



# UPDATE

The mission of BCIT is to provide British Columbians with world-class, job-ready skills for career success.



## Venture grads take the stage

Seventeen new small businesses, including ventures ranging from gardening to innovative technology for the housing industry, were launched at an informal graduation ceremony for the Venture program on May 2.

Donning a red scarf on his head and sporting a full beard, keynote speaker Ian Rigg from Terawest Industries began his address by stating enthusiastically "I am a pirate."

He went on to deliver an inspiring speech using a pirate ship sailing to the Caribbean to find treasure as an analogy for his business. "It used to be easy. You didn't need a business plan because finding treasure was a piece of cake. There was lots of treasure to be found and the more pirates who wanted to come along, the merrier. But it couldn't last and soon there were too many pirates and it wasn't so easy anymore."

Riggs went on to discuss the changes in the economic climate and the importance of using the business tools and skills the graduates have developed during their 12 weeks in the Venture program.

Venture grad Jennifer Bowrey quit her job at the Vancouver Library this past March 30 and on April 1 signed her first

contract to provide monthly gardening and maintenance services. 'The Cottage Gardener' now has 12 clients bringing in enough revenue to pay all the bills. Although she does most of the work herself, Bowrey has hired a part-time staff member and plans to hire another this summer. "I always knew I wanted my own business but without the Venture program I would never have gotten to this point so quickly. It's a great program."

After 12 years of experience in building and design, and five years of running his own successful construction business, Ramon Kalinowski closed his business and registered for the Venture program.

"You think you know what you're doing and that you're prepared for everything, but even after five years of running my own business the Venture program opened my eyes to areas I hadn't even thought about," says Kalinowski.

He plans to introduce an innovative technology for manufacturing pre-fabricated buildings. Pending patent applications, he expects to have his new venture up and running within three months.

Fellow graduates share the sense of accomplishment and pride in their own new Ventures.



The Fall 1996 graduating class of the Venture program with Norman Street, director, Technology Centre and Brian Gillespie, president, BCIT.

Brian Gillespie presents Venture graduate Jennifer Bowrey with her certificate. Bowrey now has 12 clients bringing in enough revenue to pay all the bills.



## New VP for BCIT

President Brian Gillespie announced on May 17 that Mal Stelck has been appointed BCIT's new vice president, Education.

"It is with much enthusiasm that I look forward to joining BC's premier institute of technology and trades training. I have been very impressed with the commitment and dedication of all the BCIT employees who I have met so far. The mission, mandate and strategic directions of the institute have been well articulated and it will be a pleasure facing the significant challenges ahead with such a dynamic workforce," says Stelck.

Bringing twenty-seven years of experience as a professional educator in the post-secondary environment to BCIT, Stelck most recently held the position of vice president, Learning and Instruction at Selkirk College. There he was responsible for all instruction and services on all Selkirk campuses, incorporating academic, career technology and trades training programs.

Stelck has demonstrated not only a proven ability to develop effective working relationships with a broad campus community (staff, students, the board and provincial government), but energy and leadership in preparing Selkirk College for a rapidly changing environment.



BCIT welcomes Mal Stelck.

**"Of the many excellent teams that I have had the pleasure to work with, this will be the biggest so far and the potential is exciting."**

His academic credentials include a bachelor of arts and a master of science from the University of Saskatchewan, and he is currently working towards a doctor of education.

Active in a number of community programs, Stelck is also chair of the Regional Science Council and chair of the Provincial Committee of College and Institute Vice Presidents of Education.

Stelck joins BCIT on August 12, 1996 and, following a period of extensive orientation across all of BCIT, will officially assume his new position on October 15, 1996.

"Of the many excellent teams that I have had the pleasure to work with, this will be the biggest so far and the potential is exciting."

