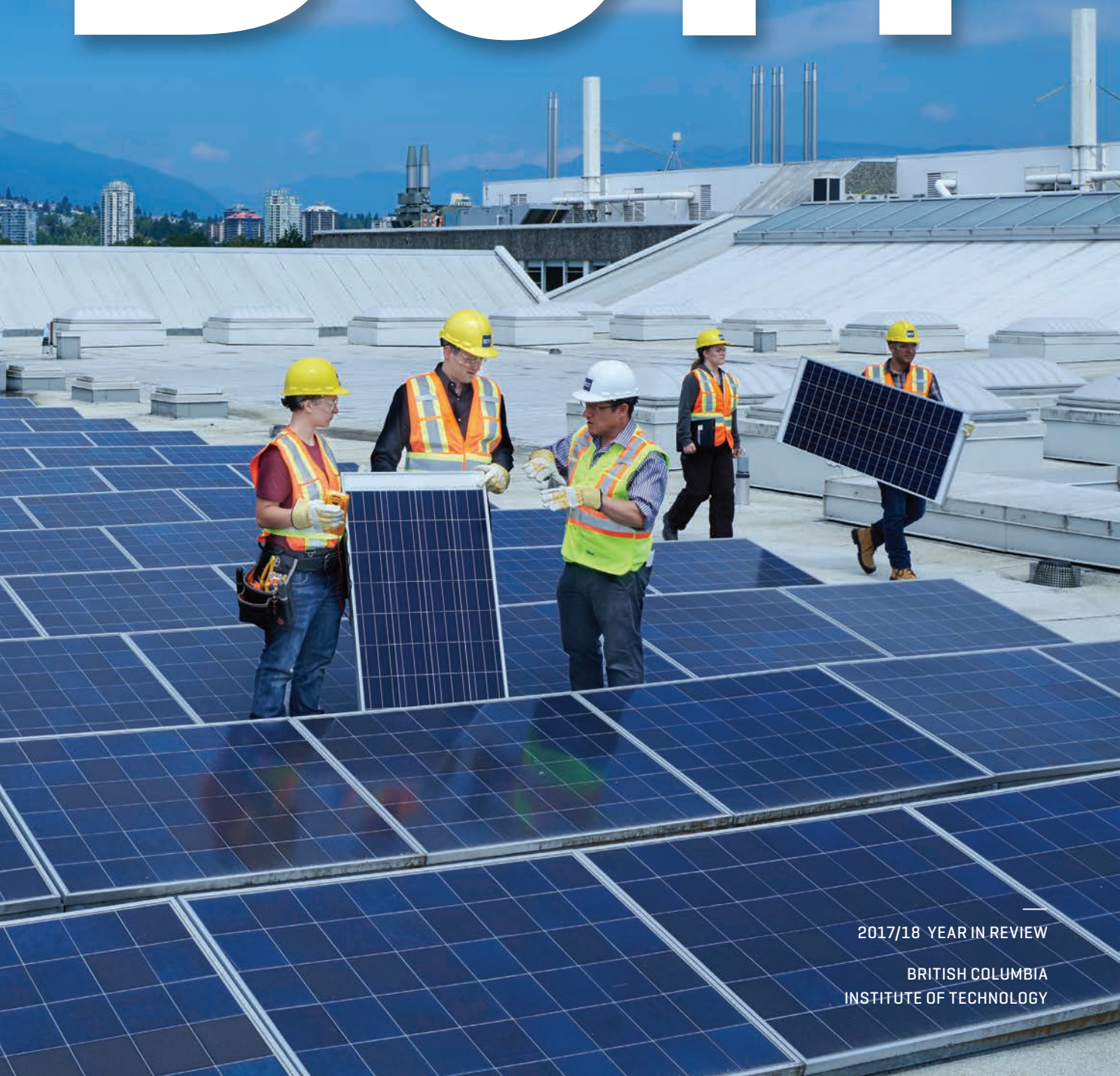


BCIT



2017/18 YEAR IN REVIEW

BRITISH COLUMBIA
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

THRIVING IN A TIME OF CHANGE



It would be easy to look back at each year as a series of achievements on an academic calendar: assignments, course completion, exams, marks, a credential, and convocation. But while these yearly cycles frame time and progress, at BCIT we measure our annual success by the multitude of lives improved.

