



ALUMNI Ambassador

publication for BCIT alumni



Burnaby, British Columbia
Spring 1998 — Volume 16, Number 1

INSIDE...

- 2 ASSOCIATION NEWS
President's Message
Annual General Meeting
Reunion News
- 3 FEATURE
All in the Family
- 4 THE GRAPEVINE
- 5 CAMPUS NEWS
- 6/7 "A" LUMNI FILES

The mission of the BCIT Alumni Association is to build and maintain relationships between graduates and the BCIT community, and to support the Institute in fulfilling its mission

Calendar of Events

April, 1998

- 6 Alumni Board Meeting
- 24 Broadcast Reunion

May 1998

- 4 Alumni Ambassador Card Available
- 28 BCIT Alumni Annual General Meeting with Guest Speaker, John Leech

June 1998

- 1 Part-time Studies Registration Open for Fall Term
- 17 Graduating Awards Ceremonies
- 17-19 Convocation

September 1998

- 8- 11 Orientation week



BCIT Alumni Association
3700 Willingdon Avenue
Burnaby, B.C. V5G 3H2
Address Change Requested

Hats off to our newest members

Congratulations to Al Wood's (instructor) Welding Class who graduated in December 1997. Welcome to the Alumni Association.



Do you know who we are?

The BCIT Alumni Association. What's it all about? What does it mean to

graduates? Why should we care? Possessing few of those answers, I have done some investigating and discovered that the Association is very interesting indeed and should matter to all graduates. Not only does it have much to offer, it gives us the opportunity to affect all campuses, and the reputation of BCIT throughout business and industry. Through my investigations, I discovered some exciting things going on and realized that membership in the alumni family does indeed have its privileges!

Myth #1: The Alumni Association is not valuable to me, I already have a great job and my career is right on track

As every BCIT graduate and student knows, networking is key to career success. With more than 50,000 alumni across Canada and abroad, you have a ready-made core of contacts. Something else to think about is the core of student contacts who are graduating right behind you. By participating with the Alumni Association during Shinerama or Career Week, we have a chance to offer our insights to students. Along with these events is the opportunity to benefit from the contacts students may have and most certainly will have, when they graduate.

Here are some of the other benefits you currently receive from the Association:

Discounts - With your Alumni Card you are entitled to discounts at BCIT Recreation Services.

Services - The following is a host of services available for alumni.

Internet provider and long distance telephone services - BC TEL is offering an exclusive BCIT Alumni

Sympatico Internet and telephone long distance package.

Insurance Program - A voluntary group life insurance plan is available. A new type of insurance program, medical crisis recovery plan for critical illness, is now being offered.

Fuel/Gas Program - If you sign up for the Mohawk Oil group plan you receive a three per cent rebate on purchases of fuel and merchandise at all Mohawk locations. Mohawk will then donate the proceeds to the Alumni Association.

Merchandise - The Alumni Association has quality Alumni sweatshirts and golf shirts for sale.

In May, your Alumni Association will offer a new Alumni Card called the Ambassador Card. For a one time administration fee of \$25*, the card will provide alumni with more discounts and services such as a 20 per cent discount on eligible BCIT part-time courses and much more. Your Association is working to provide more opportunities for graduates to benefit from their Alumni Ambassador Card.

*subject to technology card changes and replacements of lost or stolen cards.

Myth #2: I may receive some benefits, but I don't have any influence on the Alumni Association

Not only do Alumni have an influence on the Advisory Committees, Education Council and the BCIT Board of Governors, it is key that alumni maintain this influence. Every graduate knows that a BCIT diploma is valued because of the Institute's high standards and commitment to changes in technology reflected in the curriculum. In order to maintain the long-term

professional recognition of the BCIT credentials, alumni must continue to provide input into the curriculum.

Another way graduates influence the Association is through their attendance at the BCIT Alumni Association Annual General Meeting. As a graduate you are automatically entitled to exercise your vote and are eligible to run for a position on the Board of Directors.

Myth #3: The Alumni Association affects BCIT, but it does not have any effects on business and industry in B.C.

As the debate rages on between the merits of a university degree versus a diploma from college, it is imperative that alumni work with the Association to strengthen and promote the high level of skill sets we all graduated with. We know the value, so get involved with the Alumni Association to promote, advance and strengthen BCIT.

These are a few of the benefits to graduates. If I haven't convinced you, read on you will be. If I have, enjoy the privileges as a member of the BCIT Alumni Family.

— By Mary Kirkland, Class of '96.

STAY IN TOUCH!

Phone: (604) 432-8847
Fax: (604) 431-8911
E-mail: alumni@bcit.bc.ca
Web site: www.bcit.bc.ca/~alumni
Office: Mon-Wed, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Location: Building SE2, Room 304

President's Message

Our theme for this issue of the BCIT Alumni Ambassador is "All in the Family and the BCIT Alumni Association." We are celebrating and profiling the many families who have had several family members go to BCIT. I can relate to this theme directly as mine is one of these families. Without in-depth study, I can think of ten members of my direct family who have attended BCIT. The role call includes my Dad and two of my brothers; others include an uncle and cousins.

Once again your association participated in Open House '98. The alumni tent included guests from the Pioneers Group who presented a memorabilia wall, information about your Alumni Association and many other attractions not to mention the BBQ. Thank you to all volunteers making this event a success and congratulations to all those who organized class reunions.

In May '98 we will be holding our Annual General Meeting to elect a new Board of Directors, Executive and establish Committees for the year. As always all alumni are welcome to attend and run for office. If you want more information about participating in the Alumni Association or information on the AGM, please contact Jennifer in the office at 432-8847.

On behalf of all alumni, I would also like to welcome BCIT's new Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Geraldine Dunnigan. Geraldine brings a background of both professional and volunteer work with alumni associations and will work with Jennifer Ingham, Alumni Relations Officer and the Alumni Association Board, in building and maintaining ongoing relationships between BCIT and its graduates.

