

VCC chef instructor's Team Canada wins hot competition at Culinary World Masters



Above: The Canadian Culinary Federation Team poses with awards after the big win in Switzerland

John-Carlo Felicella, VCC chef instructor and team manager of the Canadian Culinary Federation Team-Switzerland 2005, has won top place in the hot competition and the team was awarded second overall in the competition at the Culinary World Masters Competition held in Basel, Switzerland, last month.

Put together in only two months, the team included five chefs – all with past ties to VCC's culinary arts program. Teams generally spend a year to prepare for an international competition, but this team had only two months to practice.

"We accomplished the impossible," said John Carlo Felicella, VCC chef instructor. "Two months ago we did not even have a team. Putting

this all together and being so successful is a credit to everyone involved. A lot of work and dedication has had to

be concentrated into a very short space of time. The whole team and all Canadian chefs should be very proud of what we have accomplished!"

The team included Felicella as team manager and Damon Campbell of Vancouver's Diva at the Metropolitan Hotel as team captain. Remaining spots were filled by Ben Pernosky of the Fairmont Chateau Whistler, Tobias MacDonald of La Belle Auberge Restaurant in Ladner, David Wong of the

Fairmont Airport Hotel and Pastry Chef Arthur Chen of the Pan Pacific Hotel in Vancouver. ■

VCC's AWARD-WINNING MENU

Appetizer

Fresh Water Arctic Char and Foie Gras Terrine,
Celeriac Confit, Green Du Puy Lentil Vinaigrette,
Atlantic Butter Poached Lobster,
Spiced Great Northern Bean Purée,
Lobster Foam

Main Course

Veal Loin wrapped with Smoked Veal Tongue,
Aromatic Braised Prime Beef Short Rib,
Saskatchewan Golden Chanterelle Stew,
Crisp Yukon Gold Potato filled with
Truffle and Leek,
Lacquered Red Kuri Squash,
Root Vegetable Gratin,
Natural Jus

Dessert

Citrus Blackberry Tart with Warm
Honey Chiboust,
Bittersweet Chocolate Fondant Bar
with Praline Crust,
Labrador Berry Tea Ice Cream,
Wild Flower Caramelized Honey,
Vanilla Sauce

Alumni awards handed out in November



Dosanjh, Fergusson, Olson and Mulangu

Award-winners Ujjal Dosanjh, the federal Minister of Health, Michael Fergusson, who helped to develop the world's first HTML and XML editors, Eliza Olson, the founder of Burns Bog Conservation Society and Paul Mulangu, the founder of the Centre of Integration for African Immigrants, were presented with the VCC alumni award of distinction. The award was handed out at the Student Award ceremony held on Nov. 18 in the Broadway auditorium.

"These VCC graduates have tremendous vision, commitment and determination," says Linda Martin, the college's vice-president of advancement and education services. "They have made outstanding contributions in their fields and their communities. We are proud to recognize them with this award."

VCC's alumni award of distinction is given out annually to honour graduates for outstanding success and community involvement. ■

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News Briefs

Student services orientation days

The next student orientation days are scheduled for Jan. 11, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the downtown campus and Jan. 12, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Broadway campus. This fun event is designed to kick off the new term by welcoming all of our new students and introducing them to the many services available at VCC. Refreshments and prizes will be available, and all students are encouraged to attend.

TransLink Employer Pass program

Effective Feb. 1, VCC will offer the TransLink Employer Pass program to permanent full-time or part-time college staff and faculty. The program provides discounted fares on annual transit passes.

Participation is facilitated through the convenience of payroll deduction. The passes entitle the bearer to travel on any bus or community shuttle operated by a TransLink subsidiary or contractor (except HandyDART), SkyTrain or SeaBus. Passes for West Coast Express are also available.

Contact the facilities department for costs and details at 604.443.8319 or email spaterson@vcc.ca.

Employer Pass photo session

For those who have enrolled in the program, TransLink will hold one on-site photo session in Room 107 at the downtown campus, on Wednesday, Dec. 14 from 12 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you are unable to attend, there are also open sessions held at the Burrard SkyTrain station, see www.translink.bc.ca for details.

United Way Campaign

VCC Cares – this year's United Way campaign has raised \$30,640. "Thank you to all the donors and employee volunteers who helped with the organization of the campaign for your support and for continuing the VCC tradition of helping our community," says Doreen Sharan, on behalf of the United Way campaign committee.

