

## Xwi7xwa Library: A Branch of the University Library

By Madeleine MacIvor

The dream of becoming a branch of the UBC Library began shortly after the  $\underline{X}$ wi7 $\underline{x}$ wa opened its doors in 1993. The Elders and planning committee for the new Longhouse facility envisioned the  $\underline{X}$ wi7 $\underline{x}$ wa Library as an integral part of the Aboriginal academic services at UBC. Verna Kirkness, FNHL founding Director, and Dan Birch, then VP Academic & Provost put the plan in motion. In concert with Ruth Patrick, University Librarian and Gene Joseph, Librarian Consultant, core funding and the Head position were established as the first step towards branch status. The goal was pursued by Jo-ann Archibald, then FNHL Director and Gene Joseph, then  $\underline{X}$ wi7 $\underline{x}$ wa Head Librarian; and more recently by Richard Vedan, current FNHL Director and Ann Doyle,  $\underline{X}$ wi7 $\underline{x}$ wa Acting Head. However, little movement was made, primarily because of financial issues.

In the fall of 2004, under the leadership of Dr. Barry McBride, then VP Academic & Provost, the Committee of Deans allocated funding to support the vision of branch status for Xwi7xwa. With the financial block resolved, University Librarian Catherine Quinlan and FNHL Acting Director Madeleine MacIvor continued work on a proposal that was brought before the Senate Library committee. In May, 2005 the Senate Library Committee unanimously recommended the proposal. Shortly thereafter, the President's Office endorsed branch status for Xwi7xwa Library.

Xwi7xwa began as a small collection of materials selected by the BC Native Indian Teachers' Association and UBC's Native Indian Teacher Education Program. Today the Library holds more than 12,000 books, videos, curriculum resources, journals and newspapers, maps, posters, theses and dissertations, the G.A. (Bud) Mintz special collection, and a developing archive collection.

"The size, scope and focus of the  $\underline{X}$ wi7 $\underline{x}$ wa Library supports Aboriginal students and faculty and makes it a unique Mecca for researchers in Aboriginal studies," says Acting Head Ann Doyle. "It is one of the only places in Canada you can find this amount of exclusively First Nations material – all in one distinct location – open to the public, and globally accessible on the web."



<u>X</u>wi7<u>x</u>wa Library, from L to R, Jeremy Boyd, Camille Callison, Megan Curran, Inez Point, Linc Kesler, Banchi Hanuse. Photo by Paul Joseph

Because the collection focuses on Aboriginal materials,  $\underline{X}$ wi7 $\underline{x}$ wa uses a unique classification system, the Brian Deer System. This system was created by pioneering Kahnawake librarian, Brian Deer who found conventional library classification systems inadequate to meet the needs of Aboriginal researchers and to represent the content of Aboriginal collections.

While similar to mainstream classification systems, there are important differences. The Brian Deer system shows relationships among First Nations by grouping them geographically rather than scattering them alphabetically; for example, there are discrete classes that deal with: Rights and Title, Self Government, Residential Schools, Aboriginal Health, etc. The associated (Deer) subject headings represent Aboriginal names, concepts, and perspectives. In other words, the system is developed (and continues to develop) to meet the needs of its primary users and to give voice to its collections.

The Brian Deer System plays a significant role in the intellectual integrity of the  $\underline{X}$ wi7 $\underline{x}$ wa Library. This role is acknowledged and protected in the proposal developed by Catherine Quinlan and Madeleine MacIvor. With branch status, the  $\underline{X}$ wi7 $\underline{x}$ wa Library will be uniquely positioned to contribute to the ongoing development of the system.



## Tansi

Madeleine MacIvor, Acting Director

It's wonderful to have a chance to pause and reflect upon the good thinking and hard work carried out during the 2004-05 academic year. This issue of The Longhouse News provides a glimpse of many of the year's activities and events.

During the 2004-05 academic year, Dr. Richard Vedan, FNHL Director and Ann Doyle, Acting Head  $\underline{X}$ wi7 $\underline{x}$ wa Library were away on sabbatical. We look forward to their return this fall, and offer our sincere thanks to Lynne Gamache, who served as Acting Head during Ann Doyle's absence.

Some of our colleagues left UBC to explore new opportunities. We send our best wishes to: Graeme Joseph, past Coordinator-Student Services, FNHL; Dr. Nancy Cochrane, Director, Mary Jane Joe, Urban Coordinator and Deborah Wilson-Green, Years 3, 4, 5 Coordinator, NITEP; Marianna Cavezza, S-Takya Childcare; Heidi Verberg, Coordinator, Division of Community Liaison, IAH; and Pamela Perreault, First Nations Coordinator, Faculty of Forestry.

We offer a warm welcome to our new colleagues. FNHL has been joined by Rosalin Hanna, Aboriginal Student Services Coordinator and Lorene Harper, Clerk/Secretary. NITEP has been joined by Lucetta George-Grant, Years 3, 4 & 5 On Campus Coordinator and Marny Point, Urban Coordinator. Jo-ann Archibald has taken on additional responsibilities as Associate Dean Indigenous Education, Faculty of Education and Acting Director of NITEP. Gordon Christie is now the Acting Director of First Nations Legal Studies.

In the fall of 2004, we completed a cycle of work that began in 1948 when the late Ellen Neel gifted the University with the *Victory Through Honour* totem pole. As Musqueam Elder Larry Grant says, the rededication ceremony reflected "the coming together of three peoples: the northern people, the University people, and the Musqueam people." The new pole, it stands outside the Welcome Centre at Brock Hall.

FNHL was pleased to host a number of special events this year, including the  $\underline{X}$ wi7 $\underline{x}$ wa Library's *Indigenous Scholars Speaker Series*; the First Nations Studies Program's *Internet* 



Madeleine MacIvor, photo by Janis Franklin, UBC Media Group

Speakers Series on Land Claims and Governance; a Workshop on Admissions & Support of Aboriginal Students in Medicine; and the Indigenous Graduate Student Symposium: Indigenizing the Academy: Enhancing Graduate Student Experiences. Thanks to folks at Talking Stick and the International Arts Initiative for bringing Buffy Sainte-Marie to the Longhouse.

Each year, there is an increase in the number of Aboriginal students graduating from UBC. In May 2005, we gathered with family and friends to celebrate the accomplishments of 73 Indigenous students who graduated with diplomas and degrees at the bachelor, masters and doctoral level from ten different faculties. Congratulations to you all!

In June, the FNHL President's Advisory Committee met with President Piper to discuss strengthening FNHL's relationship

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with the University and developing more effective channels of communication between the UBC Aboriginal community and the President's Office. As a result of this meeting, a task group will be established. We look forward to benefiting from their deliberations.

In our last newsletter, Richard Vedan wrote that "A key challenge, as we move into our second generation of Aboriginal scholarship and research at the University, is to secure Xwi7xwa from its marginalized position within the Library system." We are delighted that the Xwi7xwa Library is now a branch of the UBC Library. Our thanks go out to the many people who worked over the years to make this dream a reality.

The past few months have been busy with summer programs. Forty students in grades eight to twelve participated in the 17th annual Summer Science Camps. Five students participated in the 26th annual Native Youth Program at the Museum of Anthropology. In its inaugural year, the Cedar Summer Day Camp provided skills-building activities and fun for 18 students. The Chinook Entrepreneurial Leadership Program brought 12 students to campus to learn about business basics. In its 20th year, the Short Course for Principles and Managers of First Nations Schools attracted 30 participants from throughout Canada. These programs provide important outreach opportunities to youth and community members. FNHL is proud to be associated with this good work.

This past year was also accompanied by great sadness as a number of friends and associates passed away.

We pause to remember George Watts, Nuu-chah-nulth political leader and negotiator; Harold Cardinal, Cree lawyer, political leader and scholar; Shirley Sterling, N'lakapamux educator and author; Perry Shawana, Anishanabe lawyer and educator; and Musqueam Elder Edna "Mom" Stogan.

Our lives have been greatly enriched through knowing them, and we send out our thanks to their families for sharing them with us.

We are looking forward to the upcoming academic year, and the opportunities and challenges it will present. We are looking forward to working with our new colleagues at UBC Okanagan.

In closing we would like to give thanks: to friends and associates who continue to support the First Nations House of Learning and our many activities; to the members of the FNHL Advisory Committee; to those who contributed articles and photographs to the newsletter, and to the students who are the reason FNHL exists. We offer our gratitude to the Musqueam people and acknowledge ourselves as guests in their traditional territory.

## Victory Through Honour Pole Rededicated

by Madeleine MacIvor

The afternoon of October 18<sup>th</sup> was brisk, and we wrapped ourselves in blankets as we gathered outside of Brock Hall to witness the rededication of the *Victory Through Honour* pole.

The pole was initially gifted to the University in 1948 by the renowned Kwakwaka'wakw carver, the late Ellen Neel. Through time and weather the pole decayed, and after it was vandalized in 2001, the pole was removed. This came to the attention of Fine Arts Professor Charlotte Townsend-Gault who gathered together a committee with representatives from Musqueam, the Neel and Scow families, and the University. As the original pole could not be restored, it was decided that a replica of the pole should be carved and publicly rededicated.

On behalf of the Neel and Scow families, Chief Edwin Newman asked permission to come on to Musqueam territory and rededicate the pole. Musqueam Chief Ernest Campbell granted that permission and welcomed the Kwakwaka'wakw peoples and other guests to Musqueam territory. Chief Campbell also thanked UBC President Piper for the developing relationship between the University and Musqueam.

Delbert Guerin, Musqueam councilor and past Chief spoke about his personal relationship with Chief Newman and the Neel family. "I am very proud to be here," stated Mr. Guerin, "and very proud that after many years UBC has begun to recognize that they are on Musqueam territory."

After thanking the Musqueam peoples, Chief Edwin Newman spoke about Ellen Neel's legacy, and how government legislation banning the potlatch, prevented her and others like Charlie James and Mungo Martin, from receiving the recognition they deserved. "They kept that system that kept our culture alive." His words were followed by a Kwakwaka'wakw song in memory of those who have gone before.

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Chief Ernest Campbell (right) welcomes Chief Edwin Newman to Musqueam territory. Photo by Martin Dee.

VICTORY THROUGH HONOUR POLE REDEDICATED continued from previous page

In Musqueam tradition, Dr. Martha Piper, President of UBC; Ms. Amina Rai, President UBC Alma Mater Society; Mr. Bob Philip, Director, UBC Athletics; and Madeleine MacIvor, Acting Director, FNHL were called forward as witnesses. Then Victor Guerin sang a Musqueam welcome song. Before the pole was unveiled, carvers Calvin Hunt, Mervin Child and John Livingston were acknowledged for their work in replicating Victory Through Honour. Chief Frank Nelson retold the story associated with the pole, the Four Tests of Tse'kume. Then the witnesses were called forward to speak.

"As we rededicate this pole," declared President Piper, "let us also rededicate ourselves to making UBC a truly welcoming place."



President Martha Piper and Musqueam Councillor Delbert Guerin. Photo by Martin Dee.

President Piper reflected on the two great gifts presented by the Neel and Scow families in 1948: the gifts of the pole and permission for UBC's athletic teams to use the Thunderbird crest. Through their generosity, the families were "extending to UBC the hand of friendship and the hand of partnership." Dr. Piper spoke of "Ellen Neel's call to action" to make the university more accessible and inclusive for Aboriginal students. "As we rededicate this pole," declared President Piper, "let us also rededicate ourselves to making UBC a truly welcoming place."