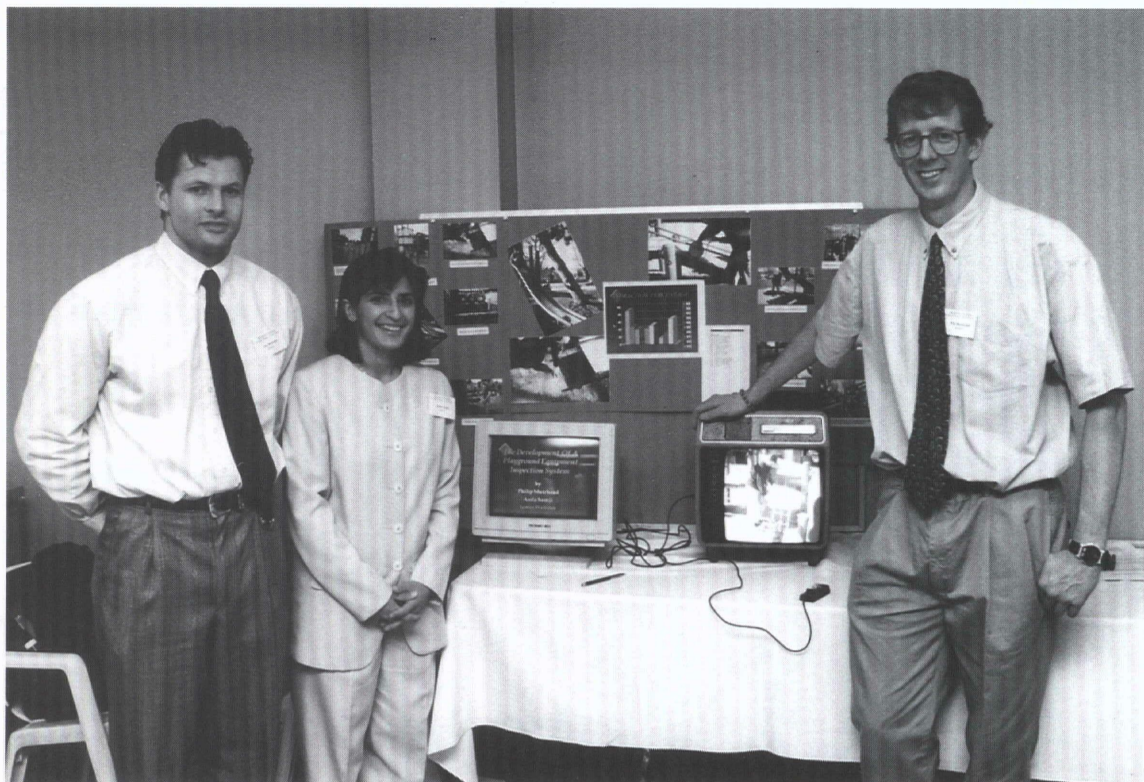
## BCIT signs partnership with Langley Secondary School



Seated (L-R) Diane Pona, LSS, trustee; Ray Walton, BCIT, acting VP Education; Dennis Duffey, BCIT, dean, School of Electrical and Electronic Technology. Standing (L-R) Richard Bulpitt, LSS, acting superintendent; Patrick Muldoon, BCIT, chief instructor, School of Electrical and Electronic Technology; and Dave Michaels, LSS, Principal.

On May 9, BCIT and Langley Secondary School (LSS) signed an official partnership agreement in electrical and electronic training. The

partnership will allow LSS graduates to articulate directly into Electrical and Electronic technical programs at BCIT with credit.



First prize winners from BITC's Environmental Health program: (L-R) Jim Webster, Asifa Samji and Phil Muirhead.

## BCIT's Environmental Health students clean up at 96 Solutions competition

BCIT students walked away with \$1300 in prize money at the 96 Solutions project exposition and awards ceremony held at Science World on April 27.

The Technology Centre, together with B.C. Rehabilitation Society, coordinated the 96 Solutions design competition. All post-secondary students in B.C. conducting projects involving technology based solutions to health-related needs, were eligible to participate. But it was BCIT's Environmental Health students that stole the show.

