

# **Yukon College** **The College News**

Vol.1, No. 2

*Informing the College Community*

January 2002

## **Training Fund Cut Hurts Community, College**

In the capital budget passed in the Legislature in November, the Government of Yukon announced a reduction to the budget of Advanced Education of over \$1 million dollars.

This funding cut has two direct impacts: on the community that used these funds to purchase training to meet their ongoing and emerging needs, and on Yukon College, who was contracted, with the funds in question, to do most of the training. It is important that there be a clear understanding of these impacts, because there are many different views about who is being affected, and how.

From the perspective of the Yukon community at large, there will be over \$1 million fewer dollars available for training. This means a potential loss of opportunity for such community-based training events as Carpentry apprenticeship courses, other industrial skill development courses and clerical training. It means a loss of training to meet emerging employment opportunities in almost every corner of the Yukon. It means a loss of personal growth opportunity for community members who attended a diverse number of cultural and literacy courses. And it means a loss of employment opportunity for some in the community who conducted the training. This includes many elders.

From the perspective of the college, it

means the loss of opportunity to serve the community in as full a manner as we have in the past. It means we have lost a source of support against which to attract partnered funds from other sources such as First Nations, federal government, industry, tuition fees, and sometimes our own contribution, in order to make the training available. This boils down to a loss of a substantial amount of Yukon College's third-party training business opportunity.



The exact amount varies from year to year, community to community, because these funds are used in a truly responsive manner, and because they were often the catalyst for other funds. In some cases,

the Community Training Fund paid for a large majority of the cost of a course or workshop. In other cases, it paid for just a small portion of the cost. Last year, the Community Training Fund accounted for \$751,682 of Yukon College's revenues but, with additional partnered funding, yielded \$2,528,515 worth of training. We have no way of measuring how this cut will affect future potential.

What is certain is that, with the removal of \$1 million dollars from the adult education equation in Yukon, there will definitely be a loss of educational opportunities for Yukoners, and a substantial loss of business opportunity for Yukon College.



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**Contacting the  
College News**

The *College News* invites your comments and contributions. If you have an idea for a story, or have something you want to say, please contact your area representative (see the list to the left), or send it to the newsletter at the e-mail address listed.

We're particularly interested in articles with an analytical or thought-provoking angle. Photographs, drawings, literary and visual art would also be welcome.

We can accept material and suggestions at any time. However, we aim to have the next month's content finalised by about the middle of the month.

Any material that is submitted may be edited for length and style. If any substantive changes need to be made, they will be discussed with the author.



Doing the Locomotion, baby!



Skinny ones in front, next time!

**College Yule Party  
14 December 2001**

The annual Yuletide Party was a great way to celebrate another successful semester. Seventy-eight people mingled and danced the night away at the Gold Rush Town Hall. The food was great and the company delightful. A heartfelt thank you to YCEU, YC Bookstore, President Webber, Air North and the Gold Rush Inn for their donations. Kudos to the creative planning team: Deby Chubb, Evelyn Koh, Gerald Haase, Lucky Jennifer Moorlag, Tom McBee, Maureen Stephens and Diney Williams. Special thanks to Gail Best for the tickets.



Clara and Doug Rutherford, broken on a Halifax pier.



And who ya gonna thank?

**Feature**

**Sometimes Students Are Numbers - And They Count!**

**Amanda Graham  
Arts and Science**

In my line of work, I get a lot of questions. Some of them are about things I know nothing, or at least exceeding little: like Slavic languages, or pagan rituals, or leading women entrepreneurs. In most cases, I can fake it, not elegantly, but somewhat convincingly. One question I can never answer is how many students there are at Yukon College.

Usually I say something like, that's a good question, look at the sky, look at my boots and then say something like, well, that's a really good question. I know roughly how many individual registrations we got in my division, but that was in September and, well, things do change. Often quite a bit. And then some of those registrations are for labs and things. Then I think, well, there are about 32,000 of us in the territory, and I heard somewhere that we had served, what was it, about a third, or was it a quarter of the adults in the territory. But that was last year. Or maybe the year before. Hmm. How many adults are there in the Yukon anyway?

So, seeing as I don't know, I thought maybe you didn't know either. This is my New Year present to you. I want you to have angst-free "shopping experiences" (don't you get asked in the grocery store line?) and an easy time of it at professional development events. I have the answer. Or at least sort of an answer.

You see, students are a moving target. They change their minds about being full-time or part-time. Some students take courses that run a full semester, or a full year. Others take much shorter ones.

Some take more than one. You'd need a mind better than mine to figure out the intricacies and come



up with a number.

So, I asked the expert. The Registrar. Mr. Graham. And here's the scoop. A full-time student is someone who is taking a minimum of four three-credit courses in one semester (Arts and Science, Business, Tourism, and Computer Studies). A full-time student is someone taking all the courses in Trades, Office Admin., or Nursing that are required to earn a certificate in one school year. A full-time student in Developmental Studies has 25 hours of Level I, II, or III classes per week or three three-credit courses in College Prep. So, now I know what a full-time student is. But not how many.

Now the numbers.... 30,328 Yu-

koners last June. And 630 full-time and 4,815 part-time students, last year. Adults over 18 make up 71% of the Yukon population. That works out to 25.6% of Yukoners that we saw in some fashion or another last year. Hmm. That'd be that quarter.