Amina Rai reminded the audience that the original pole was gifted to the Alma Mater Society. For the AMS the pole has symbolic references to academic excellence, to athletic achievements, and also to solidarity with Aboriginal and other students. Through the rededication ceremony, Ms Rai reaffirmed the AMS's solidarity with Aboriginal students and all students.



Kwakwaka'wak Women's Dance. Pictured here are Theo Neel, Stephanie Thompson and Theresa Neel. Photo by Martin Dee.

Bob Phillip remembered working with Alfred Scow in 1992 on a ceremony to rededicate the Thunderbird crest for UBC's athletic teams. Mr. Phillip spoke of the pride that UBC's teams have in their crest. "UBC athletes represent their University, but they also represent the tradition the Thunderbird stands for. Victory Through Honour is very important to UBC athletes, it makes them special. Every time they compete, they feel that way."

In the words of Madeleine MacIvor the "ceremony attests to the good thinking and hard work of the Kwakwaka'wakw people, the Musqueam people, and the University in bringing together three distinct cultural protocols in one unified and cohesive celebration." Ms. MacIvor reaffirmed "First Nations House of Learning's commitment to continuing our work alongside our University colleagues, Aboriginal communities and students to meet the educational aspirations Aboriginal peoples, as envisioned by Ellen Neel."

The Kwakwaka'wakw Women's Dance followed the witnesses' words. Then this portion of the program concluded with the witnesses dawning regalia and dancing the Tlasala (Peace Dance).

When Kwicksutaineuk Elder Alfred Scow was a UBC student, he attended the 1948 ceremony. He told the audience that before contact, "Education among our people had a different form. We learned from the stories passed down from our ancestors and we learned from the principles embedded in those stories." Education was always a part of the people's lives. "What has happened is a transformation of the kind of learning that we had to the kind of learning we experience this day at this wonderful institution."

Brian Sullivan, Vice President Students was the closing speaker. He stated "the rededication of the totem pole today renews and reinforces the significance of UBC's partnership with First Nations." He linked the vision of welcome and respect embodied in the pole to the intent of the new Welcome Centre at Brock Hall. Vice President Sullivan spoke of the historic importance of Brock Hall, first as a centre for students and now as a centre for student services. He invited the audience to witness the ribbon cutting ceremony





Left: Lou-ann Neel, Ellen Neel's granddaughter. Photo by Martin Dee.

Right: Victory Through Honour pole is unveiled. Photo by Martin Dee.

for the Welcome Centre. Once the ribbon was cut, small bags of cedar chips from the pole were given to the guests, and we moved inside Brock Hall to feast and visit.

Almost a year has passed since this rededication ceremony, but the Victory Through Honour pole stands before Brock Hall as a constant reminder. It reminds

us of the coming together of people from the North, the University and Musqueam to honour the legacy of Ellen Neel and to honour UBC's commitment to Aboriginal students. It also stands before Brock Hall to remind us all that real victory can only be gained when it is grounded in honour.

## Aboriginal Peoples' Health Research Network – A New Initiative Funded by The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research

The Aboriginal Peoples' Health Research Network brings together community and institutional-based researchers in Aboriginal Health across BC. The network aims to better represent Aboriginal perspective and community concerns, fostering research-community partnerships and participation. It promotes an environment and culture of collaboration, empowerment and respect with a view to cultivate an alignment of focus, resources and momentum around Aboriginal health research. Through effective information sharing and management, research collaboration, and targeted educational settings, the network provides the infrastructure to build provincial capacity in Aboriginal health research and will ultimately contribute towards the improved health status of Aboriginal peoples in BC.

See the Aboriginal Peoples' Health Network page (http://www.msfhr.org/sub-funding-network-networks-aboriginal.htm#b) in the Networking Infrastructure section for information about the network's current activities.

The Co-Leaders of this network are Dr. Eduardo Jovel (Director, UBC Institute for Aboriginal Health; Assistant Professor, Faculty of Land and Food Systems) and Katharina Patterson (Executive Director, Aboriginal Health, Northern Health Authority). The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research has allocated \$300,000 for phase one (15 months) of the network. Funds are approved through 2009. For more information, contact Dr. Nancy Cochrane (Coordinator) at (604) 827-5615 or by email: nancy.cochrane@ubc.ca.

## Buffy Sainte-Marie Celebrates Artists and Educators During a Talk at The Longhouse

By Shauna Lewis

"Some will tell you what you really want ain't on the menu.

Don't believe them. Don't believe them.

Cook it up yourself and then prepare to serve them, to serve them.

They don't know. They don't know what you have in your heart.

They only care what you have in your wallet.

They don't know what you have to contribute."

~Buffy Sainte-Marie

In mid March, artists of all genres came together at various Vancouver locations to attend events associated with the popular Talking Stick festival. The gala opening, held at UBC's Chan Centre, brought out more Aboriginal stars than a clear summer's night, and heralded a week of events that were the talk of the city long after the festival's end. Among this year's guests was acclaimed singer/songwriter Buffy Saint Marie.

Those of us who were unable to attend the Chan Centre, had another chance to hear Buffy when she took to the stage in Sty-Wet-Tan on March 14<sup>th</sup> to speak about "My Multi-Media Life."

Rather than sing, Buffy spoke on the importance of artistry in a  $21^{\rm st}$  century. "There is trouble in our time," asserts Buffy. "The world of commerce is so unfair to artists, that

you have to understand it going in. It might not make it any fairer to understand it, but it might keep your heart from getting broken."

While Buffy says that she is not *against* commerce, she is very much *for* the content of the arts that commerce looks to 'pimp' or 'coin'. "The content is you and me, it's the arts... We are more than just something to be exploited," declared the passionate artist. "Medicine is medicine before you ever share it with another person, let alone take it on stage and pimp it for an audience."

Illuminating the organic nature of the artist persona, Buffy accredited her creative spirit to a childlike innocence. "Most of us when we grow up, it's a continued growing away from who we really are. If you take any children to the beach and they're going to make sculpture – nobody will call it sculpture, they'll call it sandcastles. They'll use their imaginations. They'll make stories, they'll make dramas—nobody will call it drama because that's an adult word.... The creative mind is given to all of us by the creator," asserts Buffy. How we cultivate that gift throughout our lives determines how we honor such a gift.

Buffy's gifts are many. Along with being a highly esteemed singer, songwriter, she is also a multimedia visual artist. An early Macintosh pioneer in digital art and music, Buffy Sainte Marie's works were among the first to be seen in museums and galleries across North America. She likens electronic painting to "painting with light", creating huge brilliantly coloured paintings, which she describes as being both "reflective and deep like new car paint."

Buffy can also add 'online educator' to her long list of roles. Since the mid-nineties Buffy focuses the majority of her time on the Cradleboard Teaching Project. Through her extensive travels around the world, Buffy has come to realize just how uninformed global citizens are in regard to the Indigenous peoples of North American. "People wanted to know Aboriginal people. People in Paris and Rome and China – they wanted to know about us." Born out of a scholarship foundation for Native American education, the Cradleboard Project is an online teaching tool providing both non-Native and Native students with correct information in regard to the social history and geography of Indigenous North Americans. Inspired by a fourth grade field trip to the Natural History museum, Buffy recalls how her teacher wanted the class to 'go see the Indians.' "There we were, dead and stuffed next to the dinosaurs. That's what I saw when I was a kid. That's why I'm an educator," the artist candidly declares.

An original trailblazer – when the blazing of trails was not always looked upon as a positive thing, Buffy Saint Marie is a fearless example of Indigenous strength, determination and empowerment. Her new projects and ideas prove that she is steadfast in her quest to not only 'serve up' some public recognition of the arts, but to encourage everyone to celebrate and nurture the creative spirit that resides in the heart of all of us.

Our thanks to Talking Stick and International Arts Initiative for making this event possible. For more information about the Cradleboard Teaching Project, go to <a href="http://www.cradleboard.org">http://www.cradleboard.org</a>

## New Project Funded by CIDA: Integrated Farming and Clean Water Systems in Ecuador

Musqueam Indian Band (Canada) and Totoras Indigenous Community (Ecuador) Partnership Project in Sustainable Development, Knowledge Transfer, and Youth Leadership

Musqueam Indian Band (Canada) and Totoras Indigenous Community (Ecuador), in partnership with the UBC Institute for Aboriginal Health (Dr. Eduardo Jovel, Director), BC ACADRE, and the UBC Faculty of Land and Food Systems (Dr. Tanya Wahbe, Post-Doctoral Fellow), were

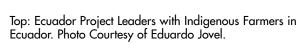
successful in securing a grant of \$100,000 from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Indigenous People's Partnership Program. The project focuses on food and water security, and increasing the international development expertise among Aboriginal people.

The UBC Institute for Aboriginal Health facilitated the networking of an international team inclusive of Ecuador's State University of

Bolivar, Ecuadorian Ministry of Health, Totoras Traditional Healers Council, Musqueam Indian Band's Sulsila Lelum Wellness Centre, Musqueam Ecological Conservation Society, BC ACADRE, UBC Faculty of Land and Food Systems, UBC First Nations House of Learning, United Nations Industrial Development Organisation, UBC Institute of Health Promotion Research, UBC Liu Institute for Global Issues, and other partners.

The project activities will increase capacity among Indigenous people in integrated farming and clean water systems via community-based participatory training and Indigenous methodologies. Outcomes include medicinal plant and food gardens in both communities. In Totoras, outcomes also include a sustainable water collection and filtration system. Activities aim to revitalize Aboriginal culture and the environment, promote education and leadership among Indigenous women, men, and youth, and encourage sustainable economic development.





Middle: Indigenous community members.

Bottom: Dr. Eduardo Jovel at a school, and Indigenous community members. Photo Courtesy of Eduardo Jovel.



## In Memory of Edna Stogan

By Steve Point

I knew Edna Stogan for many years. She was always a person of few words.

She was always present, in the background, behind the scenes, as her husband Vince was the one seen by everyone. She was a kind warm hearted person, who gave excellent advice to the young ones. She was a fine example of hard work and dedication to our culture in the longhouse. She had extensive knowledge of our history and culture. She will no doubt be missed by her own community, family and friends but by the entire Coast Salish Nation.



## Shirley Anne Sterling (1948-2005)

By Haike Muller and Michael Marker

After a two-year battle with cancer, Shirley (known as Tootie, Seepeetza) left us on Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:15 pm at the Merritt hospital. She was surrounded by her close family – those she loved so dearly. She is survived by her children, Eric Muller and Haike Muller, grandsons Kai Muller and Kieran Muller, brothers Fred Sterling and Austin Sterling, sisters Sarah D. Stewart, Deanne Sterling, and Mary Jane Joe, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Shirley was loving, strong, intelligent and kind. She adored children, and believed in the value of education, but particularly believed in the value of instilling Nla7kápamx values and philosophies in the children. She acquired a PhD in Education from the University of British Columbia and wrote a book entitled "My Name is Seepeetza." She was the recipient of many awards, including academic scholarships for her outstanding achievements. She loved poetry and music. She produced her own CD whereby she sang songs she wrote and loved. Some of her songs appeared on APTN and BRAVO.

