



UPDATE

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



BCIT apprentice earns top prize

BCIT graduate Jeff Dergousoff took first place honors at the International Carpentry Apprenticeship contest held in California last December, competing against 34 contestants from across the United States and Canada.

The International Apprenticeship contest was two days long, and contestants spent the first day on transit and level work and written examination. The focus of the second day was manual projects, including forming, framing, cutting, rafters and finishing work. The contestants worked away while the public and union members observed the competition.

British Columbian contestants have excelled at past international competitions, achieving prizes in 20 out of 23 contests. Dergousoff is the eighth first place winner from B.C. and

the fifth B.C. apprentice to win the first place prize since 1967. No state or province comes close to that record.

Training for the contest began at BCIT, where Dergousoff attended all four years of his apprenticeship training. Carpentry chief instructor Rick Dohl says that Dergousoff's performance as an apprentice was always exemplary, not only did he excel in his work, but he also took the time to assist classmates who were experiencing difficulties.

Dergousoff is a member of the Carpenter Local 1995 and has worked most of his apprenticeship for Steelform Contracting Canada Ltd. He is presently working as a carpentry foreman at the new forensic psychiatry unit under construction in the Colony Farms area of Coquitlam.



(L-R) Rick Dohl, chief instructor, Carpentry; Bob Whitaker, coordinator, Apprenticeship Training Committee; award winner Jeff Dergousoff; Rod MacNeill, associate dean, Construction Trades.

Tune-in to BCIT

Update: I understand we have two new facilities at BCIT for video conferencing.

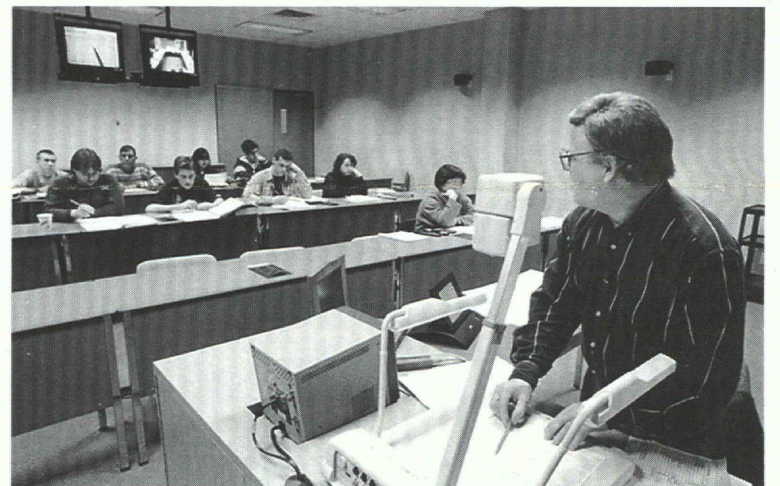
Bob Pollard: That's right. One is an updating of a capability we've had for many years but the other is very new. The update was to create a satellite conference centre in the Town Square meeting rooms. The new facility that we're particularly excited about is BCIT's interactive video conferencing room in SE-14 where the bookstore used to be located.

Update: Tell me about the satellite centre.

Bob Pollard: For many years now there have been video transmissions by satellite of conference type presentations that are of interest to educators. Although BCIT could, and did, receive some of these, the process and the location was not very convenient. We've simply overhauled the satellite dish on the Rix Club, installed a video projector in Town Square A and cabled rooms A, B, C and D for reception. On March 21 we're receiving a conference titled "From Reality to Virtuality: New Tools for Distributed Learning".

Update: Let's talk about the interactive videoconferencing facility. First of all what is it and how did it come about?

Bob Pollard: Videoconferencing is a two way audio and video connection between two or more sites. Imagine yourself looking at your TV and seeing and hearing a friend in Kamloops or Toronto or Los Angeles who's talking to you. Your friend is



Bob Nichols of BCIT's Financial Management program presenting a class to students in BCIT's new IVC room and to students at SFU Harborside.

also looking at a TV and seeing and hearing you. This is a fully interactive connection. This technology has great potential for both distance education and for small group conferencing.