Here are the details. We don't count anyone twice. A full-time student (for at least six weeks) in the Fall semester whose course load is reduced to part-time in Winter only counts as one full-time student. The student whose course load increases to full-time from part-time is only counted as one full-time student.

But there's a catch. We count full- and part-time students but we also count FTEs. That's F.T.E., or Full-Time Equivalents. One FTE is two fifteen-credit semesters. In non-credit courses, we count the hours. Classroom teaching hours and number of students are multiplied and the total is divided by 750 hours to yield FTEs. Instruction hours and students in labs, tutorials and practica are multiplied, and the total is divided by 1000 hours to yield the FTEs. Thus, one 50-hour course with twenty students is 1000 hours, which is then divided by 750 hours to give 1.33 FTEs. The calculation for a lab with the same numbers would yield 1 FTE. In some places, FTE calculations are weighted depending upon the category in which the course falls. We don't make the distinction, however.

But, I hear you cry, what about registrations? We count those, too! Yes, and I haven't forgotten. Registrations are eminently countable numbers. A registration is one person signed up for one course, lab



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or tutorial. This is the biggest number by far. And it's a very useful indicator because it speaks to overall volume of college activity. Combined with other numbers, it can reveal trends. For example, last year's roughly 16,000 registrations produced a lower FTE count than in previous years. This means that we are running more courses but they are shorter, often non-credit. This is, in part, because of third-party programming, but there is also a trend to break down the big 800-hour courses into manageable pieces that can be separately recorded on a student's transcript.

Oh, and wait! Before you go, there's one more term to mention. Enrollments. This term has no official meaning. I know it's widely used, but we don't count them. We just talk about them. In daily usage, though, we often use the word interchangeably with "registrations." Sigh.

So. Now I know. Okay, she said dubiously, but that's the official line. I know that student numbers are REALLY figured by taking the number of heating degree days in a year, reducing that by dividing it by 63.4% of the amount spent on mineral exploration in the territory for

the past calendar year, and multiplying by the number of women between the ages of seventeen and 38 who didn't have babies in the past five years.

Additional precision is may be obtained by a 3-week moving average of the number of cars in the student parking lot, modified by a 3-week moving average of heating degree-days.

That's how I know we served 4815 part-time and 630 full-time students last year. You'll never be without the data again. Happy New Year!

## People

### Happy Family News

Congratulations to Sandy Hobus, whose daughter has had a visit from the stork. A little boy, Cole, weighing 6 lbs, 12 oz., was delivered on 12 December at 5:52 a.m., in Whitehorse. He is Sandy's first grandchild. His mother, Kim Hobus, worked at Yukon College as an AV Technician about four years ago, so many will remember her.

Both Kim and Cole are doing well and everybody went home on 15 December. What a fabulous Christmas present! Hope everybody was allowed some sleep over the holidays!

### Honoured Donors

Yukon College Library staff collected \$200 from book buyers at the annual Library Book Sale.

The money was given to the Board of Governors Student Emergency Loan Fund, better known as the BOG Fund. Thank you!

### Dan Anton, New/Old Staff

#### Jean Kapala

Dan has worked with Public Health and Safety since January 2001 but is now in an indeterminate half-time position as Coordinator. Dan was born and raised in the Yukon, leaving to attend school in British Columbia. In 1997, he graduated with a BA in Geography from the University of Victoria. Dan became a CPR/SFA instructor in 1998.

His interests include soccer, broomball, outdoor activities including fishing, hiking, etc. Dan has spent much of his summer building a cabin in Alaska's historic McCarthy/Kennicott mining area in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.



### Yukon College Employees Union Representatives

#### Union Executive

**President:** Maureen Stephens, 668-8845

**Vice President, Faculty:** Norm Easton, 668-8849

**Vice President, Non-Faculty:** Deby Chubb, 668-8779

**Director 1:** Tom McBee, 668-8831

**Director 2:** Buzz Burgess, 390-2650

**Director 3:** Helen Winton, 993-5231

**Treasurer:** Brian Paul, 668-8756

**Secretary:** Pam Zgeb, 668-8882

**Chief Shop Steward:** Michael Purves, 668-8803

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Michael Purves, 668-8803

Aedes Scheer, 993-5231

Chris Blore, 668-8790

Tracy English, 668-5200

Helen Voogd, 668-8750

Doug Graham, 668-8712

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## People

### Vegetable Withdrawal as it Pertains to Homestay Facilitation

#### Eldo Enns

Having gone through vegetable withdrawal after four years in Old Crow, I often find myself going back for a second yellow basket in the fresh food section at Extra Foods. Duffy can tell you that, after coming south, my cravings have mutated from caribou, Drum tobacco, and coffee to drinking whole heads of Romaine lettuce laced with root of ginger--occasionally chased with Kilkeny beer. Hence, my time in the vegetable sections of local food stores has increased exponentially. That leads into this story (I like to emulate Walter Majola; we tell stories by meandering somewhat randomly through snapshots of the world.)

