

the *Link*

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STUDY SPACES

STUDENT CENTRE PLANS REVEALED



The Link

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ABOUT THE LINK

The Link is the British Columbia Institute of Technology's student newspaper. Published bi-weekly by the BCIT Student Association (BCITSA), The Link circulates 3,000 copies to over 45,000 students, faculty, and staff.

THE LINK

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PHOTO of the WEEK



A future BCIT student gets a taste of what it's like on the high steel at BCIT Open House 2012. More on page 3.

BCIT

Hey shutterbugs! Want to make some cash?

The Link is seeking photos related to BCIT campus life for page two of each issue. We'll pay you \$10 for each one we publish. Send your shot to link@bcitsa.ca but make sure it's less than three megabytes in size. Please include your name and a description of what you shot.



CAMPUS QUERY

The SA is spending \$3 million to put a student centre in SE2. Do you think BCIT needs this student space?



MAX FRIESEN
BCIT Rec employee

"I think that if it's going to mean more school pride and more school unity then sure, but if not, I think there is other stuff we could spend the money on."



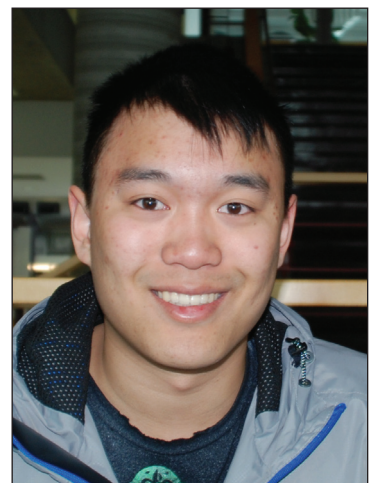
MATTHEW HUNT
Broadcast Journalism

"With a technical school there is lots of money and resources that have to be spent... It's good for everybody as long as students get open access to it."



AMRITA UPPAL
Marketing & Professional Sales

"If it's just another space to hang out and book rooms, then it isn't really an efficient use of \$3 million. I don't think I would really use it that much so I don't think it's a good use of money."



LUCAS CHUNG
Financial Management

"Of course. We need a good balance here because we work so hard so I think it's a good idea we have a student space. I think it's a good investment."

CORRECTION NOTICE: The Link would like to offer apologies to Alex Geoffrey Lee, Daniel Huh, and Rohan D'Souza for errors in their candidate profiles in our last issue's BCITSA election supplement. We regret the error and have established new proofreading procedures to avoid similar mistakes in the future.

Minister of jobs announces record-breaking year

Number of qualified tradespersons breaks records as demand for skilled workers soars

JASON SCHREURS
Camosun College

VICTORIA, B.C. — The carpentry program at Camosun College's Interurban campus was the scene of a major announcement in the provincial trades industry on Thursday, April 19.

B.C. Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation Pat Bell stopped by campus to announce that a record-breaking number of tradespersons have qualified as journeypersons this year.

"There are great opportunities in our province for skilled workers, and now more than ever we need men and women to choose a career in the trades," said Bell during the announcement. "Whether you're entering the workforce for the first time, re-entering it or changing careers, there is an opportunity in the trades for you. It's an exciting career path, and it's great to see that this year we're seeing a record-breaking number of apprentices qualifying for their certification."

Joining Bell for the announcement was Kevin Evans, CEO of the Industry Training Authority (ITA), Camosun College President



B.C. Jobs Minister Pat Bell speaks to carpentry program reps and Camosun College President Kathryn Laurin.

Allan Shook

Kathryn Laurin, as well as instructors and students from the college's carpentry program.

According to Cam Russell, Camosun's chair of architectural trades, having Bell and Evans tour the carpentry department in the Drysdale building at Interurban was a huge advantage for the college.

"Neither of these gentlemen had ever visited the Interurban campus before," says Russell, "so it was an excellent way to show them our trades training facilities and what our students do."

The ITA awarded almost

9,000 certificates of qualification during the 2011-12 year, the largest number since the ITA was established in 2004. The record number of certificates is a 20 per cent increase over 2010-11. A certificate, also known as a "ticket," allows a tradesperson to get full market value as a journeyperson and act as a mentor for other apprentices.

Evans spoke on what the record number of certificates means for BC's training and apprenticeship programs, the future of skilled labour in the province, and what industry, employers, government, and postsecondary institutions

such as Camosun need to do in order to meet labour demands.

"This milestone achievement provides evidence that BC's industry training system is performing at the level required to meet BC's skilled labour demands," said Evans. "The record demand for an ITA credential demonstrates how highly valued it is by both employers and skilled tradespeople."

According to the ITA, over 100,000 jobs will open up in BC trades over the next decade, causing a potential shortage of skilled workers in the province.

CAMPUS SHORTS

Innovation challenge winner announced

Over 70 applicants entered the BCIT's third annual Student Innovation Challenge, with the hopes of winning the coveted first place \$5,000 prize. The contest, open to all BCIT students, requires contenders to submit an original business concept for assessment by an extensive judging panel. Nicola Gardner, who also serves as the BCIT Student Association president, submitted the winning entry.

The business student's winning idea is a food waste collection company she calls Green Earth. It would transport discarded food waste from restaurants and deliver it to an organic processing facility. This waste could then be used to make bio-fuels or compost.

