

731 4TH ST
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The Aggregate

a production of the BCIT Alumni Association for the graduates of BCIT

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
HOTLINE 434-5734
local 827



BUILDING TECH. PROUDLY DISPLAYS TROPHY WHICH THEY WON FOR BEST DISPLAY AT OPEN HOUSE

12,000 ATTEND OPEN HOUSE

Yes, we were there... and so were many of you.

Through the March 23, 24 and 25 weekend, over 100 alumni came to the display, not only from the Greater Vancouver area, but from both the island and the interior.

Our display consisted of reproductions of photographs from years gone by. Some grads from 1966 gave anguished cries of: "We really didn't look like that... did we?" when they found pictures from their BCIT days.

Every grad who did visit filled out a current address card so we can be sure this newsletter reaches you. And if you know of other alumni who didn't make it to Open House, please ask them to drop us a card with their current address, so we can update our files.

Overall, Open House was a huge success with some of the best displays seen in years. Credit goes to all the students who participated in putting their technologies' displays together. Most especially, credit is due to this year's VP External, Cathy McMahon and her group for co-ordinating and running the whole show so beautifully.

The winning display was Building with Fish, Wildlife and Recreation and Financial Management receiving honorable mentions. For you Engineering grads, SET gave their award for best display to Civil and Structural.

For those who visited Open House, we're really glad you did. And for those who didn't make it this year, BCIT will be doing it again in 1981—but make a point of visiting and seeing how things have developed long before then.

Finance and Marketing party well attended

Finance and Marketing grads rocked the night away on October 20, 1978 at Lochdale Hall in Burnaby. The night started off with people greeting old friends and meeting other grads. Before long, everybody was up and dancing to music supplied by Mike Sambushi.

The event was well-organized by Joanne Usselman, John Senick, Bob Clewlow, Nancy Chow, Dale McKenzie and Mike, and many others.

Everyone who attended had a really good time reminiscent of the many past BCIT pubs we've all attended.

Your Alumni Association

The Alumni Association has many things planned for its members in the year to come.

- Monthly meetings will be held and everyone who is interested is welcome to attend.

- A study will be conducted throughout the summer to develop a means of contacting our widespread membership. Your input into this study will be more than welcome.

- More newsletters are planned and it is hoped that more of you will contribute. At this time, the plan is to send out a newsletter every two months.

- Your Alumni Association will be putting together a package for technologies interested in starting their own AAS. We're also looking for people to accept the responsibility of organizing their techs.

- This summer the Alumni Association will be setting up an office on campus to answer your questions and put you in contact with whoever can help you.

- On the social side, there is a Spring Reunion being planned for all BCIT grads.

Only by your becoming involved in these activities will the Alumni Association be able to make a go of it.

Wine and cheese party a success

In order to continue to draw new life into the Alumni Association, we took our recruitment campaign onto campus on March 29, 1979. We invited all second-year tech-reps to a wine and cheese reception where we gathered their ideas about the Alumni as well as shared our objectives and accomplishments to date with them. The purpose of the gathering was to tell the graduating students that there is an active Association with which they can get involved.

If your tech rep hasn't told you about us, ask! If you want more, write us in care of D. Melville, Information Services, BCIT.

Welcome to the Alumni Grads of 1979

Congratulations to all. To first year students, congrats, you have made it through one year with one more very short year to go. To second year students, also congratulations and welcome to the BCIT Alumni Association. All of you have been through two very tough years and maybe the last thing you want to do is still be connected with the ol' Institute. However, most of you, if not all of you, will at some time in the future have some cause to become reacquainted with BCIT.

Most graduates may return to take additional courses offered through continuing education. Some of you may return to use the gym facilities here. A few of the diehards may still come back to attend the infamous pubnights and dances. However, whatever your reason may be, the Alumni Association plays a role.

At the present time the Alumni Association is in a rebuilding stage. Having remained dormant for the past six years, it is my hope the Alumni Association can be revived. The reasons for the sudden revival are varied, but each of the executive and Directors are committed to making it work.

Aside from the current and upcoming events found elsewhere on this page the Alumni Association is involved with the creation of an Educational Council at BCIT, on which we will be presenting a report at the end of the year. At the present time the Alumni Association is holding an election for an Alumni Board of Governors Representative who would sit on the Board at BCIT.

What is this thing called an Alumni ?

The Alumni Association consists of all post grads of BCIT. Anyone who holds a Diploma of Technology automatically becomes a member. This year, after several sporadic attempts by past groups, the Alumni Association has finally come under the management of a dedicated group and is fast becoming an active and stable entity.