One day I met Rob Yeomans in the vegetable section of Extra Foods. I hadn't really talked to him for some time--ever since he was looking for a place to live in Old Crow. Now that I think of it, he was always looking for a place to live in Old Crow. For some outsiders, it's the isolation of Old Crow that's troubling; for others it's the dark in winter and the perpetual light in summer; and yet others, the size. Now, I consider these exotic perks bonuses, and I think Rob, the Recreation Director, did too. He fit in marvellously well in Old Crow... except there was one albatross he had to contend with--the chronic housing shortage.

He had had a place lined up beside the First Nations office, but the new Resources Manager was homeless and economically more important than the Recreation Director. Consequently, Rob was bumped. Until then he had been living at the notorious Nukon Cabins and Laundromat--notorious, that is, for their inferior heating. If you were in the suites on the side Rob was, you also had the benefit of the prevailing winds blowing your heating oil exhaust back into your suite. The smell inside his place might remind you of living in a transit bus garage.

Franka gave him a lead on another place, which turned out to be more money than his employer wanted to pay for a house. Then came the breakthrough: a suite in



the functionally inferior six-plex. His employer would move him the next day, but he decided to go look at it first. It was the squishing sound around his boots as he crossed the living room carpet that first caught his attention. The locally famous plumbing in this building created some of the impe-

tus for the Arctic Plumbing course offered at the college in Old Crow.

There was another hope for Rob, though. Initially, he had been promised the ski lodge; however, it was under renovation when he arrived. Now it was near completion. That was before it became known that the brilliant octogenarian ski instructor, Father Mouchet, was returning to Old Crow to teach skiing. Well, the end of that story is just too painful to tell, but the point is that Rob was in Extra Foods that day because sometimes life in a remote village can be more complex than it may appear. Even easygoing people like Rob can spend only so many months in the Nukon Cabins.

When I met him among the rows of yellow peppers and thousand-headed kale, he mentioned that his employment status was in the looking-for-a-job stage. Recalling the good work that he had done with the community in Old Crow, I suggested that his personality lent itself well to coordinating the home-stays of the foreign students at the college. Add a year of ESL teaching in Korea, a Bachelor of Kinesiology (Outdoor Recreation), a black belt in Tai Kwan Do and a central Alberta childhood to that formula, and then please join me in welcoming Rob as our new Homestay Facilitator.





## Current Job Openings

- Director, Student Services has been concluded; TBA.
- Acting President, is a term position covering Sally's absence on pre-paid leave next year, has yet to be concluded.
- Executive Support Officer, President's Office is a permanent full-time position,

- interviews are scheduled before the Christmas break.
- Custodial Shift Supervisor is a permanent full-time position, has yet to be concluded.
- Human Resource Administrative Clerk is a permanent full-time position, interviews are scheduled for before the Christmas break.
- Homestay Facilitator. Please welcome the successful candidate, Rob Yeomans (see p.5).

- Instructor/Coordinator, Dawson Campus is a term position to 30 June 2002, interviews are scheduled for the beginning of January 2002.
- Instructor, Developmental Studies, ESL is a term position to 26 April 2002, and has yet to be concluded.
- Instructor, College Prep is a term position to 30 April 2002 with interviews scheduled before the Christmas break.

## Programs

### Yukon College Electrician Program: Third Period Electrician Program

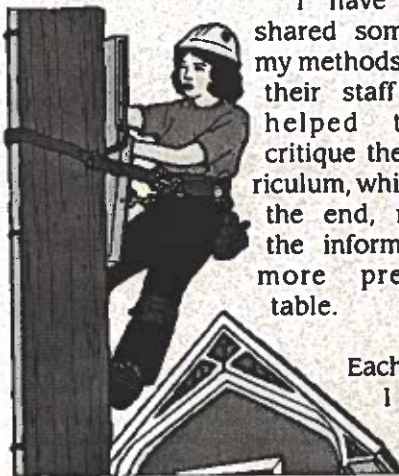
Jerry Wald

**P**ast: It has been the vision of the electrical trade to have apprentices take all their training in Yukon, but it has been a struggle to do so, given our small numbers. In the past it was more cost effective to send them elsewhere.

We have since adopted the Alberta apprenticeship curriculum and delivery system called CBAT-Competency Based Apprenticeship Training. This method can be adapted to most kinds of delivery because it is modular. Thus, it can be delivered as a self-paced, a traditional instructor-classroom or even a distance delivery program through all four levels of electrical apprenticeship training.

NAIT (Northern Alberta Institute of Technology) developed the modules and curriculum, and we feel fortunate to adopt it here. I have been working closely with many of their staff, department

heads and instructors, as well as service technicians. They have all been a wealth of information. I went through their program, myself, before the CBAT system was introduced and was trained by many of the staff still working there. This relationship has helped to open many doors for me in this process.



I have also shared some of my methods with their staff and helped them critique the curriculum, which, in the end, made the information more presentable.

Each year I attend the Western

Canada Electrical Instructors Conference. At these conferences, as many as 65 instructors from Saskatchewan to Victoria, and everywhere in between, get together to go over curriculum changes (present and future), teaching methods and apprenticeship exams. With this process, we aim to keep current in our ever-

changing field and ensure relevant curriculum and training aids for the classroom.

