

## November 2020

### CNC contributes to a smashing Candy Cruise success



CNC joined organizations across Prince George to bring a unique trick or treating experience to families this Halloween during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The College participated in the city's first-ever Candy Cruise. Parents brought their children to several hub sites for drive-through trick-or-treating. CNC's Prince George Campus was ideally placed to welcome families, and included several additional groups providing treats.

Physically-distanced staff and volunteers handed out an estimated 2,000 bags of snacks to young ghosts and goblins. CNC's dental program provided the first 250 guests with toothpaste and toothbrushes.

An estimated 20,000 people took part in the inaugural Candy Cruise, helping to provide a safe and fun Hallowe'en in a highly unusual time.

Thank you to the following people for their help: Lola Casimel, Siffith Chaudhary, Claudia Valbuena, Komalpreet Guru, and Sharanjit Kaur from CNC SU; Chrissy Blok, Monica Costley, Claudette Gouger, Mark Karjaluo, Caralee



Larmand, and Miley Yang for staffing our tables; Chad Thompson as the Flying Monkey; Tammy Kulchyski from Food Services for purchasing chips; staff from Facilities including Andrew for all his help; and Mark Goudreau from Security.



### Flu vaccine: save your receipt

CNC was unable to secure on-campus clinics for the influenza immunization. However, the college will reimburse staff for their flu vaccine if they are charged for it.

Please save your receipt and send it to Diane Van Bakel, Payroll Advisor, at [vanbakeld@cnc.bc.ca](mailto:vanbakeld@cnc.bc.ca)

Please note that the vaccine reimbursement is only for employees, not spouses or dependents.

# In the community

## CNC strengthens education connections with Kwadacha

By Liz Blackburn, Operations Manager-Mackenzie

The CNC community, and its First Nations partners, have been creative in helping Aboriginal students move ahead during COVID. More specifically, Andrea Morrison, Cathy Warren, Shannon Bezo, Nicole Anderson, Ryan McKenna and I have all liaised collectively, and individually, to develop, implement, and fine tune an exclusively online program for First Nations students.

The Kwadacha Transitions program started in mid-September 2020 and will continue through the spring into early summer 2021. Instruction is done via Zoom with a central computer, microphones, and a voice tracking camera at the Kwadacha Learning Centre. Each student has their own computer to complete assignments.

Instructor availability is ensured not just during lecture time, but also through Zoom appointments, email, text, and even phone calls. Kwadacha students have almost unparalleled instructor access to be provided with real-time feedback.

Even though students are based out of Kwadacha (Fort Ware) B.C., they can continue to attend even when out of community via online lectures or recorded video. The hope is that by having access to both foundational and university transfer courses in their own community, Kwadacha members will build capacity with respect to either the work or academic environment.

## Supporting student success in Fort St. James

By Sarah John, Aboriginal Liaison- Nechako Campus

I recently took First Aid Level 1 training with the Job Option students in Fort St. James. This is traditionally a seven hour, one-day course.

I wanted to extend my appreciation for modifying



the course to meet the needs of our diverse learners. I was able to support the class in ways that would not be possible if it were a one-day delivery.

The instructor was able to accommodate our unique needs and we moved at our own pace through the coursework. We took our time to thoroughly learn each module and demonstrate what we had learned by reinforcing the importance of ABCs and working with helpers in possible emergency situations that require immediate first aid interventions. The instructor provided plenty of time for one-on-one learning and ample breaks for constructive feedback.

When we were due to write the exam, the instructor gave a two-step delivery of the exam by both reading the test out loud and also allowing students to have copies of the exam if they needed to read along with the instructor. Some required to see the words and some were okay with the verbal exam.

I want to note that I have a Bachelor Degree in Sociology and a Master Degree in Education from SFU; therefore I have had plenty of experience writing exams and participating in course work. I have not acquired OFA Level 1 before and because it was delivered in such a way that met the needs of my unique learning style, I was able to be successfully certified. Not only was I successful but I am happy to report that the entire class was successful!

