

The

# Link

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

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DAVID LAJ PHOTO

The Student Newspaper of the British Columbia Institute of Technology



# The Link

is the student newspaper of the British Columbia Institute of Technology. Published bi-weekly by the BCIT Student Association, *The Link* circulates 3,500 copies to over 16,000 students and staff.

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The views in *The Link* are not necessarily those of BCIT, the Student Association, or the editorial collective.

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## LINK LETTERS POLICY

*The Link* welcomes letters. Letters should be typed, double spaced, under 300 words and can be dropped off at *The Link* or SA offices and sent through campus or regular mail. Your name, affiliation with BCIT and a telephone number to contact you (which will not be published) must be included. Anonymity may be granted at the discretion of staff. Letters on disk, as a txt file, with a hard copy would be greatly appreciated. *The Link* reserves the right to edit for clarity and brevity.

# Campus Events

This Calendar column is open for notices of events on all BCIT campuses. Submissions can be faxed to 431-7619, sent by campus mail or dropped off at *The Link* office in the SA Campus Centre (down the corridor between the video arcade and the SA copy centre)

## January 14-25

**Intramurals Registration Week.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

## January 23-24

**Electronics Engineering Technology:** Timetabling / Registration for students on modified programs.

## Wednesday, January 23

**Faulty Towers.** 11:30am-2:30pm. Gym. Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

**Post-Secondary Degree Completion workshop.** SE6-233 Foyer. 11am-2:15pm. For more information contact Counselling Services at 604-432-8608.

**Presentations by Post-Secondary Representatives.** SE6-233 Theatre. 11am-2:15pm. For more information contact Counselling Services at 604-432-8608.

**Swing / Jive Level 1 begins.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

**BCIT Christian Club.** Bible study & worship. 11:30am. SW1-2005. Contact Pastor Calvin 451-4568.

## Thursday, January 24

**Electronic Engineering Technology:** Registration & Orientation for Level 1 students.

## Friday, January 25

**Deadline to Opt-out of BCIT Student Extended Medical and Dental Plan.** 4pm. Contact the plan administration office in (room 259, Campus Centre—by the SA offices) or call 604-456-8056 for more information.

## Saturday, January 26

**Archery Introduction.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

## Monday, January 28

**Electronic Engineering Technology- All Levels:** first day of classes.

**Nursing Level 5:** Last day to withdraw and receive a full refund. (less \$200 commitment fee)

**Intramurals Begin.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

## Tuesday, January 29

**Toastmasters International.** 7am. SA Council Chambers, Campus Centre (SE2).

**Iyengar Yoga begins.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

## Wednesday, January 30

**BCIT Christian Club.** Bible study & worship. 11:30am. SW1-2005. Contact Pastor Calvin 451-4568.

**Study Skills Strategies workshop.** SE9. Noon-1:30pm. For more information contact Counselling Services at 604-432-8608.

## Friday, February 1

**Electronic Engineering Technology Levels 2, 3, 4 & Co-op:** Fees due.

## Saturday, February 2

**Groundhog's Day.**

**Relaxation Massage workshop.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

## Monday, February 4

**SA Council Meeting.** 5:30pm. SA Council chambers, Campus Centre (SE2).

## Tuesday, February 5

**Toastmasters International.** 7am. SA Council Chambers, Campus Centre (SE2).

## Recreation Council Social.

## Wednesday, February 6

**BCIT Christian Club.** Bible study & worship. 11:30am. SW1-2005. Contact Pastor Calvin 451-4568.

**Tai Chi begins.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

**Beginners Squash begins.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

**Introduction to Juggling begins.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

**Tai Chi begins.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

**Canadian Federation of Students Day of Action.** Events to protest tuition increases. More information at [www.cfs.bc.ca](http://www.cfs.bc.ca)

## Thursday, February 7

**Aikido begins.** Contact Recreation Services at 604-432-8287 for more information.

## Friday, February 8

**Electronic Engineering Technology:** Last day to change sections for students on modified programs.

## Monday, February 11

**Electronic Engineering Technology:** Last day to withdraw and receive a full refund (less \$200 commitment fee).

**Electronic Engineering Technology:** Last day to apply for course credit (exemption) and/or change course registration to audit.