Thanks to the extensive benefits of an applied education, 94% of our employed degree grads secured jobs in their field of study—an enviable employment achievement for any post-secondary institution. Effective education, grounded in experiential learning and human skills, can improve BC’s fiscal and ecological prosperity for everyone here in BC. This includes sectors of our society who have traditionally been under-served: Indigenous people, youth-in-care, women, and new immigrants.

We discover and nurture the untapped potential of all students in an increasingly complex world. Thanks to our broad network of partnerships with industry, BCIT students, faculty, and staff understand this rapidly changing environment. We recognize the challenges and opportunities it presents, and how to make a meaningful and ongoing contribution. Our entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to improving lives extends far beyond our five campuses and deep into and across our society. Our over 180,000 alumni seize challenges, solve problems, and work to better our urban and rural communities, our environment, and BC’s key economic sectors every day.

You’ll read about some of our contributions and accomplishments in 2017/18 in this *Year in Review*: from the planning of our largest-ever comprehensive campaign to renew our Burnaby campus, to the pride we feel in becoming the first post-secondary in North America to host the EcoCity World Summit in 2019, to some of our students’ outstanding accomplishments.

Thank you to everyone who made this past year at BCIT both successful and impactful. You help us make a real and meaningful difference.

Sincerely,

Kathy Kinloch
President, BCIT

Kathy Corrigan
Chair, BCIT Board of Governors



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Front cover: BCIT Instructor Scott Dixon teaches Electrical Foundation students about solar panels on the roof of the SW1 Building on the Burnaby Campus.

TOP BCIT NEWS



Leah Gillanders, BCIT Automotive alumna and owner of Leah's Automotive in North Vancouver, is an ambassador for the Inspire Campaign.

BCIT to launch Inspire, the largest fundraising campaign in 50 years

Today's complex challenges—from global demographic shifts to climate change—demand more of us. Canada, and the world, must be ready with new jobs, new skills, new infrastructure, and technology that will grow economies, improve lives, and propel us forward.

BCIT has powered British Columbia's economy for more than five decades. Our graduates set prosperity in motion. We are relentless in our pursuit of solutions to real-world problems.

BCIT is preparing to launch the largest campaign in our 50-year history. This campaign will help address tomorrow's challenges and build a stronger future for BC, Canada, and the world.

The Inspire Campaign will create a new future at BCIT by making significant investments across three key pillars: learning and teaching innovation, access and inclusion, and infrastructure renewal that will transform our Burnaby campus into a dynamic community of discovery and interaction.



The Health Sciences Centre is one of the learning spaces that will be developed with support from the Inspire Campaign.

The next generation of learning spaces

The campaign will also make possible the Health Sciences Centre, the Centre for Ecological Restoration and Climate Adaptation, the Learning Innovation Centre, Trades and Technology Centre, and the Student Hub.



The Honouring our Leaders ceremony.

Honouring our Leaders

Indigenous Services hosts an annual celebration called Honouring our Leaders. The event honours Indigenous graduates, peer mentors, and alumni in an evening that includes families, catering by a First Nations restaurant, storytelling, and traditional hand drumming. In 2017, we celebrated the accomplishments of 162 newly minted Indigenous alumni, graduating from a diverse range of programs.

BCIT Indigenous Services serves as a welcoming and supportive "home away from home" for our Indigenous students, offering resources, support, and programming that promotes Indigenous student success.



BCIT to host the 2019 ECOCITY World Summit

The ECOCITY Summit series, a biennial event since 1990, has developed into one of the most globally significant forums for addressing the complex challenges facing humanity in a rapidly urbanizing world. This year, it was announced that BCIT will host the renowned international conference.

Based out of the spectacular Vancouver Convention Centre, the Summit will see over 1,000 thought-leaders, decision makers, sustainable business owners, and green researchers from more than 30 countries come together in October 2019 to innovate, converse, and debate on the theme "Socially Just and Sustainable Cities."

"BCIT is delighted to welcome the world to Vancouver for the ECOCITY World Summit in 2019," said Kathy Kinloch, BCIT President. "For over 50 years, BCIT has been empowering our students to embrace change and innovate through sustainability. Now, more than ever, we must challenge ourselves, our leaders, and our future leaders to construct and re-imagine cities that are in balance with nature."