Tootie touched the lives of many people, including those in her own Nla7kápamx community, the UBC/SFU communities, and the Wetsuweten of Northern British Columbia. She spent many years living in Moricetown, B.C. among the Wetsuweten people, from whom she was given a Hereditary Chief's name.

Ts'kel and the Aboriginal community at UBC have lost a beloved and much respected colleague and mentor. Seepeetza was an extraordinary individual who, after publishing an award winning young adult novel on the reality of residential schooling and completing her Ph.D. in the UBC Faculty of Education, came to work as the student coordinator for Ts'kel. Shirley provided support, encouragement, mentoring, tutoring, counselling, and just plain love for the graduate students in Ts'kel trying to complete courses, finish comprehensives, and get proposals approved. She served as auntie, colleague, mentor and friend to the many students who were lucky enough to know her and to hear her talk, sing, and tell stories. Her good work will live on in the spirit of all that advances the cause of Indigenous people at UBC and in the Aboriginal communities that UBC serves.

## BC ACADRE (Aboriginal Capacity and Developmental Research Environment) Successes

BC ACADRE is located within the UBC Institute for Aboriginal Health, College of Health Disciplines and funded by CIHR-IAPH. BC ACADRE Principal Investigators, Dr. Rod McCormick, Dr. Jo-ann Archibald, Dr. Richard Vedan and Dr. Eduardo Jovel are actively developing and implementing Aboriginal community-based, capacity building research.

Dr. Archibald and Dr. Jovel have led activities related to research ethics. Dr. Archibald has assumed a leadership role among the western province ACADRE centres (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and British Columbia) to produce a Research Ethics manual for use by both university researchers and communities. The BC ACADRE planned and hosted the Advancing Indigenous Health Research Ethics Forum held at First Nations House of Learning in March 2005.

Dr. Archibald also works with the Elders' Council who ensure that Aboriginal traditional cultural knowledge is central in all BC ACADRE research strategies. The Council has established working principles and guidelines for Aboriginal health research undertaken by or sponsored by the BC ACADRE that honours, respects, and protects Aboriginal cultural knowledges. The Elders' Council is leading a knowledge translation project called "New Ways of Passing on Old Ways of Knowing".

Dr. McCormick, Dr. Vedan and Dr. Jovel have been actively involved with the International Collaborative Indigenous Health Research Partnership Grants – a proposed CIHR initiative involving Australia and New Zealand, focusing on resilience around Aboriginal health networking.

Dr. Jovel has established an Aboriginal Health & Natural Products Chemistry Lab in the Faculty of Land and Food Systems (formerly Agriculture), directly linked to community based research projects "Effects of Indoor Mould Exposure on the Health of Aboriginal People in British Columbia" (Musqueam Indian Band, Boston Bar First Nation, Heiltsuk Tribal Council and Nak'azkli Band Council)" (CIHR/IAPH funded) and "Community Based Capacity Building in Traditional Nutritional and Science Based Knowledge Focusing of Diabetes Prevention" (Boston Bar First Nation).

Drs. McCormick and Vedan have led seed research projects and graduate students' research. This has supported the work of the PIs with larger national and international research projects on suicide and resiliency. These include the Aboriginal Youth Action Research Project; Community Healing Resources Inventory; Counselling First Nations: A Narrative Study of Successful Healing Relationships between Aboriginal Clients and Non-Aboriginal Counsellors in Mainstream Mental Health Settings; Pilot Project for Therapeutic Enactment; Aboriginal Mothers at Risk: Mental Health Factors; Social Capital As A Determinant of Aboriginal Health: A Critical Investigation of Social Relationships; Native Mental Health Database; and a Traditional Mental Health Bibliography.

Marilyn Ota, Consultant, Aboriginal and First Nation Community Engagement, Vancouver Coastal Health facilitated a group discussions at the "Together We Are Better Forum" co-hosted by Vancouver Coastal Health, First Nations Chiefs' Health Committee and BC ACADRE. Three new research training workshops were developed and piloted at this Forum: "Community Based Research with Aboriginal People – How to Develop Successful Partnerships", "How to Write an Aboriginal Health Research Project Proposal" and "Understanding Research and Research Ethics".

A BC ACADRE and BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre partnership facilitates the Aboriginal Health Program Coordinator and Community Developer, Angie Todd-Dennis to plan and implement basic research training workshops to First Nation's communities across the province. The purpose of the workshops is to create awareness of research implementation, benefits and issues.

The BC ACADRE sent 6 students to "Listening to the Voice, A National Gathering of Graduate Students and Community Representatives Interested in Aboriginal Health," University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB. This proved an excellent opportunity for the students to get experience presenting their research, engaging in peer review and network.

The BC ACADRE Aboriginal Health Research Awards & Fellowships support recruitment and improvement of access to health research training programs and research careers for undergraduate and graduate students undertaking Aboriginal health related research in BC. By increasing the numbers of Aboriginal people trained in the health professions with health research skills and research experience, BC ACADRE supports building a stronger Aboriginal research community. 42 Awards/Fellowships have been allocated to date.

The BC ACADRE is meaningfully moving forward Aboriginal community based participatory action research development and will continue building Aboriginal community based research capacity among youth, students, community members, organizations and governments, and Elders.

G. A. (Jenna) LaFrance Community Research Associate Institute for Aboriginal Health College of Health Disciplines 400 - 2194 Health Sciences Mall Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3

Phone: 604-822-7988 Fax: 604-822-2495

Email: jennala@interchange.ubc.ca

## Native Indian Teacher Education Program

Greetings from the UBC Native Indian Teacher Education Program – NITEP. Our team met recently to reflect upon what NITEP has meant and does mean to us and to identify current NITEP strengths, values, and challenges. We welcome Lucetta George-Grant, Years 3, 4, 5 Coordinator; Marny Point, Coordinator, Urban Centre; and Dr. Jo-ann Archibald, Associate Dean for Indigenous Education and Acting Director. Returning NITEP staff and faculty include: Linda Williams, Financial Clerk; Stephanie Soon, Program Secretary: Felicity Jules, Assistant Director: Jackie Agostinis, Coordinator, Duncan Centre; and Karen Blain, Coordinator, Kamloops Centre. We thank Deborah Wilson-Green, former Years 3, 4, 5 Coordinator and Mary Jane Joe, former Coordinator, Urban Centre for their excellent service to NITEP. We thank Dr. Nancy Cochrane for helping us this summer as NITEP Director. In the coming academic year we will use the following ideas to shape our student and program activities. We share highlights of our ideas with you in this newsletter.



NITEP Group for September 2005

Back row: Stephanie Soon, Karen Blain, Jackie Agostinis, Jo-ann Archibald, Lucetta George-Grant, Linda Williams

Front row: Felicity Jules, Marny Point. Photo by Geoellen Anderson



The meaning of NITEP beginning with one of its letters. NITEP strengths and values

- ❖ A teacher education program that provides an educational degree option based on Aboriginal values, Elders' wisdom, knowledge, and ways of knowing that begins with a community based focus at field centres and continues to the UBC Vancouver campus until degree completion.
- ❖ A First Nations Education Council guides policy direction for NITEP.
- The NITEP foundation courses comprised of First Nations courses and education seminars challenge students think about what it means to be an Indigenous educator from Years 1-5.
- ❖ NITEP draws upon numerous resources at the community level and within the university such as the First Nations House of Learning. The 300 + NITEP graduates are valuable resources.

### Challenges

- We need to ensure that NITEP continues to address and remain current regarding teacher education needs as identified by Aboriginal communities and schools, whether rural or urban, by involving stakeholders in planning discussions.
- Limited financial resources and declining student enrolment signal a need to explore cooperative programming possibilities with other post-secondary institutions and educational organizations. We can draw upon each other's strengths in addressing our respective challenges.
- Continue to work at dispelling any misconceptions from the public and from Aboriginal communities about NITEP.
- Student recruitment and improving the admissions process is a pressing concern. Address student retention needs and support for financial, life stress and crisis management concerns.
- Develop and retain a strong team of people working for the program in positive and supportive ways.

We look forward to an exciting year with various activities planned such as an on-campus Fall NITEP Student Orientation/Forum, the annual NITEP Newsletter with the theme, *Giving From Within*, a Spring year-end NITEP student gathering, and strategic planning sessions using strengths and challenges identified above and other pertinent information.

## New Employees



Lucetta George-Grant
NITEP, On-Campus Advisor, years 3, 4 & 5

Lucetta George-Grant applied to NITEP, with the help of Jackie Agostini, and she completed her first two years at the Duncan Field Centre. For year three she moved to UBC family housing. Lots of positive things have happened through NITEP and around the First Nations House of Learning, which

is why she is honored to be here. She can only hope that she will live up to the standards that the NITEP staff before her set and that she too will be able to make a positive change in the lives of the students that she will be working with. She is now the On-Campus Advisor for the year 3, 4, and 5 NITEP students. She is looking forward to fall and seeing all the students. On Lucetta's grandmother's side she is a member of the Moses Tribe, which is part of the Colville Confederated Tribes in Washington State. From her grandfather's side she is a member from Lummi/Coast Salish.



Rosalin Hanna, Ed.D.

Aboriginal Student Services Coordinator

Rosalin Hanna completed her Education, Doctoral Degree, Curriculum and Instruction in 2005, and her Non-Profit Management Graduation certificate in 2003, both at the University of Central Florida, Orlando. Her dissertation topic was the Attainment of Higher Education for American Indian/Alaskan Native

Women. Dr. Hanna is also a sessional instructor in Human Kinetics, UBC, where she completed her Master's degree, Human Kinetics. She completed her BA degree, major physical education at Trinity Western University, Langley, B.C. She is Nla7kápamx and is a member of Lytton First Nation. Her Vision statement is "I am a source of academic and social support that empowers Aboriginal people to access and attain a higher education so that they contribute to their community in a way that fulfills them."

Marny Point



NITEP Urban Coordinator

?i ?a cxw ?i' ?al Greetings! Marny Point is from the Musqueam "River grass people" Band where she lives with her husband and two sons. Marny is a NITEP Graduate. After receiving her Bachelor of Education, in 2002, she had the privilege of teaching at a private elementary school, where 36 Musqueam children attended. It was during this

time, Marny pursued her Master's degree in Educational Technology, which she earned in the spring of 2004.

# Associate Dean for Indigenous Education

By Jo-ann Archibald, PhD, Q'um Q'um xiiem.

Jo-ann Archibald began her new five-year position of Associate Dean for Indigenous Education with the UBC Faculty of Education on July 4, 2005. Her responsibilities include providing oversight for the Faculty's long standing Indigenous education programs that include the Native Indian Teacher Education Program (NITEP) and Ts'kel graduate studies; working across the Faculty departments, centres and programs to establish Indigenous education priorities and effective research networks; building Indigenous community/university partnerships; expanding the pool of excellent people working cooperatively to advance Indigenous education and research; and establishing the proposed Indigenous Education Institute of Canada, which will be housed in the Faculty.