## Tuesday, February 12

**Toastmasters International.** 7am. SA Council Chambers, Campus Centre (SE2).

## Wednesday, February 13

**Last day to withdraw from Term A courses and receive a 'W' on transcript.**

**BCIT Christian Club.** Bible study & worship. 11:30am. SW1-2005. Contact Pastor Calvin 451-4568.

**Staying Motivated workshop.** SE9. Noon-1:30pm. For more information contact Counselling Services at 604-432-8608.

## Thursday, February 14

**Valentine's Day.**

## Monday, February 18

**SA Council Meeting.** 5:30pm. SA Council chambers, Campus Centre (SE2).

## Tuesday, February 19

**Toastmasters International.** 7am. SA Council Chambers, Campus Centre (SE2).

## Wednesday, February 20

**Cut for a Cure.** Come watch fellow BCIT students and staff have their heads buzzed to raise money for Cancer Research. Contact the SA office for more information.

**BCIT Christian Club.** Bible study & worship. 11:30am. SW1-2005. Contact Pastor Calvin 451-4568.

## Summer Camp Jobs in the U.S.A.

**Lakeside Residential Girls Camp in Maine - Visas Arranged**  
Counselors: Combined childcare/teaching. Must be able to teach or lead one or more of the following activities: gymnastics, tennis, swim, sail, canoe, water ski, arts (including stained glass, sewing, jewelry, wood, photo), dance, music, theatre, archery, wilderness trips, field sports, equestrian.

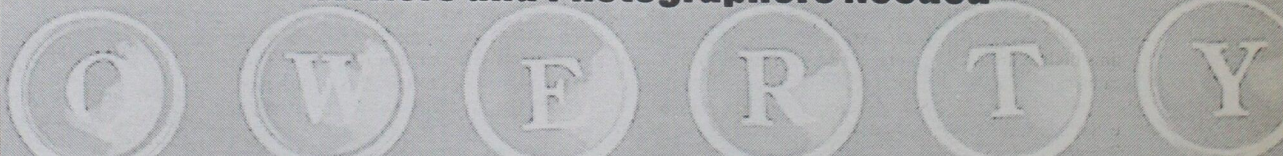
**Service Workers:** including openings for kitchen, laundry, housekeeping, secretaries, maintenance & grounds, and kitchen supervisor.

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To Apply: Applications are available on our website: [www.kippewa.com](http://www.kippewa.com) or contact us at the numbers listed below for a staff brochure and application.

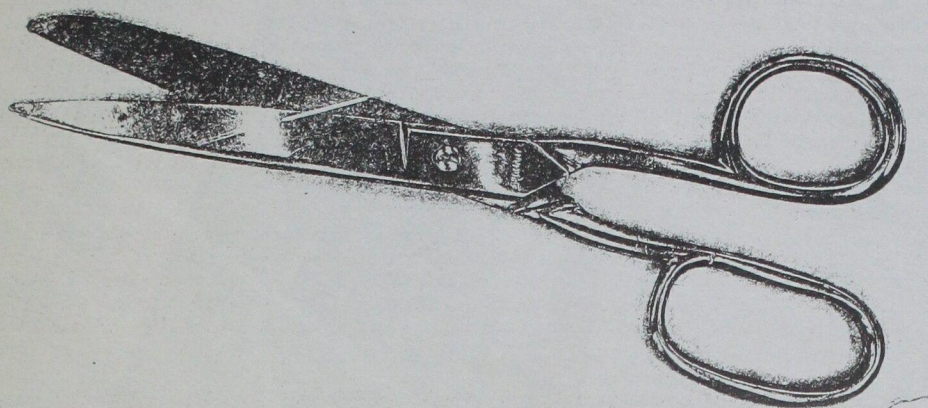
Kippewa, Box 340, Westwood, Massachusetts, 02090-0340, U.S.A.  
tel: 781-762-8291 | fax: 781-255-7167

## Writers and Photographers Needed



contact *The Link* to gain some hands-on experience call 604-432-8974 or drop by our office (behind the Copy Centre in SE2) or email: [paul\\_dayson@bcit.ca](mailto:paul_dayson@bcit.ca)





## Cuts hit post-secondary programs

### Work study and summer employment programs abolished

PAUL DAYSON AND  
SARAH MACNEIL MORRISON  
Link Managing Editor and  
Ubysey Staff

On Thursday, January 17—called ‘Black Thursday’ by labour—the provincial government announced the results of its Core Services Review. Thousands of jobs have been cut, some ministries cut in half and the province’s post-secondary education system is not untouched. This could have wide reaching effects on BCIT, its students and the campus community.

Financial aid programs for students suffered a significant blow. The government has ended funding for programs like Work Study—which funds jobs for students with student loans—as well as programs such as Skills for Employment, Training Assistance Benefits and Institutional Based Training support.

