

BCIT UPDATE

A newsletter for the BCIT Community

December 14, 1992

Issue 13

A Christmas message to all staff

At this time of the year I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for your hard work and dedication to BCIT.

I am particularly impressed with the contributions of those who work many hours on behalf of our students providing services that contribute to a memorable and worthwhile experience for each student. To those of you who support community causes, such as the United Way, my heartfelt thanks. This tells me BCIT staff are committed to strong community values as well as educational values.

To everyone, your efforts reflect a belief in the Institute and its values, in education, and ensuring our students are well equipped to get and keep good jobs.

I hope I have the opportunity of seeing you at the Annual Christmas Reception on December 15 and extend my good wishes to you and yours at this time. If I don't see you, please accept my warmest greetings for the holiday season. As always, I urge you not to drink and drive. I want you to be part of the BCIT team next year.

Have a wonderful holiday.

Sincerely,


John Watson

Tom Perry officially opens new Forest Fire Simulation Training Facility



(L to r) Mark Angelo, Tom Perry, Joan Sawicki, Wynne Powell.

Photo: Media Relations

Tom Perry, the minister of Advanced Education, Training and Technology, officially opened the new BCIT forest fire simulation training theatre December 4. The facility is only the second of its kind in North America.

The theatre features the latest in computer driven laser disc technology which allows realistic presentation of forest fires using photography and high resolution color video technology and high fidelity surround sound. The simulator is in a lecture theatre where students learn to apply knowledge of fire behavior to develop fire control strategies and tactics for real life scenarios. The facility develops and tests skills in planning, communications, fireline management, fireline logistics, budget control, and decision-making under stress.

In order to make the experience as real as possible, video segments of forest fires are projected onto a movie screen using a ceiling mounted projector. The system allows interaction between students.

The forest industry, government agencies, municipal fire departments, university and technical schools, and

a variety of interested citizens groups will benefit from access to this lab. Last year in B.C. there were over 2,000 forest fires covering 31,000 hectares of land.

"This facility is designed for fire simulation now but in the future it could be used to simulate fish and wildlife issues, disaster situations, survey operations, you name it. All this could not have happened without the support of many organizations, particularly the Ministry of Forests which will utilize this facility when BCIT use is low," said Rob Lihou, Renewable Resources Technology instructor.

Terry Jorden
Media Relations

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Photo: Media Relations

When Peter Mueller thinks about the leather BCIT jacket given to him recently he gets very excited. His hands move quicker when he signs. He smiles and his face turns a little red.

"Overwhelmed... I can't express how... it was perfect... absolutely unexpected," he said through interpreter Mike Boone. "I was speechless."

On November 20 BCIT staff, and students from the Machine Shop and the Western Institute for the Deaf, gathered to celebrate Peter's completion of the Machinist program. The Student Association presented him with a special jacket to mark his achievement.

It took Peter, who was born deaf, about 14 and a half months to complete the program, a little longer than the regular 8 months.

"I had planned all along to buy a jacket myself because I didn't want to go around bragging that I graduated from BCIT," said Peter. "You have to understand that not many deaf people are encouraged to come to a place like BCIT. Seeing me wear this jacket would encourage others."

Encouragement is an important word for Peter who at 37 has had his share of ups and downs. After graduating from Jericho Hill

Provincial School for the Deaf in 1973, Peter held a number of jobs, many not very challenging or rewarding. One of his first jobs was in a body shop sanding down cars. He considered becoming a body shop apprentice but the employer wouldn't sponsor him.

He later worked as a production worker in a plant manufacturing licence plates. He became interested in heavy equipment there but that ended when he was laid off. He was laid off again after working in a plant making steel beams. They said he didn't have enough skills to advance within the plant.

Like anyone, Peter and wife Gail and their two sons, hope for a better life with a good job and a home. Towards that end, Peter completed two years of upgrading at Vancouver Community College. But the biggest challenge came when he wrote the BCIT entrance exam. He failed it twice, passing the math test but failing the English portion. Although instructor Ted Marchant felt he could handle the program, without passing the entrance exam he could not enter the program.