Gardner explained she got the idea while working in the food service industry.

"I used to serve as a waitress and I always noticed the amount of food waste going into the garbage, and it always used to bother me," she told *The Link*. "It's an alternative to throwing things in the landfill."

Vancouver Art Gallery goes up in smoke

Red-eyed cannabis enthusiasts gathered outside the Vancouver Art Gallery (VAG) on April 20 to celebrate the marijuana holiday known as 4/20. An estimated crowd of 20,000 people were on hand using bong, smoking joints, and consuming baked marijuana snacks while listening to anti-prohibition lectures between live bands.

Expecting even bigger crowds than previous years, the City of Vancouver allowed event organizers to expand the event perimeter beyond the VAG border. Tents selling cannabis paraphernalia lined Howe and Hornby streets, directly adjacent to what was once the Vancouver courthouse.

Activist Dan, who declined to give his last name, believes the event felt more commercial than in previous years which negatively impacted the celebration's atmosphere.

"I haven't come for 4/20 to a couple years, but I don't remember people selling so much stuff," he explained. "It doesn't feel like a protest anymore. It's too commercial."

— David Swanson

BCIT opens its doors to prospective students

Nearly 20,000 prospective students and community members attend BCIT Open House 2012

DAVID SWANSON
Assistant Editor

BCIT Open House 2012 attracted nearly 20,000 people to its Burnaby campus. Over 150 student displays were organized for the two day event, which helped elementary and secondary students from neighbouring communities learn about the programs available at BCIT.

What set this event apart from similar events hosted by other schools is the level of involvement it elicits from students. It is an interactive and collaborative effort between students, staff, and faculty, to engage, entertain, and educate prospective students.

Michael Boronowski, the primary organizer of Open House, believes BCIT's motivated, high achieving student body should be credited with the event's success.

"They know what they are going to do when they graduate, they're proud of what they do, they're great at what they

do and they're great at talking about it," Boronowski told *The Link*.

Community outreach performed prior to the event also played a major role in generating interest and a large turnout. Communication using both online technology and connecting to educators in different lower mainland regions proved effective.

Some lucky attendees also took home prizes, including \$5,000 worth of tuition at BCIT, a free part time studies course, and an iPad.

The school of business' radio broadcasting program was

crowned with the Best Overall Display award in recognition for being instrumental in making the open house a success. It got participants to help produce voice commercials, edit audio, and even allowed a select few students to sing live on air.

It's been less than two weeks since the event, but feedback has already started to trickle in and it has been largely positive.

"The feedback we got from visitors was that they were blown away by the level of knowledge, confidence and expertise that our students had," Boronowski said.

Gaming systems used to advance prosthetics development

BCIT is using household technology to develop prosthetics for amputees

KEVIN WILLEMSE

Editor

BCIT's Centre for Applied Research has embarked on the development of a biokinetic analysis platform that allows the capture and measure of the full degree of motion, impact, and associated challenges with the development of prosthetic limbs. The aim is to use the data to develop improved prosthetic devices and rehabilitation exercises for amputees. While this might seem mundane to some, the unique thing about their project is the components used — an everyday Nintendo Wii Balance Board and Xbox Kinect camera.

The project began with funding from WorkSafeBC, who were looking for tools to assess prosthetic components to see if they were providing the best function possible for amputees in the workplace. The initial development research tool was a simple questionnaire; amputees stated their requirements and problems experienced with the use of artificial limbs, which was then collated into general data as a basis for improving the prosthetic devices as well as fitting limbs. This was in line with industry standards, but this was recognised as ineffective early into the project.

"What we found was that all of the questionnaires developed are actually not very useful in the clinical setting," said Silvia Raschke, project leader



BCIT's Centre for Applied Research is using gaming systems common in many households to collect information to develop prosthetic limbs.

Courtesy of Microsoft

of BCIT's Technology Centre and Product Evaluation Group (TPEG). "We talked to a bunch of physiatrists, physio- and occupational therapists, amputees and prosthetic orthotists, and everyone came back to us saying that they never use any of the questionnaires." This led TPEG to change direction towards a less academic, more practical assessment tool.

"Lots of people are overdeveloping tools," Raschke told *The Link*, "but there really isn't anything that meets anything near the standard provided to us by a biomechanics lab." The labs Raschke refers to, — which involve motion-capturing camera arrays, precision force plates, and advanced biokinetic monitoring equipment hooked into advanced computer programs — can run into millions of dollars, and

are used to assess and develop prosthetic limbs to suit the majority of amputees as best as possible. However, most clinicians do not have access to this equipment, and therefore often struggle to identify and measure the specific requirements of their individual patients.

BCIT's labs may bring these diagnostic abilities within reach of most clinicians.

Through extensive testing and development of a simpler, more affordable solution based on existing devices such as the Wii Balance

Board, BCIT's labs may bring these diagnostic abilities within reach of most clinicians. Through more scientific diagnoses they can then bring improved mobility and comfort to those relying on prosthetic limbs.

"Looking at literature, one of the challenges clinicians face is a lack of funding to purchase equipment such as motion capture systems and similar very sophisticated technology," says Caroline Soo, a researcher in the school of health's clinical prosthetics and orthotics department. "The other side of that is, once you get the data, what do you do with it? How is it clinically significant? How do they apply it to the patient? Our goal is to address these barriers."