The Student Summer Works program, which subsidises businesses that hire students over the summer, and the Youth Community Action program, which provides tuition credits for stu-

dents who volunteer, were also eliminated.

Provincial minister of Advanced Education Shirley Bond said the government was forced to re-examine every program because of the current provincial financial crisis.

“I have been given a protected budget for three years. However, that does not mean that there won’t be challenges in meeting student demand,” she said.

Bond says the province is trying to give post-secondary institutions more autonomy by cutting programs and increasing funding without attaching conditions to transfer fees.

“In essence, we’re trying to take the dollars that we have, which have to go as far as they possibly can, and allow institutions to decide what they’re going to offer at their institutions,” she said.

One example of how these cuts will impact BCIT is the work study program. Numerous students are presently employed at BCIT through the work study program working areas such as Recreation Services, Housing, Computer Resources and at the Student

Association.

Instead of having a provincial Work Study Program, for example, Bond sees each institute, college or university developing its own programs.

“Institutions do need to make those decisions themselves. We, as government, provide student financial assistance, and we believe that that’s important, and then institutions make decisions on how they choose [to spend] the dollars that they have,” she said.

BCIT’s Recreation Programmer Paul Fortier said, Recreation Services employs between 40 and 65 students through the program every year.

If the funding were not replaced by the institute, Fortier said, Recreation Services would have little choice but to either reduce programs or increase the fees charged to those enrolled in activities.

Students currently participating in the Work Study Program would not be affected. Practically speaking, the cut to the Work Study Program will not go into effect until the end of this school year in May.

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## Off with the hair to find a cure for cancer

CAMERON RANKIN  
Link News Reporter

Soon you will have the opportunity to watch members of the institute community have their skulls shaved. On Wednesday, February 20th 2002 the BCIT SA is holding a fundraising event on behalf of the BC Cancer Foundation called “Cut for the Cure.”

The following student and faculty volunteers will be getting their haircut to help find a cure for cancer:

- Brian Simpson, the SA’s chair of Transportation and Construction
- Mineo Tanaka, ABET instructor
- Joel Peterson, the SA’s vp of

Student Affairs

- Bastigan Boekhorst, CST Student
- Karen Pichota, ABET Student

The volunteers are attempting to collect \$1,000 in donations each for the “Cut for the Cure.” These students and faculty members will be asking friends, relatives and fellow students to sponsor their cut.

Students will also be collecting donations during the annual Faculty Towers event-during the three-hour break on Wednesday, January 21, 2002. All the volunteers will be collecting donations on behalf of the BC Cancer foundation so please give what you can when you see them.

The reason this event is so impor-

tant is because cancer is the leading cause of disease in BC-in the year 2000 alone there was nearly 17,500 new cases of cancer.

Today more and more people today are being diagnosed with cancer and projections for the future are staggering. One out of three persons can be expected to develop cancer in their lifetime.

Almost everyone has had someone close to them diagnosed with cancer some make it some don’t therefore The Link would like to take this opportunity to urge students to give what they can.

For more information about the BC Cancer Foundation go to their website at [www.bccancer.bc.ca](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca)

## CFS tuition protest info to be passed to students

SA Council Notes  
Cameron Rankin

Guest speakers Anita Zaenker and Kara Fisher from the Canadian Federation of Students spoke to council at its meeting on January 21. They requested the Student Association’s support for the planned “National Action Day” on Wednesday, February 6. The purpose of the day is to protest high and rising tuition costs across the country.