After letters from Shirley Coomber, Students With Disabilities coordinator, the Western Institute for the Deaf, CEIC, and Peter himself, the doors were finally opened.

Peter Mueller "overwhelmed" at gift of leather BCIT jacket

*Machinist Peter Mueller tries on
his new jacket as Counsellor
Stu Gibbs looks on.*

"I don't think it's fair that a deaf person has to take the same test as a hearing person," said Peter. "Our handicap is communications. A deaf person's skills are still there even though they depend on an interpreter."

He said taking the test made him feel inferior and lowered his self-esteem. "Many deaf people won't come here because of the entrance exam. They won't risk failing," he said.

He is now considering taking the Computer Numerical Control program.

Always one to turn his disability to his advantage, Peter said he has an advantage over other machine shop students.

"The noise in the shop doesn't bother me as much," he said with a smile.

*Terry Jorden
Media Relations*



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ver 200 guests mingled to the jazzy sounds of the Zaniacs to celebrate the \$13.3 million conclusion to the Capital Campaign November 30.

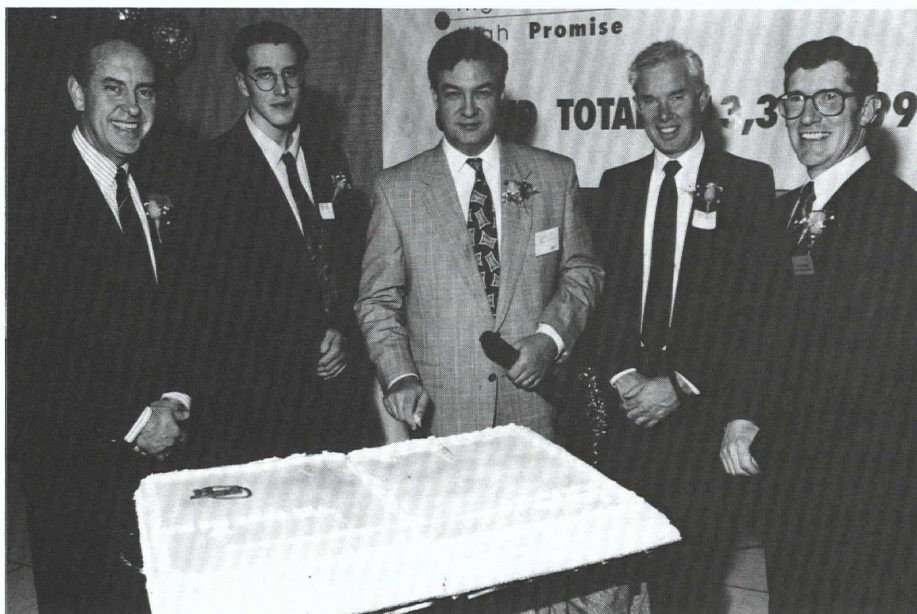
"Although this campaign is over, this is just the beginning," said campaign coordinator Cathy Daminato. "The drive continues. We will continue to work to raise money for BCIT."

Equipment donors, volunteers, scholarship and bursary contributors, and BCIT employees attended the reception at the Town Square Cafe which was decorated with hundreds of balloons for the occasion.

The campaign's success, Daminato said, owes itself to the top notch leadership committee and the solid reputation BCIT has among employers. "Our graduates are highly valued. Industry supported this campaign because over the years they have benefited from our grads. This campaign was an opportunity to invest in their future workforce."

*Terry Jorden
Media Relations*

Quintin cuts Capital Campaign cake



(from left) John Watson, Lyle Bolvin, Clark Quintin, Barry Jones and Wynne Powell lend a hand in cutting the victory cake. Photo: AV Production

Board Profile



Wynne Powell

Wynne Powell has been associated with BCIT for over twenty years. A student in the business program, he obtained his Diploma of Technology in Business Administration and received the award for highest honors graduate for his year. He has been a member of the BCIT Board of Governors since 1987 and has chaired the Board since 1989, as well as serving on advisory committees, chairing the Business Administration Advisory Committee, and serving as a guest lecturer.