Our BCIT facility provides for far more than a one to one conversation. In SE14-115 we have a very comfortable room with seating for 24 videoconferencing participants and an instructor. The instructor has an array of technology to utilize to help make the instruction at both the BCIT site and up to 3 distant sites as effective as possible. BCIT made the decision to utilize the BC Tel Ubiquity system that operates on fibre giving us the bandwidth to provide full motion video, in other words to have the highest quality audio and video.

Update: How did BCIT get into videoconferencing?

Bob Pollard: Well the facility we have today came about through a lot of cooperation. About two years ago I began looking at videoconferencing systems but the real catalysts were Ken Takagaki and Gordon Farrell, who obtained Skills Now

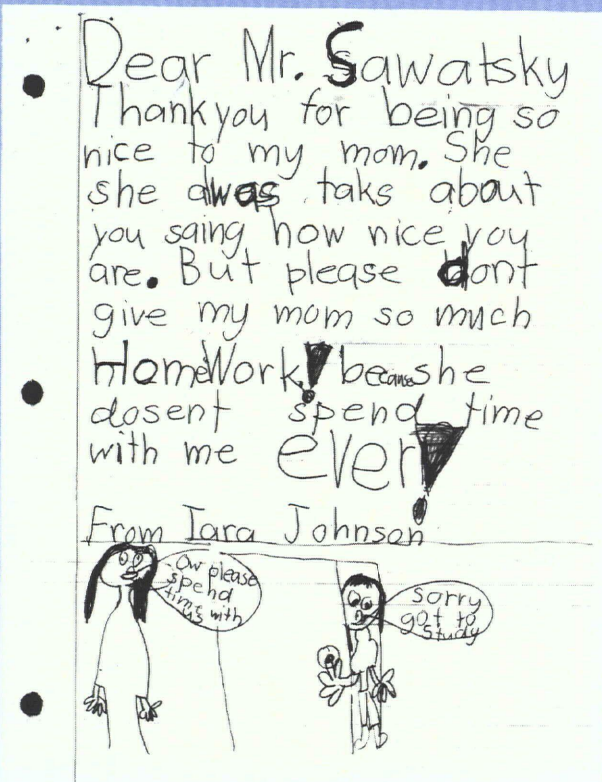
funds for pilot projects and former president, John Watson who said, "lets do it." It made sense to pool all of the available resources and as facilitator, I got great cooperation from Ken, Gordon and George Eisler, who also put funds into the project. Another level of cooperation in actually putting AV's design for the room into place came from Kathleen Bach, who administers the space, and Computer Resources, Physical Plant and Materials Handling.

Update: And finally, who's using this facility?

Bob Pollard: Bob Nichols from the School of Business has a course running as a pilot project, the School of Computing have a pilot in the works, we've done some conferencing and considering that we haven't yet announced that we're open for business there have been a lot of interested visitors. We're looking forward to an Open House event followed by some workshops to introduce BCIT staff to this facility. If anyone wants more information they can call me at 8300 or our AV technical support person, Joe Girouard at 7013.

Daughter takes matters into her own hands

The following letter was received by Rob Sawatzky, instructor, BCIT Joinery department.



In reponse to Tara's letter, Sawatzky wrote:

Ms. Tara Johnson:

Thank you for your letter. I feel it is very important for you to tell me your problem, and you have done an excellent job of doing that. Your mother has two difficult jobs at this time:

1. one being a mother, and
2. two being a student

I am glad you enjoy spending time with your mother.

I am sorry that your mom's job of being a student takes away from her time being a mother.

Sincerely,

Rob Sawatzky, Joinery department

Incidentally dean Ron Evans sent a box of chocolates on behalf of the School.