LEADING THE WAY IN TECHNOLOGY



Cardiac Sciences students at the BCIT Burnaby Campus.

Leading-edge training for tomorrow

Already ahead of the curve, BCIT is providing some of the most impressive hands-on educational experiences anywhere in Canada, creating programming that will help students develop expertise through virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technologies.

For example, the BCIT School of Health Sciences uses simulation technology to mimic what it's like to work with real patients. Medical "sims"—lifelike robots used in our Critical Care Nursing program—do just about everything a real hospital patient might. They bleed. They cry. Some even give birth.

With over 40 of these teaching robots, BCIT has one of the largest simulation centres in Canada. While cutting-edge by some educational standards, medical sims have been an intrinsic part of our curriculum for many years, providing students with the unparalleled opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the high-stress situations that can occur in a critical care setting—all in a safe, controlled environment.

BCIT Computing launches a new option for Artificial Intelligence Machine Learning (AIML)

Machine learning (ML), a subfield of artificial intelligence (AI) and statistics, is one of today's most rapidly growing technical fields. Machine-learning-based applications can be found in industries ranging from healthcare to commerce.

The BCIT Computer Systems Technology diploma program has just launched a new second-year option in AIML to meet demand for expertise in this emerging field. The new option will enable our students to specialize in the design and development of software that can learn from and make decisions and predictions on data sets.

"What makes artificial intelligence exciting today is that we now not only have the ability to gather large-scale data sets, but also the computational power to process them efficiently, allowing AI systems to learn and gain insights from the data for purposes of better decision making and prediction," says AIML Option Head Dr. Chi En Huang.

There is growing demand for technology professionals with machine learning skillsets in BC and globally, continues Dr. Chi En Huang, also a 2017 BCIT Teaching Excellence Award winner. If job trend lines on employment sites are any indication, the trajectory for careers in this area looks optimistic; luckily, classes for the first set of AIML students are already underway.



Dr. Chi En Huang (centre) with Kathy Kinloch and Former Chair, BCIT Board of Governors (2017/18), Jack Davidson receiving a 2017 Teaching Excellence Award.



Tech programming and seat expansion

In January 2018, the Honourable Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills & Training, announced a significant tech-programming expansion at post-secondary institutions across the province.

Collectively, British Columbia will add about 2,900 tech-related public post-secondary spaces, 300 of which are designated to BCIT.

“These additional post-secondary spaces are an investment in BC students across the province who are eager to enter our growing tech industry, and in BC-based businesses who are hungry for skilled talent,” said BCIT President Kathy Kinloch. “Through applied, hands-on learning, BCIT students are gaining the knowledge they’ll need to embrace our digital economy and drive sustainable innovation.”

BCIT will welcome new spaces in high-demand programs like the Computer Information Technology and New Media Design diplomas. These program expansions are in direct response to industry demand and business trend analysis.

BCIT is also developing new programs focused on bridging the gap between computing and more traditional sectors like system control, health, and arts.

About 83,400 tech-related job openings—such as computer programmers, information system analysts, and software engineers—are expected in BC by 2027.



Top left: Minister Melanie Mark looks on during a heavy equipment simulator demonstration during a visit to the Annacis Island Campus. The 142,000-square-foot facility is home to motive power programs offered by BCIT and Vancouver Community College.

Middle left: 3D printing and other technologies are available for students to use at MediaWorks in the Burnaby Campus Library.

Bottom left: A student works in the newly opened TEC (Technology Education and Collaboration) Hub at the BCIT Downtown Campus. The Hub features collaborative working spaces, break-out rooms, modular furniture, moveable walls, and flexible working areas.

Opposite: Rooftop solar panels at the BCIT Burnaby Campus.



BCIT SMART Microgrid named among “Top 50 BC Innovations to Watch”

The BCIT SMART Microgrid Applied Research Team’s Energy Oasis Project—Canada’s first campus-based smart power microgrid—was named one of the “Top 50 BC Innovations to Watch” by *Business in Vancouver*.

Researchers at BCIT are working to identify cost-effective technologies and solutions for Canada’s evolving smart electricity grid by using the Burnaby Campus microgrid to explore how energy can be produced, stored, and distributed efficiently and sustainably. The BCIT program provides opportunities for electrical utility companies, technology providers, and researchers to work together to advance the state of smart grid technology.

