

# Connections

Vancouver Community College's Employee Newsletter - April 2004

Vancouver  
Community  
College



www.VCC.ca

## Info Night continues to attract attention



Above: Crowds of new potential students visit Info Night tables to find out information about VCC's programs.  
Below: Karl Brown demonstrates his electronic 'flying saucer' attracting students to the Electronics table.



PHOTOS: L. MCKENZIE

### VCC's big Information Night was a big success – again.

An estimated 900 to 1,000 visitors packed the main foyer of VCC's downtown campus to find out about college programs, talk to faculty and learn how to apply.

"Groups of people were already arriving a half hour before the start of the event," says logistics coordinator Roseanne Ashworth. "We had planned for that – so many departments were well prepared with their displays and tables set up in advance.

Programs from across the college were represented at Information Night, which continues to be a major component of VCC's student recruitment efforts.

Among the displays that departments used to attract visitors to their tables: Electronics had a flying remote controlled disk operated by Karl Brown, the Centre for Transportation Trades had a miniature car and Baking was decorating Easter cookies, while Hospitality Management was busy handing out always-popular mocktails.

Xiang Yi Sun, a recent immigrant from China in her mid-thirties was the winner of the prize basket that included a \$500 tuition coupon as well as other prizes. "I heard about VCC and

See INFO NIGHT A SUCCESS on page 7

### New step forward for Connections



**C**onnections is going green – and not just in colour.

VCC's Connections newsletter is now printed on recycled paper with 100 per cent post-consumer content.

VCC's Marketing department, which produces Connections, took a good look at the newsletter's production and came up with a cost-effective approach to move to the fully recycled paper.

"This is really 'closing the loop' in the recycling process," says Connections designer Daniel Rohloff, who worked hard to find a suitable recycled paper stock that would fit the existing production budget.

"Recycling used paper is just the first step – the next step is to use products made with that recycled paper, which is what we're now doing with Connections," he says.

So close the loop again – please recycle this issue of Connections after you have enjoyed it. ♻️

### INSIDE Connections

**VCCday 2004** SPECIAL VCC DAY  
the FUTURE is OURS SCHEDULE INSERT  
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VCC Day SCHEDULE

4-5,7

Vancouver Community College  
King Edward Campus Library  
1155 East Broadway  
Vancouver, BC V5T 4V5



## News Briefs

### New Associate Director of Alumni Relations

VCC welcomes Lornell Ridley to the position of associate director of alumni relations within the VCC Foundation. Ridley has most recently been with Kwantlen University College as director of alumni relations. Her extensive experience began at the University of B.C. as alumni program coordinator and has included work on strategic planning, program implementation and evaluation, annual fundraising campaigns, donor cultivation and recognition programs, planned giving programs and special event planning.

At VCC, Ridley is responsible for developing and implementing programs and services aimed at maximizing alumni interest and involvement with the college. She can be reached at phone local 7067 or in room 5045 on the fifth floor at King Edward campus.

### Barb Turner Memorial Fund

For those who wish to donate to the Barb Turner Memorial Fund, cheques can be forwarded to the VCC Foundation, Kathy Fukuyama or Leah Gill. Tax receipts will be issued and the Foundation will match the donations received for this fund.

### Buy-a-Book campaign success

VCC's Buy-a-Book campaign is a success. "Thank you to everyone who donated," says Sheilah Henderson, executive director of the VCC Foundation, which raised a total of \$20,487, including a gift of \$12,000 from the London Drugs Foundation.

### Lost? Found?

The Security offices on both King Edward and City Centre campuses are the central location for 'lost and found' from around the college. Found items should be handed into Security and not kept in any other 'lost and found' boxes in departments.

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## Cultural and professional visit enriches dental hygiene programs



Dental Hygiene students from Miyagi and VCC come together to share information and culture last month.



PHOTOS: L. MCKENZIE

It was a meeting of two cultures – but one profession – last month when VCC hosted students and faculty from one of Japan's leading dental hygiene programs.

Sixty-nine students along with several faculty and administrators from Miyagi Advanced Dental Hygienist College toured VCC's dental facilities and labs last month, part of a new relationship between the two schools.

VCC and Miyagi dental hygiene students shared information about their respective programs, skills and culture; VCC student projects were the basis of much of their discussion.