The Musqueam Language Department and Band Council have endorsed giving a Musqueam name to the newly created position of Associate Dean for Indigenous Education. A Naming Ceremony will be held at the First Nations House of Learning in the Fall. In Sto:lo tradition, she raises her hands in thanks and respect to the Musqueam community for their generosity. In the near future, a Memorandum of Understanding will be developed between the Faculty of Education and the Musqueam Band Council that signifies ways of working together on mutually beneficial educational initiatives.

One of the teachings of the late Tsimilano, Elder Vincent Stogan, of Muqueam will guide her work. He taught us to stand together in a circle with our hands joined. Our left palm faces upwards to symbolize reaching back for the teachings and help of the Ancestors and Elders. We have a responsibility to learn these teachings in heartfelt and mindful ways. Our right palm faces downward to signal that we share and pass these understandings to others. In joining hands in this way, we demonstrate cooperation, caring, and commitment to work to improve our lives and those of the younger and future generations.

All My Relations.

## First Nations House of Learning Graduation Celebration

By Rosalin Hanna, Aboriginal Student Services Coordinator

#### **Indigenous Graduates of Fall 2004 and Spring 2005**

The Graduation Celebration was held on Saturday, May 28, 2005 in the Sty-Wet-Tan Great Hall. It was a beautiful spring day with a gentle warm wind that invited the opening of the cedar ceremonial door. The students who walked through the door were not only leaving behind the rigors of academic work, but were also entering into a new stage of their lives to be leaders and mentors. With each graduation the impact on young Aboriginal students to pursue a higher education is momentous. Also, with each graduation the hard work and perseverance of the elders before us is acknowledged and proven to be significant.

The graduates come from a wide range of disciplines including: Faculty of Applied Science, Faculty of Arts, School of Social Work and Family Studies, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Forestry, Faculty of Graduate Studies, School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, Faculty of Land and Food Sciences, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Medicine, and Faculty of Science.

Overall, there were seventy-three graduates, two who received diplomas, fifty-two who received their bachelor's degree, eight who received their master's degree, seven who received their doctoral degree, and three who received their medical doctoral degree.

Accolades to the men and women for their significant accomplishments.

#### **Faculty of Applied Science**

Jason Waardenburg, Bachelor of Applied Science, Mechanical Engineering Fall 2004

Donald Clarke, Bachelor of Applied Science, Engineering Physics, Mechanical

Michael Wealick, Bachelor of Applied Science, Civil Engineering

Gertrude Lucy Barney, Masters in Science in Nursing

#### **Faculty of Arts**

Jelana Bighorn, Bachelor of Arts, Major History, Fall 2004

Shayla Point, Bachelor of Arts, Major Psychology, Fall 2004

Christopher Treloar, Bachelor of Arts, Major First Nations Studies, Major History, Fall 2004

lan Ashley, Bachelor of Arts, Interdisciplinary Studies

Helen Bell, Bachelor of Arts, Major First Nations Studies, Minor Anthropology

Fern Campbell, Bachelor of Arts, Major History

Robert Hall, Bachelor of Arts, Major Sociology

Dustin Johnson, Bachelor of Arts, Major First Nations Studies, Minor Anthropology

Bernadette Lawrence, Bachelor of Arts: Major Anthropology

Shauna Lewis, Bachelor of Arts, Major Fine Arts: Art History

Virginia Wall, Bachelor of Arts, Major First Nations Studies

Douglas Whitlow, Bachelor of Arts, Major First Nations Studies

Raymond Wilson, Bachelor of Arts, Major First Nations Studies, Major History

Lorraine de la Morandiere, Bachelor of Arts, Major

Fine Arts: Art History

Laura McLennan, Bachelor of Arts, Major First Nations Studies, Minor History

Karla Van Der Geest, Bachelor of Arts, Major Political Science

#### School of Social Work and Family Studies

Gina Scarpino, Masters Social Work, Fall 2004

Michelle Cameron, Bachelor of Social Work

Samaya Jardey, Bachelor of Social Work

Angela Potskin, Bachelor of Social Work

#### Faculty of Education

Marlene Bazley, Bachelor of Education, Major Business Education, Fall 2004

Janet Kaszonyi, Bachelor of Education, Major Art, Fall 2004

Cassandra Richter, Bachelor of Education, Concentration in Special Education and Intermediate

Renee Diemert, Diploma in Education

Christine Franes, Diploma in Education, Special Education, Fall 2004

#### NITER

Wallace Awasis, Bachelor of Education, Concentration in Intermediate Education and

First Nations Education, Fall 2004

Azury Biavaschi, Bachelor of Education, Concentration in Primary Education and First Nations Education

Leah Hubbard, Bachelor of Education, Concentration in Primary Education and First Nations Education

Christine Lavallee, Bachelor of Education, Concentration in Primary Education and First Nations Education

Leona Peardon, Bachelor of Education, Concentration in Intermediate Education and First Nations Education

Joyce Rodriguez, Bachelor of Education, Concentration in Intermediate Education and First Nations Education

Winnie Smith, Bachelor of Education, Concentration in Primary Education and First Nations Education

#### Ts"Kel Graduate Studies

Kathleen King, Masters of Education, Educational Administration, Fall 2004

Lee Brown, Doctor of Philosophy, Curriculum and Instruction, Fall 2004

Rauna Kuokkanen, Doctor of Philosophy, Curriculum and Instruction, Fall 2004

Mary Jane Smith, Doctor of Philosophy, Curriculum and Instruction, Fall 2004

Maisie Cardinal, Doctorate of Philosophy in Educational Studies

Monique Giard, Doctorate of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction

Carol Passmore, Masters of Education in Counselling Psychology

Charity Sakakibara, Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction

Dolores van der Wey, Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Studies

#### **Faculty of Forestry**

Betsy Cranmer, Bachelor of Science in Forestry, Major Forest Resources Management

Ivan Tallio, Bachelor of Science in Forestry, Major in Forest Operations

#### **Faculty of Graduate Studies**

Nancy Mackin, Doctor of Philosophy, Interdisciplinary Studies, Fall 2004 Peter Hutchinson, Doctor of Philosophy, Interdisciplinary Studies

## School of Library, Archival and Information Studies

Kim Lawson, Master of Library and Information Studies Fall 2004

### Faculty of Land and Food Systems

Zane Young, Bachelor of Science, Global Resource Systems

#### Faculty of Law

Leah Ballantyne, Bachelor of Laws
Johnathan Cross, Bachelor of Laws
Chaslynn Gillanders, Bachelor of Laws
Michele Guerin, Bachelor of Laws
Johnathan Hannan, Bachelor of Laws
Carrie Humchitt, Bachelor of Laws
Carman Kane, Bachelor of Laws

Giselle Marion, Bachelor of Laws Adam Munnings, Bachelor of Laws Shane Smith, Bachelor of Laws Sean Wilson, Bachelor of Laws Mark Stevenson, Master of Laws

#### **Faculty of Medicine**

Bridgit Albiston, Doctor of Medicine

Ojistoh Horn, Doctor of Medicine

Jody Snook, Doctor of Medicine

Jennifer Valentine, Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy

#### **Faculty of Science**

Melanie Nelson, Bachelor of Science, Major Biology Fall 2004

Carl Gladish, Master of Science, Mathematics Fall 2004

Michael Dunn, Bachelor of Science, Major Computer Science

Kailee Horbatch, Bachelor of Science, Major Biochemistry

Heather Reid, Bachelor of Science, Honours Geological Sciences

Mathew Voytilla, Bachelor of Science, Major Computer

## Congratulations Graduates!

Graduates pictured here:

Back row: Laura McLennan, Carrie Humchitt, Douglas Whitlow, Raymond Wilson, Michael Wealick, Mark Stevenson, Lee Brown, Robert Hall, Gina Scarpino, Karla Van Der Geest,

Middle Row: Leona Peardon, Azury Biavaschi, Helen Bell, Shauna Lewis, Christine Lavallee, Betsy Cranmer, Samaya Jarday, Jennifer Valentine, Kailee Horbatch, Lorraine de la Morandiere, Ivan Tallio

Front Row: Bernadette Lawrence, Michelle Cameron, Wally Awasis, Leah Hubbard, Leah Ballantyne, Dustin Johnson, Kim Lawson, Joyce Rodriguez, Winnie Smith



## Seventeen Canadian Faculties of Medicine meet on Admissions and Support for Aboriginal Students

By James Andrew, Aboriginal Programs Coordinator Faculty of Medicine

This September 2005, James Andrew will be entering his fourth year as the Faculty of Medicine's Aboriginal Programs Coordinator. His main role is to recruit Aboriginal students into medicine, and to provide support services for current medical students. We currently have thirteen Aboriginal medical students, and eight more will be starting on August 29, 2005. This past May we had three students who graduated with their degrees in Medicine; one student will start her residency training in Family Medicine in Montreal, another will be pursuing Pathology in Halifax, and the third graduate will pursue Paediatrics in Vancouver. We also hosted the third preadmissions workshop in August. However, there was another historic event that took place this past summer here at University of British Columbia (UBC).

This historic event welcomed representatives from seventeen Canadian Faculties of Medicine for the "Workshop on Admissions & Support of Aboriginal Students in Medicine." The workshop was co-hosted by the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) and UBC's Faculty of Medicine, June 12-14, 2005 at the UBC First Nations Longhouse.

The purpose of the workshop was to engage and inform those involved in the admissions and student support processes at each of the seventeen faculties of medicine concerning health human resources affecting Aboriginal communities. The objectives of the workshop was to provide information on Canadian programs and policies to increase the number of Aboriginal medical students; discuss issues and strategies related to pre-admissions programs, the admissions process and student support for Aboriginal medical students; and provide opportunities for networking and exchange of information among medical schools.

The 65 participants included representatives from the seventeen medical schools, Indigenous Physicians Association in Canada, Canadian Aboriginal Leaders in Medicine, elders, Aboriginal medical educators and

physicians. As the first meeting of its kind in Canada, it was important to ensure that each medical school sent key personnel experienced in developing and implementing changes to policies and procedures.

The event began with a customary welcoming feast, and emceed by James Andrews, Aboriginal Programs Coordinator. Welcoming addresses were given by a Musqueam Elder; First Nations House of Learning's Acting Director, and the Dean of UBC's Faculty of Medicine. The feast ended with a panel presentation by three Aboriginal physicians who shared their heartfelt stories on their medical school training and practices.

The remainder of the two final days had presentations on preadmissions programs, post-admissions support and Aboriginal admissions procedures, each followed with small group discussions where each group reported back their results. In order to provide cultural experience and knowledge on BC First Nations, each small group was given a clan name that included Owl, Salmon, Hummingbird, Wolf, Eagle and Thunderbird. A final report will be written for AFMC's Council of Deans. It is hoped that all seventeen medical schools will develop and implement their own strategies in recruiting and supporting Aboriginal students in medicine.

For more information on admissions and preadmissions, please contact:

James Andrew, B.Sc., M.HSc. Aboriginal Programs Coordinator Faculty of Medicine-UBC Rm. 317, 2194 Health Sciences Mall Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3

Phone: (604) 822-3236 Fax: (604) 822-6061

Email: james.andrew@ubc.ca Web: www.admissions.med.ubc.ca

#### Congratulations to:

**Professor Graham Hingangaroa Smith**, Professor of Education at the University of Auckland, and Distinguished Chair in Indigenous Education at the University of British Columbia for being awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the Okanagan University College for his work and accomplishments in the field of indigenous education.