This focus on generating real-world solutions for real-world problems is echoed by the establishment of BCIT's Living Lab, a large configurable simulation facility which allows researchers to evaluate products, ideas and research in a natural setting, such as prosthetics devices as well as their diagnostic products and technologies.

"Depending on the technology we are testing, we can have it set up like a doctor's office, or hospital, or someone's home, to create a realistic environment," researcher Johanne Mattie told *The Link*. "[We can] bring the technology in, bring end users in, have them try things out, and provide direct feedback to the developer of the product or program."

Some of the challenges TPEG faces are related to the accuracy and tolerances of the Wii Balance Boards, which are currently under scrutiny and discussion with Nintendo, to assess whether they meet the gold standard demanded by BCIT.

Other obstacles include the software which will translate the Wii and Kinect data into usable, interactive diagnostic outputs. For this, the Applied Research Labs are looking to BCIT students to develop a solution; the school of computing is being involved to potentially develop the software which will generate useable diagnostic results, as well as the 'games' which will be used to diagnose and rehabilitate patients both in doctors' offices, or even in their patients' homes one day.

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Winning candidates Zac Der, Geoffrey Smith, Sophia Coulter, Mike Hanson, Daniel Huh, Brian Harvey, Ross Wamboldt, Minoru Nakano, and Marwan Marwan.

John Morrison III

Record turnout for BCITSA elections

Successful candidate credits turnout to recruitment, campaign team's hard work

THORSTAN GERLACH
Culture Editor

As far back as files are available, the BCIT Student Association broke records in both candidate and voter turnout in its most recent general election, which wrapped up last Friday.

Voter turnout rates continued their meteoric rise, almost doubling last year's participation. 2,818 BCIT students cast the ballots compared to 1,460 last April.

President-elect Daniel Huh credits the spike in voter turnout to the job the Student Association as well as candidates' determination to get elected.

"I think it shows how dedicated the candidates were this year and how much they cared and I think the Student Association's posters and marketing was really good," Huh told *The Link* in a phone interview. "The chairs from last year did a really good job in letting people know to run and get involved."

The incoming president says while his victory is exciting, the experience of running in the election was humbling.

"I'm overwhelmed. All the support everyone showed us from all the different schools, you know, once they found out what we could do for them, people came back to us. I had a lot of school of business support too and it just shows that we have the best people there and I really couldn't have done it without them."

"My team was amazing. I give absolutely full credit to them, there's no way I could've made it without them."

— Daniel Huh,
BCITSA president-elect

For Huh, who is a second-year financial management student, the win is a little bittersweet as he says getting to know the other candidates made him appreciate the hard work they put into their campaigns.

"I'm a little heartbroken with the people that didn't make it because I did get to meet a lot of candidates and

consider a lot of them my friends now. Just seeing how much they had to step out of their comfort zone, I have a lot of respect for them."

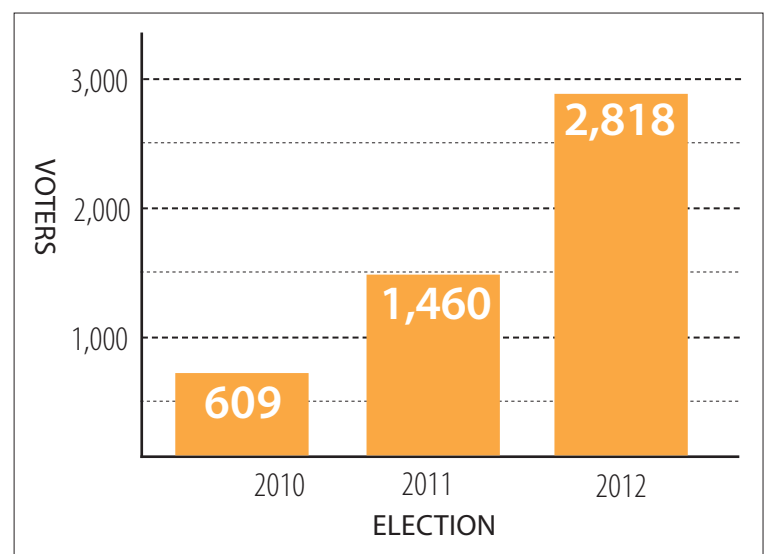
While Huh is healthy now, his campaign had been put in jeopardy when he was hospitalized with an acute digestive intestinal disease the same week voting and campaigning was set to start.

He credits his team for all the hard work they put in when he was hospitalized and was startled to see his face everywhere once he came back to school.

"When I came back to school, literally, the place was plastered and my face was everywhere. My team was amazing. I give absolutely full credit to them, there's no way I could've made it without them."

Huh says his first steps as president will be simple, as he wants to let students know he and his team are here to help.

"I'm not going to make outrageous promises or anything... I just want everyone to know and bring a little awareness to what we can do for students. If you have a problem with something come chat, I'm willing to hear anything out. I'm all ears."



A breakdown of voter turnout over the last three years.