"This exchange of skills and knowledge provided an excellent opportunity for both VCC and Miyagi students to experience their chosen profession from another viewpoint," says Donna Hooker, director of VCC International, which orchestrated the visit.

"This type of experience has the

potential to enrich the learning experience of our respective students and faculty," says Hooker.

Both institutions are in a transition phase of their dental hygiene programs. VCC offers a three-year Dental Hygiene program and has plans to introduce a degree in Dental Sciences/Hygiene. Miyagi plans to introduce the first three-year dental hygiene program in Japan, where training is currently two years long.

After presentations from each school, second-year VCC students coordinated 10 chairside demonstrations and third-year students presented research papers.

"Miyagi dental hygiene students had never seen flavored fluoride before," says Ginny Cathcart, department head of Dental Hygiene. "It was certainly a highlight."

Both Miyagi and VCC found the visit so useful there are plans to make it an annual event. ☺

## News Briefs

(continued from page 2)

### Who's my librarian?

Faculty can learn the name, local and e-mail address of the librarian who works with them and their department by clicking on "For Instructors" and then on "Library Liaison by: School/Subject" on the library website ([www.vcc.ca/library](http://www.vcc.ca/library)). They can click on the name to contact the librarian directly.

Librarians can keep departments up-to-date with information on building book and electronic library collections, providing instruction through tours and classes, or answering questions individually or at department meetings.

To book tours, faculty can click on "Tours and Classes – Online Form" or fill in a form at campus library information desks.

### Successful show by VCC program coordinator

Bravo to Bernie Lyon, program coordinator for Interior Design at VCC, on her recent show at Capilano College. Lyon is a well-respected Vancouver illustrator whose unique work has been featured in a number of magazines and books by local celebrities. She was the recipient of a bronze medal from the University and College Designers' Association for her cover illustrations on earlier VCC Continuing Studies calendars.

### Open Source opens opportunities for online learning

Open Source provides a no-cost licence fee alternative to WebCT to create and implement online/eLearning courses, fully online or mixed mode with face-to-face classes. To explore the possibilities, visit <http://vcclearns.vcc.ca> and link to VCC Learns > Instructional Skills > eLearn Development or link from the first page to "Report - BC Campus Meeting on Open Source."

## Culinary Arts Hosts Inaugural Student of the Year Competition

High pressure. An ambitious assignment. Panels of picky judges. Those were the ingredients last month for an inaugural competition in Culinary Arts, when the department chose its first-ever Student of the Year.

Competing for the honour were nine Culinary Arts graduates from 2002-2003, who were selected based on academic performances, practical skills and attendance as well as their overall enthusiasm and dedication to their studies.

Their challenge: impress the judges not only with the finished dishes but with good planning, kitchen acumen and organization. Their menu: a three-course dinner for two using assigned ingredients – an appetizer using scallops as the main ingredient, a main course featuring Cornish game hen and a banana-inspired dessert.

These were no ordinary judges, either.

Judges in the kitchen: executive chef Wayne Martin from the Four Seasons Hotel, VCC vice-president of education Joan McArthur-Blair and Fairmont Waterfront executive chef Iain Rennie.

Their job was to scrutinize the contestants for culinary skill, use of tools and techniques, safety, sanitation and organization.

In the dining room, a second panel of judges weighed in with cutlery in one hand and evaluation sheets in the other: Georgia Straight food columnist Angela Murrills, VCC president Dale Dorn

and Pear Tree Restaurant chef/proprietor Scott Jaegar along with Morgan Wilson, chef at the Showcase Restaurant at the Marriott Pinnacle Hotel and Canada's representative to the 2005 Canadian Bocuse d'Or competition.

"Our expert judges gave the event a level of importance that really motivated the participants," says Dave Donaldson, dean of VCC's School of Hospitality and Business. "The performance of all the competitors was really superior."

Named VCC Culinary Arts Student of the Year was Scarlet Gaffney, closely followed by Poyan Danesh in second place and Hon Yeun Chan in third.

Gaffney received a Wusthof French knife and an autographed copy of the award-winning book *Wild Sweets*, by local pastry specialists Dominique and Cindy Duby.

Trophies were awarded to the top three. All competitors received certificates of participation and extraordinary plates designed and fired exclusively for the event by the competition's sponsors, Royal Doulton of Canada.

VCC chefs James Hutton, Harald Bonkowski, Alex Ritchie and John Carlo Felicella, who organized the event, send their thanks to the Culinary Arts department, the judges and the student volunteers for their support.