PAWWS

(Personal and Workplace Wellness and Safety)

Office Ergonomics

Do you come home tired, achy and sore after a long day in front of the computer? Part of the problem may be the way your workstation is adjusted. The following are some tips to ensure that your workstation is set up to reduce muscular stress and strain:

- Adjust the height of your chair so that your elbows are at the level of "home row" on your keyboard and form a 90 degree angle with your forearm when you are keying.
- Position the top of your monitor screen at the height of your eyes and you will naturally look at the middle of the screen.
- Avoid an awkward neck position by placing the item you look at most frequently directly in front of your keyboard, ie. your monitor or your source document.
- Place documents at the same level of your monitor by using a document holder.
- Place your mouse at the same level as your keyboard or within easy reach.
- Make sure your keyboard is flat so that your wrists maintain a straight, neutral position.
- Take frequent (every 15-20) mini stretch breaks or vary your tasks to reduce the amount of continuous keying.
- Ensure frequently accessed, heavy items are within easy reach.

For a personalized ergonomic assessment of your workstation contact Safety and Security at 8797 and watch for the Health Fair in the Great Hall on April 3. The theme this year is ergonomics.

—from Helen Chandler



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the Financial Management Open House display team (pictured above), winners of the Open House '96 Facilities Request Early Bird Contest. This energetic team of students and faculty, headed by instructors David Chan, Ralph Gioia, Graham Hughes and Russ Curtis, and by student coordinator Chris Tilden, had

their display ideas and room request information ready in November 1995. They are planning a 'calculating' display including guest speakers from the Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Certified Management Accountant Association, and the Certified General Accountant Association. They will also be featuring Great

Planes software and the 'Office of the Future' in the ATM lab, and Tax Prep and AccPac accounting software in the SE6 computer labs. This will be a very student focused, interactive display. For an assortment of tax and investment planning information discussions see you in SE6 April 12 and 13, 1996

Clip 'N Post!

Discounts available to BCIT employees

The following is a list of companies that will offer discounts to BCIT employees. In all cases, BCIT ID (pay stub) must be shown.

Contact BCIT Human Resources for further information.

Auto Parts:

Automarine Electric
contact: Barry Harper or
Mike March 294-4944
30 - 50 per cent off list price
on all auto parts

Exhaust Systems:

Any Speedy Muffler King
Fleet discount on all
services, 15 per cent off
the regular price

Gasoline, etc.:

Any Mohawk Station
three per cent on gas, oil
and any other product sold
except lottery tickets
Note: available only to full-
time regular staff who obtain
a Mohawk credit card and
identify themselves as BCIT
staff

Tires:

Formula Distributors
7447 River Road, Ladner
contact: Barry Bell
946-0146
wholesale level pricing

Home insurance:

Canada Life
casualty owner or rental
home, seasonal dwellings,
boats and motors, rented
dwellings insurance
coverage

Magic Kingdom Club (Disney):

For info package please call
BCIT Human Resources

Realtor:

NRS Northstar Realty Ltd.
contact: Sandy Rogers
597-1664
25 per cent discount on real
estate services.
Requirement to submit a
NRS Northstar Realty Ltd.
questionnaire to attention of
Sandy Rogers.

Paint:

Any Color Your World
Discount prices,
quote #379-0720 Level 2

Eyewear:

Opticana Stores
contact Paulie Lee
Quote BCIT
10-20 per cent discount off
regular prescription price
or \$10 off sale price on
complete glasses
or contact Fort Group of
Optical Companies London
Optical, Hale Optical and
Eyeworks 20 per cent for
employees and dependents.

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra:

For info and to make
reservations call
Barry Jakel, 684-9100
Discounts up to 15 per cent,
group rates or Flex Pass

Fitness World:

See posters on campus for
details

PMTC exhibit at trade show

For the fourth time, the Pacific Marine Training Campus participated as an exhibitor in FISH PAC '96, B.C.'s largest commercial fishing trade show. The exhibition ran from Jan. 12 to 13 at the PNE and was attended by thousands of visitors. It was an excellent opportunity to present PMTC's courses and other services to professional fishermen, particularly in view of the recent announcement made by the federal Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans about the allocation of \$4 million for upgrading and re-training of West Coast fishermen.