\$40,000 handed out for VCC's 40th



VCC president Dale Dorn presents Sarah-Ann Yeoh and Ana-Luz Cobon with their share of 40 entrance awards presented at the VCC awards ceremony, Nov. 18.

40 students received entrance awards of \$1,000

Vancouver Community College has handed out \$40,000 in new entrance awards to celebrate the college's 40th anniversary – and recognize students for their academic achievement and community involvement.

Forty students from around the region were awarded \$1,000 each as part of the college's anniversary celebrations; many of the students chose programs in VCC's School of Health Sciences and School of Hospitality and Business.

"VCC's culinary arts program was recommended to me by past graduates," says award-winner Ana-Luz Cobon, 18, who started at the college in September. "It is proving to be a great program so far – challenging but really fun."

Cobon heard about the entrance award from her counsellor at Sir Charles Tupper secondary school last year. "I

took a cooking program throughout high school so it was natural for me to pursue culinary arts after I graduated," she says.

VCC dental hygiene student Sarah-Ann Yeoh, 19, wanted to pursue studies in health care, and choose VCC for its reputation as a leading trainer in the field.

"I was really pleased to win the award," says Yeoh, who enrolled in the two-year program after graduating from Pinetree Secondary in Coquitlam.

"Dental hygiene offers me the chance to help people and affords me the flexibility I am looking for," she says. "The practical element – working on real patients – is a totally different kind of pressure than learning information from books."

Students received their awards at the awards ceremony on Nov. 18. ■



Some of the 40 entrance award winners pose with their awards at the awards ceremony on Nov. 18.

Coming Events

Edmund Leung receives rare designation

Edmund Leung, VCC's bookstore manager, just received the designation of Certified Collegiate Retail from the National Association of College Stores. Edmund worked hard and studied 17 big manuals over the past months to prepare for the exam that was held during the National Association of College Stores conference in Vancouver this November.

"Congratulation on a job well done – I am sure we will all be learning about retail as Edmund shares his knowledge with both the bookstore staff and the rest of ancillary services and the college community," says Sandra MacSorley, VCC's ancillary services manager.

Leung shares this designation with only five other people in Canada.

Appointments

The appointment of Lucy Komori as the new director of development and alumni relations was announced this past month. Komori was the associate director of the H.R. MacMillan Space Centre for the past five years and brings a great deal of valuable experience to this position. Some of her previous positions included director of development with Arts Umbrella, manager of the Capilano College Foundation and supervisor of marketing services at the University of Toronto. Lucy has a master's in business administration from UBC and a BA in English from SFU. Komori will be joining the college on Jan. 3.

Peter Legg, director of financial services, has accepted an interim assignment as acting vice-president of finance and administration from Jan. 3 to June 30, 2006. Legg is replacing Trish Pekeles, who will be leaving VCC for the position of director of strategic partnerships at BC Hydro at the end of December.

Department head elections

Congratulations to the members of the division of design, technology and trades who have recently been re-elected to their position as department head.

Phil Johnston - Automotive Technician
Marlena Vanderwal - Computer Technology
Bill Dobie - Drafting

VCC named School of the Year



Presenting the award is Norma Eaton, CEO and chair of the Cosmetologist Industry Association of B.C. (right). Receiving the award are Hair Design department head, Millie Yuen (front), behind her are instructors Robert Mahe and Kristen Kassel.

Not just cuts and colour treatments, Vancouver Community College and its Hair Design program have been named School of the Year by the Cosmetology Industry Association of British Columbia.

The inaugural award was given to VCC to honour its expertise in the public post-secondary sector.

CEO and chairperson of the association Norma Eaton, presented the award to Millie Yuen, department head of Hair Design and Esthetics, last month.

"It is a great honour for the hair design department to be recognized for our dedication to our students and to the profession," says Yuen. ■

VCC's community choir celebrates its 30th anniversary

Thirty years of friendliness, good spirit and heartfelt song... that's something to sing about.

VCC School of Music's Willan Choir celebrated its 30th anniversary with a Winter Concert on Dec. 6. at the Christ Church Cathedral. The 70-member choir, founded in 1975 by Jon Washburn, is a community choir open to anyone who wants to sing or learn to sing.

