

IN DEMAND, DELIVERING RESULTS

# alumni ambassador

## Getting the most out of everything

Whether it's his education or his clients' websites, Chris Goward does what it takes to get maximum returns.



WHEN PEOPLE FIRST REALIZED the business potential of the World Wide Web, it was all about maximizing hits on your site.

But it didn't take smart business people long to realize that the number of visits were irrelevant if they couldn't be converted to profitable actions.

That's where WiderFunnel Marketing comes in. Co-founder and CEO Chris Goward, a 2002 BCIT Marketing Management graduate, explains that WiderFunnel specializes in converting visits to sales. And sales are where the profit is!

"The profession is often called conversion optimization," he explains. "It's sometimes confused with search engine optimization, but we focus on improving the persuasiveness of the website content rather than on improving search engine rankings. Our goal is to get more of the website

visitors to take actions — like signups, purchases or inquiries."

The trademarked Kaizen Method that WiderFunnel uses has yet to find a client it didn't work for, significantly improving action rates and revenue. Publishers such as Marketing Sherpa, Business in Vancouver, DM News and Google have written articles about the company's success. Pretty impressive for a company founded in 2007!

Chris came to BCIT with entrepreneurial and web design experience and some university education. "Half-way through my SFU degree, I realized that Analytical Chemistry wasn't for me long-term," he says, "and I knew I wanted to go into business."

He figured BCIT was the best route for him to fill the holes he saw in his marketing knowledge. It did that, and more. Today he describes himself as "an agile marketing Frankenstein with a passion for getting results."

"The Marketing Management program packs a great deal of information and experiences into a short time frame," he

says. "The curriculum includes much of the content you'd get in a four-year degree and, in some ways, presents it in a more valuable way with the intensive team project approach. There's more accountability to team members than in my university experience, which makes BCIT more like a real working environment."

Chris was determined to get the most out of his two years at BCIT, getting involved as a set rep, Education Council rep, 2002 Open House team member, and founder of the BC Association of Interactive Marketers group on campus (where he met WiderFunnel's co-founder, Raquel Hirsch). His commitment didn't go unnoticed; he won the Board of Governors' Leadership Award, as well as academic awards during both years of his program.

*Continued on page 3*

*The BCIT Alumni Association connects and engages alumni in a lifelong relationship with the BCIT community by providing innovative programs and services which support alumni and student success.*

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### You're INVITED

Please join us for the Annual General Meeting Thursday, May 29, 2008. Details on page 3.



In volatile markets, your investment plan needs a **solid foundation**

## Clearsight introduces Hartford DCA Advantage Program for BCIT alumni



Hartford Dollar Cost Averaging (DCA) Advantage Program from Hartford Investments is a unique investment solution designed to reduce market volatility risk and pay you interest on money waiting to be invested. **No other DCA program provides this advantage.**

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Contact us today to learn more about the Clearsight Investment Program from Wellington West and Hartford DCA Advantage Program.

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# You're invited to the Alumni Association Annual General Meeting

JOIN US ON THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2008, for an informative and fun luncheon reception and Annual General Meeting. Learn about what's happening at BCIT and with your Alumni Association, plus meet other alumni. Revised bylaws will be presented for approval at the AGM. Please visit [bcit.ca/alumni](http://bcit.ca/alumni) to review the proposed changes.

Brian Antonson, DiplT '69 (Broadcast and Media Communications), associate dean, Broadcast and Media Communications at BCIT and co-author of *Slumach's Gold*, will be our co-presenter along with fellow authors Rick Antonson and Mary Trainer. *Slumach's Gold* chronicles what is possibly Canada's greatest lost mine story and their new book brings further research, fascinating updates and fresh insights into this timeless mystery and ongoing quest for lost gold.



L-r: Mary Trainer, Rick Antonson, and Brian Antonson.

**When:** Thursday, May 29, 2008  
11:30 am–1:30 pm

**Where:** BCIT Downtown Campus  
555 Seymour Street, Vancouver, BC

*There is no cost to attend. Luncheon hors d'oeuvres will be served.*

**Dress:** Business attire.

**RSVP by:** Friday, May 23, 2008 to 604.432.8847,  
[alumni@bcit.ca](mailto:alumni@bcit.ca) or online at [bcit.ca/alumni](http://bcit.ca/alumni).

Thank you to our AGM Presenting Sponsors:



Chris Goward article continued from page 1

He sees the benefits of his BCIT education as long-lasting and far-reaching. "BCIT students develop relationships that will last throughout their career," Chris says. "There always seem to be ambitious and hard-working people in the program, and you realize how influential the school is when you get back out and meet so many graduates in the industry."

Chris continues to contribute to BCIT by serving on the advisory committee for the Marketing program, adding his real-world experience to the collective knowledge that moulds the program.

"To keep growing in your career, you need to adopt BCIT's 'lifelong learning' philosophy," Chris adds. "That doesn't just include formal education and training.

**"THE MARKETING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PACKS A GREAT DEAL OF INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES INTO A SHORT TIME FRAME."**

I'll never stop reading and learning more on my own."

Outside of his rewarding and challenging work life, Chris enjoys real estate investing.

Beyond that, he says, his interests are determined by "whatever my kids are interested in, mostly.

Right now, My Little Pony and Dora the Explorer!" He says his wife and two daughters, ages 3 and 4, "keep me sane and teach me to be a better person."

The *Alumni Ambassador* is published twice a year by the BCIT Alumni Association. The views expressed in this publication do not represent official positions of the Alumni Association or BCIT. If you would like to advertise in the *Alumni Ambassador*, please call 604.432.8847 for information. Letters, articles, or comments will be edited for space, clarity, libel, and taste. Please send submissions to:

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Brenda Corbett, *President, BCIT Student Association*



**President's Message**

This year marks the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting for the BCIT Alumni Association. I invite you to join us for lunch at BCIT's downtown campus, where I will be giving a report on the activities of your Association this past year.

I extend a personal welcome and congratulations to BCIT's new president, Don Wright. The Alumni Association directors are excited about this new era at BCIT and stand ready to support Dr. Wright. Alumni continue to have a vested interest in the success of our institution and at over 125,000 strong, we are a remarkable resource as ambassadors for BCIT. We are BCIT's success story.

As president of the Association, I represent alumni on the BCIT Foundation Board and am happy to report that the Foundation exceeded its fundraising goal this year, raising over \$12 million. Alumni are both donors and influencers within their organizations, ensuring that BCIT receives much-needed funding for students and programs. The Alumni Association Board decided this year to focus efforts on raising our own endowment to over \$1 million by the end of 2010. This is a daunting task, but with annual appeals and a new golf tournament fundraiser, we are confident we can achieve this goal—I encourage you to participate!

I'd like to recognize and thank Board members retiring this year: David Yochowitz, who served this past year as vice president and chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee, Rob Deverall, who has chaired our Marketing Communications Advisory Council, and Brenda Corbett who concludes her year as president of the BCIT Student Association.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to wish Dick Dolan, who is retiring after 39 years at BCIT, 8 of them as dean of the School of Business, all the best in his retirement! Dick, on behalf of more than 20,000 graduates of business programs at BCIT, congratulations and best wishes.

In closing, I wish you all a happy BBQ season (I'm looking forward to enjoying my own deck in warmer weather)!

With best regards,

Adam G. Pion  
DipIT '94, Financial Management  
Director, UBS Bank (Canada)

**PRESIDENT**  
**BCIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

# Sharing Success

*"I'll never forget when I received my first bursary. Opening that letter provided me with a priceless sense of relief after having exhausted all of my possible resources."*

*— Jennifer Mitchell, Avionics student*



**From modest beginnings, Jennifer Mitchell has soared to heights beyond her imagination. Alumni donors like you have played a big part in helping her get there.**

A SECOND YEAR AVIONICS STUDENT, Jennifer has always been a high achiever. But without financial support, her dream of being an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer may have been cut short before it even began.

"I've had a passion for aviation from a young age," says Jennifer. "I joined the Air Cadets when I was 12 and worked hard and volunteered at every opportunity."

She won top marks and awards, earning a spot as a glider student and later, a seat in the private pilot's scholarship course. Then after finishing cadets at 19, yearning to give something back, Jennifer began volunteering as a ground school teacher for aspiring young pilots. "That's when I decided to take my education further and enrol at BCIT," she says.

But making this dream a reality wasn't going to be easy. Her dad, who had raised her as a single parent in Nanaimo, was stricken with a debilitating illness, and was unable to offer financial support.

Scraping together the few resources she could, Jennifer made the leap. She worked hard, became her class rep for the BCIT student association, and took a part-time job at Harbour Air Seaplanes. But even with all this, she found it difficult to make ends meet.

Thankfully, help wasn't far off. Near the end of her first semester, Jennifer received a generous grant from the Pam and Jerry Bastien Endowment. Needless to say, she was filled with gratitude and relief.

"I'll never forget when I received my first bursary. Opening that letter provided me with a priceless sense of relief after having exhausted all my possible resources."

Thanks to alumni generosity, Jennifer is closer to her dream of attaining a BCIT Diploma of Technical Studies in Aircraft Maintenance. Recently, she became the first recipient of the HSBC Aerospace Entrance Award, an accolade based more on merit than need, but the joy and relief, Jennifer points out, are all the same.

"With the help of alumni donors, many young people like myself can aspire towards something better, and have been able to make their educational dreams a reality. For that, I'm truly thankful."

**YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED**

For students today, financing an education is tougher than ever. You can help deserving students like Jennifer achieve their educational dream. Your tax deductible donation to the BCIT Sharing Success Alumni Campaign helps students across campus, and provides a lasting source of financial support. Please give generously now by going to [bcit.ca/alumni/supporting](http://bcit.ca/alumni/supporting).

**BCIT WILL MATCH UP TO 25% OF YOUR DONATION IF YOU DONATE NOW!**

For a limited time, BCIT will extend the value of your donation by 25% (up to a maximum of \$10,000). You will also receive a free gift if you donate \$250 or greater. Learn more at [bcit.ca/alumni/supporting](http://bcit.ca/alumni/supporting).