This year, PMTC shared the display booth with Global



John Burrows, president, GMT Inc., and Captain Peter Ireland, marine certification advisor, PMTC, at FISH PAC '96.

Meteorological Technologies (GMT) Inc., who cooperated with PMTC in the development of affordable, reliable and secure weather services for marine industry and training.

The GMT's WeatherWise program enables the users to obtain a complete weather picture using personal computer, which converts the data relayed by satellite into a graphic display

of weather and navigational information. The program was developed by GMT on our campus with the cooperation of instructors and with input from students. One GMT system is located in PMTC's laboratory where it is used for instruction in meteorology, and for promotional and marketing activities by the developer.

Student Services scheduling system

A new computerized scheduling system was implemented in Student Services on Dec. 7. The system will initially be used for booking appointments with Student Services' eleven program advisors.

This system, which was built from Microsoft's ACCESS software, is a multifunctional scheduling system and reporting tool.

Projected uses for the system

Initially the system is being used by the front line staff in Student Services and the program advisors. Expansion to use for Counselling, Special Needs and Financial Aid and Awards will begin in early 1996.

The longterm benefit this system provides is the possibly for examining a "one-stop-shop" business approach in the Registrar's operation and Student Services. Having a computerized scheduling system that works in the network environment provides the possibility for merging the front line people in Student Services with the Registration front line staff in the Registrar's office. The scheduling system provides information to the program advisors as to when an appointment has arrived and is waiting, thus eliminating the need for receptionists in Student Services.

Why this system?

Many "off the shelf" scheduling systems were looked at before

the decision was made to go with a customized solution. When the concept of computerized scheduling was explored for the first time in 1993/94 there were very few products that could handle multiple person scheduling. Until this year that remained the case, with most scheduling systems operating in the same mode as PROFS, that is, as a personal scheduler.

—from Randy Friesen and
Jim Anderson

Bookstore Closure

Please note that the BCIT Bookstore will be closed for fiscal year-end stock count on March 28 and 29.

The bookstore reopens at 0800 April 1.

Riverfest V: A great success

On Feb. 17, staff and students from BCIT's Fish, Wildlife and Recreation (FWR) program, along with more than 100 delegates from across Canada, met in Vancouver to discuss and promote better stewardship of B.C.'s world-class rivers.

The conference was organized by the Outdoor Recreation Council of B.C., and Mark Angelo, FWR program head, chair B.C. Heritage River's Board and vice chair Outdoor Recreation Council.

The afternoon highlight was a presentation by Premier Mike Harcourt, one of his last prior to stepping down, and his commitment to ensure the B.C. government continues to protect B.C.'s environment and natural heritage. In recognition of the premiers environmental achievements, Mark Angelo presented him with a framed B.C. heritage river print and a

paddle carved by Kwakiutl artist George James Sr.

Hand-carved and inlaid with abalone, the paddle can only be presented to "one who has shown respect for the river."

—from Bob Gunn



Fish Wildlife and Recreation program head Mark Angelo presents former Premier Mike Harcourt with the hand-carved paddle.

Bear's on the job!

Students in Jonathan Young's Operations Management course have a new classmate called Bear, a black Labrador puppy that Young is training as an assistance dog. Training involves being constantly by Young's side and knowing how to behave appropriately, so that he will eventually be prepared to be "on duty" all the time. Nighttime obedience classes are also part of the program.

Young met Bear through the Pacific Assistance Dogs Society (P.A.D.S.), before which Bear spent time at the SPCA. P.A.D.S. is a non-profit organization that trains dogs to assist persons with disabilities (other than blindness) in achieving greater independence.

"Bear will end up with a great life," explains Young. "While he'll be on duty all the time he will have a constant companion and will never be lonely." According to the P.A.D.S. newsletter "many disabled people, who are in need of assistance dogs to carry out their



Bear is being trained to help the disabled by Operations Management Instructor Johnathon Young.

daily tasks, would rather gain their independence by relying on a dog than a person. The dog becomes a life-long companion, a loving friend and a support structure."