I would encourage all BCIT alumni to take this opportunity to re-establish your connection with BCIT and come see the new campus in downtown Vancouver. While you are taking this opportunity to come back to BCIT, I would encourage you to partner yourself or your company with BCIT in "life long learning".

Since this is my last President's message, I would like to thank all alumni who have helped contribute to our success and I look forward to working with the new Board of Directors in their future endeavours.

Sincerely,



Bill MacPherson, Dipl.T. '88 & '91
President, BCIT Alumni Association

1998 BCIT Alumni Association AGM

You are invited to the
1998 Annual General Meeting on
Thursday, May 28th at 6:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker,

Mr. John Leech, Executive Director,
Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of B.C.

Alumni Awards

Silent Auction

Reception

Rix Club, Building SE2,
BCIT Burnaby Campus
3700 Willingdon Ave.
Burnaby

Please RSVP by May 13, 1998 to the Alumni office
Tel: (604) 432-8847 or Fax: (604) 431-8911
or E-mail alumni@bcit.bc.ca.

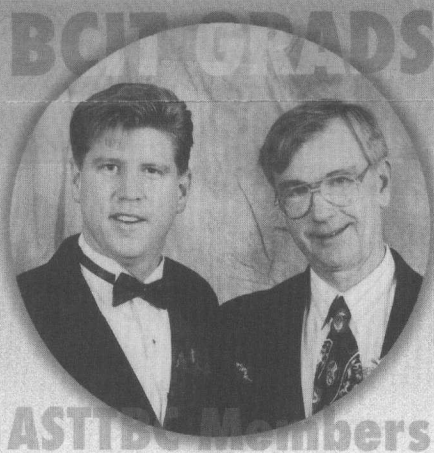
REUNION

Graduates Reminisce

The 1972 Administrative Management reunion held in December 1997 went very well and former classmates enjoyed a 'door prize' that was offered by the Alumni Association. Attendees included myself (Bevan Brintnell, organizer), Doug Daniels, Jon Johnson (he's living in North Surrey now), Reg Miller, Don Phillips, John Savage, and Drew Stewart.

We spent the evening at the Porto Fino restaurant in North Delta reminiscing over instructors, common thoughts, observations and conclusions about the events and people of the time, and the good times all had at the BCIT annex (local pubs) back when a glass of beer was 25 cents. We also wondered what happened to Heather, the ahead of her time environmentalist that gained some notoriety and an awful lot of odd looks by frequently wearing a large ex-military style black rubber gas mask and complaining to whomever would listen about the poor air quality in the Lower Mainland. Some of us had better memories of events than others, and as the evening came to a close we agreed to meet again, perhaps in six months. The group will make an attempt to locate a few more former classmates to share memories and catch up on where life has taken us all.

— By Bevan Brintnell, Class of '72.



"Technology professionals
play pivotal roles in business and
industry... make certification
part of your career plan."

BILL MACPHERSON, ASCT
BCIT Alumni Association
President

ASCT CTech
STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Professionalism Runs in the Family...

GETTING A WORLD CLASS, JOB READY EDUCATION is your first step when pursuing a career in applied science technology. Certification by ASTTBC should be your next step... it qualifies you as a technology professional and identifies an important member of the technical team.

Certification as an Applied Science Technologist (ASCT) or Certified Technician (CTech) is granted to individuals who meet high national standards. The skills of ASCT's and CTech's are in demand with an increasing number of employers calling for certification as a requirement of employment.

Two BCIT grads who personify this commitment to their careers and the profession... Bill MacPherson and his dad, Don... both ASTTBC members. In essence, we are one of the family!

If you're not part of our family... join us!

For information, contact:

Applied Science
Technologists & Technicians
of British Columbia



ASTTBC

10767 - 148th Street • Surrey, BC CANADA V3R 0S4
Telephone: (604) 585-2788 / Facsimile: (604) 585-2790
E-mail: techinfo@asttbc.org

WEB: www.asttbc.org

THE ASSOCIATION FOR TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA



The Alumni Ambassador (circ. 36,000) is published twice a year by the BCIT Alumni Association with input from the Editorial Committee. The views expressed in this publication do not represent official positions of the Alumni Association or BCIT. If you would like to advertise in the Alumni Ambassador, please call (604) 432-8847 for information. Letters, articles or comments will be edited for clarity, brevity, liable and taste. The next copy deadline is Tuesday, September 8, 1998. Please send submissions to:

BCIT Alumni Ambassador Newsletter
SE2, Room 304
3700 Willingdon Avenue
Burnaby, BC, V5G 3H2
Tel: (604) 432-8847
Fax: (604) 431-8911
e-mail: alumni@bcit.bc.ca
Web site: www.bcit.bc.ca/~alumni

Managing Editor & Alumni Relations Officer:
Jennifer Ingham, B.A., (hons) Carleton U.

Editorial Chair:
Kazimir L. Falconbridge, Dipl.T. '96
Civil & Structural Technology

Editor:
Kazimir L. Falconbridge, Dipl.T. '96

Contributors:

Bevin Brintnell, Dipl.T. '72
Kazimir L. Falconbridge, Dipl.T. '96
Christian Fletcher, Venture Program '94
Pam Fraser, Dipl.T. '97
Jennifer Ingham, B.A., (hons) Carleton U.
Rob Jefferd, T.T.Cert. '97
Mary Kirkland, Dipl.T. '96
Sande Petkau, Dipl.T. '95

BCIT Alumni Association 1997/98 Executive/President:

Bill MacPherson, Dipl.T. '91 & '88
Mechanical Systems/
Business Administration

Past President:

Guy Steeves, Dipl.T. '89 Marketing

Vice President:

Derek Bell, Dipl.T. '92, Civil & Structural Technology

Secretary:

Jollean McFarlen, Dipl.T. '80, Marketing

Treasurer:

Peter Odynsky, Dipl.T. '94, Marketing

Board of Directors:

Lori DeCou, Dipl.T. '90, Marketing
Kazimir L. Falconbridge, Dipl.T. '96,
Civil & Structural Technology
Gordon Farrell, Dipl.T. '66, Financial Management
Chris Korczak, Dipl.T. '94, Marketing
Jamie Letwin, Dipl.T. '83, Marketing



Produced by BCIT Community Relations — April 1998

All in the family

Meet the Vernon family. George Vernon is the General Manager of the B.C. Dairy Foundation and a BCIT Marketing graduate from 1966. His twin sons, Craig and Stephen, both graduated (exactly twenty years later) from the Real Estate option of the same marketing program as their father. Now their sister, Christin, has also found her way to BCIT, where she is currently studying Interior Design at the Downtown campus.

