

Feb. 19

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THE VCC COMMUNITY INTERNAL NEWS



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VANCOUVER
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE



Connections

Vancouver Community College
King Edward Campus - Library
Box 24620, Station F
Vancouver, BC V5N 5T9

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Show your commitment to eliminating racism: join the President in this year's March Against Racism.

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The two cents worth department: Connections first readership survey.

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Stamps help fight poverty? You bet: here's how you can take part.

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Go ahead, blow your horn: student success stories wanted.

Don't be a victim of crime: check out the Vancouver Policy Community Security Trailer.

Notice of elections

Student, Faculty and Staff representatives to VCC Board of Governors and Education Council

Vacant Positions

Board of Governors	Term	No. of Vacancies
Faculty	April 1, 1998-March 31, 2001	1
Support Staff	April 1, 1998-March 31, 2001	1
Student City Centre	April 1, 1998-March 31, 1999	1
Student KEC	April 1, 1998-March 31, 1999	1

Education Council	Term	No. of Vacancies
Student City Centre	April 1, 1998-March 31, 1999	2
Student KEC	April 1, 1998-March 31, 1999	2

Validation of Voters/ Nominees

To be eligible to nominate a candidate, to stand for nomination, or to vote for a candidate, students must be registered and staff and faculty must be employed as of February 23, 1998. Anyone who is unsure of their status should check with the Registrar's Office prior to submitting a nomination or to voting.

Nomination Period

Nominations will be accepted at the Registrar's Office at City Centre or King Edward Campus from February 23 to March 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Friday. Forms can be obtained from the Registrar's Office.

Campaign Period

Campaigning will start on Monday, March 9 and end on Friday, March 13. Campaign materials, forums, etc. are the responsibility of the candidates and must be removed from public display by 10:00 p.m. on March 13.

Voting

Voting will be conducted at the City Centre Campus Registrar's Office and King Edward Campus Registrar's Office on Wednesday, March 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Advance voting for faculty, staff and students who are unable to vote on March 18 will take place on Thursday, March 12.

announcements

Bienvenu Silvain-Émile!

Jane Westheuser (Educational Foundation), husband Chris Plagnol, and Luc are the proud Mum, Dad and brother respectively of Silvain-Émile, who arrived in a hurry on Friday, February 13, weighing six pounds, eight ounces.

All are reported to be well and beaming with delight. Jane is chomping at the bit to show off the new arrival at KEC, so we can expect a visit soon.

Our best wishes to Jane and family.

Personnel

Helen Campbell has left City Centre Bookstore after nearly 14 years, effective February 16. Helen ventured out of City Centre a couple of times when she worked at Langara Bookstore, but she always came back to this bookstore. Not this time. She's taken a permanent position in the Student Records Department. She will be missed by staff and students at the Bookstore.

Helen was a constant source of information for so many who required help in the store, college and the city. (She directed a lot of people to the correct bus route!) We wish her all the best in her new position.

Silent announce systems at KEC and City Centre

The silent announce systems have been moved from the Administration location to Media Services at KEC and City Centre. If you would like your announcement to be displayed on the monitors at either Campus, please bring your request to Rosalyn McGregor at KEC (local 7131) or Steve Baldwin (local 8367). Announcements will be updated every Friday afternoon.

Portable display systems

Media Services at City Centre will now be storing and distributing the Portable Display Systems. There are three displays

in total. In addition to the displays, brochure holders are available which can be attached to each unit. If you would like to use these displays for advertising or marketing your Department, please speak to Malcolm McIntosh at Local 8365. Media Services can also help you design and build a display if the portable units do not suit your needs.

Media Services

Join us for the Lower Mainland March Against Racism

Last year VCC participated in the March Against Racism, despite having to battle the snow to do so.

March 21st is International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and, as in previous years, the 1998 Lower Mainland March Against Racism will take place on that date.

