NEWSLETTER FOR THE BCIT COMMUNITY

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

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DECEMBER 5, 1995

## Cabinet minister visits BCIT

Canadian businesses need to become even more responsive to trade opportunities in Asia, Canada's Secretary of State for Asia-Pacific told a BCIT audience recently.

"Per capita, Canada is the No. 1 trading nation in the world," said Hon. Raymond Chan, who was appointed to the portfolio about 18 months ago. "Yet we don't have enough traders in Canada to satisfy the demand or amount of (trade) leads I bring home."

He explained that the top 50 percent of trade is done by as few as 100 companies in Canada. Twenty-five percent comes from five automotive companies exporting to the U.S.

Staff and students met with Chan on Nov. 24 when he toured the

campus and spoke to an International Trade class. Later, four students from the class were selected to be among the BCIT audience for a special lunch where he addressed a small group in the Rix Club.

Chan explained that, as Canada's first secretary of state for the Asia-Pacific, his portfolio includes the whole Asia-Pacific as far east as the South Asia region, and as far south as the Pacific Islands. His job is to represent Canada in diplomatic, trade and development assistance issues.

Chan went on to say that the problem lies in the lack of infrastructure in Canadian businesses to cope with the trade, that leaves the Asians feeling that Canada does not follow through.

"While we trade approximately \$1 billion a day with the U.S., we have to diversify because there are opportunities three or four times that size in Latin America and Asia," he said.

Chan said that his personal agenda is to help revive the Canadian economy and he hopes that we can do the job by export. He sees BCIT having an important role to play because, as the institute produces jobready graduates, we will continue to need strong government support.

Hon. Raymond Chan speaks to a BCIT audience about training requirements in the marketplace.



## More than 60 employees form retiree association

Norman Alexander, Ted Howard and Margot Allingham chat during the luncheon.

The lannacone, president, and Nino Romanin, employee

Ernie lannacone, president,
BCIT Retirees' Association
and Nino Romanin, employee
advisor, BCIT.

happeni

On Nov. 1, more than 60 BCIT retirees met to form the BCIT Retiree's Association.

After a pleasant reminiscing lunch and the opening ceremonies of the new Campus Centre, the retirees ratified their governing constitution and bylaws.

BCIT President Brian Gillespie welcomed and congratulated us,

acknowledged our many and varied talents, provide a quick update on At the outset maintain a lo that's possible from us as tire.

happenings at BCIT and asked us, where possible, to act as advocates for the institute.

Of the twelve nominees, eight officers were elected to the BCIT Retirees' Association executive council. The other four candidates will be using their talents and abilities on various committees.

All 12 nominees were invited to attend the first executive council meeting.

At the outset we expect to maintain a low profile — if that's possible. You will hear from us as time goes by. We'll let you know what we are doing, how we can relate with each other for mutual benefits and the good of the institute.

Retirees will be kept up-to-date by mail and in Update.

BCIT employees who wish to see our constitution and bylaws can contact us in SE 14.1, room 101, or leave a message on our voice mail at 451-6716.

— from Ernie Iannacone

### Newly elected officers, committee chairs

President: ...... Ernie Iannacone
Vice President ....... Don Eklof
Secretary ...... Jim Johnstone
Treasurer ...... Owen Edwards
Director ...... Patrick Thomas
Director ...... Ed Warkentin
Special Duties ..... Art Jorden
Communications & Fellowship
Chair ..... Alan Barnard
Alternate ..... Don Eklof

## Pioneers celebrate reunion, Oct. 27



Pioneers and spouses from the Forestry and Forest Product department included Gordon Mitchell, Victor Heath, Barbara Heath, Don MacLaurin, Isobel MacLaurin, Gordon Harris and Steve Berghold.

Enjoy perfect poinsettias and support our drive to raise funds for BCIT Student Scholarships and Bursaries.

The fresh, full blossomed 6" pots are available in a variety of colours for only:

Prices include all taxes.

It's simple: just fill out the order form that came in the mail and return it with your payment to Kelly Beatty in the Development Office by Friday, Dec. 8.

Christmas poinsettias will be ready for pick-up on Friday, Dec. 15 from 1130 to 1330 in the Horticultural Building, NE3, next to Inglis.

Please arrange for pick-up. No early bird pick-up please.

If you have not already received an order form, contact Kelly Beatty at 8643.

On October 27, 32 pioneers, along with their spouses and guests, met at BCIT for the second annual reunion of the BCIT Pioneer Club.

The club, which was formed in February 1994, is made up of faculty and support staff who worked at BCIT at the time of the first graduating class, and who were involved in the development of the two-year diploma programs.

Gordon Harris, Pioneers Club chair, says response to the gathering was enthusiastic. "We even had one couple come all the way from Georgia," he said referring to Gordon and Trish Mitchell. "And by far the best represented department was Forestry and Forest Products."

After Brian Gillespie's words of welcome, Neil Howard addressed the group and briefed them on upcoming events.