What is it about BCIT that continues to draw generations of students through its doors? Well, a little bit of parental persuasion might be involved, but that's only because BCIT produces results. The Vernon family is proof of that.

Craig currently works as an office leasing coordinator for Royal LePage Commercial Inc. He is quick to point out that five of his co-workers are also BCIT graduates. His brother Steve is a development coordinator for Bucci Developments Ltd. Steve found that the experience of juggling eight different courses as a student at BCIT helped prepare him for his current career where he often works on twenty different projects at once. And, although she is still in her first year of studies, Christin tells us she has already gained invaluable public speaking and presentation skills which will no doubt help her in her own successes.

Although all the Vernon children have studied at BCIT, it was not necessarily a given that this would be their school of choice. Christin worked in a job where she could no longer advance with her current level of education. Steven and Craig both had taken some college courses before coming to BCIT. George, who studied at UBC for three years before going to BCIT, is the first to advise that, "You should go to BCIT when you're really ready to start your career. This is not a place to find yourself. You have to be serious about where you're going." He likens it to the marines: "When you come out at the other end you're focused and thinking clearly."

"You should go to BCIT when you're really ready to start your career....You have to be serious about where you are going."

Craig likens his first year at BCIT to "boot camp", saying that if you can make it through, you will be successful. He also adds that at Royal LePage he uses 60 to 75 per cent of his second year courses on a daily basis. Both he and Steven agree that although their directed studies experience wasn't what they had expected, they found it to be incredibly valuable. It gave them more



The Vernon (Craig, George, Christin & Steven) BCIT Family

confidence by forcing them to phone and meet different people in industry.

George Vernon says that the B.C. Dairy Foundation takes directed studies students from a number of different schools every year, and he is extremely pleased with the students coming out of BCIT. "I would recommend BCIT to anybody who was very serious about getting on with their life and acquiring a good job. It's not a cake walk, but you'll be very, very pleased that you took it."

As for future generations of Vernons attending BCIT? Well, that path will be

left up to their children to decide. But, I certainly wouldn't rule it out. As George Vernon so nicely put it, "When you're ready, it [BCIT] is there for you."

— By Pam Fraser, Dip.T. '97

Note: Thank you to all the other "All in the Family members" who offered to be part of our story. We ran out of room but would like to thank the following families. The Akhurst Family, Bruce, Graham, Ryan, Agnes and Erin Woodward; The Schwab Family, Gilles and Jeremy Schwab; The Regehr Family, Robert (Bob) and Gerry; The Grantham Family, Alison, Ian and future graduate Mackenzie; and The Corbett Family, Coralea, David, Timothy and Geoffrey.

RICHMOND ACURA

NO. 1 VOLUME ACURA DEALER IN W. CANADA

Please give me a call on
our premium selection
of **USED** cars.

**ALL MAKES AND
MODELS.**

I will get you a great deal!

Mark Whittingham

Sales & Leasing

Cell: (604) 306-1909

Pager: (604) 667-2137



4211 No. 3 Road
Richmond, BC Canada V6X 2C3
Tel: (604) 278-8999
Fax: (604) 278-2933

Grapevine

1966

Lipp, Victor (Electrical & Electronics Technology). Just retired from a 31 1/2 year career at BC Tel and moved to Oliver, B.C. I'd like to include something of real significance about studies at BCIT and my career at BC Tel, but there are simply too many to attempt to isolate a few! What I can say is that I believe that BCIT was the turning point in my life, I learned a lot, most significantly "how to learn", and graduation was definitely my "ticket" into BC Tel. What a wonderful career I had with them and they were a wonderful employer and have many, many great and talented employees. I leave with some reservations, but, I am pleased that I decided to "pull the plug" when I did, as I look forward to many, years of golf and skiing around my new home town.

1967

Kelly, Kerry Joe (Petroleum Technology). After a short time with Imperial Oil in Sarnia, Ontario, Kerry has become a successful artist in Canada and abroad, ever since. Kerry has had many public and private commissions and exhibitions in Canada, Europe and Australia. Classmates can contact Kerry in Portugal at Casal Dos matos, Bordinheira, 2560 Torres Vedras, Portugal or phone 351-61-331025.

1968

Mutis, Al (Marketing Technology). Al said his BCIT education has served him well. His diploma in Technology in business marketing has proven to be invaluable over the last 29 years. Al's youngest son, John Mutis, is currently a BCIT business student and is due to graduate this spring. It's another "all in the family". Congrats to both Al and future alumnus, John.

1970

Adair, Diane (Medical Radiography). Diane has worked continuously since graduation in Kelowna, Enderby, and Armstrong hospitals. She has two beautiful children Colin, 19, and Nadine, 16. She is currently Chief Radiographer at Enderby and District Hospital. She loves to travel and can be found jetting off to see friends and family or to take advantage of warm locales every winter.

Harcourt, W. Neil (Mechanical Design). Neil is back in engineering after a lifelong battle with schizophrenia. He is now doing well and able to work again. He is working as a Mechanical designer for Murray-Pacific Design Services Ltd.

1978

Stewart, Dave (Broadcast - Communications). Dave was former global TV Vancouver Director and has relocated to Sydney, Australia to join the seven network as a producer/director in network sports. Dave was also the senior producer of the 1998 Olympic games in Nagano, Japan.

1980

Mah, Barry (Financial Management). Barry and wife Julie are please to announce the birth of their second daughter and sister to daughter Melissa this past summer. Congratulations.