**Pacesetters for the 2008 Sharing Success Alumni Campaign—thank you!**

The BCIT Alumni Association sincerely thanks the following Alumni and friends for your generous Pacesetter (\$500 or more) gifts to the 2008 Sharing Success Alumni Campaign:

BCIT Alumni Association	Laurie Clarke	Jason Johnson	Robert Snape
André Beaudry	Tim Edwards	Nina Leemhuis	Eric Steidle
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	Bruce Johns	G. Wynne Powell	

Alumni Pacesetters listed made their contributions between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008. Every attempt is made to include all eligible donations. If we have missed you, please accept our sincere apologies. Please contact us at 604.432.8847 or email [alumni@bcit.ca](mailto:alumni@bcit.ca), and we will include you in the next issue of *Alumni Ambassador*.

# BCIT welcomes new president

DURING MY FIRST FEW WEEKS AT BCIT, I have been warmly welcomed by members of the Alumni Association, and I've enjoyed learning about the successes of our grads. BCIT changes lives; that's evident in the many impressive accomplishments of our graduates, both in their chosen careers and in the many ways they work to improve their communities.

I believe that BCIT is uniquely important to British Columbia, and that it has the potential to be even more important to the future economic and social prosperity of this province. Our graduates can play a key role in shaping BCIT, by advising us on our programs, mentoring — not to mention, hiring — our students and future graduates, attending an event and more. By connecting with us, your *alma mater*, you ensure that we continue to meet the needs of the thousands of students that follow in your footsteps. BCIT, in turn, can continue to support the employment needs of industry, and subsequently help drive BC's economy forward.

As your career develops and adapts to changing technologies, I encourage you to come back to BCIT and enhance your skills. Take a course, pursue a certificate or diploma. BCIT has a wide variety of educational options for lifelong learning, and I hope that your first stint at BCIT won't be your last.

When I told friends and associates that I was coming to BCIT I was struck by how many of them had a powerful personal story about what BCIT had done for them, a family member, or a close friend. I am excited to learn more from our alumni, and encourage you to be in touch with us, through the Alumni Association, to tell us your story.



I look forward to working with the Alumni Association, and to meeting more of our graduates in the coming months.

Sincerely,  
Don Wright, President

## Schmoozapalooza

**A Networking Event. A Fundraiser. A Reunion. A Blast.**

BCIT'S MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS program held its second annual networking event and fundraiser, Schmoozapalooza, at the Westin Bayshore Hotel in February 2008. Spearheaded by Marketing Management program head Carroll Nelson and hosted by AIM BCIT, BCITMA and the BCIT Alumni Association, the event was attended by 140 students, faculty, alumni and industry professionals. It gave marketing and communications students a chance to meet and mingle with industry professionals, and gave them an opportunity to learn about internship opportunities as well as the industry in general.

Dawn McKim, BCITMA vice president and student coordinator for the event, was busy all night ensuring the event ran smoothly. "Helping with Schmoozapalooza has provided me with valuable experience in many aspects of event planning and coordination such as venue planning, fundraising, and volunteer management. It's been an incredible experience."

In addition to being a reunion, networking event and all around great experience for students and guests, the event raised \$13,500 for the Marketing and Communications Scholarship Endowment Fund, a fund



which was started in 2007 to celebrate Carroll Nelson's 25th anniversary of teaching at BCIT. A scholarship will be awarded to a deserving second year marketing and communications student.

## Reunions

### Nuclear Medicine Reunion

Calling all BCIT Nuclear Medicine grads! The BCIT Nuclear Medicine Technology program will be hosting a 40 year celebration this coming June 27 and 28 and would like to extend an invitation to everyone who graduated from the program between 1969 and 2008. We have developed a website that you can visit at [bcit.ca/commons](http://bcit.ca/commons) under the Community section. Tickets for these events are now on sale until Friday, June 20, 2008. We encourage you to purchase your tickets early to take advantage of the graduated ticket pricing. Out of town guests can contact Lorraine at 604.456.8138 or [Lorraine\\_Deverall@bcit.ca](mailto:Lorraine_Deverall@bcit.ca) for accommodation information or to purchase tickets. Hope to see you this summer!

### The BCIT APICS

#### Student Chapter presents:

#### The Grand Ball 2008

*A Celebration of 40 Years of Operations Management Excellence*

Friday, May 30th, 2008

Conference Center Ballroom C,  
Richmond Executive Airport Plaza

Doors open at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:30pm

To reserve tickets, please contact  
Tod Fraser at [tfraser21@my.bcit.ca](mailto:tfraser21@my.bcit.ca)  
or 604.340.9155



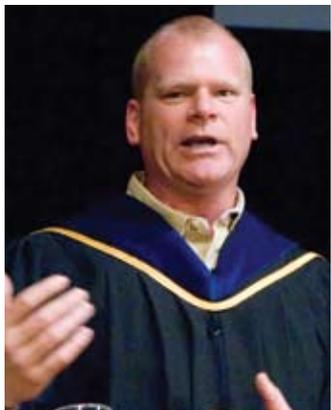
### Bryant Family Trust contributes seed gift for a new Advertising Industry Endowment Fund

To cap off a Schmoozapalooza, chair of the BCIT Foundation Board of Directors, Bob Bryant announced a gift to BCIT from the Bryant Family Trust. "This donation is the seed gift for a campaign I plan to pursue among my former colleagues in advertising and marketing," said Bob. "Our family gift is \$10,000, with BCIT matching another \$2,500, a nice start to our Advertising Industry Endowment Fund."

In addition to the seed funding announced, advertising agencies, public relations firms, design firms, web marketers, the marketing departments of client companies, the media and industry associations will be approached to support this initiative which will help to ensure that they will continue to benefit from top quality BCIT graduates working in their industry. The endowment will provide a grant each year to a student entering the second year of the Marketing Management program.

# BCIT awards Mike Holmes an Honorary Doctor of Technology

“Canada’s Most Trusted Contractor” receives degree at Winter Convocation



Mike Holmes, gives a keynote address to BCIT graduates.

**HOST OF THE TELEVISION PROGRAM *Holmes on Homes***, Mike Holmes, was presented with the honorary degree of Doctor of Technology at BCIT’s Winter Convocation ceremony.

Honorary degrees are the highest accolade that BCIT bestows, and are awarded to individuals who are widely recognized for their outstanding and sustained achievements in their area of expertise.

“This is a complete honour to me,” said Mike, in his keynote speech to more than 300 BCIT graduates. “A few words I’d love

to give you: You truly do get what you give. This is just the beginning. This is all about doing it right and caring about those around you.” He continued, “You have an opportunity now to make a difference. Look professional. Act professional. Treat people the way you want to be treated, and you will succeed. Build a business, build a background, and people will recommend you to the world. Find the people that are good ... and stay with them. Create that team and work together. Congratulations ... and keep making it right.”

Mike was initially trained in all aspects of construction and renovation by his father, a master plumber, and subsequently developed his expertise on the job. From plumbing, to electrical to carpentry, he was trained to tackle any home improvement task the right way, with skill and integrity. With more than two decades of construction experience, he has earned an outstanding reputation for his honesty and professionalism.

In addition to his work as host of *Holmes on Homes*, he has established a charitable foundation, The Holmes Foundation, that focuses on improving skilled trades people and has a mission to ensure that all residential renovation and construction in Canada is done right — the first time. In 2007, The Holmes Foundation announced the establishment of the Make It Right Scholarships and Bursaries, designed to encourage students in Canadian colleges who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in residential renovation or construction to complete their academic training.

Mr. Holmes is also the national spokesperson for SOS Childrens’ Villages, an international charity that helps feed and house neglected and abandoned children, and has supported a number of charities across Canada.

In 2006, Mr. Holmes was recognized by Canada’s House of Commons as “an accomplished master builder with a social conscience.”

## A TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONAL FROM BCIT BCIT’s Alumni at Work!

### Darrin Heisler, AScT

Darrin Heisler, AScT, has the distinction of being President of the Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of BC during ASTTBC’s 50th anniversary in 2008. He is also an entrepreneur, heading up West Coast Image and Analysis, specializing in GIS, photogrammetry, remote sensing and forestry work.

Darrin is on the verge of achieving a Bachelor of Technology Degree in Geomatics from BCIT. The degree builds on diplomas from the College of New Caledonia (Forestry) and from Algonquin College (Surveying and Mapping). He feels that technical training opens doors to fascinating and well-paid careers. His BCIT degree studies have enhanced his technical skills and broadened his horizons.

Darrin Heisler credits his registration with ASTTBC as an Applied Science Technologist (AScT) with opening doors to potential clients and allowing him to reach out more in his profession and his community. The combination of technical training, certification with ASTTBC and experience, gives him the knowledge, confidence and status that clients look for. He sees membership in ASTTBC as an on-going component of his professional endeavours.

Looking ahead, Darrin would like to do all he can to promote careers in technology. He feels that technology is invisible to high school students and that ASTTBC and BCIT can work together to make technology careers more understandable and accessible. A volunteer with Scouts Canada for 15 years, Darrin practices what he preaches. He organized a land-use environmental project for his troop that the Scouts then presented to their local mayor and environmental conservancy.



Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of British Columbia



#### About ASTTBC...

We are a self-governing association of technology professionals with 9,000+ registrants including technologists, technicians and technical specialists.

Our mandate... to serve the public by regulating and supporting technology professionals’ commitment to a safe, healthy, and sustainable society and environment.



For more info... [www.asttbc.org](http://www.asttbc.org)

THE ASSOCIATION FOR TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

# From Notting Hill to Vancouver: Portobello West



Carlie Smith at the 2008 opening weekend of Portobello West at the Rocky Mountaineer Station.

A LONDON FASHION TRADITION is thriving in Western Canada, thanks to Carlie Smith.