BCITSA GENERAL ELECTION WINNERS

PRESIDENT	Daniel Huh
VP-FINANCE	Geoffrey Smith
VP-EXTERNAL	Mike Hanson
VP-CAMPUS LIFE	Sophia Coulter
VP-STUDENT AFFAIRS	Marwan Marwan
CHAIR, SCHOOL OF ENERGY	Denis Dobrozdravich
CHAIR, SCHOOL OF BUSINESS	Ross Wamboldt
CHAIR, SCHOOL OF HEALTH	Zac Der
CHAIR, SCHOOL OF TRANSPORTATION, CONSTRUCTION AND THE ENVIRONMENT	Brian Harvey
CHAIR, SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND ACADEMIC STUDIES	Minoru Nakano
CHAIR, AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY CAMPUS	Dave Clarke

Dubstep: the porn of music

Why friends don't let friends play dubstep in mixed company

BRAD MICHELSON
University of Victoria

VICTORIA (CUP) — Have you ever noticed that dubstep is kind of like porn? No? Well, think about it.

When someone talks about their interest in dubstep, they're often given the same looks that people get if they openly discuss their porn obsession. You often hear people use the same adjectives to describe the two, like "dirty," "hardcore" or "wob-wob" (an equivalent to "fap-fap"). Both porn and dubstep keep a heavy beat, raise your pulse and get your juices flowing.

I don't often listen to it, but when I do, I'm generally alone in my room with headphones on. If you've ever done the same, you know that it's a scene reminiscent of a 16-year-old exploring his sexuality in the confines of his man-cave. Your body often gets into the rhythm of the music, moving along with the beat. Then, suddenly, someone walks in and sees you "rocking out." The person panics, rushes out of the room and closes the door behind them. Now, red-faced for a variety of reasons, you're left with a tough choice: do you give in to your embarrassment and put your iPod away, or do you pretend it didn't happen and continue from where you left off?

It's not much different in a group setting. When you're hanging out with a group at a friend's house, someone will inevitably make a joke about either

dubstep or porn. That's when that guy springs to action. That guy is the friend in every group who gets a little too excited. He will grab the closest laptop, put on his favourite song, and spout some pretentious rant along the lines of, "Dude, you have to check out this new Bassnectar track. It's so filthy, man. Well, it's not exactly his. It's a remix of a project that Unicorn Kid did with Jon Gooch a few years back when they were performing at Ibiza."

After searching through YouTube to find the right version of the track, he jumps up the video quality to 720p, expecting it to sound better though the crappy laptop speakers. As the track starts to pick up, that guy scans the room, waiting for everyone to get as into it as he is. He makes at least one person utterly uncomfortable, but the poor soul

doesn't say anything for fear of making it weird for everyone else. The victim just sits on the side and nods along to the confusing, jargon-riddled conversation happening over the sounds of '90s computer modems making love. Be considerate — don't force your friends to listen to dubstep. It gets awkward, just like porn.

Both porn and dubstep keep a heavy beat, raise your pulse and get your juices flowing.

The only place that porn is socially acceptable in a group setting is at an orgy, which seems

eerily similar to a Skrillex concert. The audience is a mixed bunch. There are people dressed in scandalous clothes and others popping pills to improve their performance and experience. The event goes on into the early hours of the morning, when participants are completely spent and dehydrated. To top it all off, the creepy ringleader is a former emo icon with a haircut that makes you wonder if he has ever owned a mirror.

In the end, dubstep and porn are just two industries offering products and services that allow people to go wild and explore a hidden side of themselves. There will always be a perverted subculture to both as they push their popularity into the mainstream for the masses to exploit and get off on.

After all, we're all just waiting for the drop.

Scarlet Letters A biweekly sex column by BCIT's own Scarlet de Sade

Dear Scarlet,

I have two weddings to attend over the summer. As a single guy, I was hoping you could give me some tips on how to meet women at these events?

— Looking For Action

Dear LFA,

If you can't get laid by just wearing your smartest suit, here are a few extra tips on wedding attendance to help a single young man like yourself out.

Don't be afraid to let loose and dance —even if it's the chicken dance or the Macarena. No can resist the confidence associated with the ability to make an fool of yourself at a formal function.

Make sure you drink responsibly. Despite popular belief, tying one on will not bring that special someone closer to you. In fact, the quickest way to send the ladies in the other direction would be to get drunk and knock over the ice sculpture.

You can also dance with someone twice your age. Dancing with grandma shows the ladies you not only have the courage to get your toes stepped on, but that you have a sense of humour.

One more thing, LFA, remember to bring condoms with you.

There is no guarantee that the washroom will have a dispenser and you don't want to find yourself snuggling up with that special lady in the early hours with nothing to protect you but your cummerbund.

— Scarlet

You should discuss with your doctor just in case. Although it's an everyday occurrence for someone to have an allergic reaction to semen, it's also not completely uncommon.

— Scarlet

Dear Scarlet,

Whenever I give my boyfriend oral sex and there is semen on his penis, the back of my mouth feels like it is going numb and my throat feels like it is closing up on me. Could I possibly be allergic to him?

— Throat Troubles

Dear TT,

Do you use any lubricants that might get on his penis, perhaps during foreplay? Lubricant allergies are not uncommon and could potentially be the cause the reaction.

Alternatively, it could be something as simple as performance anxiety. Even the biggest fellatio fanatics have suffered from panic-type symptoms when they were not sure about what they're doing the first few times. However, your description of numbness and feeling like your throat is closing up does set off a few alarm bells.