1982

Day, (Temple) Vanessa (Marketing - Hospitality). Vanessa finally left Ottawa after 11 years, last summer. She and her husband moved temporarily to Shawnigan Lake and took possession of their new house in Mill Bay in May. With her husband Bob they have started Pages in Time - a personalized book business. Vanessa looks forward to new and exciting challenges outside of the corporate rat race!

1984

Badkerhanian-Ganev, Tamara (Building Technology- Mechanical Systems). Tamara and family are temporarily moving to sunny San Diego, California. Tamara has a beautiful girl named Elena, born September 30, 1995, and has put her career on hold to stay home and take care of Elena. Greetings to all '84 Building grads. Remember Tamara, (she is the "bad" one of the 2 Badkerhanian sisters in Building Technology). Oh, the other sister is doing fine, too.

Macpherson, Barb (Medical Radiography). Barb is working at Vernon Jubilee Hospital as a mammographer. She is busy using the "state of the art" mammogram machine, the first of its kind in the Okanagan, and was featured in a promotion video for it. She has travelled extensively since graduation to Hawaii, Mexico, South America, Fiji, and Australia.

Mah, David. (Building Technology)

David owns City Castle Design Inc. and married Doris on September 28, 1996. Congratulations!

1986

Bell, Merlyne (Merle) (Operations Management). Merle has completed the Certified General Accountant's program and will receive the CGA designation shortly. This is the culmination of juggling full-time employment in accounting, CGA night school studies and many health concerns. Hi to all other, T & D of 1986.

Kolber, Andre (Financial Management).

André used his diploma as a stepping stone to world travel. For over two years he worked and travelled through Asia, Europe, & Australia. When he returned, he earned a BA at SFU in Communications. Currently, he's working towards a Masters of Landscape Architecture at UBC.

Knelsen, Floyd (Financial Management).

Floyd is a non filer/non registrant officer for Revenue Canada. He has been busy developing his career; therefore, has not had time for too much else. Hello to all his classmates.

Larson, Steve (Financial Management).

Steve became a CGA and then worked steadily until opportunity knocked. Steve moved overseas for 2 years to Indonesia. Currently, he is working on a project in the Maritimes. We hope to see him back in Vancouver in late spring.

1987

Barchard, Michael (Administrative Management). Michael is working as a controller for Marnischfeger Corporation and married to Rita.

Star, Crimson (Computer Systems).

Crimson moved to Jasper and has specialized in website design for stock photographers, writing magazine articles for "Shutterbug" and "Photo Stock Notes". Drop by www.crimsonstart.com or say hi at cstar@incentre.net.

1988

Rinaldi, Claudia (Medical Laboratory Technology). Claudia worked for six years at Vancouver General Hospital in the blood bank before returning to Kamloops in 1994. She was married in May 1992 to Ken Wilman (grad in sheet metal) and has two children, Jordan born March 4, 1994 and Jared born April 14, 1995. Claudia has been busy raising the children since returning to Kamloops but hopes to re-enter the workforce in the next few years.

1989

Rodrigues, Sean (Building Technology).

Sean was married in 1996. He graduated with M. Architecture degree this past year from the technical university of Nova Scotia (TUNS) with honors. He is registered in the A.I.B.C. intern program and working as an intern architect for Brian, Shigetomi Architect in Vancouver.

1990

Chan, Tommy (Financial Management).

Tommy and wife Rebecca are proud to announce the birth of their first son, Dylan Austin Chan, on December 8, 1997.



Schoenberger, Kyle (Nursing). Kyle is presently teaching part-time in the faculty of Nursing at BCIT and is employed as a nurse in the ER at St. Paul's hospital. "It's interesting teaching with some of my former instructors!" Kyle is working on his masters (MScN) degree at UBC and will be busy in the fall working on his thesis!

1992

Reambeault, Phil J. (Operations Management).

While at BCIT, Phil formed a real estate development company, which has acquired residential, commercial and industrial properties throughout B.C. In 1996 Phil led the company in new directions, entering the financial planning and mutual fund investing field. Phil currently is working in Mexico as a consultant and is semi retired.

1993

Obertowich, Gary (Environmental Health)

Gary has been with BC Tel for four years and is in his third job with the company. He currently works with computer reports fixing billing problems, service rep mistakes and sales representative problems.

Schultz, Julie (Marketing).

After an outstanding first year in business, Julie has moved her gift store J.J. Springer & Company to a new permanent location in a 1917 heritage house located in downtown Prince George.

1994

Laarz, Dale (Operations Management).

Dale has moved on to fatherhood. Christopher Gordon Laarz was born August 26, 1997 at 8lbs, 14oz. Congratulations!

Lidder, Kam (International Trade program).

Kam recently returned from working in Honduras for over a year. Kam is now working freelance for firms in the telecommunications industry. She can be contacted at: klidder@intergate.bc.ca.

1995

Dhaliwal, Jagjeet (Electrical Power).

Jagjeet was married on Christmas day in 1996 and just celebrated his first anniversary with his new wife. He is working for Rockwell Automation in inside technical sales.

Hendrickson, Wayne (Transportation Logistics).

Wayne recently left B.C. (born and raised), to accept a position with CP Rail in Calgary as an Electronic Commerce Specialist. Since graduation Wayne has worked in the Electronic Commerce industry using the skills he learned at BCIT to increase a company's efficiency through using the tools of technology to move their products into and through the organization. He previously worked for Softcare Electronic Commerce Inc., Burnaby to gain experience in the tools necessary to do business electronically. Entering BCIT as a mature student was a very difficult decision for him, however, he feels that it has paid off.

Nichols, Kit CJ (Drafting).

Kit has been a student representative on the BCIT Board of Governors, eyeing a second term into 1999. He is still plugging away as a semi full-time student at BCIT in Mechanical Technologies in the CAD/CAM option. He hopes to graduate again in 1999. He is also working and gaining experience in positions in the drafting sector using his trade certificate both in pressure vessels and in architectural/structural work.