Mr. Powell has extensive business experience in Sales, Marketing, Administration, Management, Accounting and Human Resources. A self-confessed workaholic, he believes firmly in the importance of education. While working at the senior management level he attended UBC and completed the requirements for designation as a Certified General Accountant. He is a guest lecturer for the CGA Association's professional development courses and is currently Vice Chairman of the CGA Computer User's Group.

On regular visits to mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea and Japan, he has represented a variety of companies and institutions, developing business and educational ties between Canada and the Pacific Rim.

Mr. Powell is Vice President, Marketing and Retail Technical Group, London Drugs, and Vice President, TLD Computers Ltd.

Whenever possible, he and his wife Glenys spend as much time as they can with their two daughters at their home on South Pender Island. He is a power boat enthusiast and serves in a variety of volunteer community endeavours such as the South Pender Island fire department.

The name of the program is the Automotive Service Technician (AST) Program but many of the courses have names like Math 1, Physics 1, Drafting, Communications, Accounting Essentials, Computer Applications and Marketing.

As anyone knows who has looked under the hood recently, the automotive industry has changed -- big time. The buzz words are training, customer service, and computer diagnostics.

To meet the needs of this changing industry, BCIT has developed the two-year AST diploma program to meet two basic needs: for skilled technicians who can diagnose and repair today's sophisticated vehicles, and skilled administrative personnel who have technical as well as business training.

New AST program produces first graduating class

Elise remembers going to a car show in 1990. "I had no idea what was going on under the hood. Now, after taking this program, I know what's going on."

Today she won't have trouble finding work but it hasn't always been like that. When she first started looking into a career in the automotive industry some said she wouldn't be strong enough, or she wouldn't like it because she'd get dirty, or that she was inquiring on behalf of someone else.

Once in the program and working in the field, she ran into the occasional obstacle. "It was pretty hard for some guys to accept me. I was a rookie AND a woman," she said.



Elise Gouin

Photo: Media Relations

The first intake of students was in January 1990 and on December 18 the program has its first graduates -- Elise Gouin, Leo Shum, Stuart Stulberg and Stuart Money who is the top student academically and winner of a UAP NAPA award.

Elise Gouin, 39, and mother of an 18-year-old daughter, is the winner of the BCAA scholarship for best all round student.

Students who complete the program receive a diploma and may be able to challenge academic portions of the provincial apprenticeship curriculum.

*Terry Jorden
Media Relations*

E.L.I.T.E. '93

Enhancing Learning in a Technological Environment

Educating for the Future

Plans for BCIT's first educational conference, titled "Educating for the Future," are in high gear.

The Conference will take place on March 18 and 19, 1993, at the Executive Inn, Burnaby. While the program is still being finalized we can confirm the following:

Thursday, March 18, 1993

18:00 - 20:30 Keynote Address followed by Wine and Cheese Reception.
Guest Speaker:
Dr. Donald S. Doucette
Associate Director, League for Innovation
in the Community College, Laguna Hills,
California.

Friday, March 19, 1993

08:00 - 10:30 Panel Discussion
"Qualities that Industry will look for in employees, and therefore in BCIT's graduates, in the future."

Speakers Lynda Cranston, President and CEO,
Richmond Hospital
Helmut Eppich, President, EBCO Industries
John MacDonald, Chairman,
MacDonald Dettwiler & Associates
Tazeem Nathoo, VP Human Resources
& Environment, VanCity
Tom Simons, President, H.A. Simons Ltd.
Tony Tennessy, Chairman,
Provincial Apprenticeship Board

11:00 - 12:15 Workshop Sessions

12:15 - 13:30 LUNCH

13:30 - 16:00 Workshop Sessions

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

So far we have 10 Workshops confirmed covering many of the conference themes:

- critical thinking
- learning styles
- humor in the classroom
- retention techniques
- motivating adult learners
- teaching leadership
- teaching writing and communication
- teaching in a multicultural and diversified environment

The Conference can accommodate between 25 and 30 workshops in the morning and afternoon sessions. If you are interested in presenting a workshop, please submit a proposal by December 31, 1992, to:

Carol Dion
BCIT Special Events (8865)

Extra copies of the Request for Proposal, included in the October 5 UPDATE, can be obtained from Carol Dion.