Join me and other VCC representatives in sending the message that VCC is committed to help eliminate racism. Skytrain (or drive) to the walk: a number of groups will meet at 9:30 a.m. in Vancouver to proceed by Skytrain to Surrey Central Skytrain Station to join the walk.

Burnaby Multicultural Society will also be hosting the Burnaby kickoff at 10:30 a.m. in the main atrium at Metrotown Mall. The three kilometre walk begins at 11:00 a.m. at the North Surrey Recreation Centre, ending at the Surrey Arts Centre, where a cultural celebration of music and dance will take place.

If you are interested in participating, please call my office at local 7158 or 7159. Staff from my office are compiling a list of names and participants will be sent all necessary details as they develop.

I really hope that we can show a major commitment with a large VCC contingent. Furthermore, it should be fun!

John Cruickshank



World Wide Web Workshops in the Library

Be sure to tell your students that they can learn the basics of searching the Web in a 30-minute introductory session.

Sessions are offered twice weekly and are limited to four students each, so they'll fill up quickly!

Schedules for sessions are posted in each campus Library.

Students can sign up at the Library Information Desk.

Attention all Instructors who use Videos!

Would you like the library to acquire some fabulous new videos in your subject areas this coming year?

It's difficult to get the best videos that are right on topic, at the appropriate length and audience level, and we want your input in order to spend our precious dollars wisely. Attending the Fast Forward Showcase is your best opportunity to preview and evaluate the latest in educational videos, multimedia and cd-rom programs.

The Fast Forward Showcase takes place at Capilano College on May 26 and 27 and it will cost a mere \$55 per day of your PD funds, if you register before March 25. Pick up a brochure in the library and give the media librarian, Phyllis Butler, a call at local 8346 for more information on just what kinds of materials you can expect to see. It's a very worthwhile way to spend a day of your PD time!

Connections Readership Survey

With Connections now in its fourth year of publication, we want to know what you think. Does the Newsletter keep you informed about day-to-day affairs and issues at the college? Do you feel there are areas we could improve on? Want to offer some constructive criticism?

Here's your chance to sound off. Please answer the following survey questions and send in your response by Friday, March 6, 1998 to Dale Rasmussen, 5th Floor, King Edward Campus. Results of the survey will appear in an upcoming issue. Please use a separate sheet if necessary, or better yet, save a tree and email your additional comments to drasmussen@vcc.bc.ca.

1. Publication schedule

Connections currently publishes bi-weekly, except once a month during June, July, August and December. We are considering whether to move to a monthly-only schedule.

Would you prefer that Connections moved to a monthly issue, or kept its current schedule?

Keep current schedule ☐

Publish monthly ☐

2. Content

a) What are the three items in Connections that you read the first, second and thirdly?

(Number from 1 to 3 in order of preference)

- ☐ Announcements
- ☐ Feature articles and submissions
- ☐ Upcoming events
- ☐ Job postings
- ☐ For Sale/Classifieds
- ☐ Updates/profiles on programs

Others (please list): _____

b) Do you submit articles to Connections?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If yes, are your submissions presented professionally and in a manner which you feel provides the information properly?

Yes ☐

No ☐

c) Connections contains announcements and general information that in the past would have been copied to all departments. Do you find that this method of disseminating information keeps you informed about VCC activities and updates?

Yes ☐

No ☐

d) Are there other special topics/features that you would like to see in Connections on a regular basis?

Yes ☐

No ☐

List topics/features you would like to see:

3. All in all

In summary, do you (circle one):

- a) feel that Connections meets its goal of providing up to date information to the VCC internal community and should continue to be published as is, without any major changes
- b) feel somewhat informed by reading Connections, but would like to see the following additions/changes made (please list):

4. The Reader

Which group are you a member of (check one):

- ☐ CUPE (support staff)
- ☐ Faculty
- ☐ Administration
- ☐ Nurse
- ☐ Student

Oxfam program aims to Stamp Out Poverty

Can used stamps help to eradicate poverty? Oxfam-Canada thinks so. Its program, "Stamp Out Poverty," has raised a total of \$90,900 since its inception in the mid-eighties.