## Congratulations to Ray Gerow

Ray Gerow was recently elected Chief of the Burns Lake Band. Ray is known to the CNC community as the first Aboriginal person to become chair of the College's board, a position he achieved in 2010.



Ray's extensive experience includes service with the Burns Lake Native Development Corporation, the Lake Development Society, and the Aboriginal Business Development Centre in Prince George.

## Congratulations to Garth Frizzell



Photo courtesy of the City of Prince George

CNC business and technology instructor and Prince George Councillor Garth Frizzell was recently elected the President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' board.

The association represents local governments across Canada. This marks his 11<sup>th</sup> election to the FCM's board. Garth was elected to his fourth term on Prince George City Council in 2018.

## Providing unique math tutoring in Mackenzie

By Liz Blackburn, Operations Manager-Mackenzie

Vida Robillard teaches Math and Science in the ACDU department at CNC Mackenzie. Because her classes are self-paced and continuous-intake, she usually teaches multiple levels of math at any one time.

Vida's courses have always relied on textbook study with intense individual tutoring. Covid19 has changed her methods significantly. No longer able to sit down with a student, Vida tutors remotely by text, including iMessage, WhatsApp and Messenger.

While some of her math messages are typed, most consist of photographs: pictures by the student of what has been tried and then response pictures showing another line of attack, a suggestion, or a correction.

If texting doesn't provide the desired results, she uses Skype, Facetime, and Zoom to have a synchronous discussion. The camera is focused on a sheet of paper reflecting the problem development as student and teacher work through the steps to solution.

Face-to-face support is available to a limited number of students by appointment, arranged by text. Students follow campus protocol, signing in and out, completing a health survey, and disinfecting their desks after use. In-class math help is provided at the white board.

These measures have helped students on their educational journey in a difficult time.

## CNC innovations

### IT steps forward to help with CNC-wide tech solutions

By Jason Clark, Information Technology

CNC implemented four new technologies over the summer in direct reaction to COVID-19; it was quickly realized that new technologies would need to be in place to support our existing in person institutional practices to best serve our existing and new students.

**Zoom** is used by International Ed. for webinars for prospective and current international students, along with day to day business use across the college.

**Comevo** has been used by Safety & Security to deliver and track COVID-19 safety training.

**QLess** will be coming soon. Several departments

have taken up the service to manage student appointments.

These are all top of class solutions in their respective fields. Multiple departments (ITS, Student Services, Office of the Registrar, Centre for Teaching and Learning, and our partner BCNet) came together to do at least a years' worth of work in a short few months. We put in place services to meet the needs of students during the pandemic and into the future of the 'new normal'.

We look forward to growing and further integrating these solutions into our business and educational toolkits as we evolve to be an institution that strives to continuously offer the best solutions for our students.

## Integrated Marketing and Communications course benefits from new software

Congratulations to Harish Gautam and the Integrated Marketing Communications course students whose work has been featured on Riipen by the project sponsor, Freedom 55.

The project included researching and analyzing the client business with a focus on social media and digital marketing. The student group developed strategies to gain engagement with millennial clients and presented their findings to Freedom 55.

The showcased project can be viewed at <https://www.riipen.com/student-showcase>

Riipen is North America's largest online work-integrated learning marketplace where organizations of all sizes connect with educators to collaborate with post-secondary students on short-term projects. The technology facilitates micro-experiential learning opportunities by connecting students with industry partners for real workplace experiences. Projects can be embedded directly into curriculum as faculty see fit.

To share your student successes with Riipen or to learn more about how Riipen can be incorporated into your course, please contact Melissa at the CTL.

## CNC courses and services focus on safety

By Tyson von den Steinen, Director of Safety and Security

Necessity breeds innovation. All across our campuses, I've been privileged to work with instructors and staff to come up with new ways of delivering education.