Bear will be with Young for the next year. During that time he will accompany Young to class, where he jokes that Bear joins his students in dozing off. You will recognize the puppy by his

training cape and if your timing is right, Young may release Bear from training and you can see just how affectionate he is.

If you are interested in participating in the P.A.D.S. program, contact:

Pacific Assistance Dogs Society
9048 Stormont Avenue, Burnaby,
B.C. V3N 3G6, ph: 527-0556
fax: 527-0558.

June convocation

June Convocation ceremonies will be held June 20 and 21, 1996 at the Willingdon Church Conference Centre as follows:

June 20: 0900

- School of Engineering Technology

June 20: 1330

- School of Health Sciences Electrical & Electronic Technology

June 21: 0900

- School of Business
- Financial Management, Marketing Management and Operations Management

June 21: 1330

- School of Business
- Administrative Management
- Broadcast Communications
- School of Computing and Academic Studies
- School of Trades Training

June Graduating Awards will be held on Wednesday, June 19 in the Town Square cafeteria.



Seeking staff and faculty feedback

The Prior Learning Assessments (PLA) program is designed to allow evaluation by some valid and reliable means of what has been learned through previously unrecognized education and training, or experiences that are worthy of appropriate credit in a course or program.

A PLA subcommittee has been established through the Education Council to put

together institutional policies and procedures and has drafted some changes to academic policy. They are now seeking your comments on the proposed changes and additions to academic policy.

A copy of the proposed changes and additions are available at the Registrar's Office, the Student Association offices, the

Educational Council's office and the BCIT library.

Please send your comments via profs to Bill Howorth at **bhoworth** or via interoffice mail to Howorth at SW2 - 123 by March 10.

This is an opportunity to influence the relevant policy before it is finalized and your input will be greatly appreciated.

Culinary team feast

The Canadian National Culinary Team — Berlin '96 will defend Canada's international and culinary championship status at the World Culinary Olympics this coming summer. Held every four years, this event is made up of nine chefs from across Canada. One of the team managers is former BCIT instructor James Hutton.

To assist in the financing of this adventure, Team Canada and Vancouver Community College invite everyone to join them at an Italian buffet fundraiser.

Date: March 22
Time: Reception 1800
Dinner 1900
Location: Vancouver
Community College
250 West Pender St,
Third floor
Cost: \$25.00 per person

For tickets call Suzan Gouin, VCC Culinary Arts department between 0930 and 1400 at 443-8488.

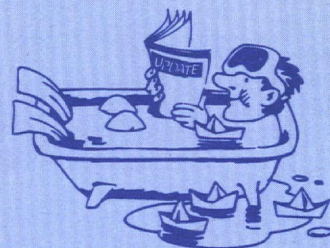
Classy Finds

For sale: 1980 Volkswagon Jetta. Runs well, needs bodywork. \$500 obo. Call Paul at 451-6876.

For sale: '84 Cougar, two door, spotless red inside and out, power windows, 60,000 original miles — mostly driven by a senior non-smoker, needs a new muffler, \$1800 obo. Call John Ansell at 8414.

For sale: Crib and mattress in excellent condition. White in colour. Asking price is \$150 crib and mattress; \$175 with 4 fitted sheets, bumper pads and quilt (Disney babies design). Call Phillipa at 6906.

For rent: Newly renovated one bdrm plus den in Van. Hgts., with water and mountain view. Private, fenced yard/ large covered deck. Garage and laundry facilities. Cat okay, will consider a well-behaved dog. \$650/month including utilities and cable. Available March or April 1. Call 294-4295.



For rent: Fully equipped Whistler studio. Adult non-smoker only \$70/night, minimum four nights, spring break still available as well. Call Bev at 451-6788 or 922-8952.