**P**resent: I have just returned from Edmonton and completing my third-period level training at NAIT.

Before my trip I was asked to organize, budget, build the training aids, and deliver the third period program here at Yukon College. This had never been done before and, as with the programs before this one--second level, first level and pre-employment--I have been responsible for developing, budgeting, building all training aids used in the labs and delivering all courses.

With the help of some key people here at Yukon College and at NAIT, and with financial support from our Advanced Education Department, I am pleased to announce that third period will be ready for delivery in January 2002.

As this is our pilot delivery, I expect a few hiccups and adding to the mix is the simultaneous offering of second period, which I delivered once last winter.

I am looking at a busy winter and spring schedule, but I am excited to have a role in bringing these programs to Yukon apprentices.

## Entering Grades Can be Fun!

Pam Zgeb

Are you tired of being asked, "where are the grades"? Would you like to be able to enter them from anywhere? If you answer yes to these questions, you should join the growing numbers of faculty members who are inputting their grades online!

Why should you use online grade entry? Banner Web for Faculty is simple and easy to use. All you need is access to a computer with an Internet connection and a valid user id and PIN. Banner Web for Faculty is browser independent; you can use Internet Explorer or Netscape Communicator. It's quick and concise, information on the screen is customized to your id; only "your courses," and "your students" are listed, no additional clutter. It's easy to update. Grades may be changed online until they are put in the student's permanent record. It's secure: Banner Web uses SSL encryption.

Complete step-by-step instructions are available on the K drive, Banner directory, Version 5 How to Cheat Sheets subdirectory, then choose How to Enter Grades in Banner.doc. Yes, we realize it's a bit bizarre to refer to instructions on how to enter grades as "Cheat Sheets" but that is the description commonly used for all of our "How To" publications. Not to be taken literally!

Why wait? Sign up today; email Pam at pzgeb@yukoncollege.yk.ca for a pin.



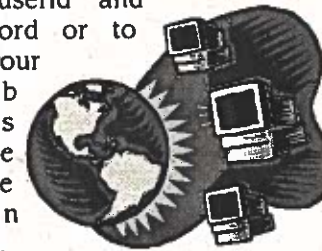
## Computing Services Introduces New Service

The student home (personal) directories (P: drives) and the student server course information directory (S: drive) are now visible on the Web, from anywhere. Documents can be viewed and downloaded. Upload capability is planned for the near future.

A valid user ID and password will be required but these are the same as those used to log in to the LAN from the Labs.

The home directories are accessed at URL <http://ycfs1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/Home> and the Courses directory at URL <http://ycfs1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/Courses>.

Faculty should note that course Web pages, as well as text files, can now be placed directly into the appropriate directories on the S: drive. You no longer need a separate userid and password or to FTP your Web pages to the college main server.



## Connect Yukon Update

The Carmacks Community Campus is the latest to be connected to the Yukon College wide area network (WAN). It joins Old Crow, Dawson, Watson, Teslin, Carcross, Haines Junction, Mayo and Pelly Crossing campuses on the high speed network to Ayamdigut.

## Melanie's Left Us...

Back in the middle of December, when most were looking forward to the end of exams and the onset of the annual Christmas busy-ness, the Arts and Science Division held a party for a much less happy occasion.

Melanie Heynen, indispensable centre of the division was leaving us. Knowing we'd better not shout and we'd better not pout, we ordered up a bunch of goodies and several kinds of hot liquids and threw a shindig! In the hall, too, so no one could possibly claim they didn't know it was happening.

In the words of society columnists everywhere, the guest of honour looked delightful in black and white. Guests included Rob Sutherland, Doug Rutherford, Mike Purves, Lou McCrae, Pam Zgeb, and a dozen or more well-wishers.

Melanie says she's taking a well-deserved rest and is planning to enjoy the loving company of her family for a while.

Ms. Yukon College wonders why she'd want to give up babysitting all those Arts and Science faculty and NRI programs in favour of three boys. Perhaps she'll see the error of her ways.... But it was a nice party.





## Events

### Kwädäy Dän Ts'ínchi (Long Ago Person Found)

Ron Morberg

On 5 December 2001, Champagne-Aishihik First Nation Chief Bob Charlie, along with Councillor Ron Chambers and Heritage Officer Dianne Strand, gave a delightful two-hour presentation. The topic was the 500-year-old remains of a hunter found in a glacier in 1999.



Students listen to Ron Chambers and Bob Charlie tell of the remarkable discovery of "the Iceman."

More than forty students gathered in Room T1023 to hear the story of how Kwädäy Dän Ts'ínchi was discovered in a glacier in the Tatsenshini area, in the traditional territory of the Champagne and Aishihik people.

The presenters used photo posters and slides to recount the discovery of the body on 14 August 1999. Clothing and tools were also found at the site. In the wake of the discovery, First Nations Elders guided decision makers in the complex process of determining ownership, and proper study protocols and disposal of the remains. Kwädäy Dän Ts'ínchi was removed from the site and taken to Victoria for scientific study. Researchers determined that the young man was about twenty at the time of his

death.

After study, Kwädäy Dän Ts'ínchi was returned to the Yukon. The body was cremated and the ashes returned to the site where the remains were found. Champagne-Aishihik people held a traditional service on 21 July 2001. The man's tools and clothing have been kept for further research.

Many CAFN members have undergone DNA testing, along with people from Southeast Alaska, to determine if any of them might be related to the 500-year-old man.

