

Jan. 8

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THE VCC COMMUNITY INTERNAL NEWS



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VANCOUVER
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE



Vancouver Community College
King Edward Campus - Library
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Writers from the land of winter introduce Cubans to Canadian literature

by Caroline Adderson, ESL Outreach

I took to Cuba a thousand sheets of bond paper, seventy-two ball-point pens, notebooks, soap, chocolate and rolls and rolls of film. All these things are scarce in Cuba now, particularly paper. Without paper, books cannot be printed. Where once an average print run of a Cuban book was 20,000 to 30,000, it is now 2,000-3,000 (which is, ironically, the average print run in Canada on a good day, a country with almost three times the population).

The book that brought me to Cuba, *Desde el Invierno* (From Winter), is an anthology of Canadian short fiction translated into English by members of the Cuban Writer's Union. Over ten years in the planning, the book was an idea of Margaret Atwood, Graeme Gibson and Abel Prieto, now Cuba's Culture Minister. McClelland and Stewart very generously produced the book in Canada, where we have a lot of paper.

Seven of the authors whose work is included in the anthology had the privilege of travelling to Havana for the launch in late November - Margaret Atwood, Graeme Gibson, Alistair MacLeod, Barry Callaghan, Austin Clarke, W.D. Valgardson and me.

At the book launch, held in the gardens of a decaying white porticoed mansion, now home to the Cuban Artists's and Writers's Union, and attended by some three hun-

dred guests, I smoked my first Cuban cigar but could not quite get through all eight inches of it. We all learned to love the *mojito*, Hemingway's favourite drink, which seemed miraculously to improve our Spanish.

Later in the week we visited Hemingway's home of twenty years, a veritable museum of taxidermy, all specimens courtesy of Hemingway himself, which made me wonder how the pickled lizard in the bathroom met its demise.

Other highlights of the trip included a formal dinner at the Canadian ambassador's residence, drinks at the ambassador's residence (we liked the ambassador!), a bolero evening, meetings with Cuban writers and Abel Prieto himself, and wandering in the crumbling dream of old Havana.

For such a tiny country, Cuba has a lot to boast about: their achievements in education and health care, their policy of making culture a priority, their amazing fortitude and endurance over the last seven years of economic tribulation (which they good-humouredly refer to as "the special period"). Not the least, however, is their hospitality.

We hope *Desde el Invierno* introduces Canada to Cuba readers as we Canadian writers have been so warmly introduced to Cuba.

International Development Week Contest

Win a trip to see international development in action!

International Development Week (IDW), February 1-7, 1998 is an annual campaign to inform Canadians about the important contribution our country is making to international development and toward improving our world.

Interested participants are invited to submit a text of no more than 250 words explaining why they would like to visit an international development project. Entries may also be in the form of a letter to a friend in a developing country telling him or her why the participant would like to visit the country.

First prize

three-country study tour in East Africa with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank

Second prize

One-week participation in an ACCC international development project in Asia, Africa, the Middle East or the Americas.

Third prize

An opportunity to participate in Oxfam-Canada's Youth Tour in Cuba.

A committee will judge the entries based on content, relevance, form and writing quality. The contest is open to all Canadian citizens 18 years of age and over who have no previous work experience in a developing country.

Contest participants should submit their entries before MIDNIGHT, JANUARY 15, 1998 to: IDW 1998 Contest, Tremblay Guittet Communications Inc., 97 Beechwood Avenue Ottawa, ON K1M 1L7

Entries may be also be submitted as an attachment by e-mail to: tgc@sympatico.ca. Winners will be announced during IDW 1998, February 1-7.

1998 VCC Board Meetings

The College Board meets on the fourth Thursday of each month. At 5:00 p.m. a public forum will take place for one hour, and the College community is invited to participate. A different forum topic is chosen by the Board each month. The formal public board meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. Meetings alternate between both campuses as follows:

CC, Room 240	KEC, Room 5025
February 26	January 22
May 28	March 26
June 25	April 23
October 22	August 27
November 26	September 24
December 17**	
No meeting is held in July.	

**Subject to Board approval.

More 50/50 bonus draw winners. Congrats to all!