REGISTRATION

A complete registration package together with final program details will be mailed out in January '93.

YOUR EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Colleen Varcoe, Chair
- Carol Dion
- Marsh Helnekey
- Neil Howard
- Ann McArthur
- Robert Merriam
- Stephen Peszel
- Paula Pick
- Marnie Simon
- Dixie Stockmayer
- Peter Wilson



Santa's helper Jan Wadsworth and Santa show off just a few of the 353 poinsettias sold to raise funds for the BCIT Family Campaign which supports student scholarships and bursaries. \$1,009 was raised this year.

Photo: AV Production

Stringing up Christmas lights

Physical Plant staff were busy in late November making the campus a little brighter and festive. A colorful, banner now greets those entering the Burnaby Campus at Goard Way and Willingdon.

Photo: Media Relations



John Watson and Antony Barren (Civil & Structural) share a laugh at the Staff Service and Recognition Reception on November 26 in the Rix Club. The reception honored 36 staff members who have reached 20 and 25 year service levels. The Rix Club provided a sumptuous meal for recipients and guests. Each presentation was photographed and if you would like a copy contact Terry Jorden, Media Relations.

Photo: Media Relations

Piping student organizes drive to fill empty stockings

John Hollstedt, a BCIT piping student, is on his way to raising \$750 for needy families this Christmas.

Every year for the past 6 years, John has organized similar campaigns either through his employer or his hometown Kamloops Kinsmen Club.

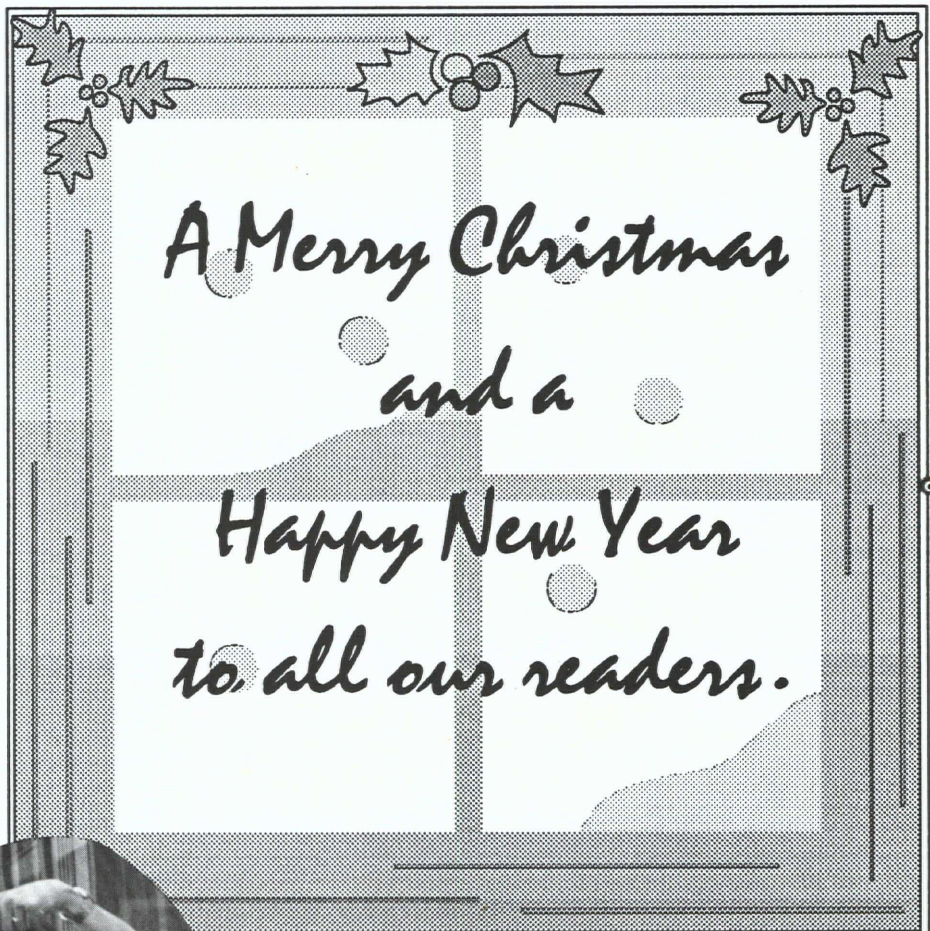
This year, while attending a 5-month piping program in the Lower Mainland, he decided to carry on the tradition and encourage other piping students to contribute. Friday, December 11 is the day when most of the money will be collected.

