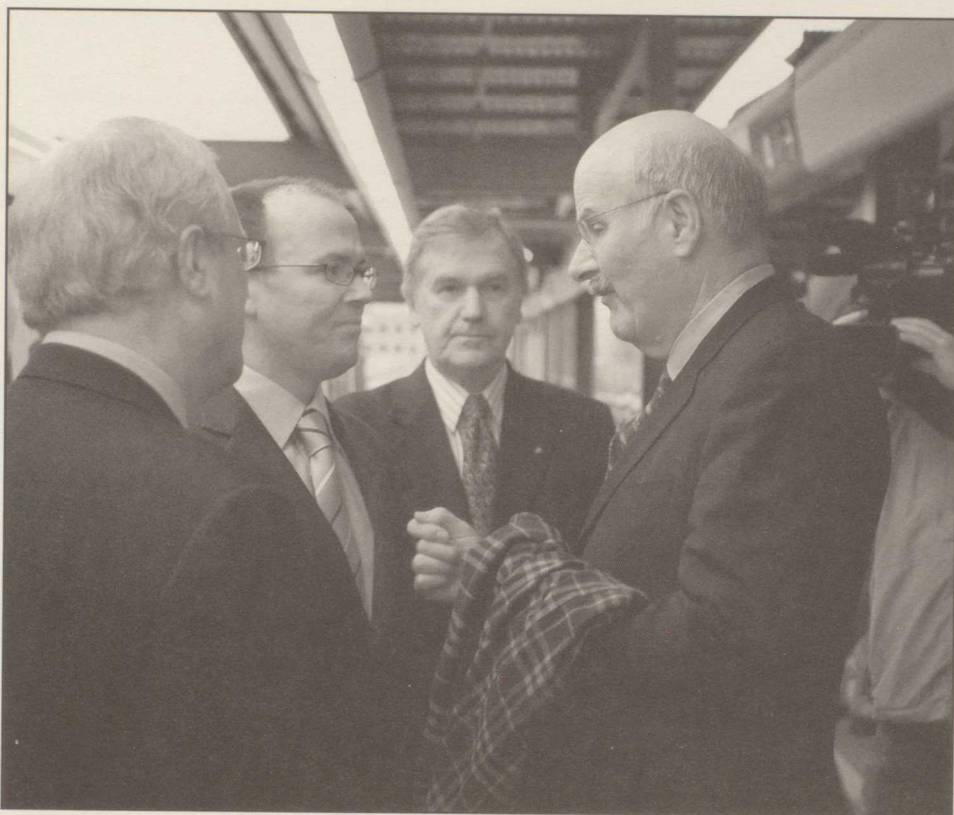




## VCC-Clark station opens: Start of the new Millennium

## VCC attends new station's ceremonies



Above: Former Premier Mike Harcourt (right) speaks with Transportation minister Kevin Falcon and other VIPs on the VCC-Clark station platform as part of the SkyTrain opening ceremonies.



Top: Pat Bawtinheimer, Des Dougan and Linda Martin attend ceremony marking SkyTrain's new VCC-Clark station and 20th anniversary. Bottom: VCC's baking department supplied the cake for the ceremonies.

## SkyTrain station drops students at VCC's door

Vancouver's newest SkyTrain station – the VCC-Clark station – opened last month, extending the transit system's Millennium Line and bringing SkyTrain service to the college's Broadway campus doorstep.

"This is great news for the college and its students," says Linda Martin, the college's vice-president of advancement and education services. "VCC has always been a strong supporter of SkyTrain reaching our Broadway campus.

Opening the VCC-Clark station – at Sixth Avenue and Keith Drive, just across the street and north of VCC's Broadway campus – is only part of TransLink's new service along the south corridor of False Creek.

A new bus, No. 84, runs along Great Northern Way, Second Avenue and Fourth Avenue between VCC-Clark station and the University of B.C. with limited stops along the way. Service will initially run every 15 minutes.