- Gyda Chud - audio tape and golf balls
- Pam Ottridge - portfolio
- Judy Echols - salad spinner
- Don Davidson - appointment book and pen
- David Niessen - key chain and pen
- Hilary Wong - mug and pen
- Man-Yee Ho - t-shirt and pen
- Zack Cooper - set of 12 golf balls
- David Walmsley - big, blue umbrella
- Bill Miller - set of 12 golf balls
- Don Keyes - t-shirt and baseball cap
- Wayne McNiven - set of coloured pencils
- Karen Kelly - Harley Davidson coffee and coffee mug
- Vincent Chauvet - calculator
- Vicky Montigny - pen and mug
- Judy Chan - half dozen golf balls and pen
- Margit Arthur - videotape and pen
- Faye Jensen - framed thistle photograph (donated by KEC's Dennis Cumming)

Make 1998 your "year to volunteer"

The Vancouver Crisis Centre is looking for additional volunteers to support its programs in the community. The Centre is committed to a high degree of excellence in delivery of service to the community and to accomplish this goal our volunteer programs are required to be of the highest calibre.

Comprehensive training programs prepare volunteers to answer the distress lines, make presentations to youth in local high schools, train and mentor new volunteers, interview possible candidates and much more.

The Centre offers opportunities to learn many new skills such as crisis intervention, suicide risk assessment, expert listening skills, classroom techniques and group facilitation.

The Vancouver Crisis Centre believes that everyone, at some time in their lives, experiences a stressful situation which they are unable to resolve by themselves. The Crisis Centre helps people help themselves and/or others manage distress by raising awareness, providing education and offering immediate support.

People can call the Crisis Centre Distress Line 24 hours a day, free of charge, at 872-3311.

Help the Crisis Centre to continue to serve our community! Call 872-1811 for more information regarding these and other exceptional volunteer opportunities. No previous experience or specific education is required.

Attention department heads and counsellors

A call for nominations: Leaders of Tomorrow Awards for youth 12 to 25 years of age

For the eleventh consecutive year, Volunteer Vancouver is seeking nominations for its annual Volunteer Recognition Awards. *The Leaders of Tomorrow Awards*, co-sponsored by Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia, honour our young people for their outstanding contributions and strive to inspire others to similar service. These awards recognize youth 17 years of age and under, and separately, youth aged 18 to 25.

We know that there are many students at the College doing volunteer work in their community. This is your opportunity to help us to recognize these students and also to give recognition to Vancouver

Community College for its leadership in getting students involved. All nominees receive a certificate of commendation. One nominator from among those who submit will also receive a special Professional Development Scholarship. *The Professional Development Scholarship* provides the recipient with the opportunity to attend a suitable professional development event.

For nomination forms or more information, please call Jean Pastore at Volunteer Vancouver, 875-9144

Deadline for nominations is February 6, 1998.

Co-operative Education program update

1997 was a very productive year for students in the Dental Technician and Hospitality Management Co-op Programs. A total of fifty-three students secured program-related, paid work term employment.

Comments received from industry regarding the VCC Programs and the skills of individual students were very positive and encouraging, and all of the Dental Technician students who finished the Program this fall have secured graduate employment.

In November, Education Council approved a co-op option for students taking an Electronics Diploma Program. To ease this transition, a small number of students from each specialty stream will be accepted into the Electronics Co-op option in 1998.

Thank you to the many VCC faculty and staff members who assisted us in our endeavours in 1997, and **a very happy new year to all.**

Michelle Strenkowski
Victoria Wong

'97 United Way Campaign donations up from the previous year

This year's VCC United Way Campaign is over and we're pleased to tell you that our college raised \$35,452, a slight increase over last year.

A great many VCC folks worked extra hard to make our campaign a success. To volunteers, committee members, event planners and helpers, a big THANK YOU.



Jackie Ehler, Director of Food Services at CC, was recently named by CityFood Magazine in its "Local Heroes for 1997" honour roll.

Jackie was recognized for her tireless efforts in her dual professions as CC Food Services Director and dietician. In the article, Tim Pawsey, Food Editor for The Vancouver Courier, writes that "We're eating healthy. We're eating fresh — a direct result of the impact that people like Ehler are making on tomorrow's culinary professionals, and others."

The article goes on to say that "on the surface, she's an administrator, a quintessential professional responsible for every facet of food service operations — from cafeteria, bake and meat shop to the Second Cup franchise — at the college's two Vancouver campuses. However, she rarely lets on just how much of her own time she devotes to her profession — which also just happens to be her passion — outside of regular hours. As Canadian director of the National Association of College and University Food Services, Jackie works with other food service associations who contribute their time to improving the broad gamut of institutional eating habits."