However, the results of these tests are yet to be received. Scientists from around the world have shown great interest in the project. [Ed.: The CBC reported on 2 January 2002 that "forensic DNA tests show almost all the people tested so far could be

related to the ancient traveller." Further tests will be required but they're expensive so the scientists are trying to "narrow the field."]

Chief Bob Charlie will be giving the presentation again in the New Year at the college. Anyone interested in further details, please call Ron Chambers at 668-8893.



Officials conduct an initial assessment of the site. Photo: S. Gaunt, CAFN.

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### Sharpen Your Outdoor First Aid Skills

Standard Wilderness First Aid

Ayamdigut Campus

Feb. 28, Mar. 7 6-10 pm  
Mar. 2, 3, 9, 10 8 am-5 pm

Prerequisites: Current Basic Rescuer CPR certificate and snowpacks.

Call 668-5200 to register.

### NRI Research Fellowships

The Northern Research Institute would like to invite researchers to submit applications for funding under the Northern Research Endowment Fund for 2002.

Projects with northern themes in the humanities, or social, pure and applied sciences are welcome. Community-based research and projects with a Yukon focus are especially encouraged. Research Fellowships of up to \$6000 are available. Applications are reviewed against fund criteria and guidelines and are awarded competitively.

Applications and criteria information are available in the Arts and Science Office or from our web site at: <http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/programs/nri/>



## Communities

### YET at Downtown Campus

Dianne Loan

The students and the employers are working well with the challenges of the Youth Employment Training program that have surfaced thus far. We have twelve students in the program this year and, so far, all but three are in work placements.

The students are feeling proud of the changes they've made in their lives. Employers are very supportive of the variety of student needs, and have been willing to make adjustments in scheduling and other areas. I've been very impressed with the flexibility and compassion of the employers.

Our students' successes are heartwarming. One student, at Jacob's Industries, had several welding certificates when he entered the program. Now he's had the chance to get some work experience as well! We have a large number of First Nations students from the communities who are being supported by their First Nations. Their YET experiences enhance their employability skills immensely.

One young woman is doing her placement with the extended care unit at the Thompson Centre and will have professional experience when she finishes in March. Not surprisingly, she is proud of the new direction in her life! We also have a couple of students placed at the Ayamdigut campus. They are enjoying their experiences in the cafeteria kitchen and Community and Extension Services office.

The YET program benefits campus, community and youth. We're very glad to be a part of it!

### Haines Junction Sets Sights on CLN

The Community Learning Network (video conferencing) may soon offer some exciting options for Haines Junction Campus and Community, by providing access to Homecare Worker Training. This would be in conjunction with other Distributed Learning services.

Stakeholders see a need. More than 100 people over age 55 reside in Haines Junction and area and many are over 65. None of these elders/seniors is getting any younger, or, indeed, leaving.

There are no certified homecare workers or specially assigned homecare nurses on the Northwest highway. Lack of certification limits permitted duties and responsibilities of the half-dozen workers currently employed by YTG and Champagne-Aishihik First Nations. This strains them, their two departments, and the local Health Centre Nurses.

Haines Junction Campus Staff is researching the need and exploring the training options available to the community. Staff recently met with some of the stakeholders to determine their needs, and will work vigorously in the New Year to begin some training in 2002.

Video-conferencing through the Community Learning Network may be part of the training process. For two hours at our Campus Open House on 3 December, fifteen people explored the pros and cons

of this latest technology with Piers MacDonald. Most people seemed excited about the prospects for special programming, especially in conjunction with more traditional Distance Learning and in-campus offerings. That's the way we'll approach our Homecare Worker Training.

We wish you all the very best for 2002. Elaine and Steve.

### Dena Cho Kanadi: Ross River Campus Assists Community Justice

Sharon Anne LaDue

Justice and the First Nations healing process in Ross River are intertwined with the College. The Campus plans to assist in very creative and productive ways, partly by accommodating Circuit Court four times a year, and by offering healing events, such as workshops.

On 5 December 2001 the Campus provided a classroom for the Circuit Court, presided over by Judge Barry Stuart. Judge Stuart has agreed to teach a short, non-credit communications course in Ross River.

The plan for Justice is to have community members take a more proactive role with offenders. The college will assist by providing the Justice Committee with classroom space and facilities when needed, and by helping in any way possible.



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## Communities

### Ross River Arts, Business and Crafts

Elizabeth Shorty

Our Arts, Business and Culture Program, co-ordinated by Elizabeth Shorty, is popular here. Yvonne Shorty taught "Cheese-Cloth Angel Making," elder Florence Etzel shared her knowledge of moose hair tufting with twenty students, and Gwendy Colwell taught card making with stamps. Gwendy's youngest student was eight-year old Felishia Jackson who attended with her mom, Doreen Ladue. Felishia paid her own tuition using her allowance.

Students who have attended the classes have said that they were a relaxing, fun opportunity for learning. Everyone is really excited about the courses we have pre-



sented and they are looking forward to the classes we will hold in the New Year.

Future plans include Yvonne Shorty, mirror decorating; Terry Ladue, West Coast art; Harold John, drum making; Amos Dick and Tom Smith (elders), snowshoe making; Judi Sisson, quilting; Fran Etzel, jigging and traditional dance; Sharon LaDue, wall hangings; Elizabeth Shorty, country line dance.