"In the past few years I've discovered that a small effort on the part of the haves has a big impact on the have nots," said Hollstedt.

Donations will be coordinated through the YMCA of Greater Vancouver which will identify three needy families.

You can reach John at home at 985-7858 after 4 pm.

Terry Jordan
Media Relations



*A Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year
to all our readers.*

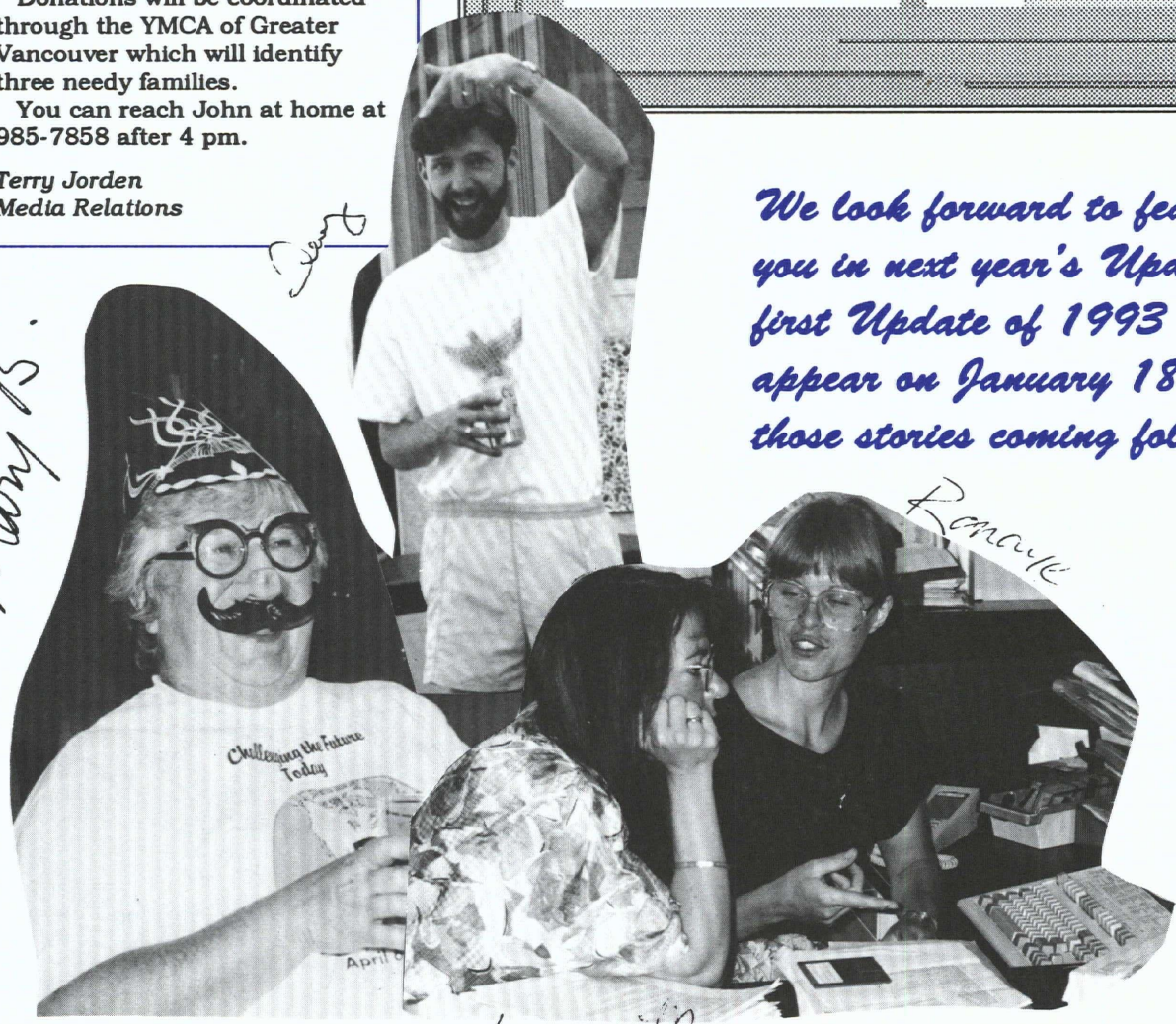
We look forward to featuring you in next year's Update. The first Update of 1993 will appear on January 18 so keep those stories coming folks!