Congratulations, Jackie, from all of us!

Paul Hunt and Bill Miller

announcements

Community Liaison position reinstated

Brenda Toporowski is back by popular demand... and some "Expanded Capacity" dollars. The Community Liaison position has been reinstated within Counselling Services. Brenda will once again serve as an access liaison to community agencies, training consultants and high schools.

Brenda's duties will include (among other things) conducting tours of VCC's campuses, providing the community with information about VCC and its programs, assisting with the College's career resource centres, and representing VCC at career fairs. In other words, a very busy schedule. Her office will be Room 100G in the Counselling Department at City Centre and her telephone number is 443-8442. A BIG welcome back, Brenda!

*Linda Martin, Vice President
Education Support Services*

Wellness Committee

Grace Shaw returns to Local 7290.

Department Head, Circulation Services, Library

We are pleased to announce that Eva Sharell has been elected and will continue as Department Head of Circulation Services, Library. Congratulations Eva.

And a big thank you to Irene King for filling in as Acting Department Head during Eva's recent absence. The word is that you did a great job, Irene.

*Linda Martin, Vice President
Education Support Services*

Mexico/Chile and Asia Pacific Awards

If you know of a student who is interested in developing their international knowledge, skills and abilities as well as forging friendships and working relationships with people from Mexico, Chile or the Asia Pacific region, they could qualify for a British Columbia *International Grant* or a British Columbia *Asia Pacific Award*.

Deadlines: January 15. For application forms with attached information, contact your Department Head or Cecily May at 871-7178 (voicemail), email cmay@vcc.bc.ca.

Change of meeting schedule

Effective November 1997, the Finance and Administration Committee of the Board has changed its meeting schedule from the fourth Thursday of each month to the third Friday of each month with the exception of December. All meetings will be held from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon in Room 5043 at King Edward Campus. The schedule is as follows:

January 16	February 20
March 20	April 17
May 15	June 19
July, no mtg	August 21
September 18	October 16
November 20	December 11*

* Subject to VCC Board approving their December meeting date.

Please contact Doreen Sharan at 871-7163 if you have any questions.

Health Sciences update

As a result of elections for the position of Department Head within the Health Sciences Division there are several changes to report. Karen Griffiths has been elected for the Hairstyling/Esthetics Department.

Thanks to Bob Malone for his representation of the department for a number of years.

Leona Friesen has been elected to represent Practical Nursing and is taking over from Dianne Westwood who has been department head for the last three years.

Lynn Smith, Dental Hygiene and Pat Bawtinheimer, Long Term Care and Allied Health were re-elected to their positions.

*Pat Hartley, Associate Dean
Health Sciences Programs*

Join us for Pat Rose's retirement party

The Visually Impaired Program invites you to join us to celebrate the retirement of Pat Rose, on *January 22 at JJ's at CC. No host bar starts at 5:15 with dinner at 6:15. Cost is \$22 for dinner plus whatever you wish to contribute for a gift.*

Pat has been a member of our college community since 1984, and before taking time off to bring up her two children, she taught at the Jericho Hill School for the Blind for several years.

Please RSVP to Gwen Masse or Betty Nobel and have your contribution in to either of them by Monday, January 19.

Happy retirement, Pat!

World Wide Web workshops in the Library!

Learn the basics of searching the Web in a 30 minute introductory session.

Sessions are offered twice weekly. Schedules are posted in each campus Library.

Sign up at the Library Information Desk.

Hurry — only four spaces per session!

Summary of Minutes of VCC Operations Council

Chair: Linda Martin

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 1997, Room 237, CC

Welcome Centre Update

Phase I of the KEC Welcome Centre will take place between the beginning of January and the end of March 1998. It will be necessary to move a number of departments to accommodate the renovations. Phases II and III will follow.

Sponsorship Policy and Guidelines Update

The revised Sponsorship Policy and

Guidelines will be presented to the College Board for approval at its January 1998 meeting. Any comments or inquiries can be directed to Mary Hoekstra before January 20.

Tuition Fee Waiver Policy

The draft Tuition Fee Waiver Policy will be presented to the next meeting of Operations Council for approval. Comments or inquiries can be directed to Jackie Sandy or Pam Ottridge.

Conflict of Interest Policy

Approved by Operations Council.

Purchasing Policy

The draft Purchasing Policy will be presented to the next meeting of Operations Council for approval. Comments or inquiries can be directed to Larry Waddell.