"We're tremendously excited about this station and its name," says Martin. "It will be a great benefit for the growing corridor of Clark Drive and Great Northern Way – part of our neighbourhood – and the large numbers of VCC students who come to our campus by transit."

Find out more about the new station and the No. 84 bus route online at [translink.bc.ca](http://translink.bc.ca). ■

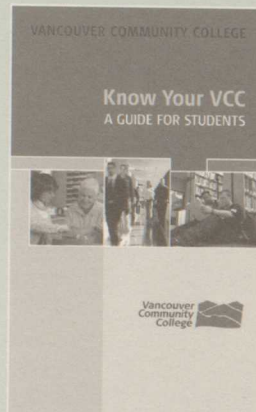
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## News Briefs

### Hot off the press: Know Your VCC handbook



Student services is pleased to announce the publication of the new student handbook, **Know Your VCC**. The book contains information on all the services

available to VCC students, packaged in a smart-looking design from the marketing department's Bob Altwein. The new book was distributed at last month's student orientation at both campuses. Students can also receive copies directly from their instructors or from the counselling areas.

To get copies of the handbook, e-mail Saroj Kumar at [skumar@vcc.ca](mailto:skumar@vcc.ca) with the quantity needed.

### YWCA of Vancouver's Women of Distinction Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the 23rd YWCA Women of Distinction Awards. The awards are recognized nationally as one of the most prestigious awards for women. It is an opportunity to recognize the achievements of outstanding women in the community.

VCC's Betty Nobel was the recipient in 2001 for her contribution in the area of education, training and development. Nominate a woman who should be acknowledged for her accomplishments and celebrate her achievements.

Nomination packages are available from [ywcavan.org](http://ywcavan.org) and must be submitted by 5 p.m., Friday, March 10. This year's awards will be held May 30 at The Westin Bayshore Resort and Marina.

## Shoppers choose VCC's holiday baking



The VCC baking class was given top honours by Kingsgate Mall during the Christmas Goodie Contest last December.

The class made 200 miniature log cakes to hand out to shoppers. The shoppers judged the contest and voted VCC as the top bakers.

"It was a great experience; it was nice to get out into the community and baking student show people what we can do," says baking student Carys Jones, 26 from Vancouver. Jones said the yule logs took the class five days to prepare.

"The class really pulled together; it was a real team effort, and we all wanted



to make it as successful as we could," says Breanne Vennels, 23, from North Delta, who wants to pursue a specialty in wedding cakes.

### Baking students who participated:

Daisy Lai	Rachel Lum
Stephanie Miller	Garrett Lee
Breanne Vennels	Mandy Li
Charlotte Seto	Martha
Carys Jones	Elva Iliceaga
Kairi Tiainen	Anny Hsu
Yannick Maugin	Tina Kim
Michele Hellmich	Jack Huang
Jill Chen	

Instructor: Marlie van de Ven ■

## Susan Musgrave: VCC's newest writer-in-residence

Poet, novelist, children's writer, columnist, reviewer, editor and essayist.

VCC is pleased to welcome Susan Musgrave as its writer-in-residence this February and March.

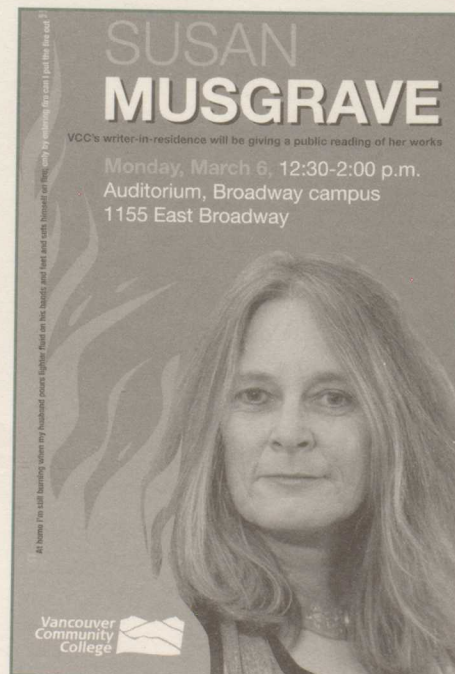
"We are thrilled to have a writer of this calibre on campus," says dean of arts and sciences Stephanie Jewell.

