



—  
2016/17  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

**BCIT**™ **ALUMNI**  
ASSOCIATION

## 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.**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



The three major themes from this past year were strengthening governance, enhancing revenue streams and engaging members in new frontiers.

**GOVERNANCE** – The New Societies Act came into effect in 2016. Led by our Governance Committee, the Board undertook the critical work of reviewing and revising our Association Bylaws to ensure we are in compliance. In addition, the Board made a significant effort this year to build a strong governance platform through establishing new policy and guidelines.

**ENHANCING REVENUE STREAMS** – To further our mission of supporting alumni and student success through awards, scholarships, bursaries and alumni recognition, the Board recognizes the need for a strong revenue generation strategy. This year, the Board successfully renewed affinity partnerships with iA and Dreyer Group; both with appealing offerings for our members and incentives for the Association. I am also excited to announce a new partnership with Merit Travel; a great complement to our diverse offerings.

**NEW FRONTIERS** – This year, we launched our Past President's Council, which successfully engaged past leaders, tapping into their wealth of knowledge around critical issues facing the Alumni Association. We also developed a robust partnership with the Student Association to support their mentorship program. Lastly, we have begun efforts to expand our reach and engage with alumni in two strategic centres: Hong Kong and the Greater Toronto Area. With British Columbia Institute of Technology alumni living and working all around the world on six of seven continents, the sky is truly the limit.

This year the Alumni Association continued our tradition of supporting the Distinguished Awards as a strategic partner, celebrating distinguished alumni, faculty, an outstanding student, and Honorary Doctorate recipients.

Over the next year, the Alumni Association Board of Directors will continue to focus on the enhancement of our program and services to ensure we are providing meaningful opportunities to support student and alumni success.



Elena Romero  
**PRESIDENT  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF BCIT



Education transforms lives. It strengthens communities, it builds industry and it powers economies. As Canada’s leading polytechnic institute, BCIT prepares students to innovate, ask questions, embrace opportunities and seize the reins of leadership in Canada’s and the world’s key economic sectors, and a few that will be key in the near future.

Technological innovation is changing our complex world at exponential and unprecedented speed. BCIT must and will outpace this new paradigm with all its increasing complexity.

We must be determined in expanding our industry partnerships, evolving our teaching and learning to meet students’ and employers’ needs, embedding entrepreneurship in all we do and by developing world-leading infrastructure that anticipates and replicates both today’s and tomorrow’s workplaces.

Later this year, BCIT will launch an ambitious capital campaign that will initially fund a state-of-the-art Health Sciences Centre for Advanced Simulation which will be a new home for our School of Health, followed by a comprehensive Trades and Technology Centre on our Burnaby campus. This initiative will be just the start of a reshaping that will ultimately evolve BCIT to become an integrated “village” of education, industry, innovation and success. It will build on attributes for which BCIT is widely recognized: creating solutions, building partnerships and inspiring entrepreneurial spirit for our graduates of the future.

You, our graduates, are a living testament to our shared success. We hope you will join with BCIT in our journey into the future. We are so grateful for your ongoing support and couldn’t do what we do without you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Kinloch". The script is fluid and cursive.

Kathy Kinloch  
**PRESIDENT  
BCIT**



—  
Burnaby Campus



# MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT, ADVANCEMENT



My role at BCIT affords me the opportunity and privilege of meeting inspired and inspiring new people who received all or part of their education at BCIT.

From Vancouver to Toronto, New York to Hong Kong, our alumni are solving problems, creating new solutions, changing the conversation and forging innovative new pathways to success in our increasingly complex world.

I am continuously amazed and impressed at the depth and breadth of the talent and influence of this extended BCIT family. Our alumni boasts CEO's, bankers, news anchors, community and city-builders, environment and healthcare leaders, engineers, and technology gurus among many others; all of whom have in common a BCIT certificate, diploma, degree or other credential. In conversation, they also share a deep respect and gratitude for the foundational and fundamental applied education they received here at BCIT.

I would like to thank our Alumni Association for all they do to keep their members—BCIT graduates—connected to our accomplishments and aspirations. Over this past year, BCIT has attracted significant infrastructure funding from both the federal and provincial government, established strong new partnerships with industry leaders and reached out to alumni across Canada and globally.