Dear Scarlet,

I just started dating a guy who has a piercing on his penis. Is this dangerous to me?

— Scared of Studded Stuff

Dear SOSS,

Kinky? Yes. Dangerous? Not necessarily, but you may want to take a few precautionary steps to protect yourself. As there is no way to guarantee that the condom won't break, you will want to make sure he's been tested for sexually transmitted infections and use an alternative form of birth control to prevent pregnancy.

Making sure you're well lubricated during intercourse will help minimize the chance of the condom ripping, so stay safe!

— Scarlet

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scarlet.letters.bcit@gmail.com

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Legacy Club holds photography contest

BCIT's Legacy Club is announcing the winners of the club's recent photography competition on April 25. Currently, students can view the entries on the second floor of the library, and winners will be decided by executives from the club and library staff. The ceremony will give a chance for all the entrants to meet and receive cash prizes.

The Legacy Club, started last year by Kathleen Bird, is dedicated to gathering students from everywhere on the BCIT campus together to leave a legacy of some kind every year.

"The black and white photography contest was created to showcase all the cool things that are done at BCIT and by the different programs around campus," Bird told *The Link*.

"The Legacy Club is all about having the chance to practice leadership qualities, getting to know people outside their own program, and, of course, leaving a lasting legacy at BCIT."

Last year, the club planted a cherry blossom tree outside SE6 where a plaque cements the club's legacy.

A small selection of the entries can be found on this page.

— Thorstan Gerlach



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Thomas Hilton (Tesla coil), Tessa Lynn Ferneyhough (woman in helicopter), Ben Kowalyk (late night studying), Tanan Kesornbua (man with headphones), Adelene Fernande (closeup of switch), Victor Wong (man with video camera)



BCIT Student Association reveals plans for new student centre

Student centre to provide a place to study, socialize, and relax

KEVIN WILLEMSE
Editor

The BCIT Student Association has unveiled plans for creating a modern overhaul of the SE2 building at BCIT's Burnaby campus, turning the second and third floors into a state-of-the-art, interactive student centre. This comes hot on the heels of the announcement of a child-care centre to be opened in the Royal Oak SE41 building early next year.

While plans are not completely finalized, the proposed layouts offer an ambitious array of services for students. Firstly, the Great Hall is due for minor renovation at first, including a flooring overhaul meant to give it a more warm and

modern appeal. The existing cafeteria seating will be revamped and will extend its colourful décor into the Great Hall area, merging both into an inviting social atmosphere for students to gather.

After the second floor is vacated, construction will start on creating the study areas, multipurpose meeting spaces, and more highly sought bookable project rooms where the Student Association offices currently exist. Near the end of 2012, a contemporary helical staircase is proposed to open up access from the Great Hall to the third floor as an expansive stretch of striking student space. While the final ideas have not been decided, plans include audio-visual enabled project rooms, configurable club and event areas, a study lounge, and assorted multipurpose rooms over-

looking the newly renovated Great Hall.

With its outdoor rooftop decks on both sides and quiet meditation room, the coupled floors are meant to become the centre of student life on campus. Of course, multiple power outlets, WiFi connectivity and quality water fountains are high on the list of priorities.

The two floors comprising some 10,000 square feet in SE2 set for renovation is currently occupied by BCIT officials, which will be relocated to SW1 as phase one of the project, starting in September. Thereafter, both floors will be gutted and re-configured into a modern, comfortable and fully outfitted area, which the Student Association hopes will become the heart of BCIT's student body, focused on what they would benefit from most.

YEARS IN THE MAKING

Student Association Director Caroline Gagnon spoke to *The Link* about the venture she has held close to her heart for many years, what it means for BCIT and the students, and how she wants to address many of the needs currently experienced by them.

Construction will start on creating the study areas, multipurpose meeting spaces, and more highly sought bookable project rooms.

"This should be the core of the campus. It should be a student building, and it should be a place where students can forget about

school, can have a place that they call home," says Gagnon.

Using an open plan layout, enhanced with glass panelling and comfortable, modern décor, the student centre will provide project rooms, mingling and networking areas for clubs, and presentation facilities. According to Gagnon, The project and design team are determined to not create a sterile, work-focused experience, lacking in personality.

The timing and budgets of the long-tabled Student Centre proposal, along with the need to expand the faculty offices, aligned perfectly and gave the project the \$3.25 million green light six months ago.

BY STUDENTS, FOR STUDENTS

With student wellbeing at the heart of the centre's design, Gagnon's first call was

to fourth-year architectural students from within BCIT. Their input, ideas and inspiration were collaborated into the final designs you are seeing on these pages.

"It was exciting to see the students come forward with their ideas," says BCIT Architectural and Building Engineering Technology instructor Wesley Wollin. "We just stepped back and let them run with their ideas... which resulted in the professional designs you see today."

For Wollin who oversaw the collaboration of the BCIT students and the Student Association, it was also one of the first times he and his students got a chance to really interact with the Student Association.

"They were always just there. We got to see how they are working for us, what they do, and engage with them on the project," he said.

An organic and coopera-

tive approach was adopted to arrive at the final design, which is being deliberately left open for translation closer to the actual build date. This allows the students, designers and architects freedom to adapt to whatever works best for the students in the space, once it is made available.

