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**Scott McAlpine**

**October 2010**

### **Douglas College 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Douglas College Fall Fair at the David Lam Campus kicked off a week of celebrations to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the College. More than a dozen College departments hosted information tables and activities for children while an equal number of community groups, including the Evergreen Project Office and vendors, provided information and/or items for sale.

Several thousand people dropped by the Fair and enjoyed Bluegrass music and a barbeque while learning more about Douglas College.

The focus then shifted to the New West campus with a marketplace hosted by graduates of the Self-Employment Program and a special anniversary Arts at One concert, culminating in the Homecoming event, Friday, Sept. 24. Hundreds of current and former employees and students – many of them engaged through the use of social media – packed the concourse and upper and lower cafeterias to meet and mingle with old friends. A committee with representation from Marketing & Communications, Foundation, Alumni and Facilities, assisted by Christine Kerr from Registration, put together an evening to remember with Aboriginal dancers, acrobats, silk performers dangling from the roof and prizes galore.

### **Maple Ridge Post-Secondary Education forum 2010**

Douglas College was well represented at the forum, hosted by the Economic Development departments of Maple Ridge, Mission and Pitt Meadows. In addition to my presentation on Emerging Priorities, Robert Buller, Dean of Commerce and Business Administration, presented on What's Working in Tourism, while Dr. Pauline Chow, coordinator of the Animal Health Technology Program, was part of a panel on Agriculture and Forestry.

The three municipalities are keen to create an educational hub in the North Fraser region and are reaching out to post-secondary institutions as possible partners. Other speakers represented SFU, Kwantlen, the Justice Institute of BC and UBC.

This is the beginning of a conversation that depends on the municipalities clearly identifying the educational needs of their communities so that any future post-secondary programs are targeted.

### **Fall 2010 Enrolments**

Stable enrolment numbers as of September 20<sup>th</sup> show 4,057 full-time and 6,023 part-time students, for a total student enrolment of 10,080. This represents a 6.1% increase over last year. We also know that more students are enrolling in part-time studies than last year. Fall 2010 shows 8.2% more part-time students than the previous Fall and a 15.1% increase over a 3-year period, compared to a 3.2% increase in full-time students over last Fall and 12.9% over 3 years.

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### **International Update**

This Fall semester, our international enrollment jumped by 23% over the previous Fall with 829 students or 279 FTEs coming from 40 countries. While the largest international enrollment levels are from China, Korea and Japan, India is becoming an increasingly important source for new students.

During September, Douglas College hosted 20 presidents and vice-presidents from colleges and institutes across China in a leadership training program conducted by the Association of Canadian Community Colleges. Five of the participants stayed for a further two weeks at Douglas College to study western college management practices in-depth by attending faculty, administrative, and Board meetings and talking with individuals throughout the institution. As a result, all five visitors signed MOUs to further the collaboration between their institutions and Douglas College.

Douglas College was also successful in receiving a Youth Internship grant from CIDA. Fifteen interns will be spending five months in Uganda providing humanitarian service in education and health while training for employment in international development.

### **Educational Technology Plan Review**

The College is due to review our Educational Technology Plan and will be holding open forums to engage in discussions on what role technology will play in the new direction set forth in the Strategic Plan. The forums provide an opportunity for the College community to bring forward ideas and discussion items that the College can consider to meet strategic initiatives, as well as current and future work requirements. Forums will be held as follows:

*October 13<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., NW Boardroom and DL Boardroom*

*Theme: Instructional and Administrative Software Applications*

*November 10<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., NW Boardroom and DL Boardroom*

*Theme: Personal Computing, Back-end Infrastructure, Service Levels*

### **ALMD Year of Science Initiative**

The Ministry of Advanced Learning and Labour Market Development (ALMD) officially launched its Year of Science initiative in September 2010. The objectives of this initiative are to increase awareness and interest in science, understand the issues facing the province in building science capacity, and ensure continuity and sustainability of the science vision. Douglas College will be participating in this initiative by offering a Year of Science Speaker Series on *The Business of Innovation* during the month of February 2011.

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### **BC Campus Strategic Advisory Council**

In order to assist with the setting of strategic directions for BCcampus for 2011 and beyond, and to recommend an ongoing governance structure that can represent system interests effectively, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development (ALMD) has created an interim BCcampus Strategic Advisory Council. I have been invited, and agreed, to serve on this Council along with five other senior institutional and ALMD representatives.

### **Living Library**

Douglas College opened the first Living Library in Canada in 2006, based on a Danish concept of overcoming negative stereotypes by inviting marginalized people to be “books” and lending them out for one-on-one conversations. The Douglas College Living Library focuses on sharing the expertise of employees with the community. Books may be borrowed by going to the website <http://www.douglas.bc.ca/visitors/foundation/living-library.html> and e-mailing the “book”. Meetings take place on either campus.

By partnering with Coquitlam Public Library (CPL), the Douglas College Living Library has moved into the community and is offering a series of events this year. The first was held September 11<sup>th</sup> at the Poirier Street branch of CPL and featured a number of speakers on international and security issues. Dr. Colin Campbell, a faculty member in Criminology, was a frequently borrowed “book” on gambling.

On Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, the College and the Library are partnering again on a Living Library that focuses on children’s issues. Faculty from Child, Family and Community Studies will be available for people to borrow and discuss autism. The event runs from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the CPL’s Poirier branch.

### **Douglas College Summer Camps**

Douglas College’s Sports Institute continued its community partnerships with New West Parks and Recreation and the Pinetree Community Centre by offering a number of successful summer camps this Summer to just under 1,200 students, making Douglas College’s summer camp programs one of the largest in the province. Congratulations to David Munro, Stephanie Manou and team for all their hard work in providing these fun learning opportunities for young students.

### **Associate VP, Employee Relations Search**

The search for a new Associate VP, Employee Relations is in its final stages and the Selection Committee hopes to be able to make an announcement in the near future. I’d like to once again extend my thanks and appreciation to Marian Exmann for her 32 years of dedicated service to the College and to wish her a long and happy retirement.

# **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

to the Douglas College Board and Community



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## **Employee Retirement Dinner**

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual retirement dinner honouring current retirees and welcoming back past retirees will be held on November 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-9:30 p.m. in the NWC Upper Cafeteria. Board members, faculty and staff are encouraged to come out and support our retirees on this special evening.