Phil Muirhead, Jim Webster and Asifa Samji from the Environmental Health program won best project overall and first prize in the Prevention, Information and Education category for their design and testing of a Playground Inspection System. The team will share \$1000 in prize money.

**...it was BCIT's Environmental Health students that stole the show.**

Inspections of children's playground are conducted on a complaint basis and for maintenance purposes only. The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) has developed standards regarding playgrounds but no routine inspection program is in effect at this time.

Recognizing the need for more thorough attention to playground safety, a local health board sponsored the students to develop an efficient and effective playground inspection system.

The project team reviewed the CSA standards recorded in an 80 page document and researched other inspection systems from other jurisdictions. They identified several inspection systems in place but found them to be too time intensive. Even the most efficient one took one to one-and-a-half hours per playground to complete.

***"I can't say enough about BCIT and the Environmental Health program. This industry project course was invaluable in terms of gaining practical skills and experience," says first prize winner Asifa Samji.***

Using the CSA standards and their research results, the team developed an easy-to-read 30 page reference guide and a user friendly companion inspection sheet. The sheet is for on-site inspection purposes and allows for easy transfer of information to a database. In addition, the team designed and created a kit of tools to measure playground equipment against the standards.

The students then field tested the system on approximately 30 different playgrounds. It proved to be efficient, effective and user friendly. The system takes an average of 26 minutes to complete and ensures that data collected and assessed is consistent from inspector to inspector.

The Health board who sponsored the winning project is impressed and intends to work closely with parks and

school boards to implement a routine playground inspection system in B.C. The students are confident that inspections will be underway early this summer.

"I can't say enough about BCIT and the Environmental Health program. This industry project course was invaluable in terms of gaining practical skills and experience," says first prize winner Asifa Samji.

A second group of students from the Environmental Health program won \$300 and second place in the same category for their project, which investigates the risk of hearing loss for music specialists by measuring their noise exposure levels over time.

Ray DeSmit, Paul Geisler, Nicole Mandryk and Brian Wojciechowski surveyed school band and music rooms for acoustical problems and made recommendations on how to remedy the issues they identified. The project was sponsored by the Burnaby School Board's department of Occupational Health & Safety.

Several other BCIT project teams conducted excellent work but were unable to enter the competition due to time constraints. "Getting the project done in time for the judging was like taking an extra course. To be eligible for the competition at Science World the project had to be completed nearly three weeks before the normal end date of the course," says Samji.

## PAWWS

(Personal and Workplace Wellness and Safety)

### Travelling?...Cook it, peel it, or leave it

If you have ever travelled to a tropical destination, chances are you've come across one of the most frequent health problems encountered by travellers — traveller's diarrhea — resulting from eating or drinking food or liquids that are contaminated.

Food can be contaminated by the unwashed hands of kitchen workers, by direct contact with human excrement used as fertilizer, or by sewage-contaminated water that is used for "freshening" vegetables in market stalls.

If you are planning a holiday somewhere tropical this summer, keep some of these tips in mind:

- Foods that are well cooked and served hot right after cooking are usually safe.
- Never eat leftovers or food that has been displayed for a long time.
- Avoid cold appetizers and dips at parties. Be suspicious of salad dressing and food containing mayonnaise.
- Do not eat raw seafood. Ensure meats are well-cooked.

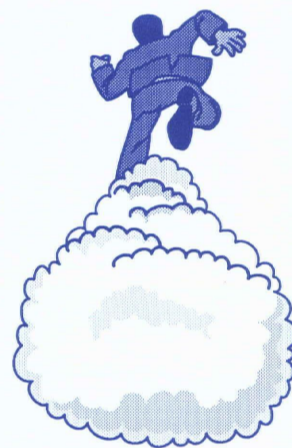
• Make sure dairy products are pasteurized. If in doubt, avoid it. Avoid salads and raw vegetables.

• Wash and peel your own fruits and vegetables. Discard if the skin is broken or bruised.

• Do not eat watermelon — it may have been injected with local water to increase weight.

• Drinks that are considered safe include boiled water, drinks made with boiled water, canned or bottled carbonated beverages, and clear bottled water with an unbroken seal.