Funds have been used to support rural health and community environment initiatives in Peru, green zone agricultural cooperatives in Mozambique, integrated community health care in El Salvador, and many other worthwhile causes.

Volunteers identify and contact potential stamps sources, sort the stamps, pick up and deliver material to home sorters, and sell at stamp shows and auctions, all with the goal of raising funds to Stamp Out Poverty.

Everyone can participate

All you need to do is save your incoming mail. Many people keep an open box or bag near where they open their mail, and simply drop in their stamps or envelopes. Businesses put a carton in their mail room. Some volunteers set up cartons in schools,

community centres and churches (colleges?). It's amazing how fast they fill up—bags and cartons of stamps and envelopes arrive at Oxfam's offices every day.

Which stamps are worth saving?

In one word: everything. While foreign stamps are the hardest to get, Canadian stamps are also useful, and sometimes the postmark or the complete envelope can be sold for more than the stamp alone. Envelopes with special postmarks and better stamps are sold individually.

VCC's Stamp Out Poverty contacts

For more information, contact Lorraine Marigold (local 7491) in the International Education Department. Or if you begin saving your stamps and envelopes right away, pass them on to Lorraine or Judy Chan (local 7509). Judy's office is also located at International Education, 5th Floor, KEC.

VCC College Climate Survey

Many of you are wondering about the results of the College Climate Survey. Dan Cram, former Institutional Research Officer, has produced his summary report, which was received by the Board in January.

These results will provide guidance for the new College planning process which will shortly get underway.

The report is now available in the College libraries or if you would like to receive a copy, please contact my office at local 7158/7159.

John Cruickshank

Did you know...

When you see geese flying in a "V" formation, you may be interested to know what science has discovered about the way they fly.

It's been learned that as each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go.

Don't become a victim of crime



Check out the Vancouver Police Community Security Trailer

Coming to City Centre March 3

9:00am - 2:00pm

Corner of Hamilton and Dunsmuir

Learn...

how to target harden your home and property

See...

the latest home security devices

Find out...

about the latest ways of preventing computer theft

Check out...

different home and auto alarm systems

Compare...

personal security devices

Constable Don Owens from the Vancouver Police will be on hand to answer all your security questions.



Sharing our success means everybody wins

"Without entry level trades training programs like the ones offered at VCC, people like myself would not be able to obtain the necessary education in order to realize their career goals."

Pete Robichaud, Training Coordinator,
ICBC research and Training Centre
and Autobody Program Grad

In the advertising field, there's an often used (some might say overused) expression that says: "nothing succeeds like success." Whether it's the success of simply offering a top of the line service or product, or the success of a satisfied client or customer, being good at what you do and trumpeting your own horn is important, and not just for the purposes of external marketing.

Acknowledging ourselves for a job well done is important for morale and professional well-being. And for VCC and its programs, it's even better when a job well done is recognized by a former student, in the way of a glowing testimonial.

In January Lew Bloomingdale, Department Head of Auto Collision, received a letter from Pete Robichaud, a 1986 graduate of the program. In his letter, Pete described how as a journeyman automechanic looking for a career change, he enrolled in VCC's entry level autobody program.

After successfully completing the program, Pete enrolled in ICBC's Estimator Trainee program. After nearly 11 years at ICBC, he has advanced from his initial starting position of estimator trainee to his current status as a research and training coordinator at the ICBC research and training centre.

In his letter, Pete says "Without entry level trades training programs like ones offered at VCC, people like myself would not be able to obtain the necessary education in order to realize their career goals." Pete goes on to say that "They [entry level programs] also offer an opportunity for people contemplating a career as an automotive repair technician to attend these courses. This would then allow them to accurately evaluate whether or not this is a career choice for them, prior to actually working in the trade. I truly feel that entry level trades training is essential for filling an ever increasing void in the automotive repair technician field."

