

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING (CET)

CET Overview

Bob Haugen, Director, Continuing Education and Training

Exceptional Fall Term

The fall term has been our busiest to date with an incredible number of programs funded through the Future Skills Grant as well as Community Workforce Response Grant programs. We provided funded training needed to join the workforce or improve their working situation to almost 200 students. These grants help fill the labour gaps in our economy, help participants improve their work prospects, and help develop and expand our economy.

We are very proud of the tremendous contributions the staff of the Continuing Education Department have made to develop, promote, and deliver this training. It requires exceptional people to deliver exceptional results.

We have installed a state-of-the art Marine Radar Navigation Simulator lab in our marine training facility in Campbell River and we now have the most advanced training lab on Vancouver Island. Radar navigation is the safest navigation system, and most vessels are equipped with the technology. Every radar equipped vessel must have radar system certified navigators and we now have the tools to train them.

We are continuing to develop and pursue community partnerships to better meet the training needs of our regions and to introduce our expanding catalogue of training programs. Initiatives like the Community Learning Councils are helping to achieve this. We see the Continuing Education Department as an important player in expanding and fostering community economic and social development.

Comox Valley Campus

Susan Murray, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer

First Aid Training

First Aid training continues to be very busy with contracts, open courses, and training for NIC programs with approximately 460 students so far in the 2023 Fall term. We continue to have an increase in requests for Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) training and have submitted the EMR course for approval for the 2024 Winter Future Skills Grant funding.

NEW - Food Preparation & Mobile Truck Program

We just wrapped up our very first eight-week fully funded Food Preparation & Mobile Truck program in partnership with the North Vancouver Island Chefs Association, LUSH Food Action Society, and the Community Workforce Response Grant. We had a group of six students on the course who participated in three modules of hands-on training including basic cooking and food prep skills, food truck prep and events, and processing seasonal food into value added

products. They participated in local events as part of the LUSH food truck team. Students left the program with their own reference books, assorted kitchen supplies and a set of professional chef knives. The feedback from the students was very positive and for some of them it could be life changing.

Regenerative Farming Program

The 2023 Summer Regenerative Farming program was in partnership with Vancouver Island University (VIU) and fully funded by the Community Workforce Response Grant. We had a course of 22 students with a mix of students from the NIC catchment area and the VIU catchment including Powell River. The new format of having a one-week bootcamp in Courtenay before the students start their online courses and farm practicum worked very well. The feedback from the students was very positive. This program is in high demand, and we get inquiries year-round.

Craft Brewing & Packaging Program

The Craft Brewing & Packaging program is set to start in January in partnership with Vancouver Community College, VIU and possibly Okanagan College. This offering will be a blended model of online learning and practicums in their home areas with a potential of 40 students over the four catchment areas. This program is in high demand, and we get inquiries year-round.

Microbrewing Operations Program

The Microbrewing Operations program was part of the first iteration of the Future Skills Grant (FSG) funding will be wrapping up in December. This program is online with a full class of 24 students. The group will be celebrating their graduation on December 7.

Comox Valley Campus

Julian Benedict, Project Lead-Regional Continuing Education/Training Officer

Activity Assistant Certificate Program Certificate

Students seeking to expand their professional training for rewarding careers in Long Term Care recreation have again filled our program for the upcoming Winter 2024 semester. The popular online program continues to attract students from across the province, including Vancouver Island, the BC Interior, Northern BC and beyond. Employment in this field remains very robust, with many participants being offered conditional employment positions even before the program is finished. To learn more, visit: www.nic.bc.ca/activity-assistant.

Animal Care Aide Program Certificate

The Animal Care Aide Program began its busy fall program in early October 2023. Students continue to prefer its convenient online format, attracting students well beyond the Comox Valley. Participants learn all the foundational skills needed to support healthy animal guardianship in animal shelters, vet clinics, animal hospitals and shelters. To learn more, visit: www.nic.bc.ca/animal-care.