Stan Richards, chair of the Pioneers' Club's archives, gave a report stressing that anyone holding onto archival material should donate it to the institute.



### **BCIT Events to Come**

### Wednesday, Dec. 6

All-staff forum with Brian Gillespie to discuss BCIT's , strategic direction for the next decade. From 1130 to 1330 in the BC Tel Theatre, IBM building.

### Friday, Dec. 8

- Live interactive conference on Applied Academics in Town Square A from 1000 to 1200.
- Deadline for ordering poinsettias. For details contact Kelly Beatty, Development Office local 8643.

### Tuesday, Dec. 12

- President and Board of Governors annual Christmas Reception. From 1430 to 1800 in Town Square cafeteria and the Great Hall.
- Staff service recognition for 10 and 15 years. Those who were unable to attend the 20/25/30 year recognition will be invited to attend. In Town Square D from 1330 to 1430.

### **Enviro tip**

Protect the environment from toxic elements leaching from old batteries. Bring used household batteries to Central Stores or any TNT location for safe disposal and recycling.

# Backcountry skiing anyone? Don't stand under cornices: A member of the NorthShore Hikers at Table Mountain on a spring ski trip to Mt. Baker. photo Al Payne

Are you interested in skiing the backcountry, away from the crowded slopes, on natural, ungroomed and untracked snow? Would you like to explore Diamond Head, Manning, Baker, Whistler and North Shore backcountry ski spots?

Climb up with skins on your skis. Ski down using telemark (free-heel) or the parallel technique. Use telemark or Alpine (fixed heel) boots and bindings.

Some previous experience, downhill, cross-country or backcountry is desirable as most trips require an intermediate level of skiing ability and an appropriate level of fitness. The difficulty of a trip depends on snow and weather conditions. Participants must also be willing to accept the risks involved.

If you are interested call Al Payne, Civil and Structural department, at local 8802 for more information.

Payne skis with the NorthShore Hikers and would like to attract new skiers to the group. If there is sufficient interest, a BCITbased group could do trips on their own.

# A Christmas bonus

should not gobble.

Now here's a Christmas bonus that comes with a bonus!

If turkey is a recurring theme when it comes to Christmas bonus time, we've got good news. Brentwood Mall Gift certificates.

Available in various denominations, they're perfect for Christmas bonuses, office party gifts, staff incentives and client/supplier appreciation. The hierarchy even get a bouns. When you buy \$100, you receive an additional \$10.

One more bonus...we'll deliver with a purchase of \$100 or more.

Say goodbye to a foul Christmas bonus! \$10 FREE Say hello to a much Merrier Christmas!

To order call Brentwood Mall Customer Service at 298-7314. All orders must be received by Friday, December 22, 1995.

Order \$100 of Gift Certificates and receive an additional \$10, Free!



### **PROFILE**

## The training wheels are off

When Ann McArthur arrived at BCIT in 1967, she was not only hired to teach physics, she was selected as a role model for the young women in Med Lab who didn't think physics was for women.

Now, 28 years later, McArthur is again breaking ground, this time managing the quality assurance process for the Bachelor of Technology degree process.

The move from instructing physics to playing an instrumental role in achieving degree-granting status at BCIT, involved tackling a variety of responsibilities over the years.

McArthur is quick to point out the encouragement and support that she received from her colleagues.

"When I was originally asked to chair the Education Council in 1990, I was scared silly, but then John Watson said I could wear training wheels for three months," she jokes.

"The support I have received from John and Brian Gillespie has been instrumental to my success. For example, Brian gives me enough rope to use my own initiative, but catches me before I can hang myself."

McArthur is thrilled with her new job because it lets her work



in a dynamic area and diversifies her personal interests. She is currently finishing her master's degree in Higher Education at the University of British Columbia.

"Working on the degree-granting process kindled an interest in me for new knowledge," she enthuses, "and consequently, working on my own degree has enriched both my personal and private lives."

## The BCIT UPDATE is published weekly throughout

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## **Classy Finds**

For rent: Townhouse (1100 square feet and fully furnished) in Whistler's Alpine Meadows area. Sleeps six in two bedroom, two storey building. Within walking distance to Meadow Park, swimming pool, ice area, recreation centre, store and bus route. Drive a few minutes to the village and ski hills. Only \$25/person/night for six people (\$150/night). To book your reservation call Sylvia at 942-4432.

For rent: Ski and celebrate New Year's in Whistler. Cozy, fully equiped condo close to recreation centre, sleeps four. Available for rent December 27 to January 1 at reasonable rate. PROF msimon or phone 451-7079 or 987-2297.

Please note: The last edition of Update for 1995 will be December 12. Look for us when we return in January.

## PAWWS Contest Question: or False:

Hot chocolate or tea before bed will help you sleep.

- \* Answers must be submitted to PAWWS voice-mail (6991) or in writing to Gloria Katnick in SE16 within the next week.

  Please remember to provide your name and local with your answer.
- \* The prize for this week's question is a relaxation gift basket donated by Shopper's Drug Mart in the Old Orchard Mall.

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