• In parts of the world where chlorinated tap water is not available, both water and ice should be considered contaminated and should be avoided. Use bottled water instead of tap water for brushing teeth.



You can get more information on treating water so that it is safe to drink and what to do if you get traveller's diarrhea from your local Health department, your family physician or Medical Services in SE16.

*Have fun and eat safely.*

## June graduation ceremonies

### June 19

Graduating Awards ceremonies:

- Business, 0900
- Engineering Technology, 1230
- Computing, Electrical and Electronic Technology, and Health Sciences, 1500

*June Graduating Awards ceremonies will be held on campus in the Town Square cafeteria.*

### June 20 and 21

June 20 Convocation:

- Engineering Technology, 0900

**Keynote speaker:**

Larry Achtemichuk, VP and General Manager, Western Region IBM Canada Ltd.

- Health Sciences and Electrical and Electronic Technology, 1330

**Keynote speaker:**

Charles Wright, Director of Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation, Vancouver General Hospital

### June 21 Convocation:

- Business, 0900

Financial Management  
Marketing Management  
Operations Management

**Keynote speaker:**

David Bentall, President and CEO, Dominion Co. Inc.

- Business; Computing and Academic Studies; and Trades Training, 1330

Administrative Management  
Broadcast Communications  
Computer Systems  
Power Engineering  
Tool and Die Technician  
Shipping and Marine Operations

**Keynote speaker:**

Ted Rogers, President and CEO, Rogers Communications Inc.

*Convocation ceremonies will be held at the Willingdon Church Conference Centre.*

At its May 15 meeting the Education Council heard a report on the work of the Core Computer Skills Task Group by Task Group leader Elaine Gibson of LRU. Program heads and chief instructors are participating in a survey of core computer skills that will assist the Task Group in its deliberations. Following this Neil Howard, vice president, External Affairs, and Marsh Heinekey, Special Projects coordinator, updated Council on the progress of construction of the new Downtown campus, its educational plan and Performance Improvement Centre.

After lengthy debate Council also adopted a new academic policy to cover Prior Learning Assessment. This policy was developed as a result of extensive discussion involving individuals from each school in the institute as well as the Registrar's Office, Financial Aid, the Learning Resources Unit, and Industry Training. This ad-hoc committee reports through the Education Standards Committee and is chaired by Griff Richards from the Technology Centre. In addition, while the proposed policy was still in draft state, it was made available to the entire BCIT community for comment. Finally, beginning with its April meeting and concluding at the May meeting, the proposal was subjected to extensive debate by Education Council. The resulting policy (subject to board approval) as modified by this process is as follows.

## Policy 4104 Prior Learning Assessment

### 1.0 Definition

PLA is assessment by some valid and reliable means of what has been learned through previously unrecognized education/training or experiences, that is worthy of appropriate credit in a course or program.

### 2.0 Philosophy

It is the philosophy at BCIT that individuals be granted access to courses, programs and credentials on the basis of their skills, knowledge and professional values that have been gained through life experiences, work and academic achievements. Where appropriate, credit shall be awarded. The British Columbia Council on Admissions and Transfers standards and guidelines for Prior Learning Assessment (July, 1994) shall be used as a framework for policy and implementation of PLA at BCIT.

### 3.0 Assessments

In response to requests for Prior Learning Assessment, programs and departments, in consultation with the Registrar and other administrators as required, shall determine the availability of Prior Learning Assessment for each requested course and shall be responsible for the establishment of working procedures that are consistent with institutional deadlines and the following guidelines:

#### 3.1 Assessor Selection

Responsibility for the selection and provision of an assessor shall rest with the teaching department.

#### 3.2 Assessment Methods

Assessment methods shall be chosen in accordance with institute policy and shall be suitable for determining whether the required learning outcomes have been achieved.

#### 3.3 Language of Assessment

Consistent with existing policy 4101 Admissions, section 1.4 English Language Proficiency, the assessment and all evidence provided shall be in English. Where a cost is involved for translation of original documents this cost shall be borne by the applicant. The applicant shall select a translation service which is acceptable to the institute.