When a BCIT grad spoke to her Grade 11 Marketing class in North Vancouver, Carlie knew where she was headed after high school. “It was the only post-secondary school I applied to, because I was sure it was the right program for me,” she recalls. “I really liked how it was intensive and practical.”

Carlie had displayed an entrepreneurial streak since she was six years old; she knew she wanted to run her own business.

Describing her BCIT classes as “practical and engaging,” she graduated in 2000 with honours from the Marketing Management Diploma Program, Professional Sales Option. She also served as VP of Careers in the BCIT American Marketing Association collegiate chapter while at BCIT, planning and executing a professional speaker series and other events.

Her BCIT diploma helped her get work immediately, Carlie says. After a few years as a sales representative for Timex Watches Canada, she earned her Bachelor of Commerce degree from Royal Roads University.

Armed with her experience and training, she set off for two years of working in the United Kingdom in various marketing and project management positions. While there, she also completed the PRINCE2 project management program, a methodology based on delivering results, not simply scheduling activities.

Carlie has always been interested in fashion, and when she came home from Britain, she brought with her the idea for her present business. Portobello Market in West London’s Notting Hill area is one of the world’s most famous street markets, a popular destination for locals and tourists alike. Over its two-mile stretch, vendors offer a wide variety of items, including vintage and new designer clothing.

In August 2006, Carlie launched Portobello West in Vancouver with 93 vendors of fashion and art, local designers looking for the opportunity to get their names and their wares out to potential buyers. Held monthly in the Rocky Mountaineer Train Station, each market now attracts approximately 2,000 visitors to view the works of 115 vendors. Vendor slots are booked solid for months ahead.

When several Calgary vendors who sell at Portobello West told her that Calgary had a growing local design industry and was ready for a similar market, Carlie investigated the possibilities. The first Portobello West market in Calgary, with 80 vendors from Vancouver, Edmonton and Calgary, was held over three days in April of this year.

Carlie is considering expansion into other cities in 2009. “There’s a need from consumers for something different and unique when looking for fashion,” she says, and the need is not confined to one location.

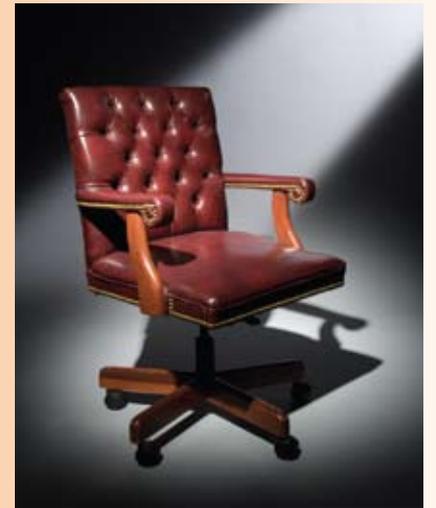
While Carlie enjoys yoga and sports in her spare time, she admits she attends many fashion events in Vancouver, combining work and fun. For the past year, she has also served on the Fashion High Board, an organization that works to increase the awareness of shopping local, as well as uniting the local fashion industry and searching for resources that will increase local designers’ chances for success.

With her lifetime interest in entrepreneurship and her strong interest in fashion, Carlie says, “It’s great that the two aspects have come together in Portobello West.” With her practical BCIT training and her wide experience, there’s no doubt she’ll be taking her business further afield in the near future!

## Mark your calendars!

### Distinguished Alumni Awards

This year’s Distinguished Alumni Awards event is taking place on Wednesday, September 17, 2008 at the Four Seasons Hotel. Tickets are \$95/person or \$900 for a table of 10. For more information, to receive an invitation, or to reserve a table please call 604.432.8847 or email [alumni@bcit.ca](mailto:alumni@bcit.ca). This spectacular event celebrating BCIT’s best and brightest will sell out, so reserve early!



### Change Your World. Enter Ours. BCIT’s Open House 2008

BCIT once again opened its doors to the community for Open House and it was a huge success that drew more than 20,000 visitors to the Burnaby campus on April 11 and 12.

Students, faculty, staff and alumni all had a hand in the success of the event. “It was a pleasure to come back to my *alma mater* after 29 years to be a display judge,” says Gaye Folker, an alumna of BCIT. “I was inspired by the displays, the enthusiasm, and the BCIT pride that always prevails among the students. What a great show they put on!”

To see photos from the event, visit [bcit.ca/openhouse](http://bcit.ca/openhouse).



Len Catling, a first-year Broadcast Communications student, proudly sports his Open House prize: a Nike golf bag. Very involved in student life on campus,

Len gave guided campus tours for BCIT’s Open House where he stopped for the Alumni Association’s ‘Putt to Win’ contest and walked away a winner!

# “Insuring” a bright future for BCIT students

**“CDI FULLY SUPPORTS ALL OF THE INDUSTRY LEADING ACADEMIC INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN BY BCIT AND IS PLEASED TO HAVE CONTRIBUTED OVER \$85,000 SINCE 2002 TOWARDS SUPPORTING BCIT GRADUATES AND THE ASSOCIATION.”—COLIN BROWN, COO, CDI**

A TV, a home computer, a \$2,000 gas card and Macbook Pro; these are the cool prizes that Canadian Direct Insurance (CDI) has awarded to BCIT alumni for purchasing, or even just inquiring about, their insurance products. After all, who isn't interested in receiving a 10% discount on their home insurance for simply being an alumni? 1,100 BCIT alumni are registered policy-holders and with a little more “word-of-mouth” the Alumni office expects that to soar.

It's a win-win situation for all of the stakeholders involved; each purchase of a CDI insurance product through the affinity program provides the Alumni Association with revenue. “It's rewarding for me to know that not only do I get impressive coverage at a reasonable price, a percentage of my premium helps to fund scholarships and bursaries which are provided to deserving BCIT students,” says Carol Digby, a BCIT alumna. These funds have been used to make a meaningful difference to students as they prepare for their chosen career. It allows them to focus on making their dreams a reality by providing awards.

“Canadian Direct Insurance is very proud to have been chosen as the affinity partner for the BCIT Alumni Association,” says Colin Brown, chief operating officer at CDI. “CDI fully supports all of the industry leading academic initiatives undertaken by BCIT and is pleased to have contributed over \$85,000 since 2002 towards supporting BCIT graduates and the Association. We look forward to a long relationship.”

CDI has further demonstrated their commitment to BCIT by contributing \$1,000 each year to fund an award to an outstanding student graduating with a BTech in Forensic Investigation — Economic Crime Studies. They are also a Platinum Sponsor of the Distinguished Alumni Awards, an event which helps to raise the profile of BCIT in the community by recognizing exceptional

alumni for leadership, outstanding service and innovation. Just recently, CDI signed on to be the title sponsor for BCIT's Alumni Open. An initial three-year commitment at this level makes CDI our co-presenter of this prestigious event, which will raise even more money for student aid.

Forming affinity partnerships like this one with CDI is a part of the Alumni Association's mission to provide innovative programs and services which support alumni and student success. The Alumni Association donates more than 1/3 of all affinity program revenues each year to BCIT student scholarships and bursaries. Last year, that represented a contribution of \$20,000 to the Alumni Association Scholarship and Bursary Endowment, and a \$2,000 Outstanding Student Leadership Award.

“Financing post-secondary education is harder than ever,” says Sarah Taylor, winner of a BCIT Alumni Association Entrance Award. “With this generous award, I can concentrate on my studies instead of my financial situation. The support I've received certainly gives me more than enough reason to support the Association when I'm an alumna.”

In addition to student support, these funds provide the Association with the opportunity to make legacy gifts to the institute, including a \$50,000 contribution in 2008 to upgrade one of the cafeterias on the Burnaby campus to make it an ideal space for alumni reunions and other high-end institute and student events. This funding is critical to the financial health and impact of the Alumni Association.

Visit [bcit.ca/alumni/benefits](http://bcit.ca/alumni/benefits) for more information about the CDI alumni program, and all of our affinity programs.

## Return to the Moon

*NASA Astronauts Inspire BCIT Students*

**PIONEERS OF SPACE FLIGHT, INCLUDING ONE OF THE LAST MEN ON THE MOON, SPEAK AT BCIT'S LEADING-EDGE AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY CAMPUS AS THE WORLD PREPARES FOR A RETURN TO THE MOON**

IT'S BEEN NEARLY 40 YEARS since Neil Armstrong took one giant leap for mankind, stimulating the imagination of a generation. Now, with the Canadian Space Agency having just announced a plan to add at least two new space explorers to an exclusive group of astronauts, the challenges of space continue to push the boundaries of knowledge.

For many, it's a childhood dream to become an astronaut. But for three guest speakers who visited BCIT on April 19, space flight, driving on the moon, and even working with Carl Sagan became their realities.

Return to the Moon, co-hosted by BCIT, the Institute of Planetary Science at the University of British Columbia and the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada was an exciting opportunity to hear first-hand experiences from NASA astronaut Dr. Thomas D. Jones, NASA astronaut Dr. Harrison H. Schmitt, and Dr. Robert Richards, founder and CEO of Odyssey Moon Limited.

“Here at BCIT, you have the training and the technology to make things happen,” said Thomas Jones who began his career serving in the United States Air Force, before earning his PhD at the University of Arizona. “Your students can be at the forefront of technology.” Dr. Jones became an astronaut in 1991, and in 1994 he flew as a mission specialist on successive flights of the space shuttle Endeavour.

Harrison Schmitt is one of the last men to set foot on the moon, having been selected as a scientist-astronaut by NASA in 1965. On his first

journey into space, Dr. Schmitt occupied the lunar module pilot seat for Apollo 17 — the last scheduled manned Apollo mission to the moon.