1996

Dykstra, Holly (Medical Radiography).

In August of 1997, Holly married her high school sweetheart, Doug Brown, in a beautiful outdoor wedding in Armstrong, B.C. She is now working steadily for both Armstrong, Enderby, and Salmon Arm hospitals. Currently, she is redecorating a new home in Enderby in which she has comfortably settled with her husband, dog and cat.

Falconbridge, Kazamir L. (Civil and Structural Engineering Technology).

After working for seven months in Langley as a Structural Steel Fabrications Estimator, Kazamir left for a position with Westmar Consultants Inc. He has been working as a Marine Structural Inspector for various marine infrastructure projects around the Lower Mainland. Westmar is supporting Kazamir in his training as an underwater structural inspector. Kazamir has been a Director of the Alumni Association since graduation.

Gibson (Kristiansen), Sonya (Nuclear Medicine).

Sonya moved with her husband to Nanamio for a more promising future with Nanaimo's Nuclear Medicine department.

Lot, Oriana (Broadcast - Radio).

Oriana accepted a position with the Ministry of Transportation and Highway's Radio Communications department as a Communications Operator. She is also employed by BCTV for seasonal work with the promotions department. Hello to all Radio Broadcast Grads of '96!

Managre, Susanne M. (Transportation Logistics).

Susanne has relocated to Calgary and is now employed with Transport Canada as a Railway Operations Officer.

Mandryk, Nicole. (Environmental Health)

Nicole has moved from Winnipeg to Dauphin, Manitoba. She accepted a position on June 2, 1997 in the Environmental Health Fields as a Public Health Inspector in Dauphin.

Ng, Angie Stu Wah (Management Systems).

Angie is currently employed as an assistant to a realtor and would like to know how grads are doing from Management Systems faculty. You can reach Angie at nanangie@hotmail.com.

Perkins (Widmeyer), Alison (Medical Radiography).

Alison was married August 2, 1997 to Roger Perkins at Painters Lodge in Campbell River, B.C.

Sims, Lorraine (Human Resource Management).

Days after graduation Lorraine opened her own professional coaching practice, Crowning Achievement, providing personal and business coaching to individuals and groups. Lorraine is conducting a series of interviews with successful creators, inventors and founders to share their experiences, mind-sets and beliefs with clients to inspire their own success. Lorraine, Keith and their two children live in Vancouver and plan to move to Langley next summer.

1997

Llewellyn, Greg (Marketing - Tourism)

Greg was hired two weeks after graduation as the Community Economic Development Coordinator for Lac La Biche regional community development corporation. On August 15, 1998 Greg will marry Joanne Leighton in Nova Scotia and they will reside in Lac La Biche, a small community two and a half kilometers northeast of Edmonton. Congratulations Greg and send us a wedding photo.

Adieu's and Au Revoirs!

Moving on after 29 years

You must trust your sixth sense...it will guide you.

This profound advice on succeeding in life comes from George Jacob, 1st year student coordinator and marketing instructor at BCIT. Twenty-nine years and some 10,000 students later, George has had many successes at BCIT and now looks forward to retirement.

Born and raised on the Malabar coast in southern India, George started his teaching career by setting up a "tutorial college" for failed high school students. He also moonlighted as an insurance salesman but soon found out just how tough the field was. Soon he was off to the USA to study at the universities of Washington and Oregon for his BA (Business) and MBA. A prudent decision, he later reflected, because no one would give him a job with a B.A. in History!

George returned to India and started a garment factory, which produced, at that time, the most expensive shirts for men. He travelled throughout India setting up distribution outlets and promoting the garments.

While the garment industry was challenging, George's greater calling, teaching, was taking hold. Realizing it would be hard to support his wife and two sons on the paltry teaching wages in India, George set his sights on Vancouver.

It was 1969 and the opportunity to teach at BCIT came after spending one term at SFU and a crash course on "How to Teach" at UVIC. George has contributed a tremendous amount to the fields of marketing and international marketing. In addition to teaching the "Introduction to Marketing" more than 100 times, George has introduced several courses at BCIT, wrote a book on exporting, had case studies published in the marketing textbook by Shapiro and McCarthy and has delivered marketing courses and seminars all over the world.

"I am still not tired of teaching the marketing or international marketing courses... I had a fear I would become useless in the sense that I would be repeating the same things over and over. But the applications have changed and the market is so dynamic that I haven't [had a chance to be] bored."

George told the Ambassador that some of his best course evaluations have come over the last three years. He attributes this success to his drive to stay current. When asked how he feels about the impact of the "electronic" age on teaching, he says, "The changes are great. Students are learning more and faster. Better? I'm not sure. Learning is becoming revolutionized. However, the pressure is on the instructors to deliver in a shorter period of time. In the 21st century, teaching will need to become much more specialized."

Interested to hear about changes (good or bad) over the last 29 years, I asked George to comment: "Positive changes...the younger people have better preparation, not necessarily in the standard of English; that's one thing I have been disappointed with. But they have more applied knowledge. Negative changes: [students] have not improved their ability to communicate. At BCIT we stress the importance of communications...[because success is not just dependent] on course knowledge."

George has not made any definite plans for retirement, a nice change for someone who has spent his entire life planning! When asked what he looked most forward to in retirement, he shared this:

"I'm looking forward to sleeping in. I've never enjoyed getting up in the morning!"

After 29 years of giving it all he's got, sleeping in sounds like a pretty good idea.

— by Sande Petkau, Class of '95.



George Jacob
Sailing off to retirement.

Late breaking news.....