#### 3.4 Retention of Documents and Other Assessment Materials

Upon completion of the assessment, all original documents shall be returned to the student. Copies of substantiating documents, assessment materials and the assessor's report shall be retained by the department for a period of one year. Where it is not possible to retain copies of original materials, an attestation by the assessor will be a satisfactory substitute.

#### 3.5 Assessor's Report

The Assessor's report will be forwarded to the program for information, and to the Registrar for action.

# EDCO UPDATE

### 3.6 Recourse

Participants in the PLA process shall have access to the normal reassessment and appeal process associated with academic decisions. Reassessments and Appeals of PLA activities shall include an individual with a knowledge of the policies and procedures relevant to PLA.

### 4.0 Responsibility

The applicant is responsible for the preparation and provision of all evidence required for PLA assessments.

The assessor is responsible for ensuring that the documentation provided by the applicant supports the claim for credit. The assessor is also responsible for recommending whether or not the assessment is to be considered as successful by the institute.

The department is responsible for the retention of all documentation associated with the assessment.

### 5.0 Award of Credit

Prior learning shall only be recognized if the applicant has demonstrated an acceptable level of achievement associated with the learning outcomes of the desired credit. PLA candidates shall have their achievements assessed on an equivalent basis to those students who have achieved their learning in a more traditional manner.

Where students successfully demonstrate that they have achieved the required learning outcomes their grades shall be shown in the same manner as the grades for other students. Whenever the assessment is capable of generating a grade it shall be shown on the student's record. Credit awarded as a result of prior learning assessment will be annotated PLA on the student's transcript.

Where students do not demonstrate achievement of the level of skill and knowledge required to be awarded a credit there shall be no entry recorded on the students' transcript.

### 6.0 Course Audit

Students who receive credit through PLA may elect to audit the course as a refresher in accordance with institute policy on course audit as described in policy 2300 Fees and Charges section 4.4.

### 7.0 Schedule of Courses

Each program shall provide the Registrar with a schedule showing the courses for which assessments of prior learning are available, and the assessment method(s) to be used. This schedule shall be updated on an annual basis by the program area.

### 8.0 Deadlines

Application for Prior Learning Assessment may be submitted at any time. All such applications are to be submitted to the Registrar.

Only those assessments that have been completed a minimum of two weeks prior to the commencement of a term shall be considered for credit during that term.

Individuals who have received a failing grade in a course shall not be allowed to re-try the failed course via PLA for a one year period following the conclusion of the term in which the failure was recorded.

### 9.0 Fees

A fee shall be levied for the assessment of prior learning. Assessment fees shall not be refunded or transferred once the assessment has begun.

### 10.0 Related Policies

Related Policies:

Policy 2300 Fees and Charges  
Policy 4101 Admissions  
Policy 4103 Direct Entry  
Policy 5410 Evaluation of Students  
Schedule of Miscellaneous Fees

The next regular meeting of the Education Council will be June 12 from 1330 to 1630 in the board room of NW1. EDCO meetings are open to all members of the BCIT community.

EDCO's meeting minutes and schedule may be viewed on the Campus Bulletin Board on PROFS as well as in campus libraries and the Student Association Office. Should any person have concerns or suggestions regarding EDCO, please prof EDCO or call Bob Merriam, chair at 7045.

## PROFILE

## BCIT Grad helping others

There's an area tucked away in the back of Student Services you may not be familiar with. It's the Educational Resource Centre (ERC) for students with disabilities and the staff who work there have a very challenging and rewarding job.

You may recognize the ERC's Ashley Lucky, who has been entertaining the BCIT community with his steel band, Tropical Heat, at institute functions throughout the year.

In Student Services Lucky is an assistant instructor for students with disabilities. "There is a common misconception about disabilities — people think a disability is always visible. Yet, there are many "invisible" disabilities, such as dyslexia and attention deficit disorder, which affect our students," he explains.