This next year, 2017/2018 will see the launch of the Institute's largest ever capital campaign and an increased focus on linking across our broad network of graduates and back to BCIT to explore how we can effectively support today's and tomorrow's alumni in our rapidly evolving world.

I hope you'll join us in this journey and will watch for more information about these initiatives in the coming months. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy this report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul McCullough'.

Paul McCullough

**VICE PRESIDENT, ADVANCEMENT  
BCIT**



Health Sciences Advanced Simulation





# ABOUT THE BCIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Founded by graduates of BCIT in 1979, the BCIT Alumni Association is a registered, non-profit society governed by a board of volunteer directors and financed by the Association’s Affinity programs, sponsorships, and Institute support. The Association has over 170,000 members.

### VISION

A thriving organization that inspires passion for the BCIT community, provides leadership with its connection to alumni and students and excels in offering valuable programs and services.

### MISSION

The BCIT Alumni Association connects and engages alumni in lifelong relationships with the BCIT community by providing innovative programs and services that support alumni and student success.

### STRATEGIC PLAN

Continuing with the direction set in 2015, the Alumni Association Board of Directors operates under a working board governance style, aiming to deliver valuable programming and services that tactically engage alumni and students.

By focusing on two distinct programs and strengthening our affinity partner programs, the Alumni Association continues to foster high quality tactical engagement opportunities with our members, while keeping revenue generation and return on investment at the forefront.

# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD



ELENA  
ROMERO  
**PRESIDENT**



KIEL  
LANDRIGAN CIM CFP  
**2ND VICE PRESIDENT**



MELISSA  
BILLESBERGER CPA CGA  
**TREASURER**



BRENT  
CHARLETON  
**PAST PRESIDENT**



ANDREW  
D. MURRAY



SARA  
TURCOTTE



KRISTEN  
POSKITT



IAIN  
HENDERSON



ARASH  
SALAMATI



JOHN  
KAYE



DEAN  
QU



MATTHEW  
NOLLETTI



TIMOTHY  
DAVID

# TREASURER’S REPORT

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Year ended March 31, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Cash on Hand		
Petty Cash	\$ 49	\$ 200
General Account	353,511	339,732
Accounts Receivable	1,222	3,262
Prepaid Expenses	2,475	2,475
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 357,257</b>	<b>\$ 345,669</b>
LIABILITIES	\$ 9,756	\$ 4,208
INTERNALLY RESTRICTED	176,000	176,000
UNRESTRICTED	171,501	165,461
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 357,257</b>	<b>\$ 345,669</b>

Elena Romero, President

Melissa Billesberger, Treasurer

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Year ended March 31, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	2017	2016
REVENUE		
Affinity Programs	\$ 138,057	\$ 139,486
Alumni myBCIT cards	4,750	4,725
Merchandising [convocation flowers, etc.]	1,217	1,292
Event Revenue [ticket sales, auction proceeds, sponsorship]	-	129,855
Interest	3,666	3,454
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 147,690</b>	<b>\$ 278,812</b>
EXPENSES		
Board of Directors		
Board/Committee Meetings [including AGM]	\$ 4,449	\$ 5,929
Directors and Officers Liability Insurance	2,475	2,475
Donations	3,500	2,500
Legal and Professional Services	7,642	-
Contributions to Endowments		
Legacy of Leadership	83,333	83,333
Other	3,000	8,000
Special Events		
BCIT Alumni Golf Open	-	38,165
Sponsorship and External Participation	32,750	68,611
Merchandise Supplies	1,335	1,311
Marketing and Communications	-	2,531
General and Administrative	3,166	3,014
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 141,650</b>	<b>\$ 215,869</b>
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>\$ 6,040</b>	<b>\$ 62,943</b>
Reallocation to Sustainability Fund	-	[51,000]
Surplus after Reallocation	\$ 6,040	\$ 11,943



# ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS

For the full background on our Award winners visit [bcit.ca/alumni/events/](http://bcit.ca/alumni/events/)



## DIANA SWAIN **HONORARY DOCTORATE**

Diana Swain