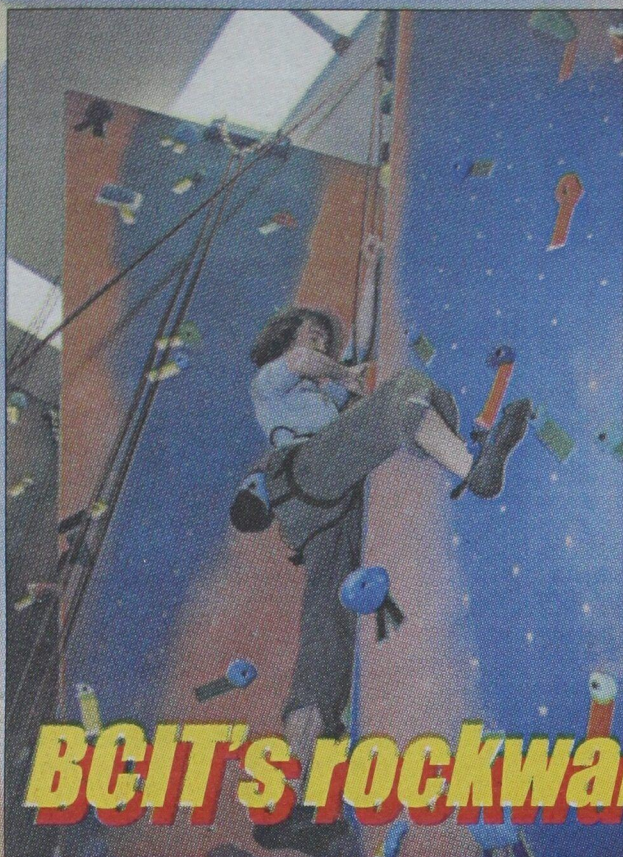
The council decided to pass the information and petitions on to Tech Reps to inform the students of BCIT about the action day and the reason for it but to take no official action during the planned countrywide protest in support of future students. Read this issue and future issues of The Link for more information about planned changes in funding for higher education.

- A request from a group of Broadcast students to hold a Friday beer garden was tabled until the next council meeting
- The increase for councilors at sea island council was tabled until more information could be obtained
- Jessica Jensen chair of Electrical, Electronics and Computer Systems-the organizer of the “Cut for the Cure” fundraising event-reported that she had six volunteers for the event. They are busy collecting donations for the event, she said. Watch for the next issue of The Link for more information on this event.
- The new SA constitution has received approval from the Ministry of Advanced Education. As of January 21, 2002, the SA has begun operating under the new constitution. Copies of the new constitution can be picked up at the SA offices in the Great Hall
- Canadian Blood services (CBS) asked permission to hold another blood drive at BCIT. This time, the blood drive will be held in the Great Hall with a tentative date of April 11.
- Alfredo Rolando vp of Public Relations and Marketing formed a committee to investigate possible fundraising strategies for Valentine’s Day with the proceeds to go to the SYA fund.
- The SA council meeting planned for Monday, March 4 is being cancelled due to mid-term exam week.

This meeting was short, but the student council was informed about two very important events CFS organized The National Action Day to be held in support of future and present students and the “Cut for the Cure” fundraising event to help find a cure for Cancer.

The next SA council meeting will be held on Monday, February 4 at 5:30pm in the SA Council Chambers, on the second floor of the Campus Centre just of the Great Hall.





## BCIT's rockwall open for business

Kim Choiniere  
Link Arts & Culture Editor

**B**CIT now has its very own rock wall located in the Student Activity Centre (SE16).

The rockwall opened officially for business on Wednesday, January 9 with free climbing for the campus community.

The wall is open to everyone including the general public, Monday thru Sunday for drop-ins or private bookings, at a variety of different times. The cost to use the facility (drop-ins) is five dollars for students and staff, and eight dollars for the general public.

Recreation Services also offer passes and term package prices for a considerably lower price.

In order to begin climbing you must fill out a "Obstruction of Risk" form, and pass a belay test to ensure you are capable of climbing up to the safety standards of the facility. Anyone interested in volunteering to maintain the climbing wall, in exchange for climbing time, can register at the Recreation office, in room 192 of the SAC.

DAVID LAI PHOTOS



# Don't waste your time with cheating

AMY LAPSLEY  
Link News Reporter

It seems so easy. Sneak a quick glance at your friend's paper. Jot down a few notes on your hand before writing your midterm. Turn in your friend's paper from last year. But after 47 Simon Fraser University students were caught for plagiarism last month, BCIT students might think twice before cheating.

The SFU students are facing failing grades for their third year Economics class, as well as possible suspension from the university.

Here at BCIT, students who cheat face a similar fate. According to BCIT's Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism, students who are caught cheating can face anything from a reduced grade to course failure or even expulsion, depending on the seriousness of the offence.

BCIT's Registrar, Val Karpinsky, recognizes that cheating is a problem here at the Institute. He sees between 12 and

24 cases of serious cheating each year. Students are typically caught for looking at another student's paper, sneaking material into an exam or submitting other student's work as their own.

According to BCIT Policy, once a student is caught by an instructor, the matter is handed over to the Associate Dean for follow-up. The Associate Dean, along with faculty members related to the case, decide what measures should be taken. Often in minor circumstances, a written warning is issued to the student. Reduced or failing grades are given for more serious cases. And for the worst incidents of cheating? Suspension or expulsion. Students can appeal decisions made by the Institute.