VCC Space Study Report

The Space Study Committee (consisting of Brian Pink, Moira Macleod, Karen Kelly, Pam Ottridge, Casey Sheridan and Larry Waddell) has developed options and made recommendations for the most efficient use of College facilities. Contact Larry Waddell if you wish further details.

PD awards for faculty in hospitality and tourism programs

The Ontario Hostelry Institute, in partnership with American Express Canada and United Distillers Canada, is pleased to offer for the first time two Professional Development Awards of \$10,000 each to university and college faculty teaching in hospitality and tourism programs.

These two professional development awards are unprecedented in their scope and the size of their purses. The first is to faculty whose full-time teaching activity involves disciplines that are principally focused within *culinary, hospitality and*

tourism arts. The second will be made to faculty whose full-time teaching activity is principally involved with disciplines that are focused on *beverage arts and related subjects*.

The objective of the awards is to provide full-time post-secondary educators of culinary, hospitality and tourism industry-related programs with the opportunity to further develop and enhance their competence in these disciplines and to acquire current knowledge and experience in these related, but distinct areas.

Faculty who wish to apply for these awards should contact **Sandra Bishop, College Advancement, local 7538** to receive an application form.

Due to the late receipt of this information, the timeline for applications is very short. Please note that completed application forms and accompanying materials MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAIL AT THE ONTARIO HOSTELRY INSTITUTE NO LATER THAN JANUARY 15, 1998.

A call for women of distinction

The YWCA of Vancouver is seeking nominees for the 1998 Women of Distinction Awards. Now in its 15th year, the Women of Distinction Awards Program encourages and recognizes women whose outstanding activities contribute in meaningful ways to the health and future well-being of our community.

Nominations are being sought in the following categories:

- Arts and Culture
- Communications and Public Service
- Education, Training and Development
- Entrepreneur/Innovator
- Health and Wellness

- Management, the Professions and Trades
- Recreation, Sport and Active Living
- Science and Technology
- Voluntary Community and Humanitarian Service
- Young Woman of Distinction

An independent panel of judges is then chosen on the basis of her/his experience in one of the categories. Together they determine the award recipients. The award recipients are celebrated at the annual YWCA Women of Distinction Awards Dinner — a gala affair that is truly spec-

tacular and always sold out well in advance. The Awards Dinner will take place Thursday, May 21, 1998 at the Hyatt Regency Vancouver.

We encourage you to join us in the search for our 1998 Women of Distinction nominees. If you or your organization knows of a woman who deserves to be recognized as a Woman of Distinction, please contact the Marketing and Communications Department at the YWCA of Vancouver, 895-5765, to receive a nomination form. Deadline for nominations is 5:00 pm, Thursday, February 12, 1998.

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

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AECBC Quiz on Post-Secondary Education

Test your knowledge (or your colleague's) of post-secondary education in British Columbia.
Answers will be in the January 22 issue of VCC Connections.

1. Most provinces have frozen tuition fees for post-secondary students. (True/False)
2. Adults wishing to further their education need a high school diploma to take Adult Basic Education (ABE) courses at a community college. (True/False)
3. Students pay tuition at colleges for Adult Basic Education but not for school board ABE programs. (True/False)
4. Canadian post-secondary students have one of the highest levels of personal indebtedness in the world. (True/False)
5. A record number of students are currently attending B.C.'s colleges, institutes and universities. (True/False)
6. Almost a quarter of all ESL students have had no education beyond high school. (True/False)
7. Most college and institute graduates can't find jobs. (True/False)
8. Two thirds of ESL students pay for their own studies. (True/False)
9. B.C. colleges provide counselling, tutoring and other services for ABE students with special needs. (True/False)
10. Tuition accounts for more than half of the average cost for a student attending a B.C. college or university. (True/False)

classifieds

FOR SALE



Panasonic CD/dual cassette player. Excellent condition. Paid \$460, asking \$220.
Call Larry at local 7282.

JOB POSTINGS



Clerk Cashier (C), Student Records Department, CC. Closing January 13.

Student Services Assistant (A), Counseling Dept, CC. Closing January 15.

Next Connections: January 22

Thanks for your submissions...
see you next issue!

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Cover shells were printed by the VCC Graphic
Arts and Printing Production Department.

Please recycle this newsletter ♻️

1998 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

January 8/22 February 5/19
March 5/19 April 2/16/30

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. Dead-
line for submissions is Thursday of the
week prior to publication.