In February 2018, the Government of Canada announced a \$4.3-million investment to expand BC’s electric vehicle charging and refuelling infrastructure, including funding for BCIT to demonstrate Level 2 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in urban areas and commercial parking lots, making better use of the grid’s existing capacity.

These recognitions reaffirm the Institute’s position as one of the most innovative academic institutions in Canada. Further enhancements are planned to the microgrids on the Burnaby and Aerospace Technology campuses.

BCIT-backed Supercluster given the green light

The Government of Canada announced significant funding towards the Digital Technology Supercluster—a BCIT-backed initiative involving over 200 BC-based businesses—in February 2018.

“This initiative directly supports students who are eager to succeed in the jobs of the future, and industry who are in need of skilled talent,” said Kathy Kinloch, BCIT President.

As the sole polytechnic Institute partnering with the BC-based Digital Technology Supercluster, BCIT will contribute our unique educational model—focused on applied learning and industry connection—supporting industry in building a strong pool of skilled workers and positioning learners of all ages to succeed in the ever-changing workplace landscape.

CONNECTING WITH INDUSTRY



Hawker jet lands at the BCIT Aerospace Technology Campus

BCIT faculty, staff, and students gathered at the Richmond Aerospace Technology Campus in October to celebrate the donation of a Hawker 700 corporate jet, valued at \$975,000. The jet was generously donated through the Air 700 Limited Partnership with BCIT.

“With this exceptional jet, this partnership is helping to ensure our students secure the highest level of hands-on training possible,” said BCIT President Kathy Kinloch. “This donation contributes to richer subject understanding and empowers students with the experiences necessary to become leaders in their field.”

The jet will serve as an impressive training aid for the programs that run out of the Aerospace Technology Campus.

“It is reassuring to know that we’ve been able to assist in BCIT’s exemplary training programs and prepare people to be job-ready and continue to support BC’s economy,” said Jake Kerr, part of the Air 700 Limited Partnership.



BCIT Business student consultants work at Alpha Technologies Ltd.

#BCTECH Summit in review

BCIT had a significant presence at the #BCTECH Summit, an initiative of the Government of British Columbia in partnership with the BC Innovation Council. As the largest technology conference in British Columbia, the two-day event showcases BC’s vibrant technology industry, builds cross-sector opportunities for businesses, and explores the latest ideas and innovations fueling our economy.

BCIT President Kathy Kinloch was featured on a panel moderated by Santa Ono, UBC President, joining Don Matrick, #BCTECH Summit Industry Chair, and Bill Tam, President and CEO, BC Tech Association in a discussion titled, “BC’s Innovation Network: Where Collaboration is More Than Lip Service.”

The BCIT booth was a popular stop for many attendees, featuring the School of Computing and Academic Studies’ VIVE Technology (Virtual Reality) games, the Learning and Teaching Centre with Microsoft HoloLens technology, Applied Research with MAKE+ prosthetic innovations and designs, and the Marketing Communications digital team with BCIT-branded Google Cardboards featuring 360° videos.

More than 5,000 participants attended the two-day showcase.

Business Consulting Projects provide two-way learning opportunity

Alpha Technologies Ltd. is in a space race—the warehouse kind, not the galactic. With a goal of expanding sales by 2020, Alpha needs to ready its space for more inventory. Right now Alpha—which designs, manufactures, installs, and services powering solutions for telecom, cable TV, and other industries—is at 98% warehouse occupancy, but only 60% utilization.

Who’s going to solve Alpha’s space challenge? Vice-President of Operations Alex Chassels needed someone who could work with Alpha’s warehouse and logistics teams to plan long-term. Enter International Business Management students from the School of Business. Through the School’s innovative Business Consulting Projects (BCP) program, “the students are collecting, validating and analyzing data that will give us a range of possibilities and a chance to improve our value chain,” Alex explains.

“The students are researching forecast accuracy, procurement lead times, assembly times on the factory floor and movements within the warehouse. Do we need more space, staff, assets—or do we need to manage these areas differently?”

Alex calls it “bi-directional mentorship.” The company educates students about Alpha’s supply chain, manufacturing, and distribution. In return, the students deliver a different perspective: all research data collected, a marketing/business plan, and a presentation of their findings.