Special thanks goes to instructional assistant Wayne Baxter, who worked diligently throughout the day to ensure the event's success. ☺



PHOTO: D. DONALDSON



# VCCday<sup>2004</sup>

## the FUTURE is OURS

City Centre campus and The Vancouver Playhouse  
April 30, 2004

### Schedule of day's events

8 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Registration and coffee at City Centre (Dunsmuir entrance). Pick up program and walk across the street to the Vancouver Playhouse.
9 a.m.	VCC president Dale Dorn
9:35 a.m.	Keynote Address by Fred Ring, vice president of people, Westjet Airlines
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Growing A Healthy Brain - An Update on the Brain and Learning by Bob Aitken, School of Instructor Education
11:45 a.m.	Lunch
1 p.m.	Workshops: participants may choose between one of the two-hour workshops or two of the one-hour workshops.
2 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Break
2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	Workshops continue
3:30 p.m.	Social-Wine and Cheese in main foyer

## WORKSHOPS

### Two-hour workshops: 1 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

#### Appreciative Inquiry

Facilitator: **Jeanie Cockell**

This interactive workshop will introduce participants to Appreciative Inquiry: an organizational/group development approach that works well with classroom or workplace groups. AI focuses on what is working well (appreciative) by engaging people in asking questions and telling stories (inquiry). This shift to the positive helps the group to move more effectively towards its goals.

#### First Aid Basics - Would You Know What To Do If ....

Facilitator: **Karen Clark**

Would you know what to do if you came across someone in the hallway who was having a heart attack, diabetic problem, choking? This workshop will cover some of the basics of first aid that all of us need to be reminded of from time to time.

#### The Power of Portfolios

Facilitator: **Dena Chilton**

This workshop will be useful to instructors, support staff and administrators. Portfolios preserve a career journey by including accomplishments and strengths. It is a colourful "ready reference" showing employers or perspective employers, in an organized way, what you have accomplished. Includes steps involved and creative ideas on how to build your own portfolio.

#### Why Teaching and Parenting Is So Stressful These Days? Why Are Young People Less Teachable? What Can We Do About It

Facilitator: **Dr. Gabor Maté**

Dr. Maté will discuss his recent book, *Hold On To Your Kids: Why Parents Matter*. He will discuss peer orientation, which refers to the tendency of children and youth to look to their peers for direction; for a sense of right and wrong, for values, identity and codes of behaviour. Peer oriented young people are more difficult to teach because they are less mature. They look for their cues not to adults but to each other. His ideas will explain why many of us are experiencing more classroom management problems these days. He will discuss what we can do to help our young students develop more maturity and wisdom.

#### Media Madness - Operating a C.O.W. and Other Media

Facilitator: **Malcolm McIntosh**

Updates on the newest trends in media and instruction; you will receive hints on how to connect, operate and troubleshoot a Computer On Wheels so that you can use presentation software for your classroom.

#### Multicultural Manners

Facilitator: **Larry Axelrod - Human Rights Coordinator, VCC**

In this session, we will review and discuss cultural differences that influence communication and explore methods of avoiding communication accidents across cultures.

#### Student Skills and the Ready Set Go! Student Success Program

Facilitators: **Carrie Leggatt and Virginia Adams**

Want to improve your own study skills or help students improve theirs? Are your students classroom-ready? Do they have the coping, research and study skills needed for success? This program, hosted by Counselling, the Library and the Learning Centre will help them develop the skills necessary for successful study at college.

#### Introduction to Photoshop

Facilitator: **Jaime Clay**

Photoshop Demystified! Ever wonder what Photoshop is, and how it can work for you? Find out in this short but loaded seminar. Includes essentials you need to know to enhance images and create new ones.

#### Resolving Conflict Cooperatively

Facilitator: **Maureen Hannah**

Includes the most up-to-date, practical conflict resolution information and skills including reframing conflict as a strong, creative force for creative solutions and effective change; assessing your current strengths and development of goals for cooperatively resolving conflicts; demonstrating a win-win or principled approach to resolving conflict situations; using specific communication skills to effectively resolve conflict etc.

#### Building Extraordinary Teams

Facilitator: **Jenny Lewis, LEWCO Consulting Inc.**

In this stimulating, high energy workshop you will learn what it takes to get your team started on the right track by following a suggested roadmap for building extraordinary high producing teams and minimizing team disruptions.