NEW AND IN DEMAND: Marketing in the Digital Economy Exceeds All Expectations

In an economy where industry-ready online marketing skills are increasingly crucial, the College's revamped Marketing in the Digital Economy program has thrived. Inspired by its predecessor, the Digital Elevation Expertise Program (or DEEP), this online program launched in early September 2023 with 20 students. However, demand was so significant that the course

was expanded to 30 students, and then an additional section was added in the same semester.

In total, some 60 students are now completing this online program, developed, and taught by industry knowledge leader, Serena Neumerschitsky. The 12-week, four-course micro-credential explores the fundamentals of business development, including marketing, budgeting, planning, digital design, branding, E-commerce, social media, networking and much more. Each three-week course combines dynamic lectures with flexible cohort discussion and interaction, followed by self-direct learning and implementation. Continuing Education has scheduled another section to begin in late January 2024. To learn more, visit: www.nic.bc.ca/digital-economy.

NEW ONLINE COURSE! Mental Health and Neurodiversity

Continuing Education is proud to announce the launch of its second of six new specialty courses as part of the Applied Long Term Care Practitioner micro-credential. The eight-week course is designed for health care workers providing frontline care to residents experiencing mental health challenges, and those who live with Neurodiversity. Each section of this course explores definitions, behavioral and emotional responses within those definitions, and potential communication strategies and activities to support residents and families. This new course begins in January 2024. To learn more, visit: www.nic.bc.ca/long-term-care.

Continuing Education Instructors Making a Difference in the Community

Joanne Watson has a 30-year food service connection with our community, including over two decades of experience teaching Food Safe at NIC. In her current role as Executive Director of the Campbell River Food Bank, Joanne works tirelessly to foster food security in our region. For the second year in a row, Joanne was honoured with the City of Campbell River's Stewardship Award for creating a Gleaning Station at the Food Bank. In partnership with the Greenways Land Trust, gleaning rescues thousands of kilos of fruit each year from the landfill and diverts it back into the community where it's needed most. In 2023, Joanne was honoured with the distinguished Dr Phil Minnaar Memorial Award for outstanding achievement in community service.



Joanne Watson

Comox Valley ElderCollege

Miriam Miller, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer

ElderCollege is entering its 25th year as a dynamic, successful program here at North Island College. It is a bittersweet milestone as we honour the passing of one of its co-founders, Mary Elizabeth Smith, who was a very kind and inspiring member of our community. We continue to grow post-Covid and have 730 members for Fall 2023, although we will add to that number come our winter term beginning in February 2024. Our students continue to have the option to do classes online – making our programs accessible to our students and their diverse needs. However, most of our 70+ classes are now in person, again, which brings much joy and warmth

to our community.

Port Hardy Campus

Jennifer Case, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer

Future Skills Grant – Office & Clerical Skills

A Future Skills Grant-Funded Office & Clerical Skills program is currently being delivered online to participants across the province. Due to demand, we added six more seats to the program for a total of 18 students (with a growing interest list of over 70 applicants). Students spend 16 weeks, with nine hours of weekly online class time covering bookkeeping, MS Office, employability, and customer service skills.

Upcoming Programs

Project Management Foundations

This program will run part-time, one week of lecture and labs, with a week off between sections for a total of eight weeks, beginning in mid-January. Topics include team building & leadership, finance & budgeting, and organizational project coordination.

Marine Guiding Foundations

Working with local businesses and the Regional District of Mount Waddington, an application for Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG) funds will be made to run the Marine Guiding Foundations program out of the Mixelakwila campus. The program is expected to start in late February and run through to mid-May, in time for graduates to begin working in the local tourism industry.

Campbell River Campus

Sandy Rose, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer

Hospital Unit Clerk (HUC)

Another enthusiastic group of 11 students began the nine month, online HUC program this Fall. With employment opportunities still abundant and starting wages on the rise, this an excellent opportunity for those interested in this career. Students will be prepared to meet industry demand come April 2024 when they complete the program.

Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG) - Industrial Sewing

The City of Campbell River Economic Development department was informed that there were no longer any formal industrial sewing programs located in Canada – the last one having closed approximately 10 years ago. Vertical Madness in Campbell River operates out of Robron School and had been training at-risk students in the industrial sewing trade. These students were immediately employed after they took the program.



Through this, we identified a need to continue that trade into an adult learning path and career through this same instructor. With the expected growth in the industry and the need for staff, it was determined the only way to support the manufacturing of industrial textile goods was through a training program. This eight-week program provided 12 students with the skills and knowledge needed to gain entry level, well-paid employment at several businesses both locally and in neighboring communities. Upon completion, two students had opened their own businesses and four others have already gained employment in the community.

Future Skills Grant – Wildfire Essentials

Future Skills Grant-funded Wildfire Essentials program saw 12 students complete the three-week training at the Campbell River campus. Always popular and in-demand, a waitlist was in place with inquiries coming in regularly. This program is designed to provide the fundamental



theory and practical skills necessary for an entry level wildland firefighter. The program included key industry certifications and students were certified in both BC and Alberta curriculum and many other certificates upon completion. Declared as now officially the most expensive, most destructive wildfire seasons on record in BC, twelve newly certified, job-ready individuals will help meet the provincial firefighting needs come the 2024 wildfire season.

Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG) - Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) – Foundation & Level 1 Technical Training

We have been working with the Homalco Nation to apply for funding to deliver the 12-week HEO program at the Campbell River campus starting in January 2024. This program will address skills shortages and employment opportunities for heavy equipment operators in Campbell River and surrounding areas of coastal BC and Vancouver Island. With multiple large projects on the horizon, including subdivision development, the John Hart dam project, BC Hydro projects and more, the need for skilled operators is vital. Heavy equipment operators are listed as one of the top in-demand trades over the next 10 years. Coupled with the anticipated growth in the region, this training is seen as a step toward preparing a workforce for the future. Keeping this training local with participants completing three weeks of sponsored practical training will increase access for students, provide supervised operating experience in actual work environments, provide employers the opportunity to prepare and pre-screen new hires, and decrease the costs to deliver the program. Upon completion, candidates will be registered apprentices with Skilled Trades BC.

Upcoming 2024 Programming

Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG) - Meat Processing Fundamentals

Initial discussions with the Wei Wai Kai Nation took place earlier this fall to explore the potential of a Meat Processing Fundamentals program at the Campbell River campus. Although still in discussions, this program would be expected to run in early January 2024.

Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG) - Wildfire Crew Member Training

Due to changes in CWRG applicant eligibility through the Emerging Priorities stream, we have been instructed to seek an alternate community partner. As such, we are now working with the City of Campbell River to apply for a five-week Wildfire Crew Member Training program in Campbell River. This program is scheduled to start on January 22nd if funding is secured.

Campbell River Campus

Lynn Weaver, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer

Marine Training

In partnership with the Campbell River Chamber of Commerce, a CWRG Marine Essentials was offered in July. Twelve students successfully completed an enhanced marine program preparing them for work in entry level mariner positions.

The Fall marine training has been comprised of our regular offerings plus an additional Master Ltd program for those utilizing the Future Skills Grant fund. The program is scheduled to be completed by the third week of December.

Metal Jewellery Design

The 2023 Fall term startup was smoother than the previous year as instructors settled into their new class and studio space. The program has eight new enthusiastic artists in session as well as a new instructor who brings a fresh perspective to the drawing and design classes.

The weekend general interest jewellery classes have been well attended. The interest is higher than in previous years and ideally these courses will pique the students' interest in our full-time program.

Campbell River ElderCollege

The Fall term offered twenty-three courses to the membership. We welcomed many new courses and course leaders, and the term has been an overall success.

Port Alberni Campus

Leanne Moore, Regional Continuing Education & Training Officer

Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) – Foundation & Level 1 Technical Training

A second Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) was delivered in Port Alberni in 2023, in partnership with Nuu-chah-nulth Employment and Training Program (NETP). Partial funding was provided by the Community Workforce Response Grant- Indigenous Stream with NETP

providing the balance of the funding to provide students supports. It started with a full cohort of 10 students, with nine of them completing the program. The site-based work experience resulted in at least two of the students with job offers upon completion of the program. Communities in the Nuuchahnulth region have expressed a need for heavy equipment operators so there will be more employment opportunities coming available.