**Madeleine MacIvor**, Acting Director, First Nations House of Learning and **Professor Graham Hingangaroa Smith**, Faculty of Education who were acknowledged for their outstanding contributions towards ending racism at UBC at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 'Action to End Racism' Recognition Event.

**Professor Jo-ann Archibald** who will serve as the first Associate Dean for Indigenous Education at UBC. This new position will provide leadership and coordination of the Faculty's Indigenous education, research, and community outreach initiatives.

**The Ts"kel Graduate Program,** recipient of the 2004/2005 Peter Larkin Award. This annual award is given by the Campus Advisory Board on Student Development to a graduate/post baccalaureate program or department that has had a significant positive impact on student life and student development at UBC.

## The Institute for Aboriginal Health

## College of Health Disciplines

The Institute for Aboriginal Health, located in close proximity to the students it serves – with UBC's College of Health Disciplines, in the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre – has been a literal beehive of activity over the past year. The historic focus of activities has shifted from the direct recruitment and of student to providing First Nations communities and UBC students in the health and human services faculties, schools and departments with opportunities to conduct research that is relevant, Aboriginal community motivated, based, directed and owned.

Dr. Eduardo Jovel fulfills the dual role of Director of the Institute for Aboriginal Health and Assistant Professor with the Faculty of Land and Food Systems. In the latter capacity, he maintains the Aboriginal Health and Natural Products Chemistry Laboratory located within the Faculty of Land and Food Systems. The lab complements the research initiatives being supported and developed by the Institute and the CIHR-IAPH funded BC ACADRE supported initiatives and provides opportunities for Aboriginal students in the health and human services faculties, schools and departments to pursue graduate level training.

A grant from CIHR is funding research in Health Effects of Mould Exposure in Aboriginal Housing in British Columbia – a study critical to the health of many First Nations communities. Funding from a BC ACADRE grant supports a research project on Traditional Foods and Diabetes Prevention in partnership with Boston Bar Firs Nation with community research capacity building. UBC students are actively engaged with Aboriginal community-based (CB) projects, providing them with the opportunity to work with communities to adapt an IAH developed Aboriginal CB Research Ethics Protocol template for the ownership, control, access and possession of knowledge gained from CB research projects. Other lab-related projects include:

- A study of antioxidants and antibacterial compounds from BC
- A study on entomogenous fungi (and you might like to ask Eduardo what that is)
- · A student of the chemistry of cedar oil
- A study of antiviral compounds from BC mosses
- · Environmental contaminants and conservation medicine

IAH staff taught the popular College of Health Disciplines, Interdisciplinary Health and Human Service

courses: Eduardo shares his ethnobotany expertise with interdisciplinary students taking his IHHS 301 course, *The Role of Plants in Aboriginal Health* and Heidi Verburg taught the IHHS 401 course, *First Nations Historical and Contemporary Issues*.

IAH staff includes: Community Research Associate Jenna LaFrance; Manager of BC ACADRE, Kim Brooks; Manager of the new Michael Smith Foundation-funded Aboriginal Peoples Health Network, Dr. Nancy Cochrane, and Secretary to the Director, Doreen Hughes. Here the emphasis is on developing and implementing research strategies, writing proposals for research funding, building bridges to and with community and community organizations, and health and human services faculties, schools and departments. Jenna, for instance, has, in partnership with UBC School of Nursing, recently attracted funding for an Aboriginal community-based Nursing Preceptorship Program and Nursing Curriculum Development project - an outcome of relationships developed with faculties through her Health and Human Service Aboriginal Student Recruitment Committee. Kim coordinates the work of the BC ACADRE Center dedicated to the creation of research opportunities and capabilities of and for Aboriginal peoples of B.C. A major undertaking of BC ACADRE is the awarding of student graduate and undergraduate research grants allowing for the development and sharing of student research capabilities, as well as laying a solid foundation of research, which will impact Aboriginal peoples and community health. Doreen is the Institute's 'public face/voice' that will greet you by phone or upon a visit to the Institute, as well as support to the many initiatives undertaken by the Institute's staff and generally indispensable to all.

Dr. Eduardo has played a key role in the CIDA/IPPP-sponsored Capacity Building Indigenous People Partnership Program in Ecuador which will see the Musqueam Nation lend their experience and expertise to the Totoras people of Ecuador to the benefit of both and, ultimately, contribute to the building of a worldwide Indigenous network dedicated to the health of all Indigenous people. Further international links are being forged through the chain of ACADRE centres across Canada.

It has been a busy and exciting year for the Institute propelled by the knowledge and experience that partnerships and collaborations with communities, organizations, institutions, networks and bridges built regionally, provincially, nationally and internationally will result in shared knowledge and results, impacting a wide spectrum of health issues for First Nations and Indigenous peoples everywhere in the best possible way.



The Faculty of Arts First Nations Student Services unit continues to grow: First Nations Students Services is now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year of providing advice and services to Aboriginal students in the Faculty of Arts.

We would first like to congratulate our November 2004 and May 2005 graduates. At these two graduations, a total of eighteen Aboriginal students graduated from the Faculty of Arts with a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Fine Arts.

We continue to provide support towards the success of new and continuing First Nations students in the Faculty of Arts. As a part of Arts Academic Advising we help students with their academic needs as well as providing them with information on and access to campus resources. We help students with such things as course planning, academic advising, accessing financial assistance information, tutoring and peer advising. We also organise events throughout the year to provide students with a place to build a sense of community on campus.

Tanya Bob is continuing as the First Nations Student Services Co-ordinator. In November of 2004, FNSS hired a new half-time First Nations Academic Advisor: Donald Johnson. This new larger team has accelerated the development of more comprehensive and longer-term services in FNSS.

Karla van der Geest, the FNSS Assistant for the last two years and a May graduate, will be going to Holland to pursue graduate studies. She will be greatly missed, however by September we will have hired a new Assistant. The FNSS Assistant is available as a peer advisor for help with common questions, such as Faculty requirements and UBC resources.

The FNSS website at <a href="http://fnss.arts.ubc.ca">http://fnss.arts.ubc.ca</a> is a great first source of information for Aboriginal students at or interested in the Faculty of Arts at UBC. Our site is now more visually interesting with the creation of logo and the addition of images.

FNSS back-to-school support programming will begin in September. We are planning our fall Orientation for new Aboriginal students to the Faculty. Included in the Orientation is a campus tour and information session to introduce our new students to campus and prepare them for the upcoming year. Additionally, we will have an Open House for all our students as well as anyone else on campus wanting to know more about FNSS.

With the start of classes, the First Nations Tutoring program will also be resuming. This Program is conducted by two current UBC students and is open to all First Nations students taking Arts courses at UBC.

We are looking forward to the upcoming school year, and would like to wish everyone the best this winter session! To find our more about our events and programs please visit our website: http://fnss.arts.ubc.ca

For more information, please contact:

Tanva Bob

First Nations Student Services Co-ordinator

Faculty of Arts Buchanan C356 Tel: 604-822-0075

Fax: 604-822-4923

Email: tanya.bob@ubc.ca

Donald Johnson

Academic Advisor, First Nations Students

Faculty of Arts Buchanan C361 Tel: 604-827-3060 Fax: 604-822-4923

Email: djohnson@mail.arts.ubc.ca

First Nations Student Services Assistant

Faculty of Arts Buchanan A207 Tel: 604-827-5467 Fax: 604-822-4923

Email: fnss@mail.arts.ubc.ca

The First Nations Students Services website:

http://fnss.arts.ubc.ca

## Ts`'kel First Nations Graduate Studies

By Michael Marker, PhD.

The 2004-05 academic year was a particularly productive one for nine students associated with Ts'kel. The Master's of Education graduates include Jada Pape (Coast Salish), Mark Point (Sto:lo), and Pearci Walkley (Kootenai). The PhD graduates are Rauna Kuokkanen (Sami, Norway); Lee Brown (Cherokee); Dolores Van Der Way (Coast Salish); Maisie Cardinal (Coast Salish); Sheema Saeed (Maldivan, Maldives); and Jane Mowatt-Smith (Gitksan).

During Winter term 1 the Ts'kel methodology seminar *EADM 508a, First Nations Research & Methodology* was taught by newly appointed post-doctoral fellow Lee Brown, with assistance from Dr. Graham Smith, Distinguished Visiting Scholar. Ts'kel is for-

tunate that Lee will teach the 508a seminar again in September 2005 and that Graham will teach 508b *Indigenous Research & Epistemology – Critical Issues in Indigenous Media* in January 2006.

Ts`'kel was the recipient of the *Peter Larkin Award* for an outstanding UBC graduate studies program in 2004-2005. Ts`'kel Director Michael Marker and Associate Professor Jo-ann Archibald spoke at the recognition ceremony on April 26, 2005.

Another highlight of the past year was the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Indigenous Graduate Student Symposium hosted by Ts'kel on March 19, 2005, which featured presentations and discussions about the symposium theme, "Indigenizing the Academy: Enhancing Graduate Student Experiences." We look forward to planning the 4<sup>th</sup> annual provincial Indigenous graduate student symposium, which will be held in March 2005. Ts'kel graduates continue to assume key leadership roles in Aboriginal communities and academic institutions. Research from these graduates is advancing the development of Indigenous knowledge and educational transformation.

## Institute for Aboriginal Health - Summer Science Program

It is hard to believe that this successful camp for Aboriginal youth at UBC has been running since 1988! We admitted 20 students to each camp this July 2005. The students enjoyed a week with staff members – Rose (Elder), Kim (Program Coordinator), Lee-Anna (Program Assistant); Larry (Recreation Coordinator); Laura (Counselor) and Jay (Dorm Coordinator). Our Aboriginal youth this year were represented from the province of British Columbia, the Yukon, and the North West Territories. We had great weather, food, fun and many opportunities to learn about science, health-sciences and human-services on UBC campus. The students also had the opportunity to

visit the Planetarium, Science World and Jericho Beach. We are grateful this year to our sponsors: First Nations Chiefs' Health Committee; Burlington Resources Canada Inc.; BC ACADRE (Aboriginal Capacity & Developmental Research Environment); BC Hydro; Vancity; UBC Faculty of Medicine; and in-kind support from the First Nations House of Learning and the Institute for Aboriginal Health, both at UBC.

For further information about this program, please visit our website at <a href="http://www.health-sciences.ubc.ca/iah/community/summerscience.php">http://www.health-sciences.ubc.ca/iah/community/summerscience.php</a> or phone 604-822-5677.

## The Longhouse News Update First Nations Studies Program

Greetings from the First Nations Studies Program in the Faculty of Arts!

We have had a very busy year. In September 2004, we hired a part-time Program Assistant. Janey Lew works Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in Buchanan C358. Come by and introduce yourself if you have not already done so! Janey is also a Masters student in the English Department. She's been busy getting to know everything about the program and getting involved in the many projects we have been working on.

Michelle LaFlamme also joined us this year as the sessional instructor of FNSP 200, *First Nations of North America*. Michelle is finishing her PhD in the English Department, and we hope to see more of her around FNSP.

Donald Johnson was hired as the FNSP Technical Director from December 2004 to May 2005. During that time, he helped us redesign and re-launch our website. Don was also on-hand to provide technical support for our Internet Speakers Series.