#### Stop, Look and Go: A Road Map for a Successful Career Trip

Facilitator: **Chris Newell**

Come take a trip and discover more about yourself and your relationship with your current career area. First we will STOP - to learn more about our desires, talents, skills and personal attitudes - then we will LOOK at what is happening in the world of work and then we will GO forward to understand how to put together a road map for career management and development.

#### Effective Meetings ARE Possible

Facilitator: **Steve Forrest**

Using a combination of John Cleese videos and group discussion, Steve will provide you with simple principles and frameworks for running and participating in effective, productive (and hopefully short) meetings.

#### Building Resilience: The Rollercoaster of Life

Facilitator: **Ron Kee**

On the go? Stressed, busy - wanting to learn new skills to overcome struggles at work, home or life in general. Meet with colleagues in a fun environment and learn new ways of responding to "old" issues. You will leave being more proactive and less reactive in work and play.

#### Introduction to WebCT

Facilitator: **Brian Fair, BCIT**

Brian will take you through the basics of Web CT. You will have an opportunity to experience how to create lessons on the web for your students.

#### Active Learning

Facilitator: **Pru Moore**

We know students tend to learn more when they are actively involved in learning. Pru will demonstrate practical ways you can get your students more involved in processing the material you are teaching.

#### Teaching & Learning Challenges in The Deaf and Hard of Hearing, ASL and Deaf Studies Depts.

Facilitator: **Rob Henderson**

This workshop is open to all employees in the DHH, ASL and Deaf Studies Departments at VCC. Rob will use specific examples to explore professionalism and issues such as boundaries in working in these departments.

#### Creativity At Work

Facilitator: **Ann Brindle**

Creativity can be an effective business tool and for many, it is a way of life. Examine your thinking regarding creativity in the workplace, explore creative tools, apply these tools to your everyday work using a workplace case study, learn how to foster a creative environment

#### Effective Teaching Techniques with First Nations Students

Facilitator: **Gerry Oleman**

In this workshop you will learn some practical tips on things you can do to increase the success of First Nations students in your classes.

#### Grace Under Fire - Teaching Effective Communication for the Workplace

Facilitators: **Pat Bawtinheimer, Wayne Avery, & Moreah Hamend**

Employers want employees who can think on their feet, communicate effectively, and work as part of a team. In other words, employees need to be able to exhibit "grace under fire". In this workshop, you will examine these socio-cultural competencies and how we can help students develop them.

#### Interacting With a Blind Person

Facilitator: **Betty Nobel - Coordinator, Visually Impaired Program**

This interactive workshop will give people tips on how to assist a blind/visually impaired individual. Approximately three to four short skits will be performed to outline the "do's and don'ts" of what to do when you meet a blind/visually impaired person.

#### Math Through New Eyes

Facilitator: **Michele McLeod**

Afraid of Algebra? Come and give yourself another chance! You may enjoy math for the first time!

#### Student Teams Achievement Division and Teams, Games, Tournaments

Facilitator: **Peter Langan**

You will learn to use these two cooperative learning techniques developed by Dr. Robert Slavin of John's Hopkins University. These are very effective and motivating instructional techniques for college students.

#### Digital Photography

Facilitator: **Lauch McKenzie**

This hands-on workshop will give you experience on how to operate a digital camera to produce still pictures and short videos. Lauch will give you hints on exposure, composition, etc. and will discuss features to consider when buying a digital camera.

### Workshops 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

#### The Way We Work - Office Ergonomics and Body Mechanics

Facilitator: **Karen Hourston**

Learn how to set up your workstation to best suit job demands and office design. What do you need to do to manage your daily aches and pains?

#### Facts on Fat

Facilitator: **Catherine Rocheleau**

Fats are one of the most talked about components of our diet. Attend this session to clarify different types of fat, and the role fats play in heart health, cancer and weight management. Learn key food sources and how to make sound decisions for health.

#### Building Your Financial Base - Tackling the Fundamentals

Presenters: **Margaret Easton & Barb Stefanko, Westminster Savings**

Saving, investing, RSP's, taxes, will and estate planning, education planning, and mortgage planning will be covered in this workshop.