Some of the innovations you may not know about include the following:

- Using video tech (GoPro) to allow instructor to show techniques without students coming up close as a group;
- Equipping carts with plexi glass to serve as mobile demonstration station between instructor and student;
- Using wireless microphones to allow instructor to be heard without having to move about the classroom and crowd students;
- Moving fixed equipment (i.e., water pumps) to allow students to completed course work on time within the program timeline;
- Purchasing a book sanitizer for the library (using UV light to quickly disinfect books);
- Installing foot traffic counter (in & out) to manage occupancy in the library;
- Preparing an online appointment booking application to eliminate people crowding while waiting in lines; and
- Creating tutoring stations equipped with plexi glass to protect the student and instructor.

## Instructors' successes in a fall term like no other

By Chad Thompson, Vice President: Academic

Jennifer Reade, who teaches Anthropology, wanted a way to make it easier for her students to access readings. It involves students paying for the copyright (\$7 rather than \$55) and receiving a password to access the files in a library folder. The students can also then use a text to voice feature, so they can have the text read to them. People whose first language is not English are loving it as they can follow along as they read.

Jennifer is also using analytics built into various platforms, to track who is doing readings. She figures 80 per cent of her students are completing all the assignments.

**Dooseon Jung** (Tourism) and **Mike Egglestone** (PDIT) report near universal attendance and participation, although the majority of their students are outside Prince George.

**Harish Gautam** (Marketing) has shuffled up his class; he no longer takes attendance, but does track who is in attendance. He also has found ways to encourage engagement, using breakrooms and the like.

## An artist's way of solution-based problem solving

By **Betty Kovacic, Fine Arts**

I found I could not effectively show the students the specific areas that required additional work or changes, and still maintain social distance. Initially, I used a ruler as a pointer, but felt very uncomfortable with it, as it was a punishing device when I was in school.

So I decided to make a pointer of my own. My husband and I went into the forest, where we, with gratitude and respect harvested a branch of Devil's Club. It is known for its healing properties and that seemed appropriate to these times.

John peeled the branch and we let it dry and twist into a lovely form. I then channeled Harry Potter and Gandalf while I added decorative elements.

I used recycled copper wire, some old sparkly things, and a sharpie to add symbols that reference the earth, universe and astrology. It works very well and my students always smile when they see it.



# Student Affairs reports

## Exciting new changes are coming to CNC Connect!

By **Megan Kuklis, Office of the Registrar**

The Office of the Registrar is pleased to announce to the CNC community that there will be substantial upgrades to Colleague's Self-Service module to modernize and improve the student and faculty online experience at CNC. With a launch date of February 1, 2021, CNC will be fully implemented with Student Planning and E-Advising in addition to other exciting changes.

### *What is Student Planning?*

Student Planning is a tool in Self-Service for Colleague that will allow students to plan the courses that they will take during their entire program. Rather than having to hunt down required or recommended courses in the academic calendar or on the website, students will be able to load sample course plans that will show them all of the required courses for their whole program with a click of the button.

### *What is E-Advising?*

E-Advising is a module in Self Service that allows for electronic advising for student course plans. Students will be able to electronically request a review from a CNC Advisor who, in turn, will be able to electronically submit approvals, suggestions or denials of proposed courses and student plans.

More details on these projects will be released as it becomes available. Please let us know if you have any questions about the projects we are currently working on. If you would like a demo for your area, please email Christy Carrelli ([carrellic@cnc.bc.ca](mailto:carrellic@cnc.bc.ca)) to book a time.

## An update from International Education

By **Miley Yang, International Student Engagement Coordinator**

### **The Peer Connections Kick-off**

In mid-October, International Education staff met with students currently studying overseas to



introduce the new “Peer Connections” program. This program will match our first-year students with second-year students to form Connection Bubbles to establish connections and increase engagement with online activities.

Four of our second-year international student leaders have completed their Peer Connections program training and they are ready to support our first-year students in our pilot project!

### **Online Student Engagement Activities with International Ed.**

Through a variety of Zoom meetings, webinars, and social media channels – International Education staff are bringing ideas and action together.

Planning, facilitating, and hosting weekly online dancing classes; bi-weekly women to women group, coffee, tea and connection sessions; check-ins with our students in quarantine; and the (hidden) talent show - these exciting online student engagement activities are designated to create an inclusive and diverse environment to help our students to have fun and be creative on our online platform!