Marine Field Technician Training – Coastal Restoration

In the spring/summer CET partnered with Coast Restoration Society and delivered two intakes of Marine Field Technician training for their employees, in Port Alberni and Ladysmith. The two-week program includes Swiftwater Rescue Technician Level 1, Rigging for Marine, Marine Basic First Aid, Restricted Operator Certificate – Maritime (ROC-M), WildsafeBC Wildlife Awareness & Safety Level 1, Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG), and WHMIS. This training will assist individuals in accessing a variety of seasonal, part-time, and full-time positions related to environmental remediation work.

Future Skills Grant - Building Service Worker – Comprehensive Program

A Future Skills Grant-funded Building Service Worker (BSW) - Comprehensive program is currently taking place at the Port Alberni campus. Due to high demand, we added an extra three seats to the program for a total of 15 students. The program includes Building Service Worker Level 1, 2 and 3 as well as Emergency First Aid and Foodsafe Level 1. BSW is a required certification by a few major local employers including the School District 70, City of Port Alberni and the West Coast General Hospital.

Upcoming 2024 Programming – Alberni Clayoquot Region

Trades Discovery

Starting February 5, 2024 and in partnership with Nuuchahnulth Employment & Training (NETP), the Trades Discovery program will be delivered over 13 weeks in Tyhistanis, Tofino, and will prepare students for entry-level positions in the trades industry and/or for further training in trades. The program will be comprised of the following modules: digital literacy, math upgrading, carpentry, electrical, plumbing and pipe.



Meat Processing Fundamentals

Due to the demand and the success of the last Meat Processing Fundamentals program, Alberni Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) has requested another program in 2024. With our support, ACRD is preparing a submission for Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG) funding.

NEW! Building Deconstruction & Salvage

A Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG) application has been submitted by the City of Port Alberni for a Building Deconstruction and Salvage program. This training program is designed to equip participants with the necessary skills and knowledge to work in the building deconstruction and salvage industry. The training includes working with hazardous materials, building scaffolding and other support structures, doing general labour on the job site, and becoming proficient in the use of construction tools and equipment. The program is expected to start at the end of January 2024.

Wildfire Crew Member Training

Due to changes in Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG) applicant eligibility, we are currently seeking a partner to submit an application for a 4-week Wildfire Crew Member Training for 2024 at the Port Alberni campus.

TRADES AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

Where we've been...

Where has the time gone? It seems like we just kicked off our Fall term and already we're about to say hello to the holidays and goodbye to 2023. Let's do a quick recap of the Trades and Technical programs lineup that has moved the hands of the clock so quickly.

We currently have eight Foundation programs and two Electrical Apprenticeships that will carry over into the 2024 Winter and Spring terms. Coastal Forest Worker Certificate program will conclude on December 22nd with the Coastal Forest Technology Diploma students moving into their second term in the new year. We have had *eight* SkilledTradesBC exams up to November 24th with another *seven* to come between December 8 and 15.

The Professional Cook Level 1, Culinary Business Operations Certificate and Culinary Business Operations Diploma programs are full speed ahead in Campbell River and instructor Sean McSavaney is also underway with the Culinary programs at the Port Alberni campus.

Where we're going...

January is on the horizon and fast approaching with six Apprenticeships right off the hop! In the Comox Valley campus, Carpentry Levels 2 and 3 and Plumbing Apprenticeship Level 2 will see full enrolment for startup on the 2nd. These three programs are all waitlisted! In Campbell River, Heavy Mechanical Levels 1 and 4 are showing fantastic numbers as is Electrical Apprenticeship Level 1.

The ever-popular Trades Sampler is back at the end of January with new instructor, Gordon Clayton, leading a cohort of 17 dual-credit students!