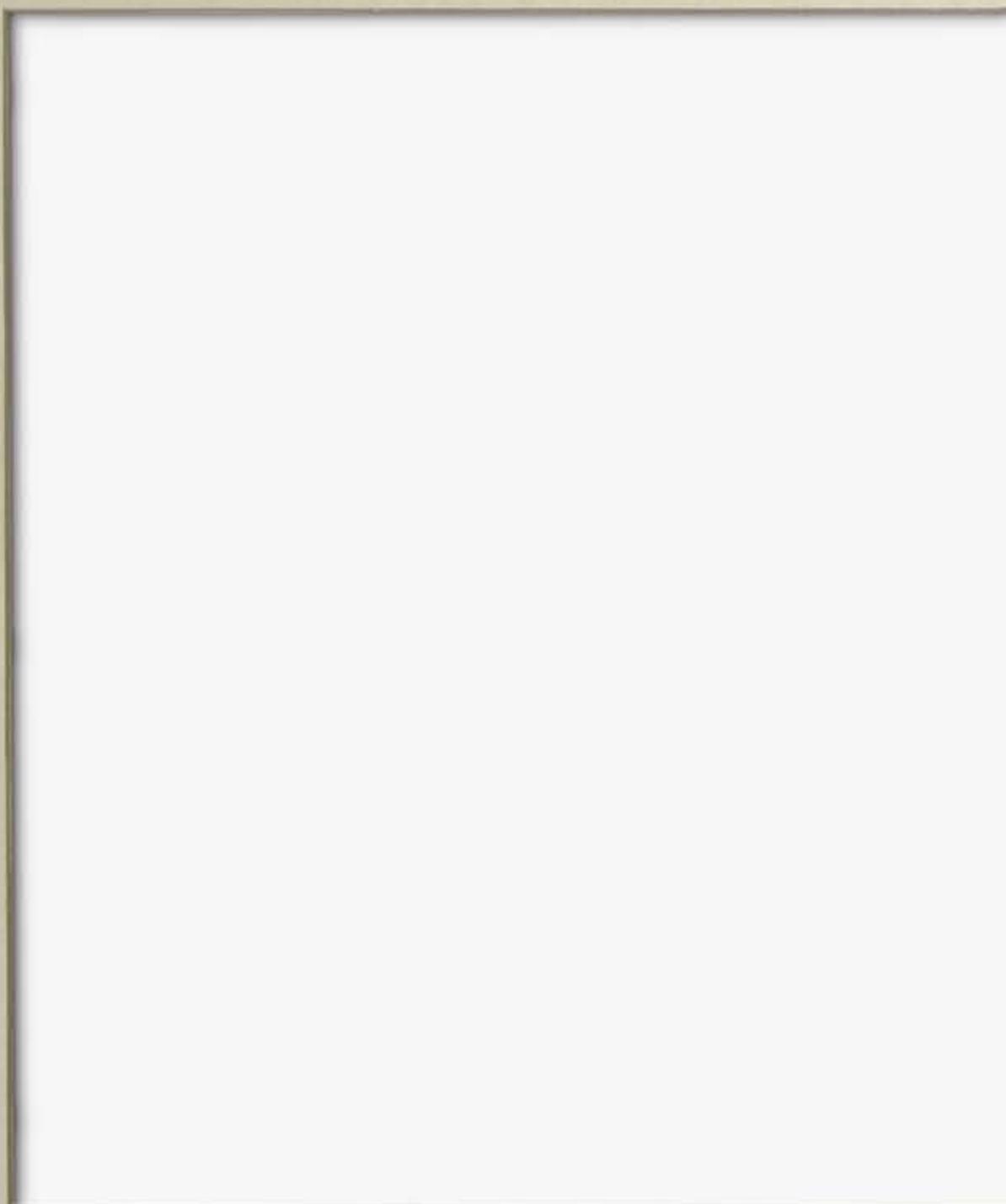
Robert (Bob) Richards founded Odyssey Moon Limited, a commercial lunar enterprise based in the Isle of Man, and the first official registrant in the \$30 million Google Lunar X PRIZE competition, an international competition to safely land a robot on the surface of the moon, travel 500 meters over the lunar surface, and send images and data back to earth.



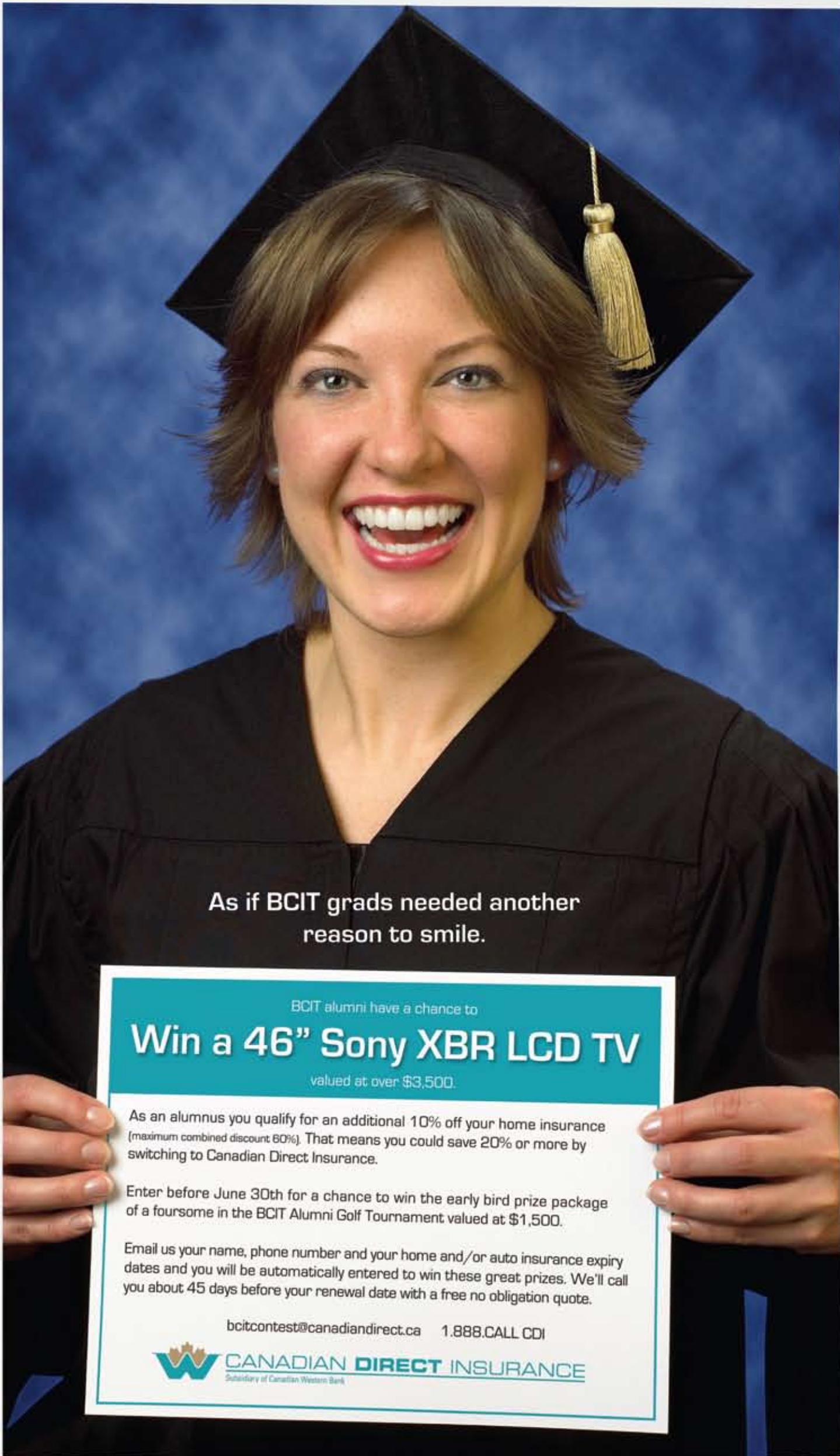
(L-r) Robert Richards, Thomas Jones, and Harrison Schmitt outside the Aerospace Technology campus for Return to the Moon.



*BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY*



No purchase necessary. Approximate prize value \$3500. Contest open to BC and AB residents 19 and over. For full contest details log onto [www.bcit.ca/alumni/contests](http://www.bcit.ca/alumni/contests) or call 1.888.225.5234. Canadian Direct Insurance and the BCIT Alumni Association respect the privacy and personal information of our alumni, donors and friends. Please visit [www.canadiandirect.com](http://www.canadiandirect.com) or [www.bcit.ca/alumni/privacy.shtml](http://www.bcit.ca/alumni/privacy.shtml) to review our privacy policies.



As if BCIT grads needed another reason to smile.

BCIT alumni have a chance to

## Win a 46" Sony XBR LCD TV

valued at over \$3,500.

As an alumnus you qualify for an additional 10% off your home insurance (maximum combined discount 60%). That means you could save 20% or more by switching to Canadian Direct Insurance.

Enter before June 30th for a chance to win the early bird prize package of a foursome in the BCIT Alumni Golf Tournament valued at \$1,500.

Email us your name, phone number and your home and/or auto insurance expiry dates and you will be automatically entered to win these great prizes. We'll call you about 45 days before your renewal date with a free no obligation quote.

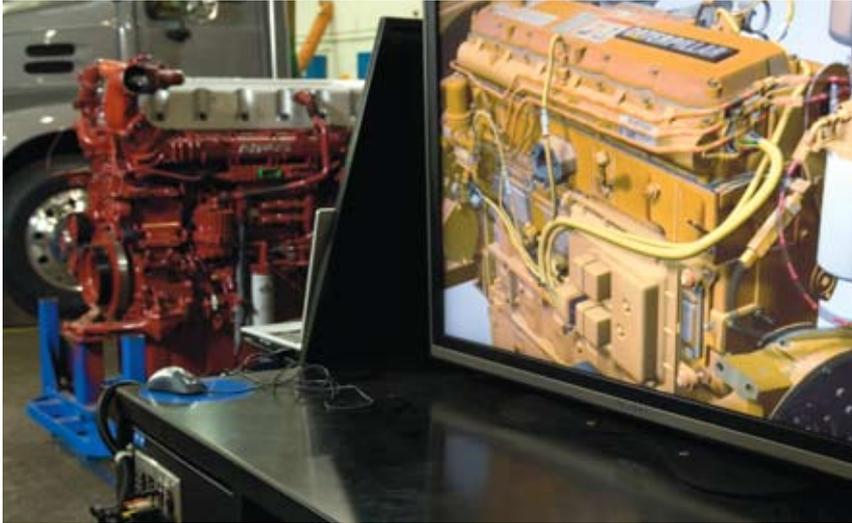
[bcitcontest@canadiandirect.ca](mailto:bcitcontest@canadiandirect.ca) 1.888.CALL CDI



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# NGRAIN Innovation Studio opens at BCIT



NGRAIN products and technology enhances both teaching and learning at BCIT.

AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NGRAIN INNOVATION STUDIO in February, instructors and students interacted with helicopter rotators, water pumps and landing gear — all in 3D images on computer screens.

NGRAIN, a BC-based company that provides 3D visualization and simulation solutions for training and maintenance on complex equipment, is supporting BCIT's Technology-Enabled Knowledge (TEK) initiative by providing the institute with software and 3D models valued at more than \$2 million. BCIT students in automotive, engineering, construction, and aerospace programs, as well as other areas of applied learning, will be able to practice complex procedures through 3D simulations.

"Knowledge objects created using NGRAIN products will further enhance the quality of BCIT's trades and technology curricula," says Chris Golding, BCIT's vice president, learning and technology services. "Our students will

experience a new level of realism as they interact with complex systems and equipment anytime, anywhere."

The NGRAIN Innovation Studio, located in building NE1, will help BCIT's instructors explore new technologies and implement them in their teaching. The studio is a specially designed space where instructors and students can learn and experiment with educational technology in a flexible environment. It includes smart display technologies that include two data projectors and screens, a document camera, interactive monitor, sound system, and touch pad control system, a lectern with computer, provision to connect a laptop, and wireless access.

"NGRAIN is pleased to provide BCIT with 3D products and technology that will help advance its trades and technology curriculum," says Paul Lindahl, CEO of NGRAIN. "3D content supplements traditional learning techniques and enables interactive learning, where students can visualize, manipulate, and modify 3D models. This unlimited learn by doing method not only helps eliminate the need for physical equipment — which is often costly and not readily available — it has also been proven to increase retention rates and make the learning process more compelling."

BCIT's TEK Initiative is a five-year project to enhance teaching and learning at BCIT through the strategic use of technology. Through TEK, BCIT intends to continue its leadership role in the use of advanced educational and information technologies to provide its students with a world-class technical training curriculum. As a result, BCIT students will be better prepared to enter the workforce with the best skills. NGRAIN is a lead donor to the TEK Initiative.

Commercially available since 2003, NGRAIN's 3D solutions run on standard PCs, laptops, tablets and PDA devices, and are optimized for distribution over the internet. NGRAIN's products are widely used in the defense, aerospace, and energy market and have been proven to train up to 60 percent faster.

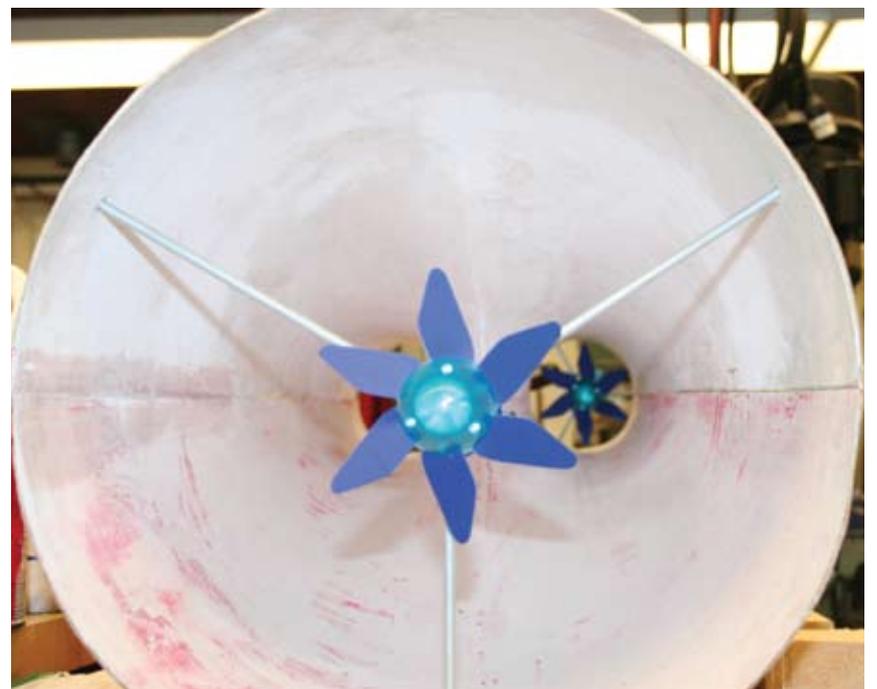
# Wind-generated power reduces carbon impact

THE BCIT TECHNOLOGY CENTRE is embarking on a new project aimed at reducing our reliance on traditional energy sources that harm our environment. The Wind Powered Deflector (WPD) is an alternative energy technology that enhances the power density produced by a wind turbine. By deflecting wind through an innovatively designed channel, this deflector-concept is well suited for low wind velocity areas (less than four metres per second) and has many potential applications. Preliminary experimental results were obtained in a wind-tunnel, located at the Burnaby campus, and results showed an increase in wind velocity by a factor of 3.7, and an increase in power output by a factor of 20. With further development and commercialization, this technology will decrease our use of traditional non-renewable energy sources while effectively reducing the overall cost of energy.

Typically, low wind velocity environments do not provide enough mechanical energy to generate power from commercial turbines. BCIT's patent-pending technology has tremendous potential for both residential and commercial buildings as it can generate electrical power from urban areas with wind speeds as low as one metre per second, reducing our reliance on traditional energy sources in a carbon-conscious society.

Dr. Mehrzad Tabatabaian, project leader of the Automation and Electronics Research (AERE) lab in the area of Renewable Energy Research, states that "development of wind energy technology is especially important for urban areas, where wind velocity is typically low and population density is high. There is significant potential for integration with new building projects and this technology creates a lower energy cost alternative for businesses and home

owners. With further development and support from the public and private sector, urban wind power can be used as an effective alternative to fossil fuels." The AERE has applied for funding to develop a full-scale prototype of the device.



The Wind Powered Deflector enhances power density produced by a wind turbine.

# Applied knowledge works



Pam Cunningham: a BCIT alumna, part-time student, and co-op employer.

**THE INVOLVEMENT OF ALUMNI** with BCIT is as varied as it is multi-dimensional. In the case of Pam Cunningham, systems support team lead for Teck Cominco, her relationship with BCIT extends from being an alumna, a current student, as well as an ongoing employer of BCIT Co-op students at Teck Cominco. For Pam, the integration of work and learning has been key to her own career success.

Attending BCIT since 1990, Pam has graduated from a number of IT Certificate Programs. Her choice of going to BCIT to extend her professional skills was based on the fact that, “everything I learned at BCIT I could use at my job and what I learned was also valuable for the jobs that I wanted advancement into.”

Pam is also a part-time student at BCIT and is enrolled in the Bachelor of Technology Management program. To Pam, it’s important to be working and going to school at the same time, because “your job adds

to what you learn in the classroom and what you learn there, certainly adds to what you do in your job.” It’s all about applying knowledge.

Applying knowledge doesn’t stop there for Pam. At Teck Cominco she is also an active employer of BCIT Co-op computing students. Why? It’s because she wishes to afford positive opportunities to BCIT students to apply their skills. Pam is committed to the idea that as a BCIT alumna, it’s important “to share what you know.”

However, it’s more than just sharing. “Having Co-op students definitely helps the employer to learn as well. It’s not just co-op students learning from the job, it’s also managers like me learning from them. I am constantly adapting as a manager and gaining skills on how to build a team.” For Pam, it’s all about applying knowledge through work experience, affording opportunities for others to do the same; it’s a process that’s doesn’t stop after graduation.



## SHARE YOUR SUCCESS

Your BCIT experience helped get you where you are today. Why not pave the way for the next generation of BCIT grads and hire a co-op student?

BCIT Co-op students are highly motivated, have a strong trades or technical background and are able to make an immediate contribution to your organization. In other words—they’re exactly what you’ve been looking for.

### Areas of Specialty

- > Automotive Service Technician
- > Biotechnology
- > Commercial Transport
- > Computer Information Technology
- > Computer Numeric Control (CNC) Machinist
- > Computer Systems Technology
- > Electrical and Computing Engineering
- > Heating, Ventilation, Air-conditioning and Refrigeration
- > Marine Engineering
- > Mechanical Engineering
- > Mining Technology
- > Nautical Sciences
- > Power Engineering



## Find a job — register today for eJobs.

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If you’re looking for a new challenge you may find it on eJobs where employers recruit BCIT alumni. You must register to access all of our great services — at no cost!

[bcit.ca/eJobs](http://bcit.ca/eJobs)

Brought to you by:



## Part-time learning opportunities at BCIT

There are many reasons to study part-time at BCIT — from taking a few courses for professional development, just to learn something new, or by following a program to receive a credential. Over 5,000 students have graduated with a part-time certificate or advanced diploma from BCIT since 1995. We invite you to do the same and learn for yourself the rewards of receiving a BCIT credential.

To earn a credential, you must register in a program. Once registered, you may complete the program at your own pace. Have a look at the list of programs available through BCIT Part-time Studies at [bcit.ca/study](http://bcit.ca/study) or call 604.434.1610 to make an appointment with a program advisor.

BCIT also offers industry-issued credentials. These are not official BCIT credentials but are issued and recognized within industry. Training is completed through BCIT on a part-time basis, and is usually followed by an industry-issued examination.

Studying part-time at BCIT allows you to keep your day job and concentrate on your education at your own pace. Lifelong learning at BCIT — this is your opportunity.