Joel Peterson, vp of Student Affairs for BCIT's Student Association thinks the policy is fair. Peterson recommends that any students accused of cheating come to the Student Association. "The Student Association is not used enough as a resource...We don't act as advocates for stu-



dents, but we can help facilitate the process. We can set up meetings with the proper people and make sure the student goes through the correct process," Peterson said.

One potential weapon in the battle against cheating is a web-based plagiarism checker called Turnitin.com. The site has become popular with post-secondary schools across the country. The site allows instructors to submit student's work and see if it matches previous work on the web. UBC uses the system to curb copying and SFU is considering it as an option. According

to Karpinsky, BCIT may also subscribe to Turnitin.com.

The Registrar said that dealing with cheating is an "unfortunate" part of running any academic institution. And despite the number of cases he sees each year, Karpinsky said the problem is not out of control. He noted that of the 45,000 full and part-time students here at BCIT, twelve to twenty-four cases a year is "notable, but not extraordinary".

Still, Karpinsky wants students to understand that cheating is taken very seriously at BCIT. "Suspensions and expulsions are not unusual. It is not worth the temptation to cheat," he said. Peterson agrees. "Don't bother...Put in the extra couple of minutes to get the proper information in the proper way," he said.

So next time you have the urge to sneak a quick glance at your friends paper, you might want to think again. The instructors are watching, and they mean business.

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## The Link

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# Teddy bears take on terror bills

AI LIN CHOO  
The Ubysey  
Canadian University Press

VANCOUVER

The Teddy Bear Brigade, a newly formed organization opposed to the federal government's anti-terrorism legislation, says it will continue to protest the recently passed Bill C-36 until it is convinced the public supports the new law.

The group, which includes University of British Columbia students and professors, occupied the office of Vancouver-Quadra MP Stephen Owen for three days in December, shortly after the Brigade formed.

The group's confrontation of the MP, who represents the area of the university in his riding, was inspired by a similar group of protesters who occupied federal Justice Minister Anne McLellan's office in Edmonton.

The protesters asked that Owen participate in public discussions on the controversial anti-terrorism bills. They asked him to pressure his government to scrap Bills C-36, C-35 and C-42 until both citizens and parliament have had a meaningful opportunity to provide input on the legislation.

They also asked the government to drop the charges against the protesters arrested for occupying McLellan's office in Edmonton.

Owen agreed to speak with the protesters on Dec. 14, three days



after they first occupied his office. He said he would not only participate in public meetings, but would also ask McLellan to drop charges against Bill C-36 protesters in Edmonton.

While Owen eventually conceded to the Teddy Bear Brigade's demands for his presence at public forums, Clayton McKee, a spokesperson for the organization and a UBC student, said the group would continue its efforts until members were convinced that enough people were educated and understood the issue.

"I've very disappointed in the amount of knowledge that the public has regarding this," McKee said. "However, I am also very excited that there does seem to be momentum growing. We have not achieved success yet, but we're on the right path."

"We believe that once people become more educated as to what's happening, there will be enough public resistance and the government won't be able to let these bills go through," he said.

McKee said that while he is not fundamentally opposed to the idea of increased security, he feels that legislators have used last year's Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the U.S. as an excuse to push the legislation forward.

"The government is passing [anti-terrorism legislation] as being in response to the terrorist attack, but to draw up 500 pages of legislation takes years. Two or three years."

"This is very tight legislation and most of it is being drawn up to amend previous bills."

McKee said he was opposed to the way Bill C-36 will work together with Bills C-35 and C-42, which are both still before parliament. He said he worried that together, the bills would not only "criminalize dissent," but also give police unprecedented powers.

"If you interfere with [a police] vehicle or if you threaten to interfere, you have become a terrorist," he said, citing Bill C-35. "Police are being given the right to have investigative hearings instead of preliminary hearings...Under the laws being proposed, there need not even be a case against you."

But McKee added that he was encouraged by Owen's efforts to participate in public discussion and said he hoped Owen would listen to the public's concerns, rather than simply promoting the rationale behind the bill.

Owen could not be reached for comment by press time.

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## BCIT's direct marketing students get organized with AIM

AMY LAPSLEY  
Link News Reporter

A new club for BCIT students interested in marketing was in the Great Hall this week recruiting new members. AIM, the Association of Interactive Marketers, is looking for students interested in learning more about the industry of direct marketing.

And what is direct marketing? According to Chris Goward-Burns, the club's President, direct marketing is an exciting new field of marketing that uses technology. "An example of direct marketing is an infomercial. Reaching a person in their home and getting them to call the company...that is direct marketing." Another hot trend in direct marketing is Internet Sales.