CHILDCARE CENTRE REOPENS

Another exciting component of this already impressive undertaking is the reviving of BCIT's childcare centre, which existed up until 2005. When that centre needed major renovations, it was forcibly closed but never restored, which soon made it another priority on Gagnon's radar.

"We fought to have BCIT renew their interest toward childcare, but they didn't. Then the administration changed, and the need for child care became more ac-

cepted," she said. "We put [the projects] together because it just made good sense."

"It should be a place where students can forget about school, can have a place that they call home"

— Caroline Gagnon,
BCITSA executive director

The child care centre will be professionally staffed and cater for 25 children from 30 months to five years old, and situated in Royal Oak SE41, behind the residence blocks. The location allows for convenient access for daycare pick-up and drop-offs, includes room for green space, and space for

a south-facing playground. Placement of children will be made available exclusively to BCIT faculty and students at competitive rates, and provide all the amenities and services of a first class child care facility.

The childcare centre will open in January 2013, and reservations are already being taken, so BCIT community members can visit the Uconnect Resource Centre to look into applying.

BUILDING THE HEART OF BCIT

Besides the Great Hall and various project, meeting, and networking rooms scattered around the campus, BCIT does not offer one main, central place for students to work, relax, mingle with friends, host club meetings, social gatherings — or all of the above. The new Student Centre aims to surpass the mere provision of facilities and create a place where students can converse,

share ideas, host events, and get some work done.

The design and build philosophy of the centre is to create a heart of the BCIT campus. The Student Association are aiming toward making student life on campus more fulfilling and enjoyable, and have welcomed input before construction starts in October, with the grand opening aimed at less than a year from today.

"This is finally the realization that this is a student centre; run by students, for students, and it is their space. That's what gets me excited," concludes Gagnon. "BCIT can be very sterile, very focused. This is a safe space where you've got all your services, you've got your food, you can meet your friends. I just want it to be a good student space."

If all goes as planned, it looks like she just might get her wish.



STUDY SPACES



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Conceptual illustrations by Billy KC Lee & Simon VanGrootheest. Plans are not final.



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Reimagine CBC seeks to revamp public broadcaster

Organization wants CBC to be more participatory, accessible to Canadians

DAVID SWANSON

Assistant Editor

The \$115 million cut to the CBC announced last month poses a significant challenge for Canada's public broadcaster. What adjustments will it need to make so it can continue to produce relevant Canadian content? Will it be able to maintain its national network so small rural communities remain connected to the rest of Canada?

To manage with this funding reduction, the CBC plans to eliminate 650 jobs over the next three years and has applied to carry advertising on its radio two network as a compensatory measure, a decision lamented by many fans of the public broadcaster. However, the situation may not be as bleak as it appears.

To prepare for the cuts, the Canadian Media Guild approached Vancouver-based Internet advocacy organization Open Media, hoping to collaborate on a project that could effectively intervene with their current dilemma. Their solution is Reimagine CBC.

Reimagine CBC was mobilized to help identify how stable funding coupled with low-cost media production strategies could strengthen the CBC. The initiative is based on the concept of crowdsourcing ideas online.

As it stands, they are using online forums to generate discussion with people across the country about how the CBC can improve its operations. The intention is to learn how

the CBC can utilize an increasingly digital media ecosystem to supplement its traditional television and radio broadcast model.

"The ideas coming out of the Reimagine CBC project think about...alternative programming options, like working with community filmmakers to find content that is already produced," Reimagine CBC spokesperson Tyler Morgenstern told *The Link*.

Other ideas include building an online portal where people can upload their content, delivering it directly to the CBC. This kind of digital infrastructure could help CBC increase interaction between media producers, consumers, and providers. The best content, chosen by CBC in collaboration with the public, would then be distributed through the CBC network. This structure would also remove barriers to independent documentarians, freelance journalists, and community

organisations, giving them opportunities.

It would make the CBC more accessible and allow their audience to have a participatory and collaborative role in deciding the type of content they consume.

Reimagine CBC was mobilized to help identify how stable funding coupled with low-cost media production strategies could strengthen the CBC.

"The CBC should be investing in a process of discovering what content is important to Canadians by what they are producing and crowdsourcing," Morgenstern explained. This way, support-

ers believe, a representative national network can be created by strengthening regional branches that will generate and communicate cultural interests.

To celebrate the organization's early success, Reimagine CBC is hosting an event at the Vogue Theatre on May 7. Visitors can expect discussion on how to increase Canada's sense of media ownership, musical performances by artists like Dan Mangan, and stories by other cultural creators.

Morgenstern believes the event is a way to build an online and offline relationship with the Reimagine CBC campaign, and may be a way the CBC can engage audiences in the future. According to him, events like this could be used to provide good, on-the-ground regional services that encourage content that ends up back online on the national network.