# KUDOS!

*Congratulations to the following individuals and organizations for their recent honours, achievements and appointments*



*SIFE BCIT team members: (L-r back row) Corey Rollins, Steve Clegg, Kemp Edmonds, Sophie Beaudoin, Kevin Chan, Neil Gibbings. (L-r front row) Julie Medilek, Diana Dinh, Laura Chow, Bronwyn Logan.*

## **SIFE BCIT students ace regional business competition**

Ten students from BCIT's School of Business aced their competition at the Canadian Regional Exposition in Calgary in February, returning with second place in Western Canada and a \$1,000 cash prize.

Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) is a national not-for-profit organization that organizes and motivates teams of university and college students to practice and teach others the principles and values of entrepreneurship. SIFE BCIT is now preparing to head to the Canadian National Exposition in Toronto on May 12, 2008 where they will prepare and deliver an in-depth presentation on their educational outreach projects.

## **BCIT Tourism students win the BC Tourism-Hospitality Student Case Competition**

On February 22, a team of second-year students from BCIT's Marketing Management, Tourism option program received top prize at the BC Tourism Industry Conference in Vancouver.

Tourism students **Kim Heemskerck**, **Sabrina Robso**, and **Stephanie Takagi** were announced first place winners over competing teams from Capilano College, Thompson Rivers University, and the University of Victoria.

## **Winner of the BCNET Network Builder Award**

At the recent BCNET Annual General Meeting reception, **Dr. Jim Reichert**, BCIT's vice president of Research and International, received the BCNET 2007 Network Builder Award. The award was presented in recognition of Jim's several years of support and involvement with BCNET as a volunteer and board member during a period of rapid growth. BCNET is a not-for-profit society formed to provide high-speed optical network capabilities, often called Advanced Networking, to British Columbia's higher education and research institutions, including BCIT.

## **Congratulations to Forty under 40 honorees**

BCIT would like to congratulate the business and community leaders featured in *Business in Vancouver's* Forty under 40 list for 2008. This year, the honour goes to a number of BCIT graduates and former students: **Laura Ballance**, partner, Curve Communications Group Ltd. (Broadcast Journalism); **Emily Psimoulis**, president, ThinkBox National Marketing Inc. (Integrated Management Studies); **Chris Michael**, founder, Organics@Home (Marketing Management); and **Mark Mensing**, founder, Canada Export Centre (Venture Development Program).

# Turning dreams into reality: one custom built home at a time



*Nick Langford takes pride in providing exceptional customer service. Pictured here at the Cat's Nest.*

**NICK LANGFORD HAS BEEN MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE** for over 10 years, building custom homes in the Gulf Islands. His business, Nick Langford Construction Ltd., offers professional construction services from start to finish including design, site preparation, foundations, framing, and interior finishing. Nick and his crew have built several homes, cottages, and studios on Saltspring Island.

The Rokeby-Thomas' were among the many families who wanted to build their dream home on the island and they called upon Nick for his expertise and reputation for high quality workmanship. They had everything lined up to construct their dream straw-bale home — the builder, designer, and finances — everything except for one critical ingredient, straw.

Construction was set to start in 2003, the same year Alberta's drought made headlines, and as a result straw was a scarce commodity. After a search, they came up with an interesting alternative — 2,000 bales of hemp. Although

its tough fibres proved to be challenging to work with, they were rewarded for it as the hemp holds up to moisture and varying climates a lot better than straw.

Having earned himself a reputation for quality service, a couple from California sought after Nick's experience and he helped them design and build their dream getaway, a custom designed home called the Cat's Nest, named after her love of cats. From the stonework to the cedar ceilings to the cabinetry, many of the materials were from the island or designed and built by locals making the home truly unique.

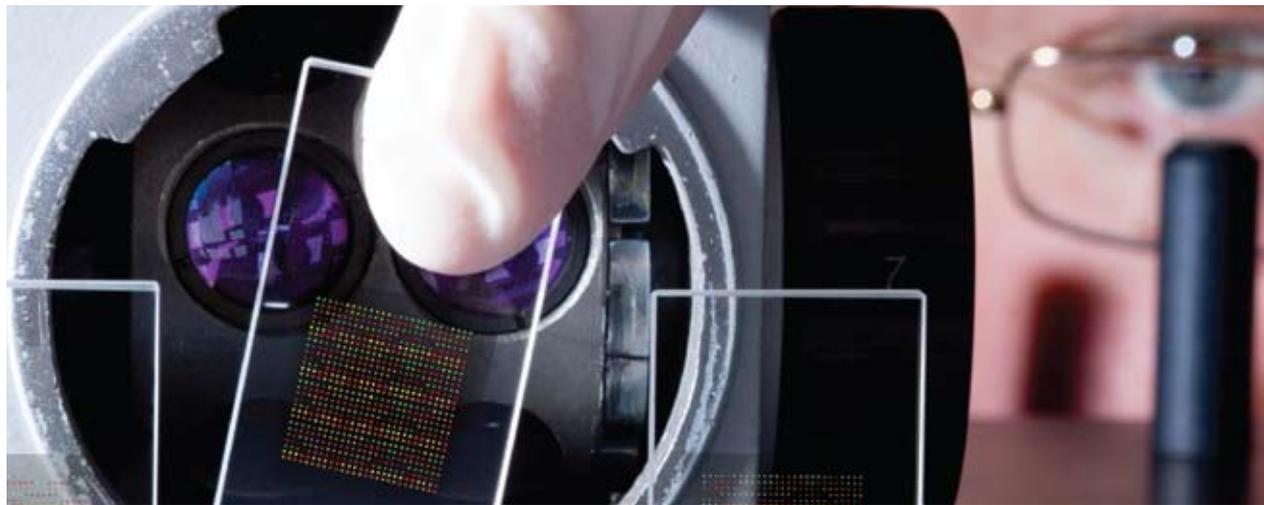
Nick prides himself in providing top customer service, whether it's dealing with challenging building materials or meeting the high demands of a client. "If I had dreamt of a job, this is it," says Nick about his career choice. "Building homes is the easy part. It's about the service that we provide in helping people fulfill a life long dream of building a custom home, their dream home. The work is exciting, challenging and varied."

He started his post-secondary education in computer science and quickly realized that he would be much more satisfied pursuing his passion for construction and he's never looked back. Nick credits much of his success to a BCIT education in Carpentry and in Building Technology where he majored in Architecture, and won an Architectural Institute of BC award while still a student. It is an education he still refers to 20 years later. "The faculty was the best I've ever experienced," says Nick. "They were highly qualified teachers who really cared for their students."

Beyond understanding the "how" of building, he credits BCIT with teaching him the "why" behind it, thereby allowing him to jumpstart his career.

Upon graduating from BCIT, Nick worked for Vancouver City Hall and a number of architecture firms but found true fulfillment on Saltspring Island where he was able to pair his love for the outdoors with his work. His advice to current and future BCIT students is "if you want a fulfilling career, education makes it so much more possible. BCIT is hard work but certainly worth it." Visit [nicklangfordconstruction.com](http://nicklangfordconstruction.com) to see Nick's other incredible projects.

# Where are we headed?



**BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION** of informed opinion and observation, BCIT’s School of Health Sciences (SoHS) engaged external and internal stakeholders in a well-organized and effective conversation titled *Imagine: A Dialogue on BCIT’s Future Health Education Strategy*, on February 11 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Downtown Vancouver. Over 200 participants representing post-secondary, industry, government, the health authorities, professional associations, and accrediting bodies came together to envision what the future may hold for educating health sciences professionals in nursing, nursing specialties, and the allied health professions, and how the SoHS could be supportive in helping to achieve that vision.

Themes explored at the event were:

- › Closing the gap between the supply and demand for health sciences professionals;
- › Improving educational capacity by effectively linking people and technology;
- › Partnering between education and industry for efficiency and effectiveness.

In setting the stage for this dialogue, Business Council of BC President and CEO Virginia Greene highlighted the challenges facing the health care industry today regarding the struggle “to find new and innovative ways to attract new workers and to close training gaps.” She shared some of her “imaginings” for the future, one of the most compelling being “the power to convene”—“mandatory if we are to understand, diagnose, and plan together for successful outcomes.”

Virginia congratulated BCIT for developing this session and encouraged all to continue imagining what

can be. In closing, she encouraged BCIT to continue “to partner with business to reframe the debate and the opportunity.”

It all began late last summer when the SoHS took a step forward in creating a collaborative and connected process to help take the program into the future. One of the reasons for this initiative was the growing concern that sufficient graduates wouldn’t be available to fill positions in the health services industry—a particular concern for professions in high demand, such as medical imaging, medical lab technology, and specialty care nursing. By consulting with its stakeholders, the SoHS expressed interest in improving its capacity to deliver qualified health sciences graduates through programs that best respond to the needs of learners and potential employers.

In response to this, a series of internal consultative and dialogue sessions began last October with learners, faculty, program heads, and administrative staff to examine core issues in moving forward with a vision for 2015 and beyond.

The series of internal and external stakeholder meetings will provide the foundation for the development of the SoHS Strategic Vision and Plan. With further faculty and program head involvement, a multi-year Educational and Research Plan will emerge in May.

There has been a great deal of planning, implementation, and never-wavering commitment in creating a collaborative process for these events. The knowledge shared and information gathered at these events will assist in moving the SoHS into the future.

## The BCIT Alumni Card

The BCIT Alumni Card provides alumni with access to many on- and off-campus services and discounts. The cards are \$35 each and have a five-year expiry. You can have a photo-id card or one without a photo—the choice is yours.

NAPA Auto Parts would like to offer all BCIT Alumni cardholders a 30–40% discount off list prices on everything they carry. Please show your BCIT ID card and quote account #2345. This offer is valid at all participating Lower Mainland NAPA Auto Parts stores. For product information and store locations please visit [napaonlinecanada.ca](http://napaonlinecanada.ca).