#### Online/eLearning - An Overview and Introduction

Facilitator: **Walter Behnke**

How does it work? How can I use e-Learning in my classes? How do I create it? If you are not sure about the answers to these questions, come to this session. Learn to use the college website as a host and how to take the first steps into Online/Elearning.

#### Panel Discussion on Canadian Language Benchmarks

Panel Members: **Alison Norman, Chantal d'Argence, Jane Forward, Pam Hunt and Tanis Sawkins**

For those who don't know what the Canadian Language Benchmarks are all about, nor how they are being used and adopted in a variety of contexts (immigration, education, employment, credentialing) this panel will give you the answers.

#### Making Authentic Assessment Work

Facilitator: **Norm Dooley**

Projects and portfolios of student work are excellent learning experiences. Assessing them, however, requires careful planning and excellent organization. This workshop will assist instructors to assess "authentic" learning efficiently and develop the skills that are needed.

#### Work Search with Workopolis-Campus

Facilitators: **Faye Mallett, Dave Greenall and Lawrence Ng**

Discover how to expand on-line work searches using the features of WorkopolisCampus - Canada's biggest on-line job site for students.

#### StarOffice

Facilitator: **Des Dougan**

Comparisons between Microsoft Office and StarOffice will be outlined to try to reduce the "fear factor". He will do this by using side-by-side comparisons of features of both products, including opening files previously created in MS Office to show that StarOffice can handle the Microsoft file format.

#### GroupWise - Tips & Tricks

Facilitator: **Elizabeth Burnyeat & Zack Cooper**

Most of us don't use many of the features of Groupwise. Learn about setting a vacation rule, using the calendar, customization tips.

#### The Young Adult Brain - An Update!

Facilitator: **Bob Aitken**

It is not just hormones that at times cause teenagers' irrational, risky and erratic behaviour. New research using brain scans helps us to explain some of that puzzling behaviour. We will examine the latest research and look at implications of this research in our roles as parents and/or instructors of young college students.

### Workshops 2:15 - 3:15 p.m.

#### Open Source Opens Opportunities for Online Learning

Facilitator: **Walter Behnke**

Open Source Learning Content Management Systems enable institutions to broaden their offerings of online courses and blended courses (supplementing face-to-face with online learning). Open Source LCMS's are free licenses to create online learning - unlike WebCT with its increasing licensing fees. This session provides an update on BC Campus Development Funds and initiatives that encourage Open Source implementations of online and eLearning.

#### Nutrition Unclogged - A Closer Look At Heart Health

Facilitator: **Catherine Rocheleau**

Heart Disease is one of the leading causes of mortality in Canada. Nutrition and lifestyle changes can be easily incorporated into your daily routines to reduce your odds. Learn ways to modify your shopping habits and meal preparations, become a better label reader, learn about the role of exercise and supplements and become more "Heart Smart"!

#### Building Your Financial Base - Tackling the Fundamentals

Presenters: **Margaret Easton and Barb Stefanko, Westminster Savings**

Saving, investing, RSP's, taxes, will and estate planning, education planning, and mortgage planning will be covered in this workshop.

#### Teaching Tips - The Hard of Hearing Student in the Regular Classroom

Facilitator: **Elizabeth Brooks**

This workshop will introduce communication strategies for the regular classroom instructor to ensure success for hard-of-hearing students. About 10% of adults have educationally significant hearing loss. Chances are you have a hard of hearing student in your classroom. Learn instructional techniques that will make you easy to understand by our students who have a hearing loss.

#### The Memory Cure

Facilitator: **Bob Aitken**

Risks for memory loss as we age and how we can protect our memory will be covered as well as practical exercises we can do to help us remember. Diet, mental exercises, physical exercise, stress, friendships - all have an effect on memory. Bob will also discuss recent developments in Alzheimer's research if he can remember to do so. Useful to everyone over 30.

#### GroupWise - Tips & Tricks

Facilitator: **Elizabeth Burnyeat & Zack Cooper**

Most of us don't use many of the features of Groupwise. Learn about setting a vacation rule, using the calendar, customization tips.

#### Instructor Training and Education at VCC

Facilitator: **Norm Dooley**

Learn more about the Provincial Instructor Diploma Program, Diploma in Adult Education Program and Bachelor Degree options that are available to VCC employees through the School of Instructor Education.

#### Work Search with Workopolis Campus

Facilitators: **Faye Mallett, Dave Greenall and Lawrence Ng**

Discover how to expand on-line work searches using the features of WorkopolisCampus - Canada's biggest on-line job site for students.