Goward-Burns says that direct marketing is growing in popularity. "Direct marketing relies on technology and it is becoming more and more common. It is the future of where marketing is going," Goward-Burns said.

This type of marketing is becoming so popular that students in the Marketing Management Program can now choose to specialize in this field by taking the Direct Response Option. Goward-Burns wants AIM to make sure that first year marketing students find out about this option. He's also hoping the club will help students get jobs in the industry. "We want to provide education to students so they do well out there and get a job and attract employers."

AIM's first event of the year is a special speech by a veteran of the direct marketing industry. Rod Stokes, General Manager of InfoCanada, will be speaking on "How to Get a Great Job and be a Success in Marketing". The speech is on Wednesday, January 23rd at 11:30am. It will be held in SE6-114. Cost is \$5 for students and free for AIM members. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

For information on how to become a member of AIM you can email:  
[aim\\_bcit@yahoo.com](mailto:aim_bcit@yahoo.com).

## Tuition increases could be on the horizon for BC students

continued from page 3

Still unknown, however, is whether the government will maintain BC's six-year tuition fee freeze. In a Ministry of Advanced Education document released last week, the government said it would "develop an approach that balances the appropriate costs of education among the government, students and their families."

Canadian Federation of Students spokesperson Anita Zaenker said, "There's a myth that if tuition fees increase education will get better but usually

there is a withdrawal of government funding and students have been no better off."

The Canadian Federation of Students claims to have information, from within the government, that the province is considering tuition increases of up to 30 percent over the next two years.

The provincial government will announce its plans for the tuition freeze on February 19, when it releases its budget.

Decisions on the future of the Open Learning Agency—a partner in BCIT's Bachelor of

Technology degree—, Part Time Vocational Training, and the Technical University of BC are also pending.

According to the ministry document emphasis will be placed on training in medicine—with expanded facilities at the University of BC, the University of Victoria and the University of Northern BC. Other areas singled out for attention are social work, hi-tech and industry training, and apprenticeship programs.

An increase in on-line learning and in part-time studies as well as

expanded transferability of credits between institutions are also goals stated in ministry document.

Student groups around the province are organizing events to highlight the importance of advanced education. The Canadian Federation of Students is organizing a National Day of Action on February 6, when students in BC will protest in Vancouver and at Victoria's legislature to show support the tuition freeze.



# I Choose Saskatchewan

*I chose the health care field because I like people and I'm determined to make a difference, any way I can.*

*I know all about the pace, the shift work and the occasional heartache because people are fragile and sometimes don't recover. It's not glamorous – but I know my skills are needed and my efforts are appreciated, so I'm prepared to give it all I've got.*


*When the work is done, I go home to a place that is mine. It's just a short drive away. I know my neighbours. I feel safe here. There's plenty of space and clean air –*

*and my kids go to a great school. Everything I want and need – theatres, good restaurants, clubs, parks, plenty of shopping – is within easy reach. I am part of a community.*

*I can afford my own home. My kids can take music lessons, skating lessons and learn how to play hockey and baseball. I have time for myself too, and once in a while, I indulge in something really special.*

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# Time to start the job hunt

BRUCE MCTAGGART  
Link Staff

It's the end of January and time to start looking for a summer job. "What?" you say. We aren't out of school till the end of May. True, but if you wait until then you'll be scavenging amongst the leftovers from the university students and competing with the almost graduated high school students.

This is going to be the first in a series of stories about finding jobs. This first one will deal with job search strategies for summer jobs. Subsequent stories will deal with job resources and with starting a career.

Being in school at BCIT gives you an edge. Many companies like to hire BCIT students for summer jobs as they have some job ready skills. They also like the chance to evaluate you for a permanent job without making any commitments.

In my view there are three useful ways to conduct your job search. They are talking to contacts, knocking on doors, and sending job specific resumes in response to advertisements. There are also ways of wasting lots of time and paper. The worst one is to send out unsolicited job resumes by mail. This is junk mail and generally ends up in the wastebasket. The exception to this is if you have specific skills that the employer needs.

When searching for a job it is worth remembering that most jobs never get advertised. They are filled through personal applicants, referrals from employees, and by relatives.

As a BCIT student you will probably want to get some work in your field of study. Because you're a student at BCIT employers will take the time to help with your job search. It helps if you're the first student who asks. Employers don't want to talk to a lot of unemployed students.