We are continuing to develop the website this summer—your feedback is welcome! Check us out at <a href="http://fnsp.arts.ubc.ca">http://fnsp.arts.ubc.ca</a>

Our most exciting program initiative this year was the Internet Speakers Series on Land Claims and Governance.

Over the course of eight-weeks, eighteen experts on Aboriginal land claims and governance issues joined us at the Longhouse for lectures and question/answer periods. We would like to especially thank those of you who were able to attend the lectures. We had over eighty people in the audience every week. Those who were unable to join us in person had the opportunity to access the lectures live via Webcast on the Internet, and to participate in an online discussion forum.

After the series was over, we produced an educational DVD set for distribution to Aboriginal organizations and educa-

tional groups. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, they are \$50 each. Please contact Janey for more information: <a href="mailto:fnsp@mail.arts.ubc.ca">fnsp@mail.arts.ubc.ca</a> or (604) 822-2905.

The DVD set also includes our innovative Interactive Video/ Transcript viewer, which we'll soon make available on the website. It allows you to page through linked videos and transcripts, search the transcript for key words or phrases, and go to the search phrase in the linked video. Great for finding that quote you remember (but not who said it), or finding material on particular topics.

In the coming year, FNSP will be involved in a new project, *The Aboriginal History Media Arts Lab*, a SSHRC-funded collaboration with Aboriginal filmaker Loretta Todd. We'll keep you posted about the details.

Feel free to contact us (604) 822-2905 if you have any questions regarding the courses. For those students considering a major or minor in FNSP, our Approved Course List (available online or through Tanya or Janey) will help you with your course planning.

In May 2005, we had our second graduating class. Eight students graduated with a Major in First Nations Studies, and one student graduated with a Minor. Congratulations everyone and we look forward to hearing about your future endeavors!

2005 may be remembered for as the year FNSP started to really get "plugged-in." In addition to our re-launched website, we have also set-up a student listserve. The [fnsp-students] listserve is open to all interested students who would like more information on FNSP program events and general messages of containing content relevant to those interested in Aboriginal events and issues. To join the [fnsp-students] listserve:

- 1. Send a message to majordomo@interchange.ubc.ca
- 2. Leave the message blank
- 3. In the body of the message, type: subscribe fnsp-students We are looking forward to another exciting year. For more information about the First Nations Studies Program and to keep up-to-date on our latest news and events, remember to visit our website at <a href="http://fnsp.arts.ubc.ca">http://fnsp.arts.ubc.ca</a> or drop by Buchanan C352, C356 or C358.

## Native Youth Program

By Karla Tait

This summer marks the 26<sup>th</sup> year of the Native Youth Program and I am happy to welcome our newest members: Cassandra Blanchard (Northern Tutchone), Rhea Wilson (Heiltsuk), Terina Lokhorst (Heiltsuk), Anna Lumberjack (Saulteaux & Cree), and Dennis Pierre (Shuswap). During the past few weeks they have been immersed in learning and sharing the culture of North West Coast First Nations at the Museum of Anthropology.

Although we are still enjoying our first few weeks of the program I have seen an exceptional amount of growth in these youth. During their second week they were already hosting public presentations on the Potlatch! Aside from



Native Youth Program

the confidence and knowledge afforded to our youth in the program; this opportunity has also benefited visitors as well. It fosters respect and understanding and allows guests to recognize the pride and strength in our First Nations Youth, and people at large.

In addition to our preparations for public presentations and tours the NYP will also gain from the teachings of community members, as well as their own experiences on cultural outings. We were fortunate this year to take part in "Tribal Journeys" canoe gathering and feast hosted by the Heiltsuk and Squamish Nations. We also joined Heiltsuk artist Ian Reid on site to learn from his first experience in canoe building for that very journey. The program has much in store for the rest of the summer as well; a trip to  $\underline{X}$ ay: tem Longhouse Interpretive Centre, and Quw'utsun Cultural Centre, a lunch at Liliget Feast House, and a visit with the Elder and Youth Progam at Kla-how-cya Centre. We also look forward to meeting with local community members to learn about the art and culture here on the North West Coast.

We would like to thank all those who have supported our program. A special thanks to Pam Brown and the Museum of Anthropology for securing funding to ensure another year for the NYP and especially to ACCESS for supplying those funds. We would also like to thank the FNHL for co-sponsoring our program and making us welcome with their time and space. We have spent a great deal of time in the computer lab and at Xwi7-Xwa Library researching our heritage and working on our reports, we are grateful for your support.

This opportunity has been both challenging and exciting. We look forward to the rest of our summer here at UBC and hope to see you at our presentations and tours! Thank you.

## Chinook Program

In August, the Chinook Program hosts its annual **Chinook Entrepreneurial Leadership Forum** for Aboriginal high school students. This event seeks top grade 11-12 students from around the province and brings them to UBC to participate in basic business workshops for over 3 days. The 2005 Forum has attracted 15 students from Dawson Creek, Chemainus, 100 Mile House, Williams Lake and throughout the Lower Mainland. Participants enjoy campus life and stay in dorms. They make some lasting friendships, gain an understanding about business studies and are given the opportunity to participate in the Chinook Traders project.

The Chinook Traders formed after six enthusiastic and entrepreneurial participants of the 2004 **Chinook Entrepreneurial Leadership Forum** decided to develop a business concept, which eventually became the "Thankyou" business. Nicely packaged chocolates and cards with the Chinook salmon boldly emblazoned on the front are marketed to corporations, governments and the public as "Thank-You" gifts. This unique product is sure to leave a lasting impression with customers, friends and colleagues.



In the photograph are (top) Katrina Wallace (Mt.Currie), Whitney Morrison (Hazelton), Corry Archibald, (bottom) Jennifer Hooper, Alex Stoney (Hazelton), Evan Herzog (Pemberton).

The goals of Chinook Traders project are: 1) to increase awareness of the Chinook program, 2) to provide an opportunity to expose high school students to the many aspects of business, and 3) to raise money to contribute to the annual BC Aboriginal Elders Conference. To learn more about the "Thank-you" business or to purchase our products please visit our website at <a href="https://www.chinook.ubc.ca/thank-you/">www.chinook.ubc.ca/thank-you/</a>.

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## The CEDAR Summer Day Camp at UBC

by Tim Michel

CEDAR formally stands for Cross-cultural Education through Demonstration, Activity, and Recreation. The Cedar day camp will focus on fun activities, academic skill building, and making university more accessible to youth. It will be geared towards 25 middle school students (grades 6-8), consisting of urban Aboriginal youth from the greater Vancouver area.

The camp is joint initiative of the First Nations House of Learning, the "Let's Talk Science" Association, and the faculties of Science, Land & Food Systems, Forestry, and Arts. Other members who have assisted and supported the planning process of this camp are the "Geering Up" society, the "Institute of Aboriginal Health", the "Native Indian Teachers Education Program", and the "Chinook Business Program."

The camp will run for two weeks commencing August 8 and ending August 19. It will feature workshops in the morning and science presentations and fun activities in the afternoon. The project is building upon the success of the Science 101 and Humanities 101 programs and will seek volunteers from faculty, staff, and students of UBC to help in creating this day camp.

The Aboriginal community is a youthful population that suffers from many social and economic problems. There have been a myriad of research studies that have shown a strong link between educational attainment and a wide variety of physical and social problems. This is a widespread phenomenon that exists in all developed countries despite differences in health, and different ethnic/racial mix. The associations clearly link coronary heart disease, some cancers, Alzheimer's disease, some mental illnesses, diabetes, and alcoholism to education attainment. There are also strong links between education and the economy. The increase in "human capital" through education and health programs can provide increases in productivity and at the same time reduce drug abuse, crime and welfare dependency.

Therefore, we maintain that there is a critical need in the Aboriginal community to address educational concerns. There are clear needs for skills development and programs designed to help aboriginal youth succeed in academic courses. In Vancouver, the high school completion rate for Aboriginal students is about 20%. We have identified a number of key areas that we wish to address.

### 1) Low expectations and aspirations

- -Aboriginal students are provided with less encouragement from teachers
- -They get less encouragement from family

### 2) Lack of peer support for academic achievement

- -Peers often ostracize high achievers
- -This is especially true in urban and rural Aboriginal communities

#### 3) Racism

-A recent poll has shown that Vancouver School District students believe that Aboriginal students face the most discrimination and racism of any group

### 4) Inequalities of familial cultural and social capital

- -This is manifested in less familiarity with education and social systems
- -This includes a lack of social networking in commercial, professional and academic fields

#### 5) High dropout rates

- High school completion in Vancouver is estimated at 20% for Aboriginal students

#### 6) Limited financial resources

-80% of Aboriginal children in Vancouver live in poverty

### 7) Poor high school counseling

-Inadequate counseling leads to tracking into non-academic programs

As the UBC's Academic Plan states, "Aboriginal people should be encouraged and supported in pursuing degrees in higher education". The CEDAR summer camp aims to reach Aboriginal youth early to help them acquire the English, math and other analytical skills needed for post-secondary education. The camp will work on addressing some of the impediments listed above. It will focus on skills, promoting family and community involvement and providing long-term support for students interested in pursuing Academic careers. The camp will use workshop and seminar material that will specifically help in providing insights into academic sub-cultures from the sciences, forestry and arts.

The objective of this camp is to provide participants with skills to help them successfully complete high school, foster the development of healthy peer groups, improve their quality of life and develop mentoring activities involving the youth.

#### Tim Michel

#1500-6270 University Boulevard Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4

Cell: 604-970-5851 Phone: 604-822-9409 Fax: 604-822-5558

Email: tmichel@interchange.ubc.ca

## News from <u>Xwi7xwa Library</u> - a look back

by Linda Allen

Fall of 2004 began with Acting Head, Ann Doyle taking a Study Leave from September 2004 to August 31st 2005. In her absence, Lynne Gamache, Borrower Services & Extension Librarian, Koerner Library, assumed the position of Acting Head of Xwi7xwa Library on a half-time basis. Lynne provided guidance to all and her laughter will be missed.

Linda Allen began her eighth year as a Library Assistant. She has a diploma as a Library Technician and performs a wide variety of duties.

The staff for the Academic Year consisted of three GAAs from SLAIS: Melissa Adams and Heather Maisel, who both found summer employment in their chosen fields. The third GAA was Alissa Cherry. Alissa graduated from SLAIS in May. She started working in Xwi7xwa in June 2005 and will finish at the end of August. She will be cataloguing our backlog of new materials.

We also had three Student Assistants. The first was Myrna McCallum [Law], who returned to us, for a third year. She graduated in June and is looking for her first job in her chosen profession. Best of luck goes her way. Our second student was Greg Reid [NITEP], who returned to Vancouver Island to work in a Native Youth Camp over the summer. The third was Karla Tait [Arts, Psychology], who worked both terms and the month of May for the Library before becoming Coordinator of the Native Youth Programme at the Museum of Anthropology.

Xwi7xwa also hired Diana Senichenko for a 3 month term as an LA-C, from April 25th until the 22nd of July. Her work has concentrated around the circulation of materials, general maintenance of stacks and various projects, including processing of the materials catalogued over the summer and New Book Lists of those items.

The Faculty of Education funded the Fall Saturday Openings for October and November. Xwi7xwa resumed opening on Saturdays for January, February and March in 2005. The feed back from students and faculty was very positive.