There are two upcoming Foundation programs at the Courtenay campus, Carpentry and Plumbing, an Electrical Foundation cohort is also slotted for TEBO center in Port Alberni. Campbell River is up to the challenge with Electrical, Welding, Automotive Service Technician, Automotive Collision & Refinishing, Fabricator-Welder and Heavy Mechanical Foundation programs. And we haven't even touched February – we'll fill you in next time!

Highlights

On November 2nd and 3rd, the Campbell River campus was the “IT” venue for Culinary craftsmanship! For four years now, we have hosted the Canadian Junior Culinary Team for a week as they prepare to compete in February 2024 for the Culinary Olympics in Stuttgart, Germany. By reservation only, customers were able to taste and appreciate the Olympic menu and interact with the competitors vying for the ultimate award of excellence. Our own Professional Cook Level 1 students were able to watch young chefs, all under the age of 23, perform at the highest level of technical expertise. NIC is the third of five practical demonstrations before these talented and deserving young artists reach their destination. We wish them well!

Exciting News on the Forestry Front!

Coleen MacLean, RPF, MEM

Trades and Technical is thrilled to announce the successful completion of the Coastal Forestry Technical Diploma program's Technology Accreditation Canada Audit on November 21st. This accreditation is a significant milestone for our program, signifying national and international recognition as a technical, science-based program endorsed by engineering and forestry professionals. The formal report and Letter of Accreditation from the audit teams are expected in early January.

The attainment of accreditation holds *profound* implications for our program. NIC can now be officially listed as an accredited program on the Forest Professionals of BC (FPBC) website, with the privilege to display both TAC and FPBC logos on our own website. These credentials are crucial for enhancing our visibility and credibility, playing a vital role in future student recruitment efforts. Furthermore, this accreditation allows our 2022 and 2023 graduates, currently registered with FPBC as Allied Science Training Forest Technologists (ASTFT), to transition to TFT status.

Program Advisories

Our commitment to reengaging with Program Advisories has been prioritized and successfully realized. Program Advisory Committees (PACs) have been established for heavy duty, electrical, welding, and forestry disciplines. Carpentry, automotive, and plumbing are scheduled for initial PAC meetings in January-February 2024. We express our gratitude for the positive engagement and support received from our industry partners throughout this process. Their collaboration has been instrumental in the success of these initiatives.

Did Anyone Say “Micro-Credentials”?

Trades and Technical is excited to introduce a diverse array of new micro-credentials scheduled for launch in January 2024. Spanning areas such as natural resources, aquaculture, film, and GIS, these planned micro-credentials are in alignment with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training's framework. The initiative aims to "increase access to post-secondary education and be accessible to a range of potential learners...provide flexibility, reduce barriers, and increase opportunities for employment and life-long learning"(source: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/post-secondary-education/micro-credentials/mc_framework.pdf).

Let's take a walk in the woods with:

Natural Resource Technology & Data Management – familiarizes resource workers with technology and software used in resource management. (Data collection techniques, integrity, basic analytics, etc.)

Fundamentals of Forest Operations – introductory to advanced technical math with instruction including coastal harvesting and principles of forest engineering and surveying.

Timber Cruising I – a blend of theory as students are introduced to coastal flora and fauna from an environmental awareness perspective.

Timber Cruising II – a blend of theory and applied learning introducing students to inferential statistics and advanced timber cruising skills.

Principles of Ecological Monitoring – ecosystem stewardship.

Natural Resource Field Safety – theory and applied skills to prepare for safety and physical requirements of working in the field, both land and water.

Intro to Natural Resource Management – technical math, communications, essential skills for success and foundational skills.

GIS Drone to Map – introductory GIS course covering fundamental GIS skills from an operational drone mapping perspective including drone types, data collection and application.

Fundamentals of GIS – introduction to how GIS is connected to mapping and data management.

EOS Arrow & Field Maps – EOS Arrow and GNSS technology for remote data collection in combination with mobile GIS apps providing a hands-on learning approach.

Time to get Reel!