Wanted: BCIT employee looking for daycare three days/week, starting May, close to Burnaby campus. Call 948-0128

For sale: Apollo 10-speed girl's bicycle, fire engine red with lots of chrome, like new. Asking \$50. Call Roberta at 8459.

For sale: Ukrainian Easter Eggs. Handmade Ukrainian Easter Eggs make a wonderful gift and keepsake. Call Gloria at 8287 or evenings at 945-4675.

This is a question that is frequently asked by people we run into at gatherings, it is more than just making small talk, it is a serious question. We usually respond by explaining that we build and maintain boilers among other things. Often the reaction is, "Oh, I thought that steam power was a thing of the past."

People are surprised to learn that there is more steam generated today than at any time before in our history. They believe that the steam trains like the Royal Hudson are "cool" and "neat" but the history is unknown to most. There are however growing groups of steam buffs throughout the world who are dedicated to keeping the steam locomotive story alive in the years to come. But they may not relate it to boilermakers of the current age.

Steam power has been with us industrially for more than 300 years. Our factories were directly run by steam or water power until about 100 years ago when electrical power began to take over. The central power stations

in the big cities were then, and still are, operated by steam power.

Steam boats in the early 19th Century opened up North America's frontier by exploring rivers never before seen by other than native people. Later, the steam locomotives hauled settlers west to begin a new life on virgin land.

History tells us that our trade has been called upon in times of crisis to build ships. The building of iron clad ships during the U.S. Civil War sparked a new branch of the trade — the Ship Builders. Building ships of metal was first a boilermaker creation. Today ship building is recognized as a distinct trade but it is a first cousin to boilermakers.

Mines, smelters and petroleum plants that dotted the new land were all developed because of steam power. Boiler shops were numerous, most big cities had at least one. When boilermakers were not building or maintaining boilers, they were busy at fabricating something else that required the skills of the trade.

BCIT Events to Come

Tuesday, March 19

■ 1730-2030

Thursday, March 2

■ 1730-2030

Saturday, March 23

■ 0900-1600

Saturday, March 30

■ 0900-1600

Sunday, March 31

■ 0900-1600

■ Instructional Skills Workshop. Energize your teaching skills with practical tips about the characteristics about adult learners, motivational strategies and designing effective lesson plans. Full attendance is required for all five sessions. To register call Muriel at 8927.

Tuesday, March 26

■ Lunch and Learn session, SW 3 Room 1710 from 1200-1300. Everything you wanted to know about life insurance...but didn't because you were afraid to ask. Don Clements, representative from our life insurance carrier, The Prudential.

Friday, April 12

Saturday, April 13

■ Open House 96

Thursday, April 18

■ Lunch and Learn session, BC Tel Theatre (SE6 Room 233) from 1200-1300. Seeing clearly through the ages with Walter Brown, Fort Group of Optical Companies.

Ever thought of owning a cell phone?

From BC Tel Mobility:

Choose a phone

Choose a plan

for further information and pricing contact the Purchasing department at 8399.



PROFILE

From one end of the spectrum to the other

From landing a job before graduating from the Marketing Management program in 1990, to becoming interim manager of BCIT Employment Services in 1996, Randy Friesen is a firm believer in BCIT's mission to produce job-ready graduates for career success.

In fact, he originally decided to enrol in courses at BCIT based on its excellent reputation. Less than a year after earning his diploma, Friesen was back at BCIT when his wife Ingrid, who is a program assistant in the School of Health Sciences, brought home a job posting that intrigued him.

Friesen was successful in his application for the job as marketing assistant, Enrolment Management, and since 1990 the position has evolved to marketing systems coordinator. "The job involved bringing the recruitment approach into the 1990s in conjunction with Student Services," he says.

"By having one of the first Local Area Networks installed outside of Computer Resources, we were able to run a contact management program to record and follow up on student information — this evolved into the Banner system."

High turn-out of prospective students at information sessions is the result of Friesen's work in enrolment management, but this, he adds, is also the result of many different aspects of the program such as advertisements, personal selling, departmental involvement and student advisors.