From just about any perspective, when real people like Pete Robichaud attribute much of their success to training at the college, it says so much more than even the most cleverly crafted ad copy can ever convey.

Although it's common knowledge that advertising is an inexact science at the best of times, most studies have shown that prospective students are much more interested in what their peers have to say about us rather than what we can ever say ourselves. And in the sometimes crass world of marketing, that also includes the ever-jaded media; who, although seeming to thrive mostly on stories involving conflict, have also been known to respond well to stories about students' success.

If you know of student success stories, share them with us. Whether it's through this newsletter to fellow readers, or externally, this kind of news helps everyone get to know your program and its successes that much better.

Dale Rasmussen
871-7152, drasmussen@vcc.bc.ca

Come join our students for Spring Graduation

If you've never attended a graduation at VCC, mark March 4 and 5 on your calendar. The festivities include a small reception following each of four ceremonies, scheduled over two evenings, in the auditorium at King Edward Campus.

**Wednesday, March 4
at 6:30 pm**

- Academic/ABE/ASE
- ESL
- Technology

**Wednesday, March 4
at 8:00 pm**

- Tourism, Hospitality and Business

**Thursday, March 5
at 6:30 pm and 8:00 pm**

- Health Sciences

For an experience sure to make you proud of the role you play at VCC, volunteer to help our grads. Contact the Registrar's office for more information on how you can be of service on such a truly memorable occasion.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

- Published Thursdays
- Bi-weekly January-May and September-November
- Monthly June, July, August and December

Produced by the College Advancement Department,
Vancouver Community College

VANCOUVER
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE



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CITY CENTRE CAMPUS
250 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1S9

classifieds

HOUSING



Basement Suite for rent. \$550 incl. utilities. Use of washer/dryer. Located near Langara College. Quiet, tree-lined street. No smoking. Available March 1 or mid March. Call Donna Barreca 7207.

WANTED



CC Library is looking for a **refrigerator** in good working condition for our staff room, preferably apartment-sized. If you can donate or sell us one inexpensively, please phone Sandra Jones at 443-8339 or 443-8348.

FOR SALE



'95 **Chrysler Intrepid**. Green, 83,000 km, new tires, new brakes, excellent condition. contact: 433 1871. \$12,000 OBO.

Upcoming conferences

Society for College and University Planning (SCUP) Pacific Regional Conference, "Partnerships for Change," San Diego, March 19-21. Contact Judith Anderson: janderson@fullerton.edu.

Conference on Educational Technology for Post Secondary Educators, "Connections '98: Bridging the Gap," Vancouver, May 10-13. Contact the CCTT web site: www.ctt.bc.ca/edtech/etconnex.html, phone Amanda Harby (250) 413-4468, fax (250) 413-4403, or email harby@ctt.bc.ca.

Annual Canadian Association for Distance (CADE) Conference, "Partnerships for Learning," Banff, Alberta, May 21-24. A focus on the initiation and support of partnerships among educators, institutions, students and businesses. For information, CADE Conference home page: <http://www.athabasca.ca/html/collab/cade.htm>.

SCUP Conference, "Crossing Boundaries—Making Connections," Vancouver, July 18-22. Web site: <http://www.scup.org/33.htm>.

Next Connections: March 5

Deadline for submissions: February 27
See you next issue.

PS: don't forget to send in your
Connections survey form by March 6

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Please recycle this newsletter

1998 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

February 5/19	March 5/19
April 2/16/30	May 14/28

Please provide your article through email, the I:\common\connect directory or on a PC disk with hardcopy (text-only if non-email). Your submissions are welcome, but please be aware that space limitations may prevent publication. Material may be edited for clarity and length. Deadline for submissions is Thursday of the week prior to publication.