Good summer jobs do exist, and in most circumstances they will go to the students who are related to the employers, to those who do the best job searches, and to those who have the best marks. If you don't have relations and you aren't at the top of your class you had better start your job search early.

It is worth noting that most jobs are created by small business. This means that their hiring practices tend to be hit and miss. If you can arrange to walk in the door an hour after someone has quit you have a good chance of getting hired. If you can find out that someone is about to quit you're on your way. In fact, any information you can find out about hiring may be useful. The way you get this information is by making contacts.

Contacts are people you know or who you have some connection to. They may be relatives, friends, friends of your parents, or any other person you have some connection to.

The first rule of using contacts is, DON'T BE SHY! They have had to do job searches some time and will feel sympathy for you. The second rule of using contacts is, BE PERSISTENT! If they say they can't help you, ask them for an introduction to someone who can. Several times I have found jobs with a contact's competition. Competitors are often on friendly terms and may do each other favours.

My favourite way to find a job is to go and knock on doors. This is both the most effective and the most fun. You never know you are going to meet, what they are doing, and where you may end up.

My experience is that most employees are happy to help people who are looking for work. They feel sympathy for your plight and have probably suffered through their own searches.

The exceptions to this are secretaries and people in Human Resources. Secretaries exist to keep job seekers from talking to the workers in the back.

My strategy is to visit companies when the secretary is out to lunch. This only works if the company is small enough to not have a relief secretary. This can be a very productive strategy as some-

body who is not a secretary will come out to help you. If they are typical office workers they will regard you as a break from their routine, and if you can sell yourself to them they will be a huge asset. I have had an office worker spend an hour doing a phone search of his contacts to find me a job.

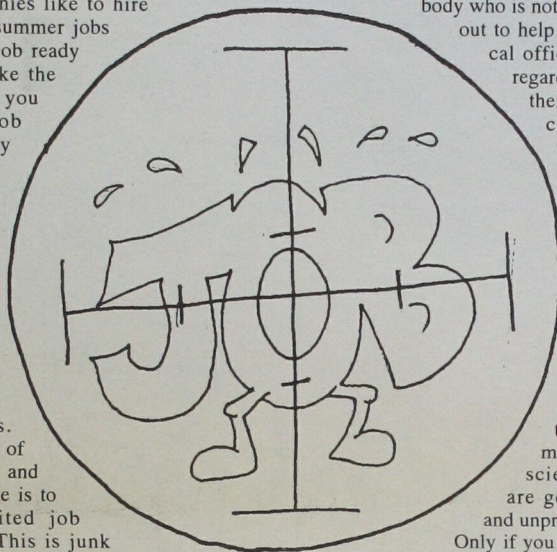
Human Resource people exist to use people as a resource. They try to pretend that managing people is a scientific exercise and are generally unpleasant and unproductive to deal with. Only if you fit their rules regarding hiring will they be co-operative.

There are several successful strategies to dealing with the Human Resource jerks. One is to not canvass large companies that have Human Resource departments. Another is to use guerrilla tactics on them. Find another excuse to visit the company, perhaps to gather research for a school project. Use the visit to get contacts. Find out where the staff goes for lunch and chat up their employees there. Do the same at a pub. These people may know how you can get a job with their company. Alternatively, they may let you know that you really don't want to work there. That is very valuable information.

If you are comfortable doing it, phoning companies will let you talk to a lot of prospects in a short time. Unfortunately it is also very easy to brush you off on the phone. The best bet is to know who you need to talk to before you phone. If you ask for them by name the secretary will put you through, but if you phone and ask to speak to whoever is in charge of hiring you will generally be asked to send a resume. That is likely to be a waste of time.

Sending job specific resumes in response to advertisements does get people jobs but there are several things to keep in mind. The more widely a job is advertised the less likely it is that you will be successful. Sending a resume for a labouring job advertised in the Vancouver Sun is not likely to be successful. Answering an ad for a CNC machinist has much better potential. The more specific the job description is and the smaller the circulation of the ad, the better your chances.

I'll conclude this first article by saying that looking for a job is like throwing darts at a dartboard while wearing a blindfold. The more darts you throw, the better the your chance of getting a bulls eye. Apply for as many jobs as you can, don't depend on getting any particular job, and you'll probably do well.



## Journalism school heads worried over CanWest policies

PHILLIP TODD  
The McGill Daily  
Canadian University Press

MONTREAL

The directors of Canada's two largest journalism schools say they are troubled by the direction Canadian media empire CanWest Global is leading the country's largest newspaper chain.