A premier benefit of the BCIT Alumni Card is a 20% discount off of one BCIT part-time course, up to a maximum of \$100. Please note registration must take place in person to qualify. Drop by the BCIT Library (SE14) or visit [bcit.ca/alumni/benefits](http://bcit.ca/alumni/benefits) to get your BCIT Alumni Card.



## We’ve moved!

The Alumni Relations Office has moved to the Royal Oak end of Burnaby’s BCIT campus. We can now be found in SE40, Room 230, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, BC, V5G 3H2.



*I believe...*

in being prepared for the future

I've worked hard to get where I am today, and want to make sure I protect my family for whatever the future holds. We can help you be secure with a plan that works for you.

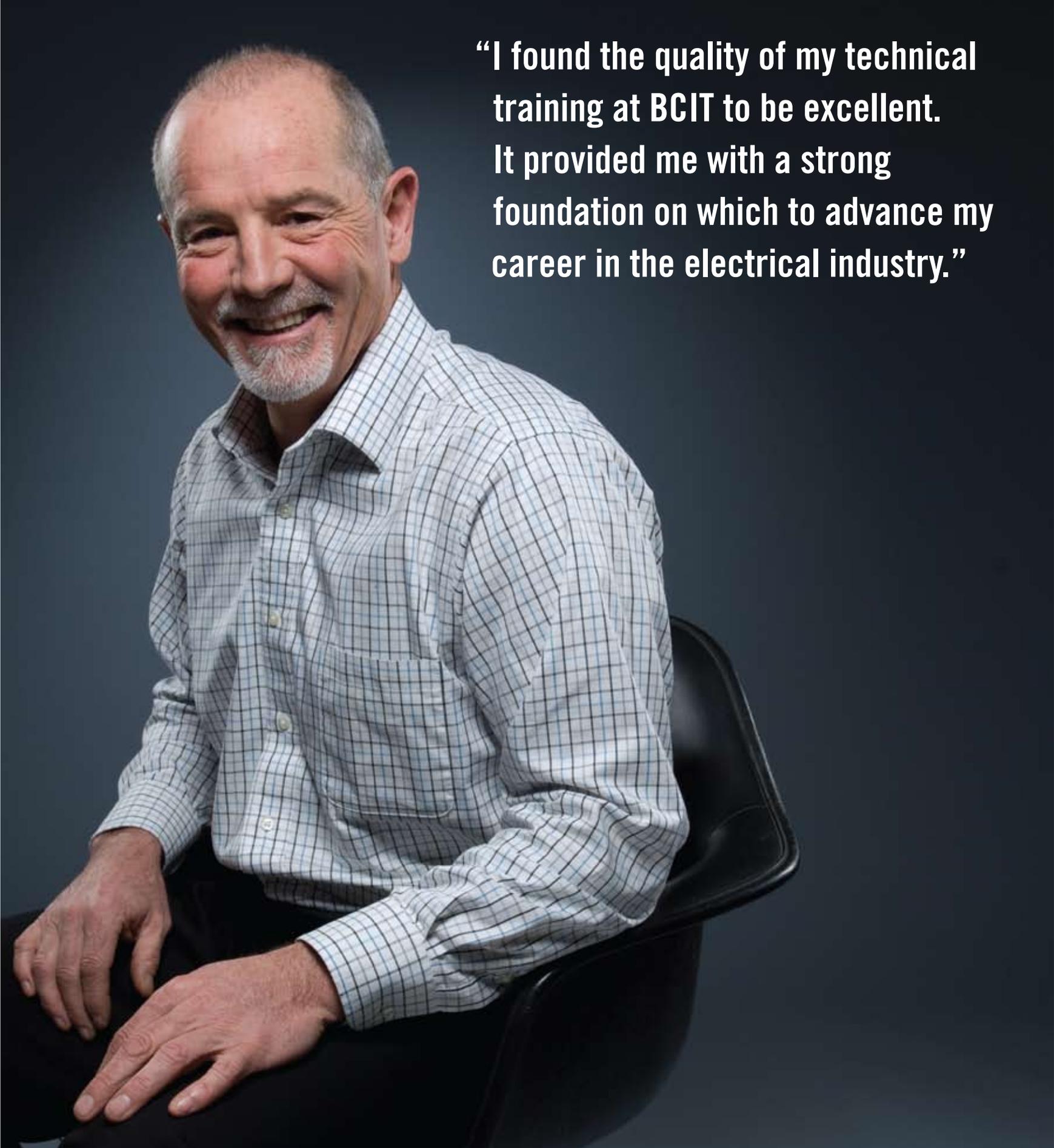
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**“I found the quality of my technical training at BCIT to be excellent. It provided me with a strong foundation on which to advance my career in the electrical industry.”**

**DAN MOTT**

Electrical Apprenticeship '78, BCIT

- > President, Mott Electric
- > Chair, Canadian Apprenticeship Forum
- > Chair, Construction Industry Training Organization of BC
- > Director, Canadian Electrical Contractors Association
- > Director, Electrical Contractors Association of BC

# Grapevine

BCIT Alumni are In Demand, Delivering Results—and we're hearing more and more about you! As space prevents us from printing all the information and updates we've received, we invite you to visit [bcit.ca/alumni/grapevine](http://bcit.ca/alumni/grapevine) to read up on all the latest news.

## 2003

### Gin, Suelaine

*Medical Laboratory Science*

Originally from Saskatchewan, Suelaine started working with the BC Center for Disease Control in Vancouver, but has since moved to Victoria to work with the Vancouver Island Health Authority as a technologist in transfusion, hematology and chemistry at Victoria General Hospital.

## 1994

### Hill, Michael

*Electronic—Engineering Technology*

Graduating from the BCIT Electronics/Electrical Technology program in 1994, Michael has been working at BC Hydro for the past 13 years as a Protection and Control Technologist. He was relocated to various cities and has recently been promoted as a field manager, looking after a crew of technologists in Vernon. He is happily married with three young daughters.

## 1992

### Herschmiller, Cary

*Biomedical Engineering*

Cary's classmate, best friend, and bride Mary, passed away after a brave two and a half year battle with breast

cancer on October 24, 2006. Mary was the only female graduate from the '92 class and is incredibly missed by all who knew her.

## 1990

### Lee, Wayne

*Marketing Management*

Wayne, his wife Linda, and two-year-old daughter Michelle have relocated to Toronto. After 15 years as a business advisor with the BC Government, he is now a consultant with Investors Group Financial Services. He wants to pass on a special hello to all his fellow grads from the 1990 class and to all the great instructors at BCIT in the Marketing Management Program. Wayne can be reached at [wayne.lee@investorsgroup.com](mailto:wayne.lee@investorsgroup.com)

## 1966

### Cook, Alec

*Electronic—Engineering Technology*

Alec retired in December 2007 after the sale of his Electrical Contracting Business in Fernie, BC and keeps himself busy with hockey, skiing, snowmobiling, dirt biking, golfing and cooking for his wife and 13-year-old daughter. Alec claims that BCIT was the best in preparing him for a successful career.

## In Memoriam

*The Alumni Association Remembers*

### Oliver Cole, 1973–2008

*Computer Systems student*

Oliver Mao-Shen Cole was born on April 5, 1973. He passed away suddenly at the age of 34, on January 10, 2008. He will be sadly missed by his grandmother Chung June Moi, his parents, John and Jeannette Cole, his brother Gerald (Shelley), his two children, Deven and Serena, his loving fiancée Midori as well as numerous relatives and friends. Donations in his memory can be made to the North Shore Neighbourhood House.

### Duncan Paul McPhee, 1985–2008

*Marketing Management — Commercial Real Estate '06*

Alexander, Christie (nee Found) and Sean are deeply saddened by the loss of their son and brother Duncan, who passed away peacefully in his sleep on January 20, 2008. Duncan's life was lived fully with love, laughter and music. He put his heart into everything he did. Duncan will be so greatly missed and treasured forever by his family and friends. We are so blessed to have shared his life. Duncan will continue to be an inspiration to us all.



## BCIT faculty and alumni encouraged to “Bring it to Burnaby”

TOURISM BURNABY has launched a new initiative to increase meetings and events business within the city. Bring it to Burnaby is an innovative program that taps into the exceptional potential of local residents and business leaders that belong to provincial, national and international associations, and organizations.

Burnaby boasts many residents who are members of a wide range of associations from professional to recreational. These association ties mean that Burnaby members are supporting their organizations by attending conferences and events all over the world. As residents of a beautiful, vibrant, diverse community within close proximity to Downtown Vancouver and the Vancouver International Airport — there are significant opportunities to bring meetings into Burnaby's own backyards.

The City of Burnaby is the perfect location for meetings and events of all types and sizes. Whether it is a meeting of 100 in a conference room of one of Burnaby's many hotels or a lecture for 500 at the renowned British Columbia Institute of Technology, Burnaby has the facilities that will create a meeting that attendees will be talking about.

Tourism Burnaby understands that planning a large scale meeting or event is a huge undertaking for one person or even a small committee. “Through the Bring it to Burnaby program, we offer complimentary services and expertise to share the workload and support the local host every step of the way,” says Matthew Coyne, executive director of Tourism Burnaby.

Our experts do the legwork while you, the local host, take advantage of all the benefits that come from hosting a meeting in your hometown; showing off your city to colleagues and providing the perfect showcase for your

institution's innovations and new developments. What does this mean for you specifically?

We handle the accommodation and facility search to find the best place for your delegates to stay and meet.

We provide meeting and event services to ensure that your delegates have the best information at hand exactly when needed.

We plan, present and promote so you don't have to. From planning site inspections so you can select from the best that Burnaby has to offer to delivering professional presentations to educate your committee on the benefits of meeting in Burnaby, we have the tools to promote your event to boost attendance.

“The Bring it to Burnaby program took a great deal of work off our plates when searching for accommodation for the 40th Year Reunion of the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program at the BCIT,” explains Lorraine Deverall, instructor for the School of Health Sciences at BCIT and organizer of the celebration. “A hotel and facility search was done on our behalf so we were able to present a variety of accommodation options to reunion registrants.”