The Film micro-credentials are developed as blended programs with learners accessing core crew theory, essential skills, workplace readiness, and employer mentorship via their online learning platform and virtual classes which are followed by in-person, studio-based applied training, mentorship, and in-person industry engagement.

The partnership between Trades and Technical programs and INFILM here on Vancouver Island is an outstanding collaboration that has proven the Motion Picture micro-credentials offered by NIC to be highly sought-after by students of all ages, interests and abilities – so much so, that we have added yet one more micro to the training lineup. There truly is something for everyone!

Motion Picture Rigging will soon be ready for its close-up! During the production of a film or TV show, Riggers work closely with the crew to set up equipment, move and dismantle cameras, erect scene specific screens and or props, survey sites, plan installation and make sure all gear is in working order and in place. The show won't go on without the Riggers!

Rigging now joins Accounting, Craft Services, Greensperson, Grip, Lighting, Production Assistant, Set Construction and Set Dresser for a total of nine Motion Picture Micro-Credentials!

New to Trades and Technical Programs

We are happy to welcome our new Program Officer, Sabrina Rose. Sabrina has a Bachelor of Science: Applied Social Sciences and Humanities and has a practiced background in Crisis Intervention and as an Outreach Support Worker. She brings her knowledge and experience with group education, communication, skill building and team collaboration to the Trades and Technical programs team. What a great fit!

OFFICE OF GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Climate Action Network for International Education (CANIE)

Submitted by Markella Gionet, Administrative Assistant to Executive Director, International Education

On November 30, Executive Director Mark Herringer participated as a panelist at the Climate Action Network for International Education (CANIE) Americas Meeting for Universities and Colleges. Using work outlined in the *Journeying Together* plan, and with support provided by Colin Fowler re: *Build 2026 8.1*, Climate and Sustainability, Mark summarized NIC's climate action as well as the some of the work being done to increase virtual (COIL) exchange, Indigenous partner environmental project support through CARTI, and other activities in support of our commitments under the CANIE Accord.

The image is a promotional graphic for the CANIE Americas Meeting. It features a background of a lush green landscape with water. The text is in green and white. The CANIE logo is in the top right corner. The main title is 'CANIE Accord for Universities & Colleges'. The date and time are 'Thursday, November 30th, 2023' and '4:00pm EST'. The panelists are listed below: Mark Herringer (North Island College), Killian Dumont (Louisiana State University), and Alejandra Barahona (LCI Veritas University). Each panelist has a circular portrait and a small flag icon below their name.

Canadian Bureau of International Education (CBIE) Award of Excellence presented to NIC

Submitted by Mark Herring, Executive Director, International Education

NIC's Office of Indigenous Education (OIE) and Office of Global Engagement (OGE) have been chosen as the recipient of this year's national Reconciliation & Internationalization Award of Excellence by the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) for the College's plan, *Journeying Together*.

This award recognizes leadership and initiative in advancing reconciliation with Indigenous communities through international education on campus.

The CBIE Excellence Awards were given at this year's CBIE Annual Conference during an in-person ceremony and reception on Nov. 28 at the Vancouver Convention Centre. In attendance from NIC were President Lisa Domae, team members of the OGE and OIE including Elders in Residence Fernanda Pare (K'ómoks) and June Johnson (We Wai Kai). Indigenous Learning Facilitator Sara Child (Kwagwł), one of the architects of the plan, was unable to attend. CBIE is the national voice advancing Canadian international education by creating and mobilizing expertise, knowledge, opportunity, and leadership.

The following video link highlights NIC's *Journeying Together*, which was shared at the CBIE Excellence Awards Ceremony on November 28.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F0SdFngWTrc>



From left to right: Mike Hillian, Global Engagement Liaison, Mark Herring, Executive Director, International Education, Amy Collins, International Admissions Officer, Angie Price, Manager, International Student Services, June Johnson, Elder in Residence (We Wai Kai), Fernanda Pare, Elder in Residence (K'ómoks), Dr. Lisa Domae, NIC President, Agalya Kathirvelu, International Student Advisor, Li Yan, International Student Advisor, Romana Pasca, Manager, International Projects, Partnerships and Global Education, Margaret Hearnden, Global Learning Facilitator.