This two-way learning flow distinguishes BCP from traditional, lower-key internships. “BCPs give students the added experience of helping move a company forward,” says BCIT marketing instructor and BCP co-ordinator Tom Jopling.

Jopling describes BCP as the capstone course in the two-year marketing management diploma. “At BCIT, there’s naturally a certain amount of hand-holding from instructors. The students don’t get that at a business. They’re given a task and expected to do it. This builds confidence, so that when they graduate in June, they know what the real world is like and they’re ready for it.”

OUR IMPACT

For more than 50 years, BCIT has been training the experts, innovators, and professionals who shape our economy—across British Columbia and around the world. With over 300 programs, BCIT educates nearly 50,000 students each year in areas such as applied and natural sciences, business, computing, trades, engineering, and health sciences. Our impact on the provincial economy is considerable, contributing \$807 million in overall economic impact (gross income) and supporting the generation of over 10,100 direct and indirect jobs.



STUDENT OUTCOMES

91%

of BCIT diploma and certificate graduates are employed.

96%

of BCIT apprentice completers are employed.

98%

of BCIT degree graduates are employed.



BY THE NUMBERS

Nearly **50,000**
students enrolled annually

Over **30,000**
part-time students

Close to **1,700**
Indigenous students

Over **4,800**
international students
from 110 countries

2,400
employees

180,000+
alumni

Sources:
BCIT Institutional Reports, 2017/18; 2017 BC Student Outcomes,
2017 BCIT Economic Impact Report

OUR PEOPLE: OUR PURPOSE

Computing alumnus leads digital strategy for adidas in Germany

It’s been hard to keep track of BCIT Computing and Business alumnus Rashpal Ahluwalia since he scored a once-in-a-lifetime career opportunity with adidas in Germany. As the Senior Manager of Digital Retail at adidas, Rashpal developed the strategy to help decide what the company should—and shouldn’t—be doing in retail, from a digital perspective.

“I think luck is part of it,” he explains, “but the other big part is what BCIT taught me: that you have to put yourself out there and you have to be confident in your education and your abilities.”

Rashpal is focused on implementing strategies to enhance the consumer experience. The range of potential consumer-facing technologies is vast and can include virtual reality [VR], augmented reality [AR], and mobile apps.

“It’s unusual for me to spend two weekends in a row at home,” says Rashpal, who moved from Vancouver

to Nuremberg, Germany in October 2016. “I can easily and inexpensively travel to a different country in just an hour or two when I’m not working. And when I am working, I get to influence digital retail strategy, on a global scale, for a sports-brand giant. It’s pretty incredible.”

Rashpal says that his BCIT education gave him the work ethic, confidence, and knowledge to start his career and to continue to grow it years later. After earning two credentials [Computer Systems Technology Diploma of Technology and Bachelor of Business Administration], he hit the ground running as a systems analyst, then gained invaluable hands-on experience designing, implementing, and maintaining retail technology.

From growing up wearing head to toe adidas in the ’90s to leading the company’s digital retail strategy today, Rashpal can say his affinity for the three-stripe brand has come full circle.



Rashpal Ahluwalia, BCIT Computing and Business alumnus, works for adidas in Germany.

Kelsy Trigg embraces the unexpected

In 2017, Kelsy Trigg, a BCIT Computing alumna, ran a 270km, seven-day race called the Transalpine-Run, renowned for challenging teams to conquer an extreme trail run in the dizzying altitudes of the Alps. The tireless agility you need to run this type of race is a skill the BCIT alumna sharpened while studying Computer Systems Technology [CST] – Management Information Systems.

When Kelsy graduated with honours from the program in 1990, she began her career as a developer, later moving into systems analysis and project management. She then formed and ran her own consulting company for several years. After that, Kelsy joined SAP (then Business Objects) where she’s held two different executive roles, including her current: Vice President & Global Head, Human Resources Project Office.

When she was a CST student, Kelsy says she couldn’t have predicted where she’d be in her career today, but recognizes that her education became a foundation for her professional growth, no matter the changing environment.

While BCIT gave her important technical skills, it also reinforced the importance of persistently looking for opportunities. Kelsy says that when you combine opportunity with education and strengths, you find your sweet spot.



Kelsy Trigg, BCIT Computing alumna, during the Transalpine-Run.