Xwi7xwa accepted three Practicum Students this year. Alissa Cherry [SLAIS] devoted two weeks in December, 2004 to running the daily routine at the Library. She also finished various Special Projects, including re-organizing the Bud Mintz card catalogue to ensure that patrons could have easier access the collection. Sheng-yung (Nicholas) Chang [SLAIS] spent two weeks in April 2005 learning about the day to day routine of a Special Library. He also developed a list of items catalogued in April. In March of 2005, Greg Reid from NITEP spent his Practicum here. Greg worked in the Archives, principally on organizing the back issues of various serials, newspapers and journals.

Xwi7xwa Library's proposal for Branch Status went to the Senate Library Committee on Friday, May 20th. It recommended in favour of the establishment of Xwi7xwa Library as a branch of the University Library. University President, Dr. Martha Piper approved this proposal from the Library Senate Committee on June 23, 2005.

The Xwi7xwa Library Indigenous Scholars Speaker Series opened in September 2004 and concluded in April of 2005. It was held in the First Nations House of Learning, 12:00-1:30 p.m. in Sty'wet'tan Hall. This Series was very well received. Sincere thanks go out to all the staff at Xwi7xwa and the Longhouse who helped make these talks successful. A very special thank you is extended to Myrna McCallum who devoted most of her last year as a Student Assistant at the Library to developing the web site for these events and to coordinating the participants who spoke at this series. The Speaker Series is scheduled to resume in September 2005 with Dr. Carl Johnson, Assistant Professor in the Department of Classics as the first speaker.

#### MONTH SPEAKER

September Dr. Graham H. Smith (Host: Dr. Michael Marker)

Professor June McCue October (Host: Ardith Walkem)

Dr. Charles Menzies November (Host: Mique'l Askren)

December Dr. Ronald Trosper (Host: Jeremy Boyd)

January Mary Jane Joe (Host: Jólene Mitchell)

February Rvrd Dr. Martin Brokenleg (Host: Madeleine MacIvor)

March Barbara Harris (Host: Mique'l Askren)

Gordon Christie (Host: Myrna McCallum)

#### **TOPIC**

First Nations Underdevelopment in UBC: the domestication of the Native Intellectual

Current research on Consultation Law

Relations of Respect: Gitxaala Approaches to Sustainability and Conservation

Privatization: an Aboriginal Perspective

Personal NITEP Experience: Transformation in the Classroom

Keeping People Strong: Focus on Native Youth

A New Paradigm for Social Work Education for First Nations

Colonialism and the Duty to Consult

## Institute for Aboriginal Health - Aboriginal Health Care Administration Program (AHCAP)

Students currently enrolled in the AHCAP Certificate are gearing up for their graduation, which will take place on Sunday, September 25, 2005 at the UBC Longhouse. We anticipate 16 graduates this year. The students who are represented from across B.C. have been hard at work over the past year, learning about Communication and Leadership; Fundamentals of Administration; Health Policy and Research; Information Management; Aboriginal Health Systems.

For further information about this program, please visit the following website http://www.cstudies.ubc.ca/ahcap/ or phone 604-822-1466.

All my relations,

Heidi Verburg Community Liaison Coordinator Institute for Aboriginal Health

## SAGE Programme Underway

By Graham Smith, PhD.

The SAGE programme (Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement) has got off to a flying start. Aimed at increasing the formal credential capacity and capability of Aboriginal communities, the initial response to the initiative has been fantastic with all cohorts attracting a good number of new Aboriginal doctoral students. The aim which is to produce 250 Aboriginal PhD/EdDs in British Columbia by the year 2010 is a reasonable target given that some 70 Aboriginal students are currently enrolled or have completed doctoral studies in B.C. While the project is being run by the Indigenous Education Institute of Canada within UBC, the intention is to enhance and develop Aboriginal doctoral completions within all B.C. Universities. SAGE brings together cohorts of Aboriginal doctoral students (and Masters students bridging to doctoral studies) that meet approximately once a month on a Saturday. Typically, students will network, share and trouble-shoot issues that arise with their work, share research knowledge, skills and insights, listen to outstanding guest speakers on relevant topics, reinforce the cultural elements of being an Aboriginal scholar, promote and encourage each other's writing, share food and humour and methodically ensure progress towards producing theses and research that will make a positive and transformative contribution to Aboriginal communities. SAGE activities are conducted in a culturally supportive environment and atmosphere. The overall intention is to grow well-qualified Aboriginal scholars who have a consciousness and confidence about contributing to the wider development of Aboriginal communities.

SAGE is a positive, proactive initiative that targets a major area of underdevelopment in Aboriginal education. It is designed to compliment and enhance existing research supervision options and methods. It has several potential multipliers of further success; for example, increasing the numbers and qualifications of Aboriginal faculty within Higher Education, developing skilled and qualified personnel that are able to contribute to Aboriginal community development and growing a skilled group



Discussion at a SAGE meeting, from left to right: June Schudler, PhD, University of Calgary, Dr. Graham Smith, Distinguished Professor, Deanna Reader, PhD, UBC, Dr. Lee Brown, Post-Doctorate. Photo taken by Michelle Pidgeon.

of Aboriginal researchers who are culturally skilled and conscious of community aspirations and needs.

Currently there are four cohorts strategically situated around the province. They are locally co-ordinated by volunteer doctoral students and supported by Faculty members:

- The Vancouver Pod (serving SFU, UBC and other city institutions)
   Coordinator: Michelle Pidgeon [Email: pidgeon@interchange.ubc.ca]
- 2. The Victoria Pod (serving UVic, Malaspina and Vancouver Island)
  - Coordinator: Todd Ormiston; [Email: toddo@shaw.ca]
- 3. The Kelowna Pod (serving NVIT, UBCO, TRU and interior B.C.),
  - Coordinator: Bill Cohen; [Email: bcohen@ouc.bc.ca]
- 4. The Prince George Pod (serving UNBC, and the North)
  Coordinator: Monte Palmantier and Margo Greenwood
  [Email: palmant@unbc.ca]

**Note:** All Aboriginal students irrespective of the institution in which they are enrolled are invited to participate in any of the cohorts and from any discipline of study – contacts as above. The SAGE programme is working to develop doctoral students into every institution and into the full range of disciplines and to therefore find the right fit and programme for individual's needs and interests.

CHINOOK PROGRAM continued from page 18

Students who wish to pursue Business studies after high school graduation can consider the Chinook Diploma/ Degree. The Chinook Diploma Program is available at the following five Chinook Partner Colleges: Camosun College (Victoria), Capilano College (North Vancouver), Langara College (Vancouver), Northwest Community College (Terrace and Prince Rupert), and College of New Caledonia (Prince George). It is a 2-3 year program that will provide students with a good foundation in business. After completing the business diploma, successful students can apply directly into the third year of the Sauder School of Business Bachelor of Commerce Degree (Chinook Major).

Currently, there are four students pursuing the Business diploma program, two at Capilano College and two at the College of New Caledonia. Upon completion of the diploma, these students will have the option of completing a Bachelor of Commerce ("Chinook Major") at the Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia. An exciting new initiative is underway with the goal of having 110 Aboriginal students actively engaged in the Chinook program by 2010.

Three diploma students are participating in the internship component of the Chinook program. They have been placed at BC Hydro, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Kalum Ventures Development Corporation.

If you are interested in learning more about Aboriginal Business opportunities offered through the Chinook program, please contact us at info@chinook.ubc.ca or visit our website at www.chinook.ubc.ca



## Wholistic Wellness: Personalized Approaches

By Alannah Young, counsellor

The FNHL provides wholistic approaches to student services. The university experience can

be very stimulating, and can sometimes be overwhelming. Counselling services are available to students who want a personalized consultative approach to meeting the university challenges. Through the utilization of culturally appropriate and western approaches to counselling, confidentiality and mutually respectful relationships are built to ensure your success.

Counselling is one process that can be utilized to maximize your unique potential for success. We all come with personal experiences and strengths, the counselling process involves recognizing these gifts and exploring your own dreams, visions and goals. Counselling provides you with opportunities to develop your own strategies for balance, wellness and success.

A counsellor offers individual support and can be thought of as a personal coach. Personal support can be with exploring and expressing emotions, finding your own solutions to problems, conflict resolution, and understanding and accepting personal limitations. The counselling process can involve assessing and setting realistic goals, developing supportive networks, becoming familiar with campus resources, exploring and appreciating cultural heritage. Other counselling processes include preventing and dealing with crisis situations, identifying other counsellors and community resources and exploring activities for emotional, spiritual physical and intellectual development.

Students are encouraged to become involved in FNHL activities such as orientations, the Longhouse Leadership Program, wellness circles, cultural ceremonies and workshops, and various recreation groups. Many of the activities in the Longhouse are initiated by students to help create a home away from home environment. We welcome and invite you to share your ideas, gifts and talents with Alannah Young, counsellor at FNHL and to participate in the activities of the student services program!

Students are encouraged to make an appointment, drop in, phone or email:

Alannah Earl Young, Counsellor First Nations House of Learning/UBC 1985 West Mall Vancouver BC V6T 1Z2 604-822-0963 fax 604-822-0963 email: aeyoung@interchange.ubc.ca

www.longhouse@ubc.ca

First Nations Legal Studies Update

By Gloria Cardinal, Coordinator of FNLS, B.Th, M.CS, Cree Nation.

Welcome back to all new and returning students! This semester at First Nations Legal Studies we welcome eleven new incoming students to the first year class. Our weekly Thursday lunch speaker series continues with guest speakers from the alumni and practitioners in the lower mainland. Rattle making and beadwork seminars will provide a nice break from the rigorous reading list.

#### **Congratulations!**

...to those fourteen students graduating with their LL.B. past May 2005.

These students will now spend ten months articling, and will participate in the Professional Legal Training Course prior to being called to the Bar. This year law firms from Vancouver, Saskatoon, and Yellowknife provide a place for these students to complete their requirements before becoming lawyers.

Eight students graduated in May with their Bachelor of Laws. (LL.B.) Of these students, two are articling at Vancouver law firms, two are articling in Saskatoon, and one is articling in Yellowknife. The articling process follows graduation and is a ten-month term with a law firm where the student under the tutelage of a "principle" lawyer undertakes the practice of law.

... to Myrna McCallum, for the success of "Lending Her Voice: Aboriginal Women, Law & Leadership". Over 120 women, primarily from organizations in the lower mainland, attended Lending Her Voice: Aboriginal Women, Law & Leadership on Wednesday June 29, 2005. This community event was designed to promote and honour the increasing empowerment and leadership roles of Native women in our communities. Myrna has worked over the last three years to create a legacy for First Nations Legal Studies that we hope to continue each June. She has initiated and created a symposium each year beginning in June 2003 with a one-day Symposium on Indigenous Knowledge. Her second event, hosted in June 2004, attracted 110 youth to Rights of Passage: Native Youth and Law Gathering. She worked diligently each year to fundraise for the event so that community members could attend free of charge. We would like to thank the UBC law school for partially funding each year's conference with the Law Foundation Small Project Grant fund and to the many Aboriginal law firms and organizations that contributed both speakers and funds.

...to those winning awards during the last year. We congratulate Leah Ballantyne for being awarded the Indigenous Bar Association (IBA) student scholarship in January 2005. Each year she helped in planning the student day events for the IBA fall conference, and spent her third year as the Western Canada Student Rep.