#### Taming the WebCT Monster

Facilitator: **Doug Mauger**

This workshop will introduce you to ideas on how you might begin using WebCT to develop lessons on line. Focus will be on integrating WebCT into regular classroom activities. Come and learn how WebCT might fit into your instructional toolkit.

### Essential Skills Survey

Be sure to look for the "Essential Employability Skills" table set up in the main concourse at City Centre. Sylvia Patey, Jim Peacock, and Maija Wiik will be looking for your input in profiling the "ideal VCC grad." What qualities does he or she bring to the workplace (besides outstanding technical skills)? What makes (or, would make) them "non-fireable" and "promotable"? What "generic skills" are we already teaching our students? What could we be teaching them? Through a survey of faculty and staff, we hope to develop a unique list of skills that ensure all our graduates are successful in their careers.

See VCC DAY registration information on Page 7

## Highlights

VCC welcomes many distinguished presenters to VCC Day including:



### Fred Ring

Vice president of people, Westjet Airlines

Fred Ring leads the "people" department and is responsible for recruiting, compensation and benefits, performance management, leadership development, occupational health and safety, customer service agent and sales super agent training and corporate security. He joined Westjet in February 2001, having spent 32 years in the field of education.

VCC is fortunate to have Mr. Ring as the keynote speaker at VCC Day. He will be speaking about the "Westjet Way" and will inspire us with lessons Westjet has learned that we can apply to our own work with VCC students.



### Gabor Maté, M.D.

Physician, writer and psychotherapist

Dr. Maté has worked in family practice, palliative medicine, and addiction medicine. Currently he is a staff physician at a facility for drug-addicted persons in Vancouver's Downtown East Side, many of them with HIV.

Dr. Maté is the author of the bestseller, *Scattered Minds: A New Look At The Origins And Healing of Attention Deficit Disorder*. His second book, *When The Body Says No: The Cost of Hidden Stress* deals with the mind/body unity in health and illness. Dr. Maté's presentation *Why teaching is so stressful these days, why students are less teachable—and what to do about it* is based on his third book, *Hold On To Your Kids: Why Parents Matter*, was published in February, 2004.

Topics covered during his presentation will include: the basis of healthy child development; the attachment relationship with parents, teachers and other adults; why the traditional relationship has become undermined, leaving parents frustrated, teachers stressed and children immature; what peer orientation is and how it competes with children's adult attachments and how to recognize its signs; how peer orientation leads to boredom, aggression, bullying, precocious sexuality and "unteachability" in children, adolescents and young people; how to restore the healthy adult orientation of our youth, specifically in the classroom setting.



## Coming Events

### Singing with Larry is back

Learn ways to strengthen your voice and increase your confidence at classes where the focus is on breathing, vocal technique and singing. All levels are welcome. Class size is limited to 15, so book your space early. Classes run May 4 to June 22 from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. There's a \$5 drop-in fee per class. Call Larry Perras at local 7283 to register.

### Spring 2004 award ceremonies:

May 27, 2004

#### School of Hospitality and Business

10 a.m. reception  
10:30 a.m. presentations

#### Schools of Arts, Sciences and Language Studies

1:30 p.m. reception  
2 p.m. presentations

May 28, 2004

#### School of Health Sciences

10 a.m. reception  
10:30 a.m. presentations

#### Career, Design, Trades and Technology

1:30 p.m. reception  
2:00 p.m. presentations

Receptions will be held in the KEC employee lounge; presentations will be in the auditorium. Contact Rebecca Davey at local 7148 to find out more.

### Third annual Post-Secondary Support Staff Conference

This event for support staff is scheduled for June 10 at BCIT, with information and registration available at [www.langara.bc.ca/psssc](http://www.langara.bc.ca/psssc).

After receiving a supervisor's approval to attend the conference, staff can register online. Remember to check the box that says "Bill my institution" and BCIT will bill VCC directly. Once registered, send a copy of your registration to Carey Stoneberg at City Centre.

Early registration is \$80 until May 7; after that date registration is \$95.

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## In Memoriam: Cheryl Draper

On February 29, we lost Cheryl Draper, our ESL Division colleague, friend, union activist and for the past three years, department head of College Preparatory English.