Carpentry alumnus innovates his own windows of opportunity

BCIT Carpentry and Architectural Technology program alumnus Mike Battistel is the President and Founder of Cascadia Windows and Doors. Through his passion for innovation, Mike—and the company he runs—have become leaders in the construction and manufacturing industries.

In 2017, *Window & Door* magazine presented Cascadia with a Crystal Achievement Award for its passive-house-calibre Universal Series windows. Even more recently, Mike was named Entrepreneur of the Year at the 2018 Clean50 Awards, which recognize Canada’s leaders in innovation and sustainability.

Mike learned that construction offers opportunities to try new, better ways of doing things—a lesson that has proven to be the foundation for his professional success.

“We took on highly customized jobs and projects that other manufacturers weren’t comfortable doing,” he says. “We also started looking for opportunities to innovate. That’s when we invented the Cascadia Clip [a fibreglass thermal spacer for exterior insulated cladding systems]. That was a game-changer for us and the industry.”

Since then, the Cascadia team has grown significantly and developed many new products. The new Universal Series windows and doors are the company’s most recently launched products, and its fibreglass window-wall product is in the final design stages.

“As a student at BCIT, I learned that if you want success as a major innovator, you need a team of people to get you there,” says Mike, who is also a part-time Building Engineering Technology instructor at his alma mater. “A BCIT education is an excellent start.”



Engineering students hone their skills at hands-on competition

Two records were set by BCIT students at the 2018 student-run Western Engineering Competition (WEC): BCIT became the first polytechnic in WEC history to host the event and our students landed first place in the prestigious Senior Design category for the first time. In eight short hours, the winning team created the prototype of an innovative bridge to aid with the flow of traffic over a busy canal in Venice, Italy, earning the team the coveted top spot.



Bringing home top placements at the JDC West Competition

In January 2018, BCIT School of Business students earned five podium finishes at the JDC West Competition while representing BCIT with pride and passion. With only half the delegation of contending teams, our students competed against top-rated university business schools in Western Canada. In addition to the top placements, the BCIT executive team was also named Executive of the Year.

This was only the second year BCIT has attended this prestigious competition. Last year, we made history as the first polytechnic to enter the contest.

Competitions such as these are voluntary and extracurricular—not an easy feat on top of a full-time course load. Our students continue to inspire and impress with their determination, dedication, and skill.

Top left: Mike Battistel, BCIT Carpentry and Architectural Technology program alumnus, is the President and Founder of Cascadia Windows and Doors.

Middle left: BCIT Engineering students showcase their projects.

Bottom left: BCIT students land first place in the Senior Design category at the Western Engineering Conference.

Top: BCIT School of Business students at the JDC West Competition.

BCIT places first at go2HR case competition

For the second consecutive year, BCIT Tourism Management students were awarded first place in go2HR’s The Winning Pitch case competition. During the competition, Lower Mainland tourism students were tasked with developing a business idea to increase shoulder-season visitation to the Vancouver, Coast, and Mountains Region. The winning team was comprised of second-year BCIT Tourism Management diploma students.



Above: BCIT Tourism Management students at the go2HR’s The Winning Pitch case competition.
Below: Dr. Bethany Edmunds, Associate Dean of Computing.

Bethany Edmunds one of BC’s most influential women

BC Business releases an annual issue featuring the top female influencers in the province. Dr. Bethany Edmunds, BCIT Associate Dean of Computing, made the prestigious list as one of BC’s most influential women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics [STEM].

“This award is quite humbling, but it speaks to the impact that educators have in shaping the future,” says Dr. Edmunds. In the article, Bethany highlights her passion for machine learning and training students to embrace the challenges of the ever-evolving tech industry. Within her role at BCIT, Dr. Edmunds has been instrumental in developing first-of-its-kind virtual reality/augmented reality/mixed reality [VR/AR/MR] curriculum in partnership with Microsoft at the BCIT Downtown Campus TEC Hub.



Dr. Jennie Moore recognized for sustainability work

Dr. Jennie Moore, Director, Institute Sustainability, received the prestigious YWCA Women of Distinction Award in Environmental Sustainability for 2017. Jennie was recognized for—among other things—leading the Institute’s sustainability policy, facilitating the development of new educational programs and credentials to meet the needs of BC’s emerging green economy, and launching Metro Vancouver’s Sustainable Region Initiative.

