

# BCIT Alumni Association News

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## Open House March 23—25

Every two years, BCIT opens its doors and welcomes the public at large to tour the Institute.

This year, the BCIT Alumni Association will be taking over the second floor staff lounge area for the three-day event.

As well as exhibits designed to help alumni members remember what things used to be like at BCIT, the lounge will be a gathering point where past grads will be able to meet each other, and perhaps even an old instructor or two. Refreshments will be served and with a good mix of old and new grads, maybe some private tours of

the campus will take place.

BCIT has changed quite a bit over the years and if you haven't been back for a while, you really should try to come and see the new campus residence, the Student Activity Centre (SAC) and the 1976 Building. (Ah, progress.)

You might even find your old locker and see if it still smells the same. You will be able to sit in the old lecture halls and try to remember who said what way back when. Come and see what BCIT offers today's students.

The alumni association does need some

help for its part in Open House 1979. If you are interested, please contact Dick Melville, Director of Information Services, BCIT, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, or phone 434-5734, local 202. He will make sure that we contact you.

We need manpower and information to build our exhibit—highlights of your years for your technology. Please call Dick.

Come to Open House 1979, March 23, 24, 25 because we were there!

Hours: Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## President promises Alumni revitalization

Yes, Virginia, there still is a BCIT Alumni Association. It is alive and under the care and guidance of a new team, led by President Ian Robertson.

Ian is a 1978 Marketing Management graduate currently working for Proctor and Gamble. You might ask Ian: "Why you?"

He did.

His answer was: "My interest in the Alumni Association started during my term as Vice President External of the BCIT Student Association. Included in the responsibilities of that office was acting as liaison officer to the Alumni Association. In an effort to perform this, I contacted Dick Melville, Director of Information Services for BCIT. He explained that the Alumni Association had been relatively dormant over the past few years.

"I could not accept the idea that the common bond of having gone through the BCIT experience did not mean that much to people.

"I still do not accept it and I am certain that I am not alone in feeling that graduates of BCIT are still interested in what happens to BCIT today."

Well then, Virginia, what are Ian Robertson's plans for the future of the Alumni Association?

As luck would have it, we asked him just that question.

"Well, in the short term, I see the main task as being one of creating a strong awareness of the Alumni Association's

existence. We plan to use this year's BCIT Open House as the focal point to build that awareness and are already working on the Alumni Association's exhibit for it.

"In conjunction with the awareness goal, we hope to maintain communication to graduates with newsletters such as this.

"Another short-term goal is to attract future graduates into the Alumni Association."

"As for longer term goals, the major priority is to build a grass roots Alumni Association; that is, encourage individual technologies to form their own associations

under the direction of the Alumni Association. I would also like to see the Alumni Association become a strong lobbying group to any administration that concerns itself with BCIT."

So you see, Virginia, there still is a BCIT Alumni Association. But Ian's final comment should be made public. It concerned how he would measure success during his term as president.

"By the end of my term, I hope to have created enough interest that a full election can take place and that a majority of the 12,000 BCIT alumni will take part."



New BCIT Alumni Association executive members are [left to right] Martha Fraser, secretary; Stuart Worthington, treasurer; Anne Marie Webb, first vice president; and Ian Robertson, president.



# First on-campus residence opened



BCIT alumni returning to the campus for Open House on March 23 weekend will have the opportunity to see Maquinna, the Institute's first residence.

The on-campus housing was opened in September by Premier William R. Bennett

at a ceremony attended by many federal and provincial dignitaries.

Premier Bennett pledged continued personal support for BCIT while cutting ribbons and ropes and jogging his way around campus.

Premier Bennett said BCIT has "long been number one in my house—and in fact, if they qualify, I hope to see my two sons attend BCIT next year".

Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Premier Bennett was presented with a jogging suit and honorary membership in the BCIT Student Association by President Fiona Fraser. She said all the responsibilities of a student go with the membership and invited him to attend one of the pubs.

Vice president Cathy McMahon took the opportunity to put a shine on the shoes of the Premier in order to publicize the Shinerama campaign for funds for cystic fibrosis. She received a five dollar bill from him and he received a straw boater hat with a Shinerama band.

Jim Mitchell took the Premier, Dale Michaels and Dr. Tony Barren to the SAC where they changed into jogging clothes for the fitness trail opening.

It was during this period that the remainder of the group unveiled the Laurie Jack plaque.

Moving to the fitness trail, the Premier slashed through a rope with a forestry axe and started off on a mile run accompanied by Barren and Michaels. Arriving at the fitness station, the Premier did situps on incline boards, chinups, exercises on the balancing board, and generally demonstrated athletic prowess and a dedication to fitness.

## Cont Ed ready to meet your training needs

Continuing Education and Industry Services Division of BCIT may be remembered as "Career Programs"—or "Extension Division"—or "Industry Services". Now it has become one division, with its major objective to serve part-time students—on campus, through correspondence offerings, or on-site anywhere a need for training can be identified.

Grads normally face the need for more training as work experience and responsibilities increase. After graduation. Could you use some up-dating in communications, supervisory or managerial skills? Have there been changes or new techniques introduced into your career area that you should acquire?

Whatever the need, CE and IS can help you. If you are within commuting distance of the campus, BCIT can offer a wide array of night courses, special courses given in

two-to five-day formats, or part-time registration in day school technologies.

If you are interested in business courses and can attend from 5:00 to 7:15 p.m., there are dozens of courses at various downtown Vancouver locations.

If located in a remote area, BCIT can now offer 61 courses by correspondence—and that figure is growing each month. Training can be brought to your doorstep if you can assemble a group.

If there is a need for some specialized training, but you have not been able to clearly identify it, BCIT has training consultants who can do needs analysis on a contract basis.

And once needs are identified, program developers can design the required course, or courses.

BCIT would like to know what your training needs are. Continuing Education and Industry Services will have an exhibit

during Open House and can provide any information you need, but if you cannot make it to campus, please write or phone 434-5734.

Night school or downtown courses (Continuing Education), call local 204 or 205.

Correspondence courses (Directed Study Centre), call local 648.

Contract on-site courses or needs analysis (Industry Services), call local 737.

Program (course) development (Program Development), call local 406.

BCIT's interest in you did not end with your graduation. Let us show you how you can help—and tell us where we can improve that assistance.

**Changed your address?** Send name and address, plus maiden name if applicable, year of graduation and technology to Alumni Association, BCIT.