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EVOLVING 20

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1. **The Zolas** - Cultured Man
2. **Cloud Nothings** - Stay Useless
3. **Japandroids** - The House That Heaven Built
4. **Bon Iver** - Towers
5. **Islands** - Hallways
6. **Theophilus London** - I Stand Alone
7. **Los Campesinos!** - Songs About Your Girlfriend
8. **Gorillaz/Andre 3000/James Murphy** - Do Ya Thing
9. **Arcade Fire** - Sprawl II (Soulwax Remix)
10. **The Shins** - Bait And Switch

11. **Hollerado** - Good Day At The Races
12. **Jack White** - Love Interrupted
13. **Sleigh Bells** - Comeback Kid
14. **Said The Whale** - Heavy Ceiling
15. **Oh No! Yoko** - Boyhood
16. **Lana Del Rey** - Radio
17. **Real Boys** - Vacation
18. **Justice** - On And On
19. **Plants And Animals** - Light Show
20. **Kingdom Come** - Love Goblin



Summer blockbuster primer

Summer movies you do not want to miss (and some you should avoid)

THORSTAN GERLACH

Culture Editor

The summer blockbuster is as American as apple pie, they are a staple to any good summer. Like it or not, they are also proof that if you cram enough money and special effects into a movie, a riveting plot and convincing acting do not matter. Here are some movies that should not be missed, and some that should be avoided like sunburn.

THE AVENGERS

Released: May 4

Directed by: Joss Whedon

Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson

Okay, I know the summer starts in June, but this year summer movie season starts in May with the release *The Avengers*. This film is the perfect recipe for summer blockbuster and features an ensemble cast so good it's enough to forgive Hollywood for all the crap generally released come summer. Expect fireworks.

• • •

MEN IN BLACK III

Released: May 23

Directed by: Ben Sonnenfeld

Starring: Will Smith, Josh Brolin, Tommy Lee Jones

The Men In Black team is back, but this time Agent J (Smith)

must travel back in time to save Agent K (Jones, Brolin) who has been killed by enemy aliens. Blah, blah, blah. Apparently producers think it's a good idea to beat a dead horse. For those of you who decide to watch *MIB III*, you've been warned.

• • •

PROMETHEUS

Released: June 8

Directed by: Ridley Scott

Starring: Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender, Charlize Theron

It's been almost thirty years since Scott released the cult sci-fi classic *Blade Runner*, and if the trailer for *Prometheus* is an indication of anything, he hasn't missed a beat.

• • •

BRAVE

Released: June 22

Directed by: Mark Andrews, Brenda Chapman

Starring: Kelly Macdonald, Emma Thompson, Billy Connolly

The wizards at Pixar look to rebound after the failure of *Cars 2* last year, with this sweet story of a young princess who chooses archery over marriage in ancient Scotland. It may be a little early to tell, but it looks like the Pixar magic might be back.

• • •

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

Released: July 3

Directed by: Marc Webb

Starring: Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone, Rhys Ifans



The *Dark Knight Rises* villain Bane has been highly anticipated by fans.

Courtesy of Legendary Pictures

My spidey-senses are tingling and they're telling me to tread carefully with the new Spider-Man. Garfield and Stone may be two of the brightest young talents in Hollywood, but so far *The Amazing Spider-Man* looks anything but amazing.

• • •

TED

Released: July 13

Directed by: Seth MacFarlane

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Mila Kunis, Seth MacFarlane

Fans of *Family Guy* are in for a treat this summer as the shows creator, MacFarlane, makes his directorial debut with *Ted*. Wahlberg, who displayed his comedy chops in 2010's *The Other Guys*, must choose between his hottie girlfriend (Kunis) or his talking, foul-mouthed teddy bear, Ted (voiced by MacFarlane). Cute, if tired, premise may surprise some and repel others.

THE DARK KNIGHT RISES

Released: July 20

Directed by: Christopher Nolan

Starring: Christian Bale, Tom Hardy, Anne Hathaway

Easily the most anticipated movie this summer, and for good reason. *The Dark Knight* made \$533 million and became a pop culture phenomenon in 2008, and with this being the conclusion to the series, movie lovers will not want to miss out on this one.

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Bard's birthday bash kicks off Shakespeare festival

Taming of the Shrew, Macbeth among shows at this year's Bard on the Beach

VIRGINIA McCONCHIE

Link Contributor

Bard on the Beach, Vancouver's annual Shakespeare festival, is kicking off its 2012 season with a birthday party for the Bard himself. Fans of William Shakespeare are invited to come to Granville Island's Performance Works to raise a few glasses and celebrate the famed playwright.

It is the kind of fundraising event that those of us who have participated in Bard on the Beach have come to expect from the festival: a celebration of everything and anything Shakespeare—even if it means throwing a birthday bash for a long-dead poet.

Another perk of attending the \$25 event is the chance to meet company members and the artistic team behind the four plays being shown at Performance Works this year: *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Macbeth*,

The Merry Wives of Windsor and *King John*. Sometimes just being able to recognize the plan behind the play can mean the difference between walking away satisfied or not, especially for newcomers to Shakespeare.

The plays themselves start on May 31, with a performance of the comedy *The Taming of the Shrew*. Bard on the Beach always splits its plays into two venues: the BMO Mainstage houses the festival's bigger shows, while the Studio Stage provides a more intimate setting for smaller and usually more experimental versions of the traditional texts.

This year *Macbeth* joins *Shrew* on the Mainstage, while the romantic comedy *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and the royal intrigue drama *King John* populate the Studio Stage. While the Mainstage shows are more well known, both the smaller productions have a tendency to surprise the audience with their power. It helps, of course, to be sitting so close to the actors that you can almost see the sweat on their brows during their soliloquies.



Bob Frazer as MacBeth and Colleen Wheeler as Lady MacBeth.