Randy Vandermark, associate dean Marketing Management, is also retiring. Randy came to BCIT in August 1969 from Winnipeg. He initially planned to spend "five years or so" in a teaching capacity before returning to a marketing position in industry. But soon after joining BCIT he discovered there were plenty of "entrepreneurial" opportunities to develop new product in the education field. He introduced a number of Small Business Start-up and Entrepreneurship Programs, both in the full-time and part-time study areas. In

1979, Randy became Marketing department head, a title which changed to associate dean. During his tenure, the Marketing department grew in program scope from one to five programs and student enrolment grew from 120 to 500. Randy's ongoing interest in entrepreneurship kept him involved in projects like the Venture program, the Canadian Council for Small Business, the National Entrepreneurship Development Institute and the Vancouver Enterprise Forum. Personal highlights of his career, he says, "are the countless graduates that he encounters that look back fondly on the things they learned and the friends that they made at BCIT."



Randy Vandermark

A "Toast & Roast" will be held for George Jacob and Randy Vandermark, on May 7 at the BCIT Rix Club at 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 (includes dinner, scholarship and gift donation). Contact Glenna Urbshadt (451-6770) or Carroll Nelson (451-6765) or fax (451-6700) to RSVP. Donations to the "Scholarship Fund" appreciated (recognition will be given in Randy and George's retirement card).

Stay in Touch!

(Please Print)

Surname: _____

Given Names: _____

Maiden Name (if applicable): _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____

Province/State: _____

Postal Code: _____

Country: _____

Home Tel: _____

Employer: _____

Title/Occupation: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Tel: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Student No.: _____

Dipl.T ☐ Degree ☐ Cert. ☐ Tech. B. ☐

Program: _____

Year Graduated: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

BCIT Graduate Yes ☐ No ☐

Year Graduated & Program _____

Enter the Grapevine
Do you have a new job or child? Have you moved or married? Let us know! DON'T FORGET to send us your wedding, baby or family photos. (Please Print. Max. 30 words.)

The Alumni Association is currently recruiting members for the following committees. Please check the box(es) to indicate where you'd like to get involved:

- ☐ Editorial/Communications
- ☐ Open House
- ☐ Social Committee/Golf Tournament
- ☐ Alumni Services/Merchandise
- ☐ Mentor Program
- ☐ Professional Development
- ☐ Fund-raising

Return this completed form to: BCIT Alumni Ambassador, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V5G 3H2 Fax: (604) 431-8911 e-mail: alumni@bcit.bc.ca

Alumni Ambassador

Alumnus becomes BCIT Board Member

Profile of Mr. Peter K-S So, CMA; Member of BCIT's Board of Governors

It was my good fortune to interview Peter in March. Following is an outline of the three areas Peter devotes time: his work with various subsidiary companies of B.C. Gas and with the BCIT Board are covered in some detail. Peter did not go into much detail on his family, but he has a wife and two young children of whom he is very proud.

Peter is employed by Inland Pacific Enterprises Ltd. in Vancouver, as Accounting and Systems Supervisor. A BCIT Finance graduate from the Class of 1983 and a Certified Management Accountant, Peter is involved in accounting, financial reporting, and administration of the company's computer and information systems. He keeps the computer network, desktop computers and accounting information systems up and running.

Peter gave me a brief overview of the functions of B.C. Gas and Inland Pacific. B.C. Gas provides energy and utility services and transports crude oil and refined petroleum products from Alberta to B.C. and Washington. Energy marketing, international energy-related consulting, electricity production and

waterworks infrastructure projects are undertaken by Inland Pacific Enterprises. The companies together earned \$106 million in 1996.

Peter K-S So



Volunteering is a subject on which Peter speaks fondly. He volunteered on the board of the Vancouver Crisis Centre for many years, spending two years as President. Involved in numerous committees, Peter was especially interested in the multicultural committee and in making the Centre accessible to all members of the community. Peter was also a distress line counsellor and delivered lessons on stress management and suicide awareness and prevention to high school students. Peter credits volunteering

with his development of interpersonal and listening skills. He encourages BCIT students to do volunteer work.

Peter is concerned with the accessibility and relevance of BCIT to First Nations students. He notes that BCIT has many excellent support programs in place. Peter hopes to be actively involved in this area in the future.

Peter is concerned with sustaining the quality of our environment for future generations. He says it is necessary for us to look at the whole global picture in order to find responsible kinds of development.

— By Rob Jefferd, Class of '97.

When confronted by a difficult problem you can usually solve it more easily by reducing it to the questions: How would the Lone Ranger handle this?

Quote borrowed from Alumnus, Dave R. Tudhope, who also borrowed this quote.

1998 Alumni Association Awards

NOMINATIONS WANTED!

Do you know a distinguished graduate or an individual who has made a difference to BCIT?