An accomplished and recognized global leader in sustainability whose work and leadership has received local, national, and international acclaim, Jennie leads sustainability-focused industry practices and educational standards that make our community a better place to live and work. A LEED-accredited professional, Jennie received an Environmental Citizenship Award from the federal government for her groundbreaking Employee Trip Reduction program.



Dr. Jennie Moore receiving the YWCA Women of Distinction Award in Environmental Sustainability.

Instructor aims to make BCIT the first Alexa-enabled campus in Canada

In keeping with the culture of innovation at BCIT, Computing instructor Dr. Bill Klug found inspiration for an innovative idea at Amazon Web Services’ annual re:Invent conference in Las Vegas. Once home, he tasked Computer Systems Technology diploma students in the Cloud Computing Option with a final project: writing an Alexa “skill.”

Bill wants to see BCIT become the first Alexa-enabled campus in Canada, with numerous Amazon Echoes located across campus, giving both visitors and students access to dozens of ways to enhance support digitally.

“While at re:Invent, I learned how two colleges in the US were using Echoes on their campuses,” explains Bill. “The skills developed by my students are definitely on par with what was developed at those US colleges.”

To speed up the development of BCIT-specific Alexa skills and the adoption and deployment of Amazon Echoes on BCIT campuses, BCIT Computing has teamed up with Amazon Web Services to support events and new initiatives to be announced in 2018.



BCIT supports truth and reconciliation

In June 2017, in honour of National Indigenous Peoples Day, BCIT became the 50th institution to sign the Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) Indigenous Education Protocol.

“I am proud to attend a school that recognizes the importance of signing the Indigenous Education Protocol,” said Madison Powers, BCIT Marketing Management student. “By giving people the support, the resources, and the knowledge about Indigenous people, we are able to build a stronger community.”

BCIT Indigenous Services continues their work forging meaningful and beneficial relationships with Indigenous students and communities in the Lower Mainland. Through cultural and educational activities, the BCIT Indigenous Gathering Place creates a sense of inclusion and belonging for Indigenous students. This commitment to reconciliation was also expressed at the 2018 Walk for Reconciliation, which saw participation from staff, faculty, and students from across BCIT.

Strong showing at trades and technology “Olympics”

BCIT students were resplendent in yellow at the SkillsBC competition held in Abbotsford. Gold, Silver, and Bronze also happened to be popular colours for many of the talented competitors.

The annual, Olympic-style contest sees students from Grade 6 all the way through post-secondary showcase skills in trades and technology, ranging from heavy equipment service to robotics.

Competitors from across BCIT were hand-selected by their instructors to compete at this prestigious competition. All in all, BCIT students took home 16 medals, sweeping the categories of CNC, Industrial Mechanic (Millwright), and Precision Machining. Gold medalists from the provincial competition advanced to the national Canadian Skills Competition in Winnipeg, where they represented BCIT—and British Columbia—with pride. Joinery students Avery Bell and Alvin [Koko] Relleve took Gold and Silver medals in Cabinetmaking, while Mike Kalashnikoff received bronze in CNC Machining.



Avery Bell proudly takes home Gold in the Canadian Skills cabinetmaking competition.

EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION

BCIT named a BC 2018 Top Employer

For the eighth consecutive year, BCIT has been named one of British Columbia’s Top 100 Employers.

“Along with offering best-in-class benefits tailored to employees’ individual needs, many of this year’s winners offer a relaxed workplace culture that emphasizes healthy, active lifestyles,” says Kristina Leung, Senior Editor of the Canada’s Top 100 Employers project. “The rest of the country looks to British Columbia for leadership in this field.”

The awards committee chose to honour BCIT for our commitment to empowering employees to learn new skills and advance in their careers, citing our provision of full tuition subsidies for courses related and unrelated to staff members’ current positions.

BCIT was also selected for our comprehensive retirement support for all employees, including retirement planning assistance, contributions to a defined benefit pension plan, and a phased-in retirement work option. A healthy lifestyle is also strongly encouraged at BCIT—all staff receive free admission to a newly renovated fitness facility, a free lunch-hour fitness class every day, and access to a variety of instructor-led fitness classes.



BCIT staff and faculty at Pink Shirt Day.