Cheryl was born in Sydney, Australia, and immigrated to Canada in 1969 as a young teacher. She taught elementary school in Kamloops and near Agassiz. In the 1970s she attended UBC, graduating with an MA in English. She started working as an ESL instructor at VCC in 1982. For the past 10 years Cheryl had suffered from a serious health condition, but it did not prevent her from taking on many additional responsibilities – on the VCCFA executive, as our faculty representative on the College Board, and as a department head. The tributes to Cheryl that were paid at her memorial service were remarkably consistent in their mention of her principled stand on issues, her strength, her leadership and her kindness.

Cheryl Draper became department head of CPE under extremely adverse

conditions, but being a born leader and a fighter, she dealt with the difficult situations and managed to keep the department afloat. Cheryl was always objective and professional in dealing with colleagues, instructors and students. She also had a way of explaining all sides of an issue in simple direct language. One could never say that she sugar-coated anything, but she did use her dry-wit in a way that could leave you laughing no matter how bad the situation was.

There was also a soft side to Cheryl. This was the side that brought home-made baked goodies to work and sent thank you cards to instructors for doing tasks that were part of their duties. To many of us she was a friend, and we were gifted with her wit, humor and affection. She taught, led and served – committed and compassionate. We learned a whole grammar of professionalism from her. Cheryl has left a void not only in CPE, but also in all aspects of the college.

– ESL division ■

## Some final words from the VCCFA:

When we lost her, Cheryl was again a member of our Executive. She had been elected to serve for most of the last decade. Her presence and support brought resonance and strength to our work. We trust and hope she knew how much and how affectionately we appreciated her. She brought so much to our work: biting wit, correct grammar, sharp analysis of the issues, real commitment to all of our members, and cake. On top of everything else she enjoyed bringing us massive and delicious cakes (more than enough for 10 or 12, we often took home leftovers). Their delivery at our busy Pender and

Homer corner (where there was never any parking) was always a logistical feat.

While not directly through the union, we worked closely with her during the four years she served as faculty representative to the College Board. Not many know how lonely that job can be nor how well she served us all.

One recent project she took on for the union with her usual gusto and efficiency was helping to award our first VCCFA Scholarship. In her honour and memory, the VCCFA Executive has donated \$1000 to the endowment of our scholarship and for the next five years, it will be given in her name. ■

## Coming Events

(continued from page 6)

### The Willan Choir: Carl Orff's Carmina Burana

VCC's Willan Choir will be joined by the Surrey Children's and Chamber Choirs, with special guests Sal Ferreras and Philip Crewe, percussion; Marisa Gaetanne, soprano; Steven Price, baritone; Ian Bullen, tenor; and pianists Jane Hayes and Irene Wong. When: April 25 at 3 p.m. at the Bell Centre for the Performing Arts at 6250-144th St. in Surrey.

Tickets are available at the door or by calling 604.597.1404: \$15 students/seniors, \$20 adults.

### Retirement celebration

After years of hard work and dedication, Moira Henderson is retiring and taking a permanent vacation. Join her for cake and coffee on April 27 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the employee lounge at KEC.



Connections is now printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper. Please recycle Connections.

## VCC<sup>2004</sup> day

### the FUTURE is OURS

(continued from page 5)

### Registration

There is no pre-registration for the workshops with the exception of two that require computer labs:

Introduction to Photoshop (1 - 3:15 pm)

Web CT (1 - 3:15 pm)

If you are interested in either of these workshops, please register in advance by emailing [instruct@vcc.ca](mailto:instruct@vcc.ca) or calling local 7510.

### VCC Day website

Complete program information and the latest updates are available at:

<http://www.vcc.ca/vccday>

VCC DAY SCHEDULE SEE PAGES 4-5

## workopolisCampus.com @ [www.VCC.ca](http://www.VCC.ca) links VCC students with employers

VCC has launched Workopolis Campus with Canada's well-known Workopolis online job site to help VCC students and graduates find jobs.

"The system is fantastic and is a win-win situation for everyone – employers, the college and our students," says Dave Greenall, VCC counsellor and member of the committee that's working on the project.

WorkopolisCampus allows students to post up to 10 different cover letters and resumes, easily reaching employers. "This gives them the flexibility to respond to a variety of job possibilities in different ways," says Greenall.

Employers, for their part, are able to post jobs on the site and for a nominal fee to Workopolis can directly access student resumes.