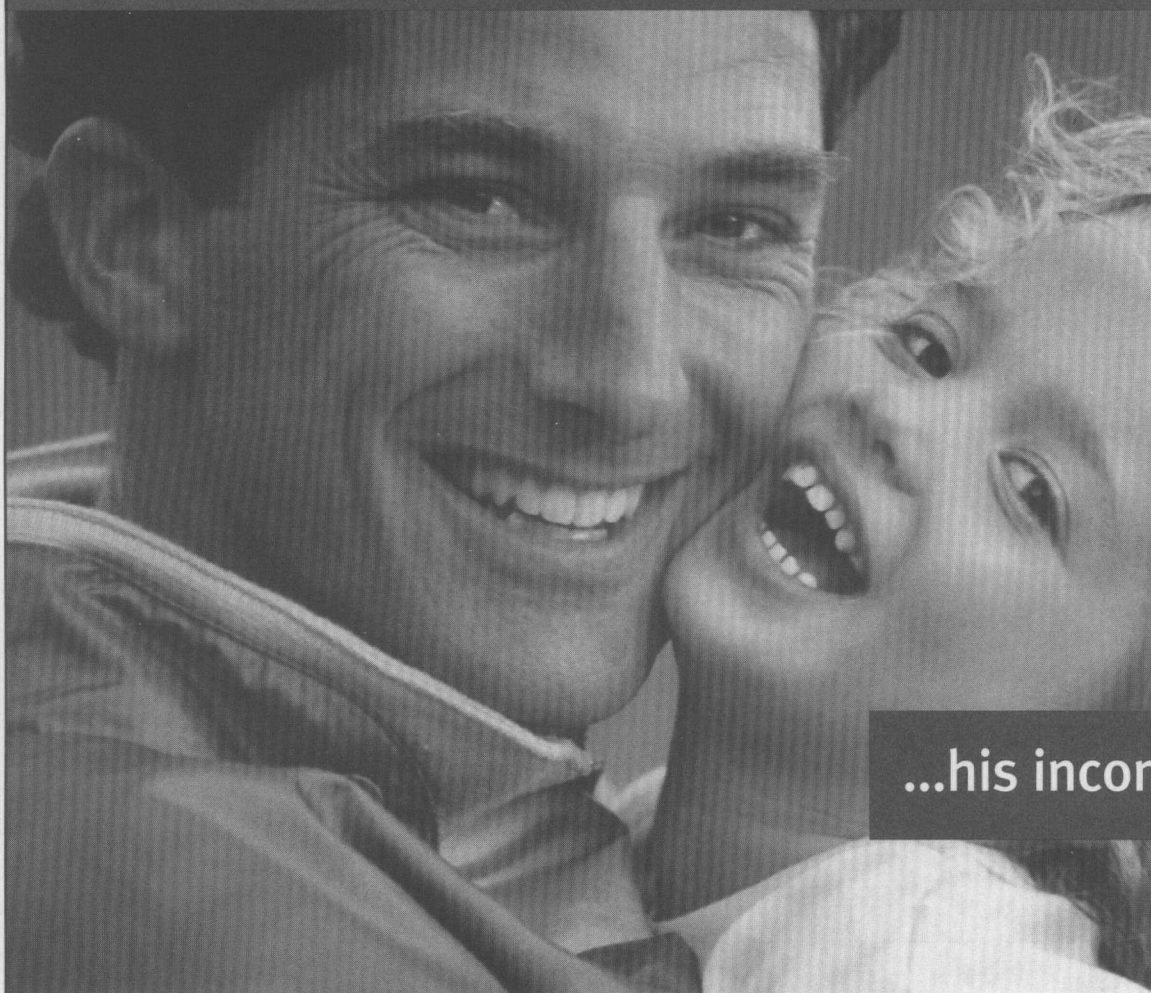
Who's Eligible?

- **Alumni Achievement Award** - Graduates who have distinguished themselves in their field or made a substantial contribution to the community. Only Alumni are eligible.
- **Alumni Association Award** - Individuals who have contributed a great deal to BCIT. Alumni and non-alumni are eligible for this award.

Nomination Deadline: Friday, May 1, 1998

Nomination forms can be obtained from the Alumni Association at (604) 432-8847 or fax (604) 431-8911. Or send your nomination information, stating qualifications/reasons, references and the award you are nominating the individual for to the BCIT Alumni Association, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V5G 3H2 or fax (604) 431-8911.

If Mike was to suffer a heart attack...



...his income would have a major stroke.

A loss of income caused by a critical illness in a family can be a source of unneeded hardship and despair. More and more, and at younger ages, Canadians are forced to deal with a critical illness such as a heart attack, stroke or cancer, which alters their whole lives.

Medical advances and greater self-awareness means many are now surviving these serious illnesses, but few recover from the financial burden.

In addition to loss of income, expenses such as the mortgage, car payments, household bills and children's education will continue to mount. That's why the Seaboard Life Medical Crisis Recovery Plan is specifically designed to deal with these non-medical expenses. You collect the benefit if you survive for 30 days after first being diagnosed with one of the covered illnesses or injuries.

We can't do anything about the emotional strife of a critical illness, but we can free you from financial worries so you can concentrate on getting well.

SEABOARD LIFE
MedicalCrisis
RECOVERY PLAN™

For more information, contact Seaboard Life
at (604) 737-9381 or toll-free at
1-800-266-5667



Take advantage of the
special group rates
available under this plan.



Endorsed by the BCIT Alumni Association

Plan arranged by Michael A.E. Crowe (Victoria) (250) 380-1990

Venture Program grad launches dream

After combing one's pent up dreams with calculations and critical analysis, a business plan is born. Then comes the real work of launching your dream. As the owner of Urban Organic, Mark Whalen is growing a true start-up company, one customer at a time. I met with Mark in February to ask him what has happened since graduating from the Venture program.

What is your company all about? Urban Organics is a company specializing in selling and delivering fresh organically grown fruits and vegetables to customers on a weekly and biweekly basis.

How did you solve the usual financial hurdles of starting a new company? For the first six months of operation we worked out of a church assisting with

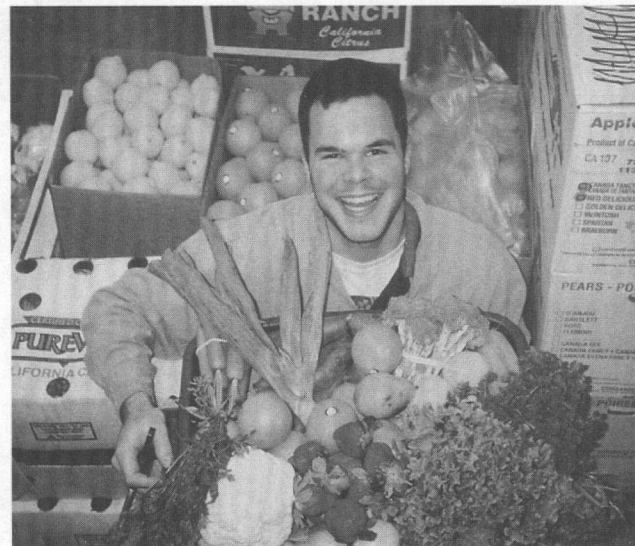
their Life Line Outreach Program. Three months ago we relocated into our new warehouse location, but we still donate leftover produce to the church on a regular basis.

What has the response been like since you started your business back in April 1997? The growth has been amazing. Over the last three months we have tripled our customer base and extended our services as far as Horseshoe Bay.