New initiatives to enhance student life

In 2017, BCIT committed to further enhancing the student experience. One initiative, a Student Life Engagement Calendar, supports the needs of students and contributes to their success by promoting whole student wellbeing. The initiative helps structure programming throughout the year. Each month, the calendar focuses on two of eight dimensions of wellness (such as physical and financial wellness), serving as a call to action to students to assess their wellbeing in those particular domains, as well as highlighting directly related student services and events. The Engagement Calendar supports our efforts to ensure every student receives timely information on services and events that may impact their success and wellbeing throughout their time at BCIT.

2017 also saw the introduction of the Student Life Ambassador Program. Student Life Ambassadors play a crucial role supporting and informing students of services and supports that enhance student wellbeing and improve student success outcomes. Ambassadors are hired annually and are trained in the fundamentals of health promotion and wellbeing, and on the range of services and supports available to BCIT students. They also plan and implement student-to-student engagement programming with the goal of creating an informed, engaged, and inclusive campus community.



An educational leader for the 2032 BC Energy Step Code

BCIT is leading the way for education on the Energy Step Code across the province.

The BC Energy Step Code became active in 2017, but only through voluntary participation. By 2032, the goal is for all new buildings to be in compliance with the zero-energy-ready standards.

Alex Hebert is the Zero Energy/Emissions Building Manager and has been a leader at BCIT for almost 10 years.

“BCIT School of Construction and the Environment is well known for its hands-on, science-based green construction experiential and interactive learning,” says Alex. “BCIT is a leading expert in high-performance building education and, as an Institute, we are committed to providing training on the BC Energy Step Code Standards.”

The BCIT Zero Energy Building team presented on the new Energy Step Code to 100 builders in New Westminster, twice in Abbotsford at major residential construction conferences, and at the Greater Vancouver Home Builder’s Association (GVHBA) breakfast—to name just a few of its outreach efforts. The team also hosted a “train-the-trainer” session in our High-Performance Building Lab (at the BCIT Burnaby Campus) where the top 60 construction practitioners in BC met to become Provincial Trainers for the BC Energy Step Code. In addition, more than 60 students registered for our five-day trades training for passive house certification.

Alex Hebert, Zero Energy/Emissions Building Manager, with students in the High-Performance Building Lab at the BCIT Burnaby Campus.



The 2017 Distinguished Awards—leaders for a complex world

In October 2017, BCIT held its 15th annual Distinguished Awards, honouring notable members of the BCIT community and beyond.

Six exceptional individuals were recognized for distinguished achievement in their careers, as well as their contributions to their communities. The evening’s honourees included two Distinguished Alumni Award recipients: Anne McMullin, CEO of the Urban Development Institute Pacific Region, and Brad Kirk, Chief Operating Officer of Harilela Hotels Group.

BCIT alumnus and Project Leader for the BCIT Product and Process Applied Research Team (MAKE+) Joe Newton was recognized with the Faculty and Staff Distinguished Alumni Award, while Nursing student Kayla Di Bauda received the Outstanding Student Leadership Award.

The 2018 Honorary Doctorate of Technology Awards were also announced. David Tuccaro, President, CEO and Founder of Tuccaro Inc., and Sue Paish, CEO of Canada’s Digital Technology Supercluster, officially received their doctorates at the BCIT June 2018 convocation ceremony.

Interested in celebrating with us in the future? The next Distinguished Awards will take place in October 2018. Visit bcit.ca/awards for more information about the upcoming celebrations.

Top: Brad Kirk, COO, Harilela Hotels Group, Hospitality and Tourism Administration DiplT ‘78; Kayla di Bauda, Nursing, BSN ‘17; Joe Newton, Project Leader, Product and Process, Applied Research Team, Technology Management BTech ‘07; Kathy Kinloch, President and CEO, BCIT; Anne McMullin, President and CEO, Urban Development Institute Pacific Region, Broadcast Journalism DiplT ‘91; David Tuccaro, President, CEO, and Founder, Tuccaro Inc.; Sue Paish, CEO, Canada’s Digital Technology Supercluster

Who are we?

We are the focused. The driven.
Those who need to understand.

We are the ambitious. The entrepreneurial.
Those who never stop innovating.

We are the initiators. The uncompromising.
Those who know it can be done sustainably.

We are the relentless. The inspired.
Those who have conquered the complexity.

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.

**EDUCATION
FOR A COMPLEX WORLD.**