### Our First College Term at Dena Cho Kanadi

Doreen Ladue, Yvonne Ollie, and Robert Olson, Level III

How was our first term at Yukon College? Twelve students attended in one day, which was the most since class started. We have only one instructor here, so that makes us help each other with our studies. Twelve students work on Level III and two on Level II.

We also volunteer at community events such as the Elders' dinner, the Chinese auction, Can-Am Wrestling, and Addiction Awareness Week. Our next events are the Christmas Bazaar and a Christmas luncheon party for students and staff. We also offer night classes and craft nights, doing things such as Angel Making, Moose Hair Tufting, and Christmas card making. As well, we had a First Aid course, and all twelve students were successful.

### Downtown Whitehorse Campus: A Phoenix Rising

Ray Marnoch

Although we are affectionately known as the "Downtown Campus," rumour has it that some thought we were a campus in the Downtown Hotel in Dawson, so we added "Whitehorse" to set the record straight. Now, I know you may be thinking, why not go the whole way and add "Beautiful"? Although we resisted it at first, we

won't be upset if you call us the Beautiful Downtown Whitehorse Campus!

Located in the Optometrist Building on Second Avenue, we're a small campus that experienced big changes this fall when a fire gutted the second-floor offices above us on Thanksgiving Day. After 9/11, this additional critical incident compounded our stress and we wondered what could be next. Thankfully though, the campus sustained no direct fire damage but the smoke smell chased the staff and students first to a temporary haven at Tim Hortons (where else?) and then to a classroom in the trades wing at Ayam digut for a week and half.

We'd like to thank those who helped us settle into our temporary home, especially Simone Rudge Lou McCrae, Ron Morberg, Liz Bosely, Jeff Zacharias, Gord Bradshaw, Jerry Bradford, the staff of Community and Extension Services office. Thank you also to Randy Spinks and his crew who undertook the major cleanup of the campus in our absence.

Although we have been back in the building for some time now, we've had to contend periodically with dust, smell and noise throughout the term. However, on the plus side, many opportunities resulted for practical learning in wellness, providing appropriate support, and building personal and group strength through adversity. As the second floor reconstruction nears completion, we are looking forward to a more settled winter term.

Now that we've had a chance to catch our breaths over the holidays, it is time to celebrate the resiliency of the students and the staff of the Downtown Campus in dealing with the disruptions of the fall.

## Communities

In spite of all, the students in the Supported-Living Worker (SLW) Program, had a successful term, joined in a heartwarming Christmas lunch with family and friends and have now launched into Term 2 as a strong support group for each other.

The students in Youth Employment Training (YET) Program continue their job placements into March. Some of the placements arranged by coordinator Linda Lavoie are unique and offer valuable learning opportunities.

Our good wishes go with Dianna Loan to Ross River. Dianna took over campus administration this fall, introducing much needed organization to our office, supporting the SLW students and the YET program, and initiating discussions with several communities about delivery of the SLW and other health programs. Thanks, Dianna!

We thank Nina Bolton, John Berryman, Ron Morberg and Esther Dobbs who instructed SLW courses this fall. It's been wonderful being a part of such a positive team.

We welcome back Margot Harvey who spent the fall on curriculum work with the Developmental

Studies team. Margot picks up teaching and coordinating duties.

From all of us at the Downtown Campus, Happy New Year to all Yukon College staff and students. All the best for the Winter Term.

### Ghastly News Haunts Dawson Campus

The Dawson Campus Staff would like to clarify that in our photo in the last edition of *The College News*, we were not dressed up for Hallowe'en, but were wearing our regular college attire. We hope this revelation will not offend, since the adoption of this new uniform was one of our ghost-busting strategies recently devised in hope of ridding our building of ghosts. Father Tim Coonen visits us regularly and has not objected to our new habit, nor have the students. Actually, the latter have taken to complementing the staff's uniform through their own choice of attire: black and white clothing with a flash of silver has become de rigueur here at Dawson Campus.

Ghosts, you say? For anyone who doubts that we are sharing our space with ghosts, we ask you to consider the following facts.

Our campus building is a former hospital; many people died here.

Our parking lot once housed a gallows and there's a coffin in the basement.

A highly reliable person swears to having had an encounter with a ghost in our hallway.

Last year, the photocopier turned on when there was no one in the room.

Also last year, when there was



a power outage in the entire town, the computers and lights stayed on in the computer lab. Aedes was unaware of the outage until she ventured out into the dark hall. She has witnesses.

Helen turns her computer off every day at 5 pm. The next morning, when she returns to work, it is always on.

We invite you to come and investigate the situation for yourself, but dress appropriately!

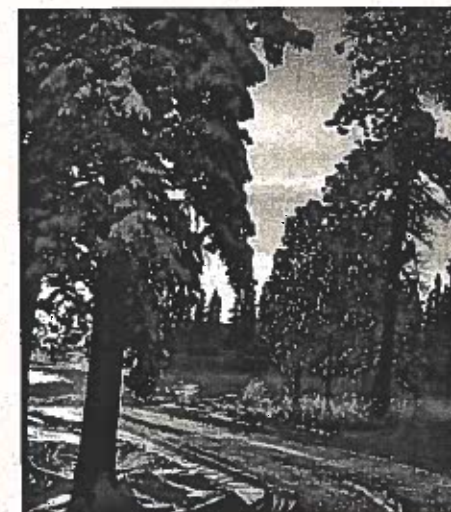
Other events and programs continue as usual here at the campus. Dawsonites are a studious lot, as witnessed by the number of exams we have invigilated for outside institutions during the fall semester: CGA, TOEFL, GED, Open Learning, Lakehead University, University of Saskatchewan, and CIBC.

The Value-Based Video Production Program ended in mid-December and we all anxiously awaited the public screening of the eight videos on 17 December in the evening. It's been a pleasure having Ross Burnett here and he has enjoyed it, too!

We welcome Glen Webster back from Beaver Creek. He'll be instructing in the Arts for Employment Program until February.

Mimi Elliott is also here, teaching the Bookkeeping program. That will continue in the next semester.

Thank you to Jessica Simon from Whitehorse and Martin Jones from Haines Junction for coming to Dawson on short notice, and under





## The Yukon College News

the nastiest of adverse conditions (i.e., 40 below). They taught two separate offerings of Wilderness First Aid.

By January, we hope to have a new Instructor/Coordinator. One of the conditions of employment will be, of course, to acquiesce to the new dress code!

## Carmacks Campus Settled in for Winter

The Campus has been a whirlwind of activity this past month with students anxiously entering the home stretch in their courses, and staff busily finalizing programs for next semester. Thanks to their motivation and enthusiasm for goal setting, all Developmental Studies students will complete their courses by the end of term.

The Assertiveness Training and Stress Reduction workshops offered recently were a huge hit and, no doubt, helped students in their ability to focus. The Arts and Culture, Traditional Moose Hide Tanning workshop was extremely well-attended. Participants continue to stop by to commend the College on its inclusion of traditional skills and Northern Tutchone language, and for employing elders as educators.

Amid the classroom activities, the campus has been plagued by intermittent, inconsistent computer and printer problems. Thanks to Alex Pratt's rescue, we seem to have overcome that hurdle, and significantly reduced the threat of destruction of College property by those best to remain nameless!

Registrations for the winter term have begun with new courses and programs in employability skills training, the supported living worker program, oil and gas training, additional arts and culture workshops, drop-in evening com-

puter and internet labs, distance education courses, video produc-



tion and editing, small engine repair, and a multitude of short courses. Accounting 120 and the YET program will continue into 2002. So much for winter being the slow time of year!

Best wishes for the New Year, too!

## Watson Lake Campus Offers Variety

In November, we held an open house attended by about thirty people. We'd not had one in a long time and we thought it'd be a good opportunity for people to meet our Community Campus Committee members and the campus staff. Even with the relatively small turnout, we're quite pleased, especially as there were several other things going on at the same time.

The Watson Lake Community Campus has been a very busy place. Currently, we have five full-time students and two part-time

students enrolled in College Prep and six full-time students and three part-time students enrolled in Developmental Studies. Two of our Level III students will finish their programs in December.

In striving to meet the training needs of our community, to date we have offered Standard First Aid and CPR, Child Safe, Babysitting, Basic Rescuer, Canadian Ski Patrol System in-class First Aid, Food Safe and WHMIS courses. Ninety-seven participants enrolled in, and completed, these courses. The majority of these people required the training to obtain or retain employment, while others required the training to remain active as volunteers. In co-operation with the Liard First Nation, four students successfully completed the YET program and are working in various First Nation departments.

We also offered a highly successful Computer Tech Immersion Program. Students learned about the inner workings of computers, computer repair, software troubleshooting, and web page design. Such skills will be a great asset to the employers who had employees enrolled, as well as to the people who took the program for general interest. We have an Accounting 220 course in progress that continues until the end of January. The eight students in the course are employees of the Lower Post Band and Liard First Nation.

We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and will have a prosperous New Year.

## Carcross Students Assist Daycare Centre

With a great deal of hard work from two of the Youth Employment Training students, the Carcross Daycare Centre is now open from 8

## The Yukon College News

## Communities/Divisions and Units

a.m. to 5 p.m. and caring for ten children from six families. The two YET students have completed the Level I Childcare Worker program and will soon receive their certificates. Other Youth Employment Trainees are working in Operations and Maintenance and Health and Social Services for Carcross-Tagish First Nation.

We have had a exciting term at Carcross Campus. The Developmental Studies students have been busy. This term, we included a writing project about Carcross and Tagish, with topics ranging from local history to descriptions of places, berry picking, and hunting techniques.

A part-time BIO 060 student incorporated locally collected stories into her research paper on snowshoe hares.

Many people are interested in learning how to use the Internet, and word processing software, and so have frequented our Drop-In Computer Class. This service provides an introduction to computers for those who might take more extensive computer courses later.

In December, we offered a two-day Willow Basket Weaving course. On the first day, students learned about various basket types and the process of gathering willow. On the second day, students wove their own baskets.