Chris Dornan, program director at the Carleton School of Journalism, and Vince Carlin, journalism program director at Ryerson University, both expressed worry over the new editorial policy CanWest, headed by Winnipeg's Asper family, has imposed on the 14 major Canadian newspapers in the Southam chain it purchased last summer.

Under the new editorial policy, Southam papers must now publish up to three "national editorials" penned at the company's Winnipeg head office. Regional editorial writers and editors are not permitted to contradict opinions conveyed in the national editorials.

In criticizing CanWest's policies, Carlin and Dornan are contributing to a debate that has been absent from CanWest-owned media. The company has forbidden public debate of the issue in the newspapers it controls.

"They are dicing here with the very credibility of their newspapers," said Dornan.

"The coin of a newspaper is a sort of contract between itself and the readership that says we are going to give you, the reader, an interesting and varied discussion about the conduct of this country."

Dornan believes the reputation of Southam papers stands to suffer if CanWest refuses to amend its editorial policies.

"If the Southam papers become tarred by the perception on the part of the readers that they are simply the mouthpiece for the idiosyncratic political beliefs of the owners, then their standing and their value is going to be diminished in the eyes of their readers," Dornan said.

According to Carlin, a reputable Southam newspaper chain is vital for the healthy functioning of freedom of the press in Canada.

"I would hope that these are a few early missteps in the revitalization of Southam," he said. "This country can't afford the decline of a newspaper chain that is in every major city in the country."

"The newspaper business is in bad enough shape. We need a healthy Southam."

Carlin questions whether CanWest can produce editorials that are truly nationally relevant.

"Having a national editorial is not in itself something immoral or unethical, but I think a lot of us looked at the first one — a change of tax treatment for family trusts — and said, 'couldn't they have thought of something better and less self-serving.'"

Carlin said the Aspers stand to benefit from such a change to tax laws, as they have one of the largest private foundations in the country.

Dornan said he isn't necessarily opposed to national editorials, but expressed concern over the methods with which the ownership has promulgated its views.

"I think there's a way to express opinions that is less hamfisted than the way they are currently going about doing it," he said, adding there are more palatable alternatives.

"One, use the National Post. Set your national editorial policy using the national newspaper that you already own. Or alternatively, make these editorial pronouncements in addition to the local editorials, not in the place of the local editorials," he said.

Murdoch Davis, Southam's editor-in-chief, had not returned phone calls by press time.

Carlin said the Aspers' background in commercial television could explain some of CanWest's recent behaviour toward its newspapers.

"The basic purpose of commercial television is assembling eyeballs in front of a screen to sell commercials. I think some people are transferring those sorts of instincts and attitudes into the newspaper business, where it's not appropriate," he said.

Dornan said that although some of the Aspers' new policies are of concern, freedom of the press in Canada isn't being trampled.

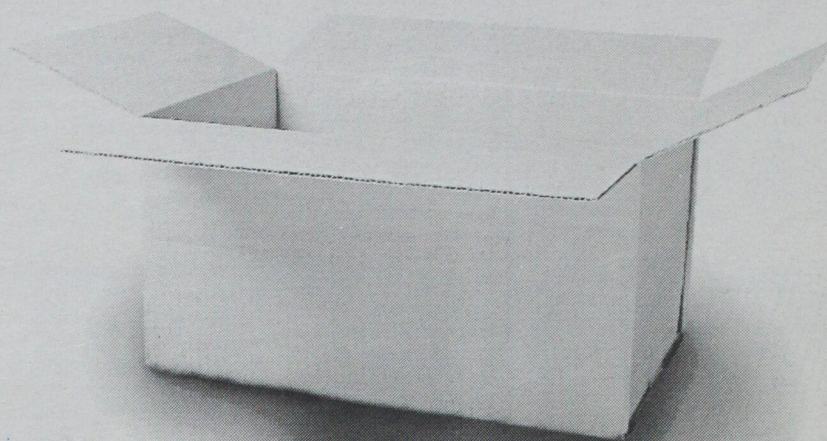
"One doesn't want to lean on the panic button and say 'yes, freedom of expression is under assault in this country.' Compared to other jurisdictions elsewhere on the globe, this is quite a robust democracy we've got going here."

Carlin said CanWest's actions are not so much an assault on freedom of the press as the company's failure to carry out the mission of a newspaper.

"Sure it's a business and you do everything you can to maximize the profitability of the business, but do it with a sense of public purpose, of responsibility to free-flowing public debate," he said.



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