Jonathan Cross was awarded the Carole Corcoran Award in June 2005. F.N.L.S. gives this award to a graduating student who has a strong academic standing, and community involvement. Jonathan was very involved with the First Nations Law Students Association, and Pivot legal organization during his three years at the law school.

For any information about law school admissions please contact Gloria at 604-822-2177, drop by her office (#134), at 1822 East Mall, UBC Law School, or email her at cardinal@law.ubc.ca

Academic and Research Director of FNLS, 2005/2006 Academic term. Director: Professor Gordon Christie, <a href="mailto:christie@law.ubc.ca">christie@law.ubc.ca</a>

## Lee Brown, First Nations Postdoctoral Fellow

Dr. Lee Brown belongs to the Cherokee Nation, he is a member of the Wolf Clan, and was a Native student at UBC. Dr. Brown completed his PhD in June of 2004. His thesis was titled: Making the Classroom a Healthy Place: The Development of Affective Competency in Aboriginal Pedagogy. The thesis explored the theoretical framework of Aboriginal affective development in a wholistic education program at the Native Training Institute in Kamloops, British Columbia. Currently, Dr. Brown is a Postdoctoral Fellow with the Indigenous Education Institute of Canada and the Department of Curriculum Studies at UBC. His fellowship includes teaching, researching and writing responsibilities. His teaching assignments include EADM 508A: An introduction to methods and issues in First Nations educational research and EDUC 441: A history of First Nations Schooling in Canada, an examination of key events affecting delivery of education, including contact, colonial policies and band-controlled initiatives. In addition, he has had the pleasure of teaching EDCI 572: Theorizing knowing in education, an examination of educational theory embedded in practice. Furthermore, he has developed an Emotional Competency Curriculum Development Guide to assist teachers in bringing emotional awareness to curriculum that they are currently teaching. Dr. Brown is also developing a research project to experiment with a curriculum development guide for teachers. His primary writing responsibility is to develop his thesis; "the Development of Affective Competency in Aboriginal Pedagogy" into a book that will help create healthy classrooms. He has also written journal articles on the development of a holistic model of learning identity and holistic learning and health. His future educational goals are to continue working toward the development of curricula that will manifest the potential of all human beings in an educational context that is healthy and emotionally aware.

## Acknowledgements

The First Nations House of Learning would like to thank the Ministry of Advanced Education under the Aboriginal Special Project Funding for providing support for the:

- Aboriginal Languages and Literacy Institute
- Three component project:
- a) Musqueam and UBC Creative Writing Initiative
- b) Bridge through Sport Reading Program
- c) Aboriginal Youth Leadership
- Fisheries and Ecological Sciences "Road Show"
- Summer Institute for an Interdisciplinary Indigenous Studies Graduate Program at UBC-O

## **UBC** Okanagan

The UBC Okanagan has been welcomed into the traditional Okanagan Nation territory by the Okanagan Nation Alliance. This is the first step in building a strong and respectful relationship between UBC Okanagan, and the Okanagan Nation and all Aboriginal communities in the Okanagan region. UBC Okanagan has placed a high priority on developments related to Aboriginal post-secondary education. We expect strong support and development over the next few years both at UBC Okanagan and with the Aboriginal communities.

#### **Lyle Mueller, Aboriginal Education Coordinator**

Lyle Mueller's educational background interests were chemistry (BSc) and secondary education (BEd). Lyle received his Master's degree in Education, Curriculum & Instruction in 1987. Mr. Mueller's teaching experience includes secondary school, and community college. His experience in Aboriginal programs includes working for the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research (Saskatchewan), Ministry of Education (Saskatchewan), Ministry of Advanced Education (BC), and for the past 13 years, Aboriginal Education Coordinator at Okanagan University College.

#### Bernie (Bernadine) Marchand-Brown, Academic Advisor

Okanagan Name: Shulp Kin Nulks, Rippling Water

Nuu-chah-nulth name: Klaw Klaw Ko Le How Covered with Copper

Bernie Marchand-Brown was born and raised a member of the Okanagan Nation. However, she is knowledgeable of her Shuswap family and ancestry as well. She has learned both Okanagan specific and general teachings of Native traditions and culture.

Many traditional teachers have indicated that as a nation of people we have gone through a long night and now is the time for rejuvenation. She has heard Elders state "the nation is only vibrant and alive as long as the culture is adapting and changing". She has gained a formal education and recognizes the benefits of balancing traditional and formal education to be able to enhance the support that she offers to students. Bernie Marchand-Brown received her Bachelor of Social Work Degree from Okanagan University College, and she is currently enrolled in the Masters of Education program at UBC, Vancouver. Wai' lim limpt

Lyle Mueller, Aboriginal Education Coordinator University of British Columbia Okanagan

3333 University Way Kelowna, BC V1V 1V7 lyle.mueller@ubc.ca Phone: 250.807.9195

Fax: 250.470.6070

## LONGHOUSE CONTACTS

First Nations House of Learning

604-822-8940 Fax: 604-822-8944

Website: www.longhouse.ubc.ca Dr. Richard Vedan, Director Madeleine MacIvor. Associate Director Dr. Rosalin Hanna, Aboriginal Student Services Coordinator

Alannah Young, Counsellor Lorene Harper, Clerk/Secretary Mar-y-paz Rivera, Computer Lab Coordinator

LONGHOUSE BOOKINGS 604-822-5023 Fax: 604-822-0619 Christine Wasiak, Building Manager

S-TAKYA CHILDCARE CENTRE 604-822-0686 Fax: 604-822-8944

Naznin Dhanani, Supervisor Renee Stogan, Early Childcare Educator

Ady Charlie, Early Childcare Educator

Marianna Cavezza, Early Childcare Educator Myron Brown, Early Childcare Educator

XWI7XWA LIBRARY 604-822-8738 Fax: 604-822-8944

Ann Doyle, Acting Head Linda Allen, Library Assistant

The Institute of Aboriginal Health

604-822-7615 Fax: 604-822-2495 Dr. Eduardo Jovel, Director DIVISION OF FIRST NATIONS HEALTH **CAREERS** 

604-822-2115 Fax: 604-822-2495 Doreen Hughes, Secretary DIVISION OF COMMUNITY LIAISON 604-822-5677 Fax: 604-822-2495 TBA, Coordinator Jenna La France, Community Research Associate **BC ACADRE** 

604-822-5613 Fax: 604-822-2495 Kim C. Brooks, Manager

#### The Aboriginal Health Research Network

604-241-0805 604-644-6326 (cell) Fax: 604-822-2495 Nancy J. Cochrane, Ph.D., Managing Director

**Faculty of Arts** 

604-822-0075 Fax: 604-822-4923

Tanya Bob, First Nations Student Services Co-ordinator 604-827-3060 Fax: 604-822-4923 Donald Johnson, Academic

Advisor, First Nations Students FIRST NATIONS STUDIES PROGRAM 604-827-5176

Fax: 604-822-6096 Dr. Linc Kesler, Director 604-827-5178

Janey Lew, Program Assistant FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGES

604-822-6481 Fax: 604-822-9687 Dr. Patricia Shaw, Director & Assoc. Professor 604-822-2512

Ruby Langan, Program Assistant SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK & FAMILY

604-822-6622 Fax: 604-822-8656 Barbara Harris, Lecturer 604-822-3520 Fax: 604-822-8656 Dr. Richard Vedan, Associate

Professor

Faculty of Education

ASSOCIATE DEAN OF INDIGENOUS **EDUCATION** 604-822-5374 Jo-ann Archibald, Associate Dean

NATIVE INDIAN TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM (NITEP) 604-822-5240 Fax: 604-822-8944 Jo-Ann Archibald, Acting

Felicity Jules, Assistant Director Marny Point, Urban Centre Coordinator

Lucetta George-Grant, Years 3, 4 & 5 On-Campus Coordinator Jackie Agostinis, Duncan Field Centre Coordinator Karen Blain, Kamloops Field

Centre Coordinator Linda Williams, Financial Clerk Stephanie Soon, Program Secretary

Ts"KEL GRADUATE STUDIES 604-822-6627 Fax: 604-822-4244 Dr. Michael Marker, Director **EDUCATIONAL STUDIES** 

604-822-5374 Fax: 604-822-4244

Dr. Jo-ann Archibald, Associate **Professor** 

604-822-5252 Dr. Graham Smith, Distinguished Professor

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY EDUCATION 604-822-9329

Fax: 604-822-3154

Dr. Jan Hare, Assistant Professor EDUCATIONAL & COUNSELLING **PSYCHOLOGY** 

604-822-6444 Fax: 604-822-2328 Dr. Rod McCormick, Associate

Professor

**Faculty of Forestry** 604-822-0651 Fax: 604-822-8645

TBA, First Nations Coordinator FOREST RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (604)822-8094

Fax: 604-822-9106 Dr. Ronald Trosper, Associate Professor

Faculty of Graduate Studies

FISHERIES CENTRE ABORIGINAL FISHERIES INITIATIVES 604-822-6939

Fax: 604-822-8934 Nigel Haggan, Research

Associate

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY, ARCHIVAL AND INFORMATION STUDIES

604-822-2404 Fax: 604-822-6006 FIRST NATIONS CURRICULUM CONCENTRATION

Faculty of Land and Food Systems

604-822-3204 Fax: 604-822-6394 Tim Michel, First Nations Coordinator 604-822-6095 Fax: 604-822-6394 Dr. Eduardo Jovel, Assistant

Professor



The First Nations House of Learning of the University of British Columbia publishes the Longhouse News. Our thanks goes out to all those who submitted ideas, written material, and photographs for this newsletter. Rosalin Hanna and Madeleine MacIvor, Editors. © 2005

Faculty of Law

FIRST NATIONS LEGAL STUDIES 604-822-9872 Acting Director & Assoc. Professor 604-822-2177 Fax: 604-822-6303 Gloria Cardinal, Coordinator

**Faculty of Medicine** 

604-822-9872

604-822-3236 Fax: 604-822-6061 James Andrew, Aboriginal **Programs Coordinator** DIVISION OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLE'S **H**EALTH

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY PRACTICE 604-313-8168 Fax: 604-225-2557

TBA. Director

Sauder School of Business

CHINOOK ABORIGINAL BUSINESS EDUCATION 604-822-8323 Fax: 604-822-4697 Dr. John Claxton, Assoc. Pr. **Emeritus** 604-723-5705

Jennifer Hooper, Chinook **Program Coordinator** 778-895-2706 Corry Archibald, New Ventures

**Program Director** 

**Faculty of Science** 604-822-9409 Fax: 604-822-5558 Tim Michel, First Nations Coordinator

Vancouver School of Theology

The Rev. Canon Martin Brokenleg, Director of Native Ministries Programmes & Professor of First Nations Ministry and Theology (604)827-5726 Fax: (604)822-9212

University of British Columbia Okanagan

250-807-9195 Fax: 250-470-6070 Lyle Mueller, Aboriginal Éducation Coordinator

If you would like more copies of the Longhouse News please write, call or fax us at: First Nations House of Learning The Longhouse, UBC 1985 West Mall Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2 T: 604-822-8940 F: 604-822-8944 www.longhouse.ubc.ca