Its aims are several:

- to provide a voice for grads past and future;
- to maintain and upgrade the quality of the Diploma of Technology;
- to provide a source of employers and employees for grads; and

As you can see, the BCIT Alumni Association is involved in diverse ways, but our main goal is to organize all technologies into their own alumnae. But we need people who will take on the responsibility of doing this organization. This is a big job and can't be done overnight. We need people who wouldn't mind spending a couple of hours a week on this task. The satisfaction that can be received is tremendous.

Again, on behalf of the Alumni Association, congratulations to all of the graduating students. All the best for the future, cheers and good luck.

Ian Robertson,
President,
BCIT Alumni Association

MOVING ...

**send us
your change
of address**

•to act as liaison between grads and the Institute.

What's in it for you? The Alumni Association can provide an opportunity for you to reach other grads—classmates you've lost track of. Perhaps you are in a position to hire grads. Contracting the Association can provide you with information about what this year's grads are doing.

In order for us to put other grads in contact with you, we must keep up-to-date records—so, when you move, send us a change of address. One more address card is one more step towards a total liaison among ten years of grads.

COMPUTER GRADS IN BIG DEMAND

In the main, unemployment levels in Canada have remained at about eight per cent throughout the last year. The rate for the 20-24 age group has reached a level of 10 per cent in B.C. However, against this background, BCIT graduates still fare well in the employment market. The 1978 graduates were 89 per cent placed within three months of graduation. The 1979 graduates, so far, are experiencing steady interest from employers, and for some technologies placements for graduates are reaching the 50 per cent level at this time.

BCIT graduates have a well proven reputation with employers as trained technologists, capable of assuming responsible positions. As a result, we have at present approximately 100 positions listed with our office, for immediate availability, directed at BCIT alumni. Our alumni files do not hold as many referrals as jobs received, therefore many jobs go unfilled for months.

The one area of opportunity that we have difficulty filling is the Technical Sales group. The employer generally wants a trained technologist from one of the Engineering technologies, who has good written and oral communication skills and an ability and desire to represent the company in a sales capacity. These jobs are usually salaried, and the sales are very low pressure. Although we have graduates on file, in most cases they lack good communications skills.

Employers are very eager to hire BCIT Computer Technology graduates this year and they are experiencing the greatest amount of opportunities to choose from. Alberta companies are showing a strong interest in this group also. Salaries are becoming very competitive in this industry and consequently graduates are earning in excess of \$1,100 per month to start.

It is difficult to assess areas of strength and weaknesses right now, although the general feeling is very healthy for graduates, but by the end of the summer we will have some statistics of graduate placements and salary averages, which will be published in the early fall.

Jacquie Jones,
Canada Manpower Office,
BCIT.

Alumni hosts BOG

On March 14, the Alumni Association gave a dinner-meeting for the members of our Board of Governors at BCIT in the hopes of spurring their interest and support for the coming fiscal year. The result was success. Members of the Board attended along with Principal G. Thom and associate faculty members. The topic for the evening was none other than the Alumni Association itself.

Ian Robertson, President of the Alumni Association, began the presentation by introducing the new directorship of the Alumni Association to the Board of Governors, adding, in his usual manner, a few funny and some not-so-funny quips to the introduction. (On well Ian—we can't win 'em all!) Vice-President, Anne Marie Webb, then attempted to win a few hearts by going into detail on the many activities and accomplishments of the Alumni Association since its appointment in

cont'd on page 4



PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU (AT THE TIME OF PHOTO) MET WITH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION V.P., ANNE MARIE WEBB. (CENTRE)

Alumni toboggan places first

By MARSH HEINEKEY*
CET. C & S 75

BCIT Alumni and students from the Civil and Structural Technology participated in the 5th annual Great Northern Concrete Toboggan Race at Calgary's Happy Valley on February 24, 1979. This is the second year BCIT has participated and the first year for an Alumni entry.

HISTORY

Concrete tobogganing started in the year 1974. Some instructors at the University of Calgary thought they would put some fun into their concrete courses by challenging other institutes to race using concrete toboggans, which are similar to the concrete canoe races held in the States. Well, SAIT, NAIT and U of A took up the challenge and the event was an instant success, with more and more universities and colleges and institutes getting into the act.

BCIT entered in 1978 when the event was hosted by UBC at Cypress Bowl. BCIT finished second and vowed to return in 1979.