Musgrave will be on hand to meet with classes and individuals to discuss everything from writing to Canadian culture. A public reading is scheduled for March 6 at 12:30 p.m. in the auditorium at the Broadway campus.

Her most recent novel is **Cargo of Orphans**, and her latest poetry collection is **What the Small Day Cannot Hold: Collected Poems 1970-1985**. You're in Canada Now...A Memoir of Sorts was published in the fall of 2005.

Musgrave has published 23 books, is a frequent guest on the CBC and has been described as everything from a standup comedian to an eco-feminist. She lives on Vancouver Island and on the Queen Charlottes/ Haida Gwaii.

Musgrave has been nominated, and has received awards, in six different



categories of writing: poetry, fiction, non-fiction, personal essay, children's writing and editing.

Musgrave will be on campus: Feb. 20-22, and Feb. 27-28, March 6-8, and March 13-15. ■

## News Briefs

### Appointments

Sarah Lucas, the executive assistant to the president and board, is retiring from the college March 31. She is leaving her current position at the end of January, but will be working on a special assignment with the capital campaign during February and March.

Sean Hinton took Lucas' place as executive assistant on Jan. 30. Hinton comes to VCC on secondment from ACCC, where he has been working for the past two years in the position of sectoral liaison officer in the sectoral liaison unit, member services and public policy. He is a graduate of Confederation College and has undertaken studies at the University of Ottawa. He has served on both a college board and on the board of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges.

In addition to his broad perspective on the national college system, he brings strong communications abilities and policy development skills.

### VCC Day Postponed

VCC Day, originally planned for April 28, has been postponed until next year. The VCC Day planning committee reviewed the goals of VCC Day.

"It's really a combination of culture-building, celebrating, motivating, networking and professional development. With the 40th anniversary celebrations finishing and the upcoming Broadway campus expansion groundbreaking ceremonies in the summer, it is better to wait until members of the committee could dedicate their energies to planning another successful VCC Day in 2007," says Carol Sicoli, the chair of the VCC Day planning committee.

The committee looks forward to bringing its energy and enthusiasm together for the next VCC Day in 2007.

The new date for VCC Day will be **Friday, April 27, 2007**.

Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

## VCC's Christmas in January event serves hundreds



Christmas in January has been a special event at VCC for many years. Often January, can be a forgotten month for Vancouverians hungry. About 1,000 meals were served in the downtown campus cafeteria to area residents in need of a hot meal.

Fifty VCC volunteers helped prepare and serve the food. "My son and I really enjoyed it. He didn't want to leave," says Robyn Muccillo from VCC's purchasing department.

VCC thanks the main sponsor, Sysco Foodservices, which supplied the bulk of the food. Support also came from Vitality Foodservice Canada, Snow Cap, Unisource Canada, Island Farms and the B.C. Restaurant Association.

The small amount of left-over food was delivered to the Union Gospel Mission. ■

## What is RSS 2.0 ?

### VCC website's newest feature.

Really Simple Syndication (RSS) is a new way of giving website visitors information in a brief format. Readers can scan headlines and choose the items that interest them most directly from their browser or email.

To use RSS, visitors will need a RSS news reader that collects and displays selected website information. RSS news readers allows viewers to see website content at a glance, retrieve updates and stay current.

"It gives subscribers a kind of scaled down version of VCC's site – it's really a glorified directory of bookmarks of what's going on at VCC. When visitors want to read an entire article, they just click on the headline and it will link them to our website," says Lawrence Ng, VCC's web manager.

"We need to stay innovative and current on the Internet. Many organizations are often slow to adopt or learn new technologies, giving organizations that lead the way a competitive advantage. The new feature adds credibility,"

says Ng, who is always looking for new ways to improve the VCC website.