Kenya Blue Economy Skills Training Program (KBEST) at NIC

Submitted by Romana Pasca

NIC has successfully secured two additional international capacity building projects in Kenya as part of the CIGan [Kenya Blue Economy Skills Training Program \(KBEST\)](#).

These two new projects are based in Mombasa county, Kenya and will entail collaboration with multiple post-secondary institutions. NIC has formed partnerships with Nova Scotia Community College, Saskatchewan Polytechnic, and VCC for one project, and with Dalhousie University and College of the North Atlantic for the other. These initiatives are designed to create links between Kenyan technical and vocational training (TVET) institutions along the coastal regions and Canadian post-secondary institutions by collaborating on knowledge sharing with focus on aquaculture and trades, curriculum/micro credentials development, entrepreneurship, teacher training, career development, student services, and applied research.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Housing:

- Physical build is in the foundation stage after seeing fencing erected, and excavation completed. We are looking forward to seeing framing next;
- We are currently working with KFN in regard to art opportunities on the project;
- Work is progressing on operational plans including staff structure and policies governing housing;
- Learning in order to deliver accessible, culturally safe environments for all students within housing.

Healthy Trades:

- Classroom visits to introduce students to key members of NIC Student Services and Skilled Trades BC; 29 in-person visits delivered to date;
- Weekly virtual or in person drop in hours at PA, CV and CR campuses for students to ask questions about available supports, help get connected to the resources they need, and chat about their experiences;
- Trades Leadership Program: paid opportunities for Trades students to build leadership skills.
- Healthy Trades Wellness Series:
 - o October (CR, CV + PA): Tailgate Toolkit discussion on Substance Use and Harm Reduction in the Trades [72 attendees – staff and students]
 - o November (CR, CV + PA): Naloxone Training [23 attendees – staff, students and community members]



**'TAILGATE
TOOLKIT'**

- Walk with Me + Healthy Trades partnership: Healthy Students Liaison for the Trades has been engaging with community Trades organization on behalf of the Walk With Me team to help destigmatize the conversation around substance use and addiction in the Trades.
 - o Four Walk With Me [Trades] Story Walks planned on NIC campuses in CV and CR for Trades apprentices, instructors, and Trades Community members December 1st and December 13th

Student Life:

Orientation

- Four virtual Orientation sessions focused on preparing students for their transition into NIC
- Four in-person Marketplace events:
 - o Campbell River campus on September 6 with 34 community partners, 11 NIC partners, and fed a total of 360 people;
 - o Comox Valley campus on September 7 with 30 community partners, 11 NIC partners, and fed a total of 550 people;
 - o Port Alberni campus on September 11 with 14 community partners, 9 NIC partners, and fed a total of 230 people;
 - o Mixalakwa campus on Sept 28 with 3 NIC partners and fed a total of 13 people at the community meal.
- Huge collaborative effort from many departments and individuals across the college community
- Folks loved the chance to connect with students, employees and community, there was great atmosphere at each event, and students were able to meet with most areas of NIC supports and felt very welcomed to campus



RIIC (Rural Inter-Institutional Collaboration)

- Collaborative partnership between College of the Rockies, Selkirk College and NIC to offer 5 Students Supporting Students Online workshops over the 2023-2024 academic year;
- Students can learn from facilitators from all three PSI's and interact with peers from all three PSI's;
- Three workshops offered in the Fall:
 - o Starting a Conversation about Suicide in September
 - o Consent and Sexualized Violence in October
 - o Active Bystander Intervention in November
 - o (48 students attended)
- Two more workshops to be offered in Winter:
 - o Starting a Conversation about Mental Health in January
 - o Supporting Survivors of Sexualized Violence in February



Public Health Nurse partnership in Campbell River

- Public Health Nurse is available on CR Campus one day per week to support students with questions about health including (but not limited to) sexual health and STI testing, as well as access to free birth control

Foundry Partnership in CV and CR

- Courtney Hughes from Foundry Comox Valley is a substance use and harm reduction counsellor who comes to CV and CR Campuses on alternating Wednesdays to offer substance use and harm reduction counselling support to students aged 14-24. She can also offer support to parents or family members of youth aged 14-24 who are struggling with substance use, and brings a peer support worker with her to campus each week. The peer support worker is available to listen and chat with students in addition to the counsellor.