WHAT IS CONCRETE TOBOGGANING?

Concrete tobogganing is an attempt by five people to ride a 100-500 kg concrete slab down an 18 per cent snow covered hill as fast as possible. The toboggans are designed and built by the students. Prizes are awarded for engineering, design, "beauty," as well as speed.

The running surface of the toboggan must be made of concrete. Emphasis is placed on trying to make the concrete surface as smooth as possible to reduce friction. However, very little thought is put into stopping the toboggan after it has crossed the finish line and most of the injuries and problems occur after this point. These sleds have reached speeds in excess of 60 kmh.

RESULTS

This year BCIT sent four student teams and one Alumni team. The Alumni team recorded the fastest time ever, covering the 70 meter course in 6.69 seconds. (This is the exact same team and toboggan which came second last year. The rest of the BCIT teams placed in the top half of the 37 team

field.) First place in the undergraduate class went to NAIT, so they will host the 1980 event.

SUMMARY

Concrete tobogganing is a novel way to combine concrete technology and fun. It is a good way to visit and meet other students in a similar field of study. Students represented every university, college and institute with civil programs in the four western provinces and one entry from Washington State.

Alumni teams from four institutes including BCIT were there and more will participate next year. The BCIT Alumni Association supports this type of interaction and participation and helped to sponsor the BCIT team.

It is hoped that similar activities will be developed in other technologies.

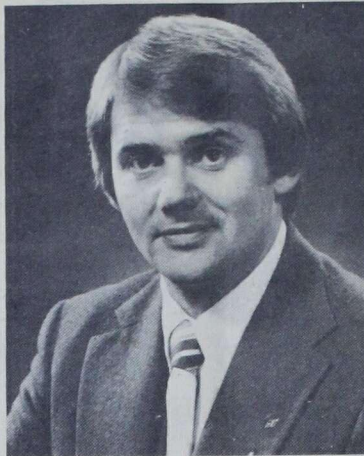
*IF YOU ARE WONDERING WHY ALL THE CAPTIONS ARE HAND WRITTEN INSTEAD OF TYPED, SO ARE WE. OUR TYPESET MACHINE WAS NOT WORKING. AND WE WANTED TO GET THIS OUT FAST. HOPE YOU CAN READ MY HANDWRITING - ED.

SETBC post for Heinekey

M.J. (Marsh) Heinekey, Civil and Structural, has been named president of the Society of Engineering Technologists of B.C.

Heinekey, who has previously served as the association's vice-president, told fellow members he will continue to pursue the matter of professional legislation governing the certification, registration, ethics and discipline of engineering technicians and technologists of B.C.

A BCIT graduate, he worked in the industry as a construction materials manager before joining the BCIT faculty.



BOG dinner cont'd

November, 1978. The long and short term goals of the Alumni Association (explained in the Article "What is an Alumni Association?" by Jean Worthington) were discussed, and Anne Marie's presentation ended with an outline of our activities for the next year (details in our article "Up-and-Coming Events" by Joan Angrignon). Stu Worthington, Treasurer of the Alumni Association, made a brief summary on the expenditures for the past fiscal year, and presented an outline of where next year's funds would be used—if the amount were approved by the Board of Governors.

The evening finished up with a thank-you message from Principal Gordon Thom and final summation by Ian Robertson. "I guess we must have done something right," was the comment from one member, since our budget has been approved and it's full steam ahead for a very busy, very hopeful, and with a pinch of good luck, very productive year for BCIT's Alumni Association.

Robert Simons new Alumni rep on BCIT BOG

The Board of Governors received the proposed format for the Five Year Plan as the basis for the five year planning and budgeting; endorsement of the Five Year Plan is to be deferred until the Educational Council has been established and has advised the Board with respect to the Five Year Plan.

The Board approved the proposal for an Educational Council, and requested the Secretary to forward the proposal to legal counsel for legal vetting.

Nominations to fill positions on the Board were received from both the Student Association and the BCIT Alumni Association.

Elected by the Alumni Association was Robert Simons, a double diploma graduate in Marketing in 1972 followed by graduation in Financial Management in 1973. He immediately joined B.C. Tel where he is now Product Manager—Long Distance Options.

Gordon Rollick, second-year student in Administrative Management was elected by the students as their representative on the Board.

Both nominations will be forwarded to Victoria for confirmation and would become effective July 24.



A LARGE CROWD WAS ON HAND TO HEAR TROPEAU WHEN HE VISITED BCIT.