We are excited to begin Fall 2021 with 12 students registered for the digital offering commencing September 8th. Recruitment efforts were ongoing and continued right up until first day of classes. Island Health has confirmed that demand is high to fill vacancies in unit clerk postings throughout Island Health facilities. Partner institutes at VIU and Camosun are still not operational since the impact of Covid, so it's great to be able to provide this training to meet our community needs. We were hopeful that all 16 available seats would be filled, but admission requirements have been a limiting factor with many applicants not able to satisfy all pre-requisites. Work is underway to evaluate existing pre-requisites with the aim of determining whether these are in line with competencies needed to achieve success with the learning outcomes of the program. Changes to the typing speed pre-requisite will be coming for Fall 2022 with an official change to be requested through Education Council for implementation in Fall 2022.

### **Motor Vehicle Inspector**

After a long postponement due to securing a new instructor, the MVI course was offered August 13-15 at the Campbell River campus. Demand has been high and a full class of 12 students was delivered.

### **Coastal Log Scaling**

Although interest for the part-time program has been high, this has not yet resulted in many confirmed registrations. With the program set to start October 17th and only 3 of 12 seats claimed, the program may need to be delayed in order to secure the needed participants. Existing applicants will be encouraged to act now to secure their seat.

### **Wildfire 2022**

After a very successful 2021 program, plans are in the works for a 2022 delivery. NIC will again partner with Strategic Natural Resource Consultants to co-develop and apply for funding through the Community Workforce Response Grant, Emerging Priorities stream.

### **Power Saw Training**

Two, 2-day power Saw courses were delivered to the Kwakiutl First Nation in Port Hardy over 5 days August 31-September 3rd. Ten students received training in safety legislation to chainsaw operation, pre-work preparedness, personal site safety planning and safe chainsaw work procedures. The last day included field demonstrations and evaluations of individual skills.



## **Campbell River Campus**

*Renee Reedel, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer*

### **Marine Training**

North Island College Marine training continues to be in good demand. The department offered courses throughout the summer here on campus as well as through distance learning. Some courses filled and additional classes were offered to meet student needs. The month of September is filling up quickly! We continue to distribute our Marine Monthly newsletter and we have placed advertisements in the Western Mariner and BC Tugboat magazines.

### **Metal Jewelry**

We had a successful “Show and Sell” event here at the Campbell River campus on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Students displayed their creations and promoted the program. There were many sales and the afternoon finished with a family potluck lunch. Renovations are in full swing here at the Campbell River campus. This includes the Metal Jewellery studio that will not be complete by January 2022. Since the studio will not be ready for a January start, we will postpone the 2022 intake to the fall. This will allow more time to advertise the program and provide us with the opportunity to include potential international students. Once the studio is complete, we will also be able to run workshops that have been very popular in the past.

### **Part-time Vocational**

The online Bookkeeping program starting September 14<sup>th</sup> has 10 out of 12 students registered. The computerized bookkeeping course, SAGE-50 will be held on campus and begins November 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **Port Alberni Campus**

*Leanne Moore, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer*

### **NEW-Farmworker Fundamentals – Two Intakes**

CET delivered two funded intakes of the 8-week Farmworker Fundamentals program this summer. One of the programs was in partnership with NETP, Alberni Valley Employment Centre and Port Alberni Shelter Society. The second offering was offered in partnership with Alberni Clayoquot Regional District and the Port Alberni Shelter Society. The classes managed to work hard throughout the summer with very little disruption from the extreme heat.

The Farmworker program provides students with the skills they need to be productive agricultural workers in greenhouses and market garden farms. The course includes modules in greenhouse operations, planting and transplanting, fieldwork, harvesting and farmer’s market sales. The program is presented by several experienced organic farmers and horticulturalists.

Many of the students that completed the program found employment in the field.



## **Digital Elevation Expertise Program (DEEP)**

18 participants are currently attending the funded, online DEEP program offered in partnership with Community Futures Alberni Clayoquot. It is a unique offering in that the business owners are attending the training alongside the students and the students will then complete work experience with one of the businesses who are registered with the program. The feedback from students has been very positive.

## **Port Hardy Campus**

*Renee Reedel, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer*

### **Marine Training**

Two successful STER grant programs through the Community Workforce Response Grant were held in Port Hardy and Port McNeill in the month of July. These were the Marine Essential Programs that included SVOP, ROC-M, SDV-BS and Marine Basic First Aid. Each student also received daily food vouchers, travel and child support as well as PPE for them to use to launch their Marine careers.

Students within the community of Port Hardy had also requested the campus to host a separate SVOP course in August which was of great success.

While Harry, the instructor, was still in the community a contract with the Kwakiutl Band was awarded to our department. Harry was able to stay and teach another SVOP as well as a SDV-BS course!

We are currently working with the Namgis First Nation in Alert Bay. They are applying for funding to provide Marine training to members of their community to work on a 70' commercial fishing vessel. The training may include skipper and deckhand courses.

## **Port Hardy Campus**

*Donna Merry, Regional Manager, Mixalakwila & CET*

### **Digital Essential Skills**

MX Campus is waiting to hear back on a STER grant application for a second unique delivery of Digital Essential Skills in the region: should the application be successful, participants from four remote First Nations communities will join an online class in beginner computer skills, supported by a locally hired facilitator in each community, who will coordinate the logistics of receiving and preparing the laptop computers, helping the participants to log into the digital classroom in Bluejeans, and assisting if students run into difficulties. This model allows us to deliver instruction remotely, and to offer familiar, local support to the students. The program is proposed to start on Oct. 18, 2021.