Tourism Burnaby is a non-profit destination marketing organization whose purpose is to support tourism promotional activities in order to increase visitation to the city. As part of its mandate, Tourism Burnaby is responsible for marketing, promotion and selling the city as a site for corporate meetings, pleasure travel, cultural, sports and special events.

Interested in bringing it to Burnaby? For more information contact us at [bringit@tourismburnaby.com](mailto:bringit@tourismburnaby.com) or visit [tourismburnaby.com](http://tourismburnaby.com) to sign up for our monthly Bring it to Burnaby e-news.

## ASTTBC CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

celebrating **50** YEARS  
of Excellence + Innovation

Starting with just a few members in 1958, the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC (ASTTBC) has grown to an association of more than 9,000 technology professionals of which BCIT graduates represent 44.5%.

For 50 years, ASTTBC has been the voice of technology professionals in the province. The Association has focused on achieving professional recognition for technologists, technicians and technical specialists. Its mission is "to serve the public by regulating and supporting technology professionals' commitment to a safe, healthy and sustainable society and environment."

ASTTBC has made a difference in the lives of its members and members have made a difference in the lives of others. Technologists, technicians and technical specialists work, live, play and volunteer in communities throughout the province. Members make a difference in public safety, in sustainability and in the standard of living in our communities.

Pej Namshirin, GradTech, (BCIT Biomedical Engineering Technology 2005) is an example of the

new generation of BCIT grads who are up-and-coming technologists. After graduating, he went to work on the high tech evolution of catheterization imaging systems at Vancouver General Hospital. "I chose BCIT because of its reputation and I realized that by putting in two totally focused years, I could come out as a qualified professional," says Pej. "Even at that time I knew it was important to have ASTTBC membership."

**Marsh Heinekey**, ASCT, MBA, (BCIT Civil 1975), recently retired from BCIT as Dean and Acting Vice President of Education, started his career as a Certified Engineering Technician with ASTTBC. After many night school courses, Marsh attended BCIT to get his diploma and with further education, assumed teaching and management positions at BCIT. Marsh, who has volunteered in many positions at ASTTBC including a term as President, says "I can proudly say that my working life has primarily focused on BCIT and ASTTBC. This has been a winning combination."

**Dan Mooney**, ASCT, CPWI 1, (BCIT Civil 1981) credits his membership in ASTTBC as a building block in advancing his career in municipal services. Currently the Manager of Roads and Construction Services at the City of Richmond, Dan says, "My BCIT Diploma plus my involvement with ASTTBC, including serving as President, has returned far more than I could have imagined."

**John Leech**, ASCT, CAE, (BCIT Surveying 1970 and Photogrammetry 1971), Executive Director and Registrar of ASTTBC, has been at the helm for 34 years, moving the Association from 1,200 to 9,000 members

and from a budget of \$70,000 to \$2.2 million. "I am so fortunate that ASTTBC decided to hire me back in 1974 so I could be part of this great organization. I have seen ASTTBC introduce programs to protect the public, and provide professional recognition and scope of practice for members. The association has worked to promote technology education and careers, and have achieved a sterling reputation as a professional regulatory body." ASTTBC's charitable foundation, FEAT, has given out a half-million dollars to support students and events. ASTTBC is now marshalling members and partnering with the provincial government, employers and other stakeholders to address the technology skills shortage.

Current President **Darrin Heisler**, ASCT, (graduating with a BTech in Geomatics from BCIT in 2008) sees ASTTBC continuing toward three key goals: "Enhancing the visibility of the association, gaining full professional recognition for our members, and increasing awareness among young people about careers in technology," he says.

Whether a new member is looking ahead or a founding member is looking back, the reason for joining ASTTBC remains the same; to certify and recognize professionals who contribute to society and are building a foundation for the next generation.

Applied Science  
Technologists & Technicians  
of British Columbia



# Technology Professionals Shaping BC's Future

**Alumni.** Ask for our **Application for Registration** to become a qualified technology professional with ASTTBC.

**Employers.** Looking for the **best** to join your team? Call for **ASTTBC registration** and use our employment service CTEN... [www.cten.ca](http://www.cten.ca)

## As a Technology Professional, you are...

**Qualified.** 9,000+ technology professionals have qualified with ASTTBC. Gain **recognition** for the time and effort you've put into your career. Our professional titles and designations will speak volumes about **who** you are and **what** you do as a technology professional.

**Registered.** ASTTBC is responsible under the ASTT Act for regulating the professional standards and practice of technologists and technicians in applied science and engineering technologies. We currently register practitioners in... *biological sciences, biomedical engineering, building, chemical, civil, electrical, electronics, environmental, forest engineering, gas and petroleum, geomatics, industrial, information technology, mechanical, metallurgical and mining.*

**Accountable.** Technology professionals registered with ASTTBC are highly qualified people who are job-ready with education and experience, and are professionally accountable for their services.

**Explore the potential...  
discover the fit!**

Applied Science  
Technologists & Technicians  
of British Columbia



### About ASTTBC...

We are a self-governing association of technology professionals with 9,000+ registrants including technologists, technicians and technical specialists.

**Our mandate...** to serve the public by regulating and supporting technology professionals' commitment to a safe, healthy, and sustainable society and environment.



For more info... [www.asttbc.org](http://www.asttbc.org)



## Email Drive Contest

**KEEPING OUR DATABASE UPDATED** allows us to communicate with you, our alumni, and helps us to keep you informed regarding opportunities and activities at BCIT. Stay in touch with the BCIT Alumni Association by providing us with your current email address and you can WIN an external hard drive!

To “drive” up your chances of winning, forward this to your former classmates and for every entry referred by you, you’ll be entered into a prize draw for a USB flash drive pen.

To enter, visit [bcit.ca/alumni/contest](http://bcit.ca/alumni/contest) or send an email to [alumni@bcit.ca](mailto:alumni@bcit.ca), subject: Email Update. If your update is submitted via email, please note if someone referred you.

The contest is open May 8–May 25 and the prize winners will be drawn on May 29, 2008.

For full contest entry rules and regulations, visit our website at [bcit.ca/alumni/contests](http://bcit.ca/alumni/contests).

*For more information on the Alumni Association Privacy Policy, please visit our website at [bcit.ca/alumni/privacy.shtml](http://bcit.ca/alumni/privacy.shtml).*



## Stay in Touch!

*We want to hear your news! Stay in touch and help us keep our records up to date.*

LAST NAME:	FIRST NAME:	MIDDLE INITIAL(S):	MAIDEN NAME (IF APPLICABLE):
HOME ADDRESS:		CITY:	PROV./STATE:
POSTAL CODE/ZIP:	COUNTRY:	EMAIL:	
EMPLOYER:	TITLE/OCCUPATION:		
BUSINESS ADDRESS:			
BUSINESS TEL: ( )	FAX: ( )	BCIT STUDENT NO.:	
PROGRAM:	YEAR GRADUATED:	<input type="radio"/> DIPL.T <input type="radio"/> DEGREE <input type="radio"/> CERT. TECH.	
SPOUSE'S NAME:	BCIT GRADUATE: <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO		
PROGRAM:	YEAR GRADUATED:	<input type="radio"/> DIPL.T <input type="radio"/> DEGREE <input type="radio"/> CERT.TECH.	

WOULD YOU LIKE THE ABOVE INFORMATION SHOWN ON THE BCIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WEBSITE (ALUMNI ONLINE DIRECTORY)?  Yes  No

### Freedom of Information /Protection of Privacy Consent

BCIT Alumni Relations, the BCIT Foundation Office and the BCIT Alumni Association routinely contact alumni to offer BCIT programs and services, inform BCIT graduates about alumni events, administer elections of the Alumni Association, facilitate alumni surveys and research, and conduct fundraising appeals. BCIT Alumni Relations and the BCIT Alumni Association will also send to BCIT alumni marketing information about commercial products and services upon the consent of BCIT graduates. If BCIT Alumni Relations does not receive this returned notification, BCIT Alumni Relations and the BCIT Alumni Association will use your name, address or phone number for the purpose of marketing commercial products and services.

I do not authorize BCIT Alumni Relations and the BCIT Alumni Association to contact me for the purpose of marketing commercial products/services.

MESSAGE FOR THE GRAPEVINE

Unless otherwise requested, we will publish your news in the *Ambassador* newsletter and online Grapevine. Please note submissions may be edited for brevity and clarity. Please print, maximum 30 words.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO: BCIT *Alumni Ambassador*, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, BC V5G 3H2 Email: [alumni@bcit.ca](mailto:alumni@bcit.ca)

The personal information on this form is collected under the authority of the College and Institute Act (RSBC 1996, Ch.52). BCIT will use this information to maintain alumni relations by providing notification of BCIT services and courses of instruction in technological and vocational matters and subjects. The information is also used to facilitate alumni surveys and research and to conduct fundraising appeals. BCIT, with the graduate's consent, also offers information about commercial products and services of interest to alumni. If you have any questions about the collection and use of this information, contact BCIT's Manager of Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy.

## The 1st Annual Canadian Direct Insurance BCIT Alumni Open is teeing off July 15th.

You are cordially invited to attend the inaugural Canadian Direct Insurance BCIT Alumni Open. Come out and enjoy a fun day of golf, food, and networking, all in support of BCIT students.

**DATE:** Tuesday, July 15, 2008  
**PLACE:** Northview Golf & Country Club  
6857 168th Street, Surrey, BC  
[www.northviewgolf.com](http://www.northviewgolf.com)

**REGISTRATION:** 7:30 am  
**SHOTGUN START:** 10:00 am  
**DINNER:** Culinary stations open from 5:00 pm  
**FEES (GST INCL.):** \$400 per person  
\$1500 per foursome  
\$50 dinner only

**TO REGISTER:** [bcit.ca/alumni/open](http://bcit.ca/alumni/open)

The Canadian Direct Insurance BCIT Alumni Open benefits the BCIT Alumni Association Endowment. Through this fund alumni and friends contribute much-needed financial and moral support to BCIT students.