Orange Shirt Day, September 30



- Opportunity to partner with departments at NIC
- LLC displays on each campus
- Indigenous Education workshops and conversations on each campus
- Seeded paper activity with information and resources, supports and OSD tshirts handed out at each campus by Student Life and NISU
- Self-guided paths of reconciliation on each campus with videos of reflection on website
- 10 ways to get involved in TRC on NIC website

Thrive

- Fall 2023 Thrive ran from Oct 16 -27;
- 32 events across four campuses and one centre (Tebo);
- Huge partnership event with HR, LLC, OGE, Go-By-Bike,



Indigenous Ed, NISU, Healthy Students' Liaison and more;

- 524 students participated in events, and 223 employees;
- Events focused on many aspects of health and wellbeing, including physical, mental, social, and environmental;
- Movie nights, toolbox talks on harm reduction, Indigenous Education wellness events, free yoga, grab-and-go healthy breakfasts, coffee chats on wellness, a workshop on improving executive function and more.

BS Nursing Project



- Students in their fourth year of the BSN program (Savannah Watson, Josh Kwaksistala, Anna Bissonette) took on a partnership with Student Life and Canada Blood Services to host 3 donor drive events on the CV, CR and PA Campuses;
- Students were raising awareness on how to become stem cell donors with Canada Blood Services;
- Through their work, NIC community members (students and employees) expressed interest in registering to become stem cell donors, and took donor registration kits to do so.

16 ays of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE NOV 25 TO DEC 10 2023

An opportunity to reflect on what we can do in our classrooms, communities, and lives to eliminate the disproportionate violence faced by women, girls, and 2SLGBQIA+ individuals.

NOVEMBER 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

NOVEMBER 26 International Day for the Girl Child
 Reflect on the international day for the girl child. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

NOVEMBER 27 Gender-Based Violence Awareness Day
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

NOVEMBER 28 Domestic Violence Awareness Day
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

NOVEMBER 29 International Day of the Girl
 Reflect on the international day for the girl child. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

DECEMBER 1 International Day of the Girl
 Reflect on the international day for the girl child. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

DECEMBER 2 Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence Awareness Day
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

DECEMBER 3 Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

DECEMBER 4 Being Brave is the Gift
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

DECEMBER 5 Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

DECEMBER 6 Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

DECEMBER 7 Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

DECEMBER 8 Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

DECEMBER 9 Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

DECEMBER 10 International Human Rights Day
 Reflect on the international day for the elimination of violence against women. Watch a video, read a book, or attend a lecture. [#16DaysOfActivism](#)

Visit NIC's Library & Learning Commons for more information, and resources during this important time of reflection.

NIC Counselling Services: 1-800-715-0914
 Vancouver Island Crisis Line: 1-888-414-5858
 KJVA Crisis Line: 1-800-563-0808
 VictimLineBC: 1-800-563-0808

From November 25 – December 10:

- Poster campaign in bathrooms with a calendar to inform, educate and support students around this important topic;
- Short film screening on November 29 in CR LLC with facilitated chat and lunch afterwards; included community partners from the Campbell River Family Services Society, Campbell River and North



- Island Transition Society, and Comox Valley Transition Society;
- Tabling events to inform, educate and support happening on three campuses and one centre (Tebo) in first week of December;
- Resources developed on what is GBV in plain language, and what is tech-facilitated GBV, and where to find supports.

Winter Celebrations with NISU, Student Life and Leadership Team



- Four events happening on CV, CR and PA Campuses plus Tebo
- Celebrate the term with a warm meal for all campus community members

Early Assist

- Continues to grow in awareness and use
- An increase in over 30 referrals to date for Fall 2023 over Fall 2022