David Cooper

In addition to Shakespeare's famous words, those who visit Bard on the Beach come for the venue. It is hard to imagine a better place to watch theatre than inside one of the tents at Bard's Vanier Park location, where the sounds of the ocean, birds, and the occasional rainstorm

add to the atmosphere of the show. For those dragged along by devoted Shakespeare fans, having one of the most awesome views in the city surrounding you can't help but make the experience easier.

Without having seen any previews of the plays this year, it's hard to say which to be

most excited for. All in all, with the hard year the Vancouver arts scene has had, it's nice to see one of Vancouver's trademark theatre festivals taking the chance to celebrate at any given opportunity, be it the Bard's birthday, or the start of one of the city's most popular and long-running festivals.

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Fans rock out at Sasquatch Music Festival.

Dave Lichterman

Summer music fest guide

THORSTAN GERLACH
Culture Editor

After all the buzz generated by hologram Tupac at Coachella, we at *The Link* decided to put together a little summer music fest preview for all you loyal readers. Here are five festivals you don't want to miss around B.C.!

SASQUATCH MUSIC FEST May 25 – 28

Notable acts: Jack White, Beck, Feist, The Roots, Tenacious D, Santogold, Bon Iver, Beirut, M. Ward
Tickets: \$315 (USD)

It's not in B.C., but there may be no better place to watch a music festival than The Gorge in Washington state. Located near the Columbia River, Sasquatch has consistently put together four days of kick ass music and a killer line-up to boot. Like any rock festival, Sasquatch is a great place to meet people and indulge in some extra-curricular activities. Unfortunately for those of you still looking for a ticket, you may be out of luck as the festival is officially sold-out — Craigslist, anyone?

• • •

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

When: June 22 – July 3

Notable acts: George Benson, Janelle Monáe, The Avett Brothers, The Wayne Shorter

Quartet, Robert Randolph Family Band
Tickets: Prices vary

The Vancouver International Jazz Festival is the prize of all that's happening in Vancouver. Consistently bringing together jazz cats from around the globe, VIJF's 2012 line-up is sure to make attendees snap their fingers and tap their boots. With acts like George Benson, The Avett Brothers, and Spectrum Road — a band featuring former Cream bassist Jack Bruce and Living Colour guitarist Vernon Reid — this year's line-up will attract more than just jazz aficionados. Locations for the concert happen around Vancouver during its two weeks of festivities.

• • •

VANCOUVER ISLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL

When: July 6-8

Notable acts: Richard Thompson, k.d lang, Emmylou Harris, The Sheepdogs
Tickets: \$93 - \$153

The Vancouver Island Music Festival may be the most overlooked summer fest in B.C.. Hop on the ferry and head over to the Comox Valley to spend the weekend listening to killer music and taking in the breathtaking Vancouver Island scenery. The festival is gaining a steady and loyal fan base and is surely to get bigger in the future.

VANCOUVER FOLK MUSIC FEST

When: July 13 – 15

Notable acts: Dan Mangan, Cannallies

Tickets: Adults \$135, students: \$80

Though some of you may not be folkies, the genre has experienced a revival in recent years and the Vancouver Folk Fest is not only a good way to experience the music live, but also to check out the various strains of local talent. Taking place on beautiful Jericho Beach, the festival has consistently drawn great crowds and activities are steeped with Canadian awesomeness.

• • •

MERRIT MOUNTAIN MUSIC FEST

When: July 19 – 22

Notable acts: Gord Bamford, Creedence Clearwater Revisited, Gary Allen

Tickets: \$80 - \$375

For all you country music fans, we've got you covered. Though ticket prices may be a little high, MMMF has always been a good place to set up camp and listen to some honky-tonk music along the Cold Water River. However, along with high ticket prices, there are a few downsides to the fest as its organizers are a bit on the strict side. But as long as you're not packing your lawn chairs and video cameras, don't mind the 2 a.m. curfew and keeping your glass at home, MMMF is a good time.

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BCITSA Info & News



Executive Weigh-In



**A message from
BCITSA President Nicola Gardner**

This year saw the highest voter turnout in BCIT Student Association elections history with more than 2,800 votes and that can only be attributed to the amazing hard work of the more than 33 candidates who ran for one of the eleven executive positions this year.

I know firsthand how much hard work goes into running a campaign and I want to congratulate all of those who ran for a position. Looking forward, I am very excited for the big changes that will be happening next year with the BCITSA and the great team of executives who will be leading it.

The 2012/2013 school year will include the opening of our childcare program and the expansion of student space on the second and third floors of SE2.

Years of hard work and planning have gone into both these projects and they are great opportunities to improve student life on campus. I would also like to thank the fourth-year architectural building science students for their amazing design concepts which we will be using for the upcoming renovations in SE2.

To all BCIT students, good luck on your final projects and final exams and congratulations on completing another challenging year at BCIT.

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Chair of the School of Computing & Academic Studies	Minoru Nakano
Chair of Aerospace Technology Campus	Dave Clarke

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The BCIT Student Association would like to extend its thanks to all BCIT students for a great year. We accomplished a lot and we have had a lot of fun doing it. Keep an eye on our social media including Facebook (facebook.com/BCITSA) and Twitter (@BCITSA) this summer. See you in September!