Mary B.

John

Ronnie

Mary M.



Statutory Holidays 1993

In order to prepare for vacation planning, here are the paid holidays for 1993. As Christmas and Boxing day fall on a Saturday and Sunday in 1993, you will note that the holiday days are the Monday and Tuesday of the week following December 25 and 26.

New Year's Day

- Friday, January 1

Good Friday

- Friday, April 9

Easter Monday

- Monday, April 12

Queen's Birthday

- Monday, May 24

Canada Day

- Thursday, July 1

B.C. Day

- Monday, August 2

Labour Day

- Monday, September 6

Thanksgiving Day

- Monday, October 11

Remembrance Day

- Thursday, November 11

Christmas Eve

- Friday, December 24

Christmas Day

- (in lieu) Monday, December 27

Boxing Day

- (in lieu) Tuesday, December 28

New Year's Eve

- Friday, December 31

New Year's Day

- (in lieu) Monday, January 3, '94

Christmas fire hazards

For safety's sake it is desirable that only artificial trees and Christmas decorations be put up inside buildings.

If live trees are used inside please ensure that:

- they are removed prior to staff departing for the Christmas break;
- trees are kept in water and replenished daily;
- Christmas lights are turned off at the close of business each day.

Dried-out trees are not only a serious fire hazard, but the needles also create considerable problems for the cleaning crew machines.

Neal Chadwick
Safety & Security

The Green Column

A primer on toner cartridges

Laser printer and personal copier toner cartridges were designed to allow users to service their own machines easily. Components that required changing were housed in one convenient package that was easy to change without needing a service call or getting dirty. Generally, toner cartridges were disposed of once the toner ran out.

The problem with disposing of toner cartridges is that it fills up landfills, which are becoming scarcer, and does not fit in with current environmental practices. Each year the number of cartridges Canadians throw out occupy approximately one million cubic feet of landfill space. That number is growing. To picture what that amount looks like, the pile of cartridges, if placed in a 5 metre square, would be taller than the CN Tower.

Companies have been established to refill toner cartridges. A new EPS toner cartridge can sell for \$130 while the same refill cartridge can sell for around \$69. The quality can exceed the original new toner cartridge. By using these we are not only saving money but also reducing landfill waste and creating Canadian jobs.

Jim Chow

Reprinted from *The Computer Player*

Coming soon!

Four questions on BCIT's Environmental policy. Watch for it, we need your input!

Environmental Awareness Committee



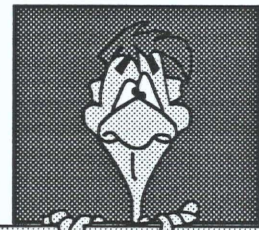
A Strategy for the Nineties

Copies of the full report summarized in Update #12 of December 7 can be obtained from Lynn Garner, Assistant to the Vice President, Student Services and Educational Support.

CLASSIFIED

For Sale: 386DX25MHZ. I am looking for a new relationship with serious intent, and believe me, I have a lot of quality to offer. I have 4 meg ram, 2 Teak floppy drives (5 1/4", 3 1/2"), 80 mb/19ms Maxtor HD, 16 bit IDE, 8 layer motherboard, ser/par/games ports, 8 expansion slots, SVGA colour monitor, ATI VGA wonder card, 101 keyboard and a small footprint case. I have never let my mate down and have always been looked after. I am available for \$1250 (we can talk about this) and am looking forward to a new long lasting relationship.

Call Ronaye 8738 or 688-0373.



The BCIT UPDATE is published throughout the school year by the Communications Department of Marketing and Development.

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