"My recommendation to faculty is to get familiar with the system right away and encourage students to do the same – whether they're looking for a job now or a career after graduation," says Greenall.

WorkopolisCampus is linked to the VCC website, where a special icon



Faye Mallett, Workopolis Campus intern

points students and employers to the site at [workopolis.vcc.ca](http://workopolis.vcc.ca).

"This site has the potential to be a great tool for students as well as for the faculty in helping to promote their programs and

graduates to employers," says Lawrence Ng, VCC's web manager. "We hope to use the website as a sort of VCC career centre."

A working committee, chaired by Ng, is currently developing and promoting the VCC WorkopolisCampus site through the efforts of members Maija Wiik, Angela Abbinante, Dolores Callaghan, Nona Coles, David Greenall, Lorraine Herlick, and Faye Mallett.

Critical to the success of WorkopolisCampus is promotion and marketing of the service to VCC students and faculty, which Mallett will undertake as the project's student intern. Contact her at [workopolis@vcc.ca](mailto:workopolis@vcc.ca) with questions or to book a presentation to your next department meeting. ☺

## INFO NIGHT A SUCCESS (continued from page 1)

its programs as soon as I arrived in Canada," says Sun. In China, she was a career consultant and hopes to retrain and pursue her profession in Canada. "The day after Info Night I came back and registered for the Counselling Skills program," says Sun. She plans to use the

tuition coupon for her next program at VCC.

Promotion for Information Night included advertising, direct mail and online initiatives targeted to key audiences that include potential students, parents and high school career counsellors. ☺



Above: Future hairstyling students enjoy the department's display while visiting VCC's Info Night on April 7.



# New parking procedures for King Edward campus

Bill Miller promotes new easy and convenient system for KEC's parking lot

**VCC's** Facilities department has heard the feedback – and new parking procedures for the King Edward campus are on the way to make parking easier and more convenient.

A new system, set for introduction in mid-May, is aimed at easing the frustration the campus community has experienced over parking at the campus, where out-of-service ticket machines have been an ongoing issue.

"We are going to greatly decrease the theft and vandalism problems with this new system," says building services manager Bill Miller.

"Parkers should find it easy and convenient," he says.

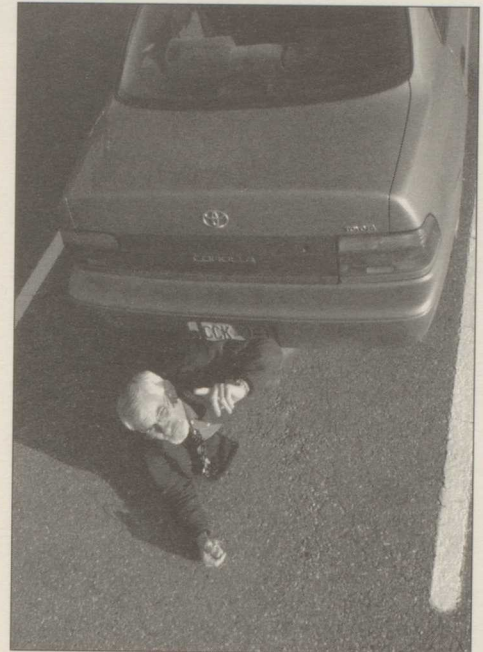
Stalls in the parking lot will now be numbered – so when you park you'll need to remember your stall number.

New ticket dispensers will be located near the rear entrance of the campus; when you're buying your ticket you simply punch in your stall number when prompted by the machine, which will then dispense a valid ticket.

Here's where the convenience comes into place – the ticket dispenser records that your stall number has been paid-for, so there's no need to return to your vehicle. You keep your ticket.

Should you leave the campus during the day and then return, remember to place the ticket on the dashboard to alert the attendant that you have already paid. It's not necessary to park in the same spot.

Further details will be available in the coming weeks to help the King Edward community learn more about the new system. ☺



PHOTOS: L. MCKENZIE

Bill Miller jokingly tries to remember his parking spot number. In fact, the numbers will be easily seen after parking any vehicle.

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Send details of your upcoming events, department news and achievements to *Connections*. Due to time constraints, we can only accept electronic submissions. We do, however, accept photos.

Submit your pieces via email to:  
**Elizabeth Thomson, [ethomson@vcc.ca](mailto:ethomson@vcc.ca).**

Deadline for submission for next issue:  
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