VCC's RSS feeds include information sessions, news, program information and job openings.

### Some benefits of RSS:

#### Gives the audience more control

Requesting or subscribing to feeds allow the audience to maintain complete control over the content they view. Users can easily opt in and out of feeds that provide content of interest or importance.

#### Makes it easier for repeat customers

RSS is perfect feature for repeat visitors. Now visitors don't have to go to VCC's website to get the most up-to-date information. RSS updates content automatically – directly on their browser.

#### Saves time

RSS users are now able to view multiple headlines and information at a glance.

For more information, please visit [www.vcc.ca/vccrss](http://www.vcc.ca/vccrss)



## VCC celebrates diversity with annual student fine art and craft show



Mojan (pronounced Moosh-ka) Aryaiei's puts finishing touches on her traditional Afghan pillows for VCC's Diversity Week art show. Her cushions are available for sale; contact her at [mojgan@suvcc.ca](mailto:mojgan@suvcc.ca)

### VCC's Diversity Week art show runs Feb. 21-23

Vancouver Community College presents its fifth annual student art show to celebrate Diversity Week. VCC students representing several program areas from a variety of backgrounds and experiences display paintings, drawings, sculptures and photography.

"It is gratifying to see VCC students from the ESL, Adult Basic Education, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Visually Impaired departments show their art," says Barbara Forster-Rickard, one of the Diversity Week organizers.

Mojgan Aryaiei, from Afghanistan will be one of several students participating this year. Her family fled from war

in Afghanistan to Iran in 1995. "We were unable to go to school, so my mother taught us traditional crafts. [This show] allows me to show others how a girl can do a craft and have this ability."

The annual art show is a part of Diversity Week celebrations and was inspired by a past VCC ESL student from Korea. The student, a well-known artist in her country, had to give up her art while she rebuilt her new life in Canada.

The student art show is open to the college and public on Feb. 21 - 23 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the 5th floor boardroom at the Broadway campus, 1155 East Broadway. For more details, visit [www.vcc.ca](http://www.vcc.ca). ■

## VCC donations reach an all time high

VCC's generous support touched many people over the holiday season. The VCC community cares and can be proud of its contributions to worthwhile causes.

In the past few months VCC employees have donated to the United Way, Covenant House, McGregor Child Care Centre, the Food Bank and VCC's Family Campaign.

### Here are some of the figures:

VCC employees contributed \$35,688 to the annual United Way Campaign last fall, helping to improve lives and strengthen the community.

Covenant House provides help and hope to hundreds of homeless and at-risk youth living on our city's streets. Its Casua! Day in December raised \$703 from VCC alone through the sale of \$2 stickers.

McGregor Child Care Centre's VCC Christmas campaign provided packages for 21 families and gifts for 25 preschool children and their older siblings. More than \$1,000 in cash was also donated to supplement the packages.

VCC provided several boxes of food and raised a total of \$679 for the Food Bank this year through 50-50 draws and an auction.



Congratulations to the lucky winners of the Food Bank 50-50 draw held at both campuses on Dec. 14: Mary Sullivan and Ted Hougham. ■

## Connections

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### Submissions for Connections:

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:  
**Karen Wilson, [kwilson@vcc.ca](mailto:kwilson@vcc.ca).**

Deadline for submission for next issue:  
**Feb. 27, 2006.**

**Please note:** Material may be edited for clarity and length.

**Vancouver  
Community  
College**



### NEENAH ENVIRONMENT® Papers Environmental Savings Calculation

This newsletter is printed on Neenah ENVIRONMENT PC100 paper, made with 100% post-consumer waste, processed chlorine free. By using this environmentally friendly paper for production of Connections over one fiscal year, VCC saved the following resources:

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

Calculations based on research by Environmental Defense and the Paper Task Force. Source [www.neenahpaper.com](http://www.neenahpaper.com)