How has your rapid growth affected your business? It has been a challenge bringing new staff on board and having them assume the responsibilities I was performing at the beginning stages. At times I must remind myself to let go and allow myself to concentrate on the big picture.

Where does the BCIT Venture program fit into your company's success? I am regularly promoting the Venture program. It is very good at teaching the essentials of writing a strong business plan. The intense schedule forces you to concentrate on developing your plan in a way that is hard to duplicate.

— By Christian Fletcher,
Venture grad 1997



Mark Whalen, Venture Program graduate 1996, displays his wares.

Breaking News!

BCIT Alumni Toastmasters Club has received Charter status!



Does the thought of public speaking make your knees go weak? If so, you're not alone: many people say that they'd actually rather die than give a speech in public. Overcome one of your worst fears!

In its first year the BCIT Alumni Toastmasters Club has already helped a number of people overcome the nervousness of giving a speech. They can help you too. You may have earned your diploma or certificate saying that you've got the necessary skills for today's job market, but if you can't communicate clearly and effectively you may not succeed. The BCIT Alumni Toastmasters Club can provide you with the opportunity to deliver a message to a large crowd or for those comfortable with public speaking this opportunity can help you master your communication skills. The club has also just received charter status. Congratulations!

Join us every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at BCIT. For information about the Club please contact Jeremy Tiffin at (604) 583-5542 or email at Jeremy-Tiffin@B.C.sympatico.ca or view us on the web at <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Olympus/8530>

— By Pam Fraser, Class of '97.

"80 per cent of our success in life depends on our ability to communicate clearly and effectively with others"
— Zig Ziglar

Would you like to earn a degree in Administration?
...It's easier than you think!



Equals Your B.Admin. degree

Athabasca University offers you...

- **Small classes** - Classroom and videoconference courses will be offered in Edmonton, Calgary, and Lethbridge.
- **Computer based delivery** - Join our Lotus Notes based VITAL (Virtual Teaching and Learning) learning community.
- **Choice, convenience, and flexibility** - We offer over 350 distance education courses. You may begin a course any time of the year, and work at your own pace, schedule, and preferred location. All of our courses feature one-to-one telephone or computer based tutoring. Study full or part time.
- **Academic excellence** - Athabasca University has an international reputation for excellence and innovation in distance education. Our faculty, tutors, and staff work with you to help you realize your educational and career goals.

If you have a two year diploma in business administration or a related field you may earn your post diploma Bachelor of Administration degree by completing 10 courses from Athabasca University.

If you have a professional or career diploma in a field other than business you may earn your post diploma Bachelor of Administration degree by completing 10 - 15 courses from Athabasca University

- **A competitive edge in the marketplace** - Graduates will have developed the critical thinking, communication, problem solving and managerial skills employers demand from those aspiring to hold responsible positions in firms and organizations today.
- **A way to earn credits towards your CMA or CGA designation and a degree at the same time** - If you plan on working towards either of these accounting designation you can take Athabasca University accounting courses which count both towards the designation and the degree. This is a fast track to your degree and professional designation.

For more information contact Sandy Gibson at 421-8700 (ext.3438) in Edmonton, or at 1-800-788-9041 (ext. 3438) outside Edmonton, Fax (403) 497-3411 or email sandrag@athabascau.ca.

Over 12,000 Canadians are taking Athabasca University programs and courses ... Come and join us!

Website: www.athabascau.ca E-mail: auinfo@athabascau.ca

Athabasca University
Canada's Open University™

They ask for our grads by name

An opportunity exists to join the growing team at The Great Little Box Company Ltd., one of Canada's 50 Best Managed Private Companies.

SALES PROFESSIONAL

Due to rapid growth, The Great Little Box Company Ltd. is also seeking sales representatives for the Lower Mainland.

Creative, energetic individuals with a university degree or BCIT Diploma, a successful sales track record, the desire to win, excellent communication skills, and a strong customer service bias are essential.

You will target, qualify, and close potential accounts and service the needs of existing accounts.



**The Great Little
Box Company Ltd.**

OUR GREATEST POWER IS OUR PEOPLE

MECHANICAL DESIGNER

*Take your career to new heights in a fast-paced,
team oriented environment.*

The Pacific Fluid Power Division of Finning (Canada) specializes in the installation, repair and remanufacture of hydraulic systems and components. We currently have a requirement at our lower mainland branch for a Mechanical Designer.

To qualify for this position, you must have a **BCIT Technologist Diploma** or equivalent, be familiar with Autocad and have the ability to work accurately, quickly and with minimal supervision.

Experience in engine base design, exhaust system design, piping design and heat exchangers would be assets.

FINNING

*We're a source of power for the construction, forestry, mining, petroleum
and agriculture industries. But our greatest power is our people.*

Finning is one of the world's largest heavy equipment dealers with operations in Western Canada, Europe and South America. We sell, service and finance the full range of Caterpillar equipment, plus selected complementary products.

WESTEL TELECOMMUNICATIONS, in business for over 40 years, is the only 100% British Columbian-owned and -operated company in the industry with its own state-of-the-art network offering a full suite of local and international voice and data communications services. We have the following 6-month renewable contract positions available at our NORTH VANCOUVER, VANCOUVER and PRINCE GEORGE locations:

Telecommunications Technicians (TT)

You will undertake various installation, repair and preventative maintenance activities, involving some travel and stand-by/emergency call-out duties.

As a fully qualified TT with at least a 2-year **BCIT Diploma** or equivalent, you should be familiar with all telecom. systems and related test procedures including voice, data and network equipment. We also expect strong problem-solving, analytical, interpersonal and PC skills, especially MS Office.



*Smart companies today want people with
the job-ready training BCIT provides.*

That's why they ask for our grads by name.

- Construction
- Manufacturing & Industrial/Mechanical
- Transportation
- Processing, Energy & Renewable Resources



- Business
- Health Sciences
- Electrical & Electronic
- Computing & Information Technology

**Looking to hire a BCIT grad?
Call BCIT's Employment Services at 432-8666**

BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY