

### **Aboriginal Gathering Place Cleansing**

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, 54 College Board members, administrators, staff and faculty attended the new Aboriginal Gathering Place Cleansing Ceremony. The Aboriginal Elders teach that before a person can be healed, or heal another, they must be cleansed both physically and spiritually. This helps the healing come through in a clear way, without being distorted or sidetracked by negative influences, in either the healer or the patient.

One of the Elders, Se qwayn'ten, and his family honoured us by facilitating the Cleansing Ceremony, traditionally called "smudging". The dried clippings of sage, sweetgrass, and cedar were burned and the smoke used to cleanse the rooms and guests while the Elders drummed and sang. The emotional ceremony honoured the Coast Salish traditional territory and blessed the Gathering Place for use.

Four artists have been commissioned to supply the Coast Salish Welcoming Pole, the four Directional Poles, one mural wall and the Story Telling entrance walls. The face of the West wall has been covered with a painted Family Clan backdrop borrowed from Mike Dangeli, who leads the Dance Group, The People of the Copper Shield. All of the commissioned pieces should be ready for the Gathering Place grand openings planned for this Fall.

### **Douglas College Honorary Fellows**

The June 2011 graduation ceremonies will see Douglas College making history as we honour our first two Honorary Fellows!

**Tim Agg** has been Executive Director of PLEA Community Services Society of BC since 1982. Under his leadership, the organization (a major provider of Youth Justice Services in British Columbia) has earned a local, provincial, national and international reputation for innovative program development, flexible and responsive service delivery, civic engagement, and having an unwavering belief in the potential of those they serve to be successful when provided with the right opportunities. Tim has chaired the Douglas College Youth Justice Advisory Committee since 2001, established two endowments, and provides dozens of practicum placements for our students. He is a fierce and well-respected community leader.

**Bill Hughes** was born, raised and educated in New Westminster. In addition to a long-standing and successful radio career, Bill was General Manager of CKNW for 14 years, Executive VP of Western Broadcasting, President of the Vancouver Canucks from 1972-1981, and on the NHL Board of Governors. During the capital campaign for the David Lam Campus, Bill was a significant donator and remains the single most generous donor to the Foundation. The New West Campus Library is named in his honour.

Tim Agg and Bill Hughes will receive their Honorary Fellow designations at the 2:30 p.m. June 1<sup>st</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup> graduation ceremonies, respectively.

---

Scott McAlpine

May 2011

### **New Associate Vice President, Employee Relations**

A warm welcome to Wanda Sanginesi who began her new position at Douglas College as Associate Vice President, Employee Relations, on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Wanda comes to us from York University where she most recently held the position of Manager of Human Resources for the Faculty of Fine Arts. Wanda has extensive experience in the field of employee relations, from recruitment and employee development to mediation and collective agreement negotiation. Wanda has held senior-level employee relations positions in large organizations for over 20 years and we are pleased to have her join us.

### **Chairs/Coordinators Appreciation Dinner**

On the evening of March 30<sup>th</sup>, approximately 70 Chairs, Coordinators, Deans, Associate Deans and Administrative Officers from across the College gathered together in the beautifully transformed Douglas Room for this Appreciation Event. While casually mingling prior to dinner, guests enjoyed appetizers and refreshments accompanied by soft piano and flute music provided by students Claire Huang, Sam Chan, and Norman Mai.

Vice President Academic, Kathy Denton, thanked all in attendance for their hard work and dedication through the year, and noted that their efforts are recognized and appreciated. She encouraged everyone to relax and enjoy the evening of collegiality.

### **Print Futures Portfolio Show**

The annual grad show for Print Futures: Professional Writing brought together grads, instructors, family, friends, college employees, and employers on Thursday, April 7, for presentations, speeches, music, and celebratory conviviality. With 20 students presenting their writing, editing, and design work, attendance was higher than ever. An online version of the show is available at [www.douglas.bc.ca/portfolio-show](http://www.douglas.bc.ca/portfolio-show).

New this year was financial support from Central 1 Credit Union. This organization has hired interns and many employees directly from Print Futures, and wanted to thank the program for being an effective training ground for its employees.

A special project this year was intensive public relations work on behalf of the Addictions/Mental Health Subcommittee of the Tri-City Homelessness Task Force. Students Kate Hunt and Jessica Hewitt, guided by instructor Brooke Carter, developed a winning concept for a public education campaign to raise awareness about addiction. Coverage of this project appeared in local publications, including the *Tri-City News* ([http://www.bcclocalnews.com/tri\\_city\\_maple\\_ridge/tricitynews/community/119727059.html](http://www.bcclocalnews.com/tri_city_maple_ridge/tricitynews/community/119727059.html)), and the campaign itself is expected to roll out this fall from the Fraser Health Authority. Thanks to Joy Page and Marina Niks at the Centre for Health and Community Partnerships for helping initiate this project.

**Scott McAlpine**

**May 2011**

### **Student Research Day – President's Prize**

The 2011 Student Research Day highlighted an impressive range of projects presented by approximately 120 students across two campuses. This year, the research presentation voted "Best in Show" at each campus earned a \$250 President's Prize.

At David Lam Campus, the President's Prize went jointly to **Ruhina Rana** for her research project on "BSN Students Learning Experiences in a Pilot Mental Health Clinical Placement Part 1" and **Marina Kolar** for her project on "BSN Students Learning Experiences in a Pilot Mental Health Clinical Placement Part 11: A thematic analysis of BSN students' reflective journals in a community mental health setting." **James Pike, Michaela Staller and Genevieve Cabana** received the President's Prize for their research project at the New Westminster Campus on "Social Self-Esteem and Sport Correlation."

Congratulations to our "Best in Show" winners and to all the students who presented their amazing research, as well as the many organizers who helped make this year's Student Research Day such a wonderful event!

### **Library Fines Support Busolwe, Uganda Library**

The Douglas College Library and the Faculty of Child Family and Community Studies teamed up with the Coquitlam Public Library to raise \$2,962.07 for the Busolwe Public Library, in the Butaleja district of Uganda. The British Columbia Library Association (BCLA) is facilitating the transfer of the funds. Carole Compton-Smith, Director of Learning Resources at Douglas College, had the pleasure of visiting the library in person when she travelled with the Douglas College Uganda Project earlier this month.

### **Self Employment Program**

Douglas College's Self Employment Program is 15 years old and still going strong. The success of the program is shown in the following chart:

	<b>Douglas College Self Employment Survival Rates*</b>	<b>BC Business Survival Rates**</b>	<b>Hazard Rates***</b>
<b>After one year</b>	95%	77%	23%
<b>After two years</b>	86%	60%	22%
<b>After three years</b>	75%	49%	18%
<b>After four years</b>	72%	41%	16%
<b>After five years</b>	65%	35%	14%

\* Douglas College Self Employment Business Survival Rates based on the number of businesses that have completed the North Fraser Based Self Employment Program

\*\* Source: Failure Rates for New Canadian Firms: New Perspectives on Entry and Exit [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca) – Cat. #61-526-XIE, page 25

\*\*\* Source: Failure Rates for New Canadian Firms: New Perspectives on Entry and Exit [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca) – Cat. #61-526-XIE, page 23

**Threat Assessment Team**

I am pleased to announce that Douglas College is in the process of establishing a Threat Assessment Team to assist in maintaining a safe working and learning environment for our employees, students, and users. The objective of the Threat Assessment Team is to assess, investigate and determine an appropriate level of response to threats and/or reports of worrisome behaviours that have the potential to result in harm to the campus community. Integral to the success of the team will be the coordinated effort of all employees and students to identify and report such behaviours and threats and to work together to create and maintain a safety-oriented College.

At its April 26<sup>th</sup> planning day, the Senior Management Team reviewed a Draft Threat Assessment Team Protocol and approved the next step in assembling the Team members. The Threat Assessment Team will be composed of:

- Director of Safety, Security and Risk Management
- Director, Student Enrollment Services and Registrar
- Director, Employee Relations, and
- Campus based representatives including a Counselor, Learning Specialist, Manager, Facilities Services and Associate Registrar

Over the coming months, the Team will meet to review and refine the Draft Protocol. Once finalized and approved by the Senior Management Team, the Threat Assessment Team Protocol will be made available to all Douglas College employees, students and users.