Lucky got involved with the ERC as a student in BCIT's Engineering Technology Entry (ETE) program. "I was

approached by an instructor to tutor a classmate. That turned into a part-time job and eventually full-time employment," he says.

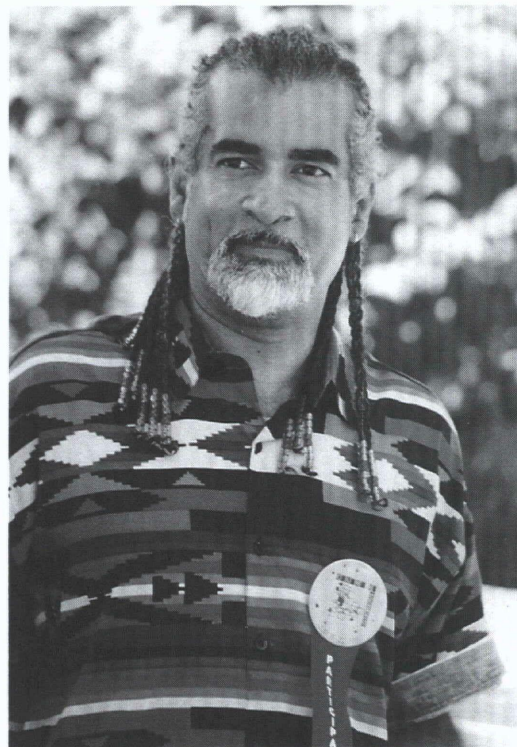
Born in Trinidad, Lucky came to Canada 37 years ago to attend UBC. "I was working towards a bachelor degree, but admit to spending more time rowing than in the classroom. In fact I studied there for five years and while I never completed my degree, I had opportunities to travel around the world with the rowing team," he says. "I always carried my books with me though," he adds with a laugh.

A two-year stint back to Trinidad to teach Grade 12 was followed by a return to Canada and work in the Steel Fabrication industry. A highlight during his years in industry was working on the Alex Fraser Bridge. "Working on estimating and designing systems with the engineers and architects gave me exposure to the trades that helps me in my current job.

Eventually returning to school, Lucky chose BCIT for its Occupational Health and Safety program. Full classes and necessary upgrading landed him in the ETE program for a year, where he had the unusual experience of meeting an old UBC roommate: his new physics teacher.

Successfully completing the ETE program, Lucky was admitted into the Occupational Health and Safety program. "It wasn't quite the breeze I expected it to be, but I really enjoyed the program," he says.

Today Lucky is studying counselling through Kwantlen



Ashley Lucky at a cultural event in Bear Creek Park, Surrey, where he performed with his band Tropical Heat.

College. He says he used to have a scientific mind but that focusing on the spiritual therapies in counselling have really changed that, as a result he says the program is turning out to be very exciting.

## New rapid response service from CR

At the beginning of February, Client Services started a new "rapid response" service for Burnaby campus clients who call the Help Desk. This service is designed to help clients get their systems up and working again when something stops working, including hardware and software problems.

Typical scenarios include: the system not booting up when the client turns on the computer, missing icons for applications like PROFS, Banner or MS Office products, or printers that suddenly stop printing. The Rapid Response Team (RRT) analyst will troubleshoot the problem and try to resolve it on the spot if possible.

Generally the RRT analyst is authorized to spend half to one full hour before passing the call



visit from a RRT analyst within half a day. In the future CR would like to guarantee RRT visits within two hours, however this is a resourcing issue still under consideration. Actually many of our clients are now receiving an RRT visit within a half hour of placing their call to the Help Desk, but we are working towards guaranteeing a maximum waiting time.

The RRT service is solely concerned with fixing problems with existing setups to get the client working again as quickly as possible. By resolving these problems as they arise, the overall wait for service from Computer Resources is being reduced.