"The choir provides a venue for all walks of life—our hallmark is that anyone and everyone is welcome," says Dale Gamble, a long-standing member and president of the Willan choir.

When Gamble joined the choir 21 years ago he had no music training, but Washburn stuck him between two good basses and told him to sing with them for six months. Eventually he became so inspired with music that Gamble took courses through the VCC music department.

Gamble also met and married his partner there. She and Gamble still attend rehearsals every Tuesday night together. "I have a high pressure job, the

last thing I want to do is go out after a long day—but after attending rehearsal, I have twice as much energy," says Gamble. "There is something about the performing of music that really connects with your psyche."

Helen Fong, aged 90, is the longest-standing member—she has been attending for 26 years. "I come to the choir because I feel very, very happy. The director teaches me everything so I can learn and the people are so kind and welcoming." Fong, who speaks Mandarin and Cantonese, joined the choir originally because she had so much respect for Jon Washburn. "He was so kind to me and patient with my English."

"I would have to say that it is truly a privilege to stand before a group of enthusiastic individuals committed to the art of fine music-making and the joy of singing, and lead them through a collective musical journey," says Patricia Plumley, the Willan director. Marisa Gaetanette co-directors and Eric Hominick, who has been with the Willan for 23 years, is the accompanist. ■

5th annual VCC East Indian dinner and dance



Above: Enjoying the fifth annual East Indian dinner and dance, some in traditional Indian saris, from left to right, Gwen Guile, Veronica Jorna, Teresa Chang and Emily Kam.

More than 150 people from VCC, including friends and family, enjoyed a cultural celebration of East Indian food, dance and music on Nov. 17. For the fifth year in a row, organizers pulled together a terrific party. Vanita Puri, a long-serving VCC employee in the bookstore, has been instrumental in organizing the annual dinner with the intent of introducing Westerners to Eastern culture. Volunteers helped make this year's event bigger and better; they include: Jean MacLeod, Rajesh Kapoor, Shakuntala Prasad, Veronica Jorna, Lindsay Bourne and Tatyana Kuleshova.

Party-goers dressed in either typical Western wear or elegant East Indian

outfits and three mehendi ladies painted custom henna designs on hands. Several fabulous door prizes were given away, including a DVD player from Kaiway Tsechu & Wong Insurance on Broadway, a gift certificate from Buy-Low, a pillow from Bonsor Pharmacy, four beautiful Avon baskets from Helen Nemish, and other items from City Fire Alarm and Vanita. A 50/50 draw equaling two prizes of \$95 with the balance going to tips and hosting costs were also drawn.

Attendees feasted on appetizers and a full buffet of tasty Indian dishes at Fraserview Hall. The audience enjoyed performances by professional singer Swapan Kumar Chattopadhal, solo dancer Sangita Sharma (Ajita's daughter), and Nita Patel's young student dancers. ■

Intriguing new Continuing Studies program offering

Even Magnum P.I., Charlie's Angels, Columbo, James Rockford and Remington Steele had to go to school.

VCC's Centre for Continuing Studies has launched its new private investigating program—the only one of its kind in B.C.

The program introduces students to the study of investigations for the private sector. It provides theory and hand-ons skills in surveillance techniques, observation, note taking, legal studies, evidentiary and courtroom procedures, and ethical conduct.

"This is an incredibly timely and topical program — issues related to security are top of mind," says Gyda Chud, director of VCC's Continuing Studies. "Every sector from public and private companies to individuals and governments are interested in security right now."

This course is taught by a professional private investigator, Kathy Matak of the Baker Street agency. She has more than 20 years of experience and works on cases ranging from murder and assault to fraud and missing persons.

"I think people don't fully understand how much an investigator can help solve a variety of problems," says Matak, who speaks to groups on how to prevent them from needing her services in the future. "For example, I tell seniors to write as much information down as possible about the beneficiary when they are estate planning — it helps later in finding them."

Matak lists some common private investigation myths. "You have to be an ex-police officer, there is no work, it's really dangerous, it's like what you see on TV," she laughs. "It's just not true... and by the way, we don't drive a red Ferrari." ■

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trees	water	energy	solid waste	water borne waste	atmospheric emissions
14 fully grown	2,447 gallons	3,316 million BTUs	260 pounds	17 pounds	503 pounds

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