### **Student affairs: adapting to better address student access and needs**

In early October, Student Services and International Education teamed up to coordinate a series of virtual and face-to-face class visits focused on highlighting student services and supports. The goals were to connect with students and provide details about how to access services, how to navigate CNC's website, and where to go to find important information.

With support from deans, regional principals, program coordinators, faculty, and staff, volunteer presenters successfully visited 15 classrooms. As an alternative and/or addition to the class visits, Faculty were supplied the Welcome to Fall 2020 information package which mirrored the information presented in-class and included the most recent version of the Fall Infographic. The package was distributed to students by email and/or uploaded to Moodle as an added resource.

The collaboration was such a success that a

second phase is already underway. Throughout November, students have received additional resources aimed to support their academic success and health and wellness.

Student Affairs is continuously exploring new ways to connect and engage with our students. Thank you to all that contributed and volunteered your support!

## **Communications**

### **CNC's staff newsletter: your thoughts?**

**By Mark Karjaluoto, Executive Director:  
Marketing and Communications**

We launched this newsletter to help the CNC community become more informed of the efforts and dedication of their colleagues.

How is it working? What would you like to see more of? What should we do differently?

Please let me know either by phone (250-562-2131 x5388) or email ([karjaluotom@cnc.bc.ca](mailto:karjaluotom@cnc.bc.ca)). I'd welcome any feedback that can help to improve our communication to the CNC community.

### **About that profile...**

A leader at CNC was recently offered a profile in an on-line publication. While the company said there was no cost involved, they did need access to CNC's supplier list.

If you receive a solicitation like this, please pause. Unsolicited offers such as this are risky for CNC in many ways. If we did not reach out, then the general rule should be to press delete.

If we need a particular service, then we look to the Procurement Handbook and follow approved processes instead of engaging with 'cold call' emails (especially ones that originate from outside of Canada).

If you receive a call from a media source or publication, please engage with communications services right away. Media relations officer Dustin Ruth specializes in these kinds of requests. You can reach him at 778 349 0597 or [ruthd1@cnc.bc.ca](mailto:ruthd1@cnc.bc.ca)

## CNC MRAD Virtual Halloween Showcase

CNC's Medical Radiography Technology (MRAD) program is committed to creative and unique solutions to help students move ahead during COVID. For Halloween this year, the program wasn't able to facilitate the same type of fun as they have had in past years.

Knowing the importance of social interaction to a holistic education, MRAD students were given the option of participating in a virtual mask decorating contest and to showcase their creations safely by wearing their masks in the face to face laboratory environment on October 30th.

Faculty and students had loads of fun seeing all the creative masks. Thank you to the MRAD faculty and staff for going above and beyond to meet the social needs of our students in a safe and fulfilling way.



Pictures above depict how the MRAD team allowed for a semblance of normalcy within COVID safety guidelines, while helping students stay socially connected with their teaching/learning colleagues.

## How Post-Secondary Education Changed My Life

By Douglas Jamieson, Dean of Regional Education

Post-secondary education has changed my life in ways that I could never have imagined. It started with wine education, then instructor training,

a masters (educational leadership) and most recently, an altMBA degree (ask me about it sometime).

I never before, not one time, ever expected to be in the role of Dean in a community college - particularly one of CNC's stature and longevity (and importance to the provincial economy). So, I can honestly say, post-secondary has radically changed my life in the most amazing and positive way!

The role I hold currently as Dean of Regional Education is one of the most exciting administrative roles in the college, and puts me in a front-row seat in the communities we serve (six villages/towns/cities and 22 First Nations), providing hope and opportunity as we navigate ever accelerating and challenging times.

In my role, I get to: consider, discuss, write, collaborate, communicate and deliver on all manner of educational challenges that exist currently. For this, I am grateful - for the education and training I have undertaken, which has unlocked doors that I did not initially see, and presented challenges that are interesting and important to solve.

**Remember to walk safe this winter**

Watch for the **Walk Safe** campaign coming soon.