*This article is reprinted from CR's online publication News.Bytes @CR. Check it out at <http://www.bcit.bc.ca/~cr/cmnews/current>.*

onto a regular analyst. Between the beginning of February and the end of March, over 140 RRT visits have been made and 116 of those were resolved by the RRT on site. During this time a total of 480 service requests were opened in Computer Resources. This means that approximately 30 per cent of the service requests opened during this time were treated as rapid response calls.

The RRT analysts respond to incoming calls on a priority system based on problem severity. Generally the client will receive a

## Stockless stationary

BCIT is pleased to announce they have entered into an agreement with Canada's most innovative contract stationer — Grand & Toy. Effective immediately Central Stores, with the exception of copy/computer paper, binders, envelopes and diskettes, will begin to eliminate its inventory of stationary items.

Stores will continue to carry non-stationary items. Instead of going to Central Stores or repositioning your stationary requirements, departments will order their stationary directly by phone or fax from Grand & Toy. Goods will be delivered the next business day to Central Stores.

For a chance to view stationary samples and meet Grand & Toy representatives, come out to the stationary exhibit in Town Square D on June 17 from 0900 to 1600.

## Classy Finds



**For Sale:** Sony Camcorder (CCD-F77). Top-of-the-line, five years old, well cared for, includes all original accessories. Features Hi-Fi, 10x Zoom, macro-focus, auto-exposure control with manual over-ride, editing features including titles. A great camera for only \$550 obo. Call Rich at 8388.

**For Sale:** Ideal for your summer cottage or home - 10 yrs. young Kenmore 650 Watt, microwave oven — excellent condition. \$75 obo. Call Andrea at 432-8682.

**For Rent:** Motor home 23', sleeps six fully equipped. Short or long term rental. Call 253-4467 or 255-7307.

**For Sale:** Brand new white Ikea wardrobe, 7' tall, double doors with a rod for hanging clothes and a shelf. Asking \$100 obo. Call Laurel at 224-0883.

**For Sale:** Two Level Penthouse Apartment, 800 sq ft; Huge rooftop south facing Deck. Upgraded Appliances, Carpet and Bathroom. Near Edmonds Skytrain Station. Call Rita at 8472 or 451-1420

**For Sale:** Cannondale Aluminum Road Bike. Great condition, Series 3.0, Frame 56 cm. Asking \$550 obo. Call Tina at 8318.

**For Sale:** Too good to miss; group rate tickets to see the Vancouver Voo Doo play the Anaheim Bullfrogs on Saturday, August 10 at 1900. Adults \$11.50, youth: \$6.50. A pre-game skate with the team is also scheduled. For more information contact Tricia at 5141. YABADABAVOODOO!

**B&B:** Summer in Whistler: biking, hiking, water sports, tennis, snowshoeing, glacier skiing and much more. \$50/single; \$75/twin; \$15/extra person (children under six free). Suite sleeps four \$150/night. Call Marnie at 7079 or 987-2297 after 1800.

**For Sale:** Motorcycle '71 Honda, CB750, rare—purchased in Japan, excellent condition, blue, garage stored, less than 19,000 kms, new tires, one owner. \$2500, Call Keiko at 985-9374.

## BCIT Events to Come

## Tuesday, June 4

- Sign up for Weight Watchers at Work from 1200 to 1300 in SW1 Room 3590.

## Thursday, June 6

- BCIT's Safety and Security presents a workshop on Earthquake Preparedness. A one hour session on preparing, your home and family for before, during and after the next big quake. Join us in SW1, Room 1205 from 1130 to 1230 or 1300 to 1400.

## Tuesday, June 4

Wednesday, June 5  
Thursday, June 6

- The B.C. Technology Industries Association's Summer Institute, a symposium on sales and marketing for B.C. technology companies For info phone 878-0393.

## Saturday, June 9

- The Burnaby Lake Systems project fund-raiser dinner and silent auction at the Hart House on Deer Lake from 1730 to 2100. Tickets \$100/person, no host bar (tax receipts issued for maximum allowable). For tickets and information contact Mark Angelo at 432-8270 or Bob Gunn at 451-6860.

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