"It has been rewarding helping students to equip themselves with education, and in my new role, I am excited about helping students prepare for the outcomes of that education," says Friesen.

Friesen will spend one year as Employment Services manager while Amanda Hill is on leave, but says he will also be keeping up with what's happening in Enrolment Management.

Friesen says that one of his main jobs while at Employment Services, will be to market the Voicelink job line to employers and students. "Voicelink is available 24 hours per day, seven days per week and at any given time has several hundred jobs on it. We get between 200 and 400 calls from students and 10 to 20 calls from employers every day and it is a great opportunity for both the employers and the students."

Staff news

Congratulations

Renewable Resources Cooperative Education officer **Judith Hall** and BCIT Employment Placement Services manager **Amanda Hill** were recognized for their outstanding contributions as co-chairs of the 1996 ACE/CACEE regional conference: World of Work: Transitions, Trends and Opportunities.

Linda Hale from BCIT's Communication department had this to say about the conference: "I really enjoyed the conference. I'm very pleased that you thought to put a notice in the Update, thus enabling my attendance. Jennifer James was a real treat and the other sessions I attended were also useful. Too bad you can't cram more into one day."



Judith Hall and Amanda Hill with the plaques they received for their outstanding contributions to the conference.

Appointments

Randy Friesen has been appointed interim manager of BCIT Employment Services

from Feb. 23, 1996 to March 1997. Friesen will be replacing Amanda Hill who will be on leave. He comes to this new position from Student Services where he held the position of systems coordinator for the Enrolment Management department.

Kumal Gill has been appointed interim systems coordinator for the Enrolment Management department from Feb.

23, 1996 to March 1997. Gill is replacing Friesen while he is at BCIT Employment Services. She comes to this position from the School of Engineering where she held the position of

administrative support in the dean's office and assistant to David Chowdhury while he was on his secondment to the Applied Academics project.

Engagements

Client Services' **Michele Becket** and Cad/Cam program head **Paul Morrison** are engaged to be married on July 26, 1996.

Student Services' **Lisa Pedersen** and her fiancé Alan Pringle are engaged to be married on June 1, 1996.



Randy Friesen showing son Max how to play hockey.

Only one week into the job Friesen had the chance to try out his skills at UBC when he was invited by the student office to present a workshop on resume writing and interview techniques. "I am looking at offering these kinds of seminars at BCIT, and looking forward to working with the Schools to develop "just in time" seminars," says Friesen, who goes on to explain that "just in time" is a term borrowed from Amanda Hill, referring to providing the

kind of training students need when they need it."

When he's not at BCIT, Friesen enjoys spending time with his wife Ingrid and their sons Max, four, and Chris, three. Friesen is proud to be a family man and is quick to smile when he speaks about his boys.

The **BCIT UPDATE** is published weekly throughout the school year by the Information and Community Relations Department within Marketing and Development. Ideas, tips, fax or written submissions should be forwarded to the editor by **1500 Fridays, ten working days prior** to publication. The editor reserves the right to edit for brevity, libel and accuracy.

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School of Trades' **Kathy Loverock** and her fiancé Harry Easton are engaged to be married on July 20, 1996.

Thank you

Neil Howard, executive director, External Affairs, for kindly donating his winnings from the Open House 50/50 draw right back to the Open House committee.

To all staff who responded to the notice in Update requesting help for Jordy Marcia. Physical Plant's Joe Liddle received a card from the Marcia family thanking staff for their kindness. At this time Jordy is in good spirits and is still waiting for an organ donor.

International Women's Day

In B.C., local women's organizations and groups plan and hold community events to celebrate International Women's Day, March 8. Participants, both women and men, are always welcome at these events.

For further information on women's equality, contact:

The Ministry of Women's Equality

756 Fort Street
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4
Phone: (604) 387-3600,
Fax (604) 356-1396

Visit our Web Site at:
<http://www.weq.gov.bc.ca/>



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