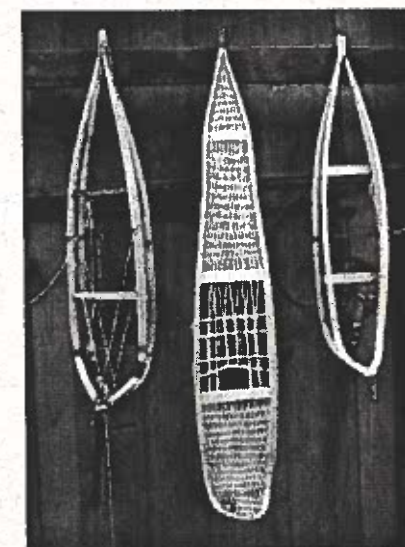
## Activities Abound in Teslin

This year, the Teslin Community Campus partnered with the Teslin Tlingit Council's Education Department and Healing Centre to offer a comprehensive six-month Employ-

ment Empowerment Program (or "The EEP") to citizens receiving Teslin Financial Assistance. Fifteen participants attended a three-week retreat designed to foster trust and compatibility between the participants and the facilitators. The program will resume in the New Year with counselling, life skills, employment training, traditional arts and culture activities, and job shadowing. Successful participants will begin job placements in May, which may well lead to employment.

Arts and culture abound in Teslin. The Teslin Campus hired three local Cultural Educators to teach traditional crafts. Elder Craftsman, Doug Smarch, Sr., is teaching Traditional Snowshoe Making (see photo). Keith Wolfe Smarch recently completed a six-week instructional carving course, and Elder Harry Morris worked assiduously to have his five students complete their Tlingit drums in time for Christmas.

Happy New Year from the Teslin Campus (Buzz, Tracey, Katherine and Monica).



## Admissions Preparing for January

Our two main activities in January are to register students for Winter semester, and to close off Fall semester by gathering final grades and issuing grade reports. Grade reports will be mailed around mid-January, after the registration rush is over.

As of 11 December, we have processed 158 new applications for admission to full-time study in the Winter semester. This pales in contrast to the 827 applications processed for full-time admission for the Fall semester. Note that we are talking about Applications for Admission, not actual registration in courses. It is not, of course, unusual to have far fewer applications for January than for September, the traditional school-starting month. In January, we will begin processing applications for admission to the 2002 academic year!

## Invigilators Busier Than Ever

Diane Murray-Beyak  
Registrar's Office

The number of people using Ayamdigut's exam invigilation service continues to grow. At least fifteen Yukoners a week are using this popular service. However, institutions often require that examinations be written at predetermined times, which can necessitate sittings on evenings or weekends, as well as during working hours. Securing rooms has been a problem, but a solution is being worked on.



# January

## Yukon College Events

# 2002

<p>DECEMBER</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</p> <p>30 31</p>	<p>FEBRUARY</p> <p>1 2</p> <p>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</p> <p>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</p> <p>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</p> <p>24 25 26 27 28</p>	<p>1</p> <p><b>New Year's Day</b></p>	<p>2</p> <p>College open 7 am to 6 pm</p>	<p>3</p> <p>College open 7 am to 6 pm</p> <p>Pension changes mtg, 2pm, lecture hall</p>	<p>4</p> <p>College open 7 am to 6 pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>College open 7 am to 6 pm</p>
<p>College open 7 am to 6 pm</p> <p>6</p>	<p>College regular hours resume</p> <p>7</p> <p><b>Classes start</b></p> <p>Tennis 12-2</p> <p>Tai Chi 12-12:45</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Public health nurse in Wellness Room</p> <p>Badminton 12-12:45</p>	<p>9</p> <p>New Student Welcome, 10-10:30, The Pit</p> <p>Salsa Line Dance 12-12:45; Walking group</p> <p>Blood Pressure checks</p>	<p>10</p> <p>NAKAT 3<sup>rd</sup> YUKON COMEDY FESTIVAL</p>	<p>11</p> <p>NAKAT 3<sup>rd</sup> YUKON COMEDY FESTIVAL</p>	<p>12</p> <p>NAKAT 3<sup>rd</sup> YUKON COMEDY FESTIVAL</p>
<p>13</p>	<p><b>College News content deadline (4 pm)</b></p> <p>14</p> <p>Tennis 12-2</p> <p>Tai Chi 12-12:45</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Public health nurse in Wellness Room</p> <p>Badminton 12-12:45</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Salsa Line Dance 12-12:45</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Tennis 12-2</p> <p>Tai Chi 12-12:45</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Public health nurse in Wellness Room</p> <p>Badminton 12-12:45</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Salsa Line Dance 12-12:45</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>YCSA Pub Night (TBC)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Rockin' The House Tour, Canadian Curling Association</p>
<p>YSI Lecture, "Northern Contaminants," Ross Norstrom, Beringia Centre, 7:30 pm, Refreshments</p> <p>27</p>	<p>Canadian Curling Association, Quebec Champion Guy Hemmings, The Pit, 12-12:30 pm</p> <p>28</p> <p>Tennis 12-2</p> <p>Tai Chi 12-12:45</p>	<p><b>February College News distributed this week</b></p> <p>29</p> <p>Public health nurse in Wellness Room</p> <p>Badminton 12-12:45</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Salsa Line Dance 12-12:45</p>	<p>31</p>	<p><b>Everyday: Walking Group, meet at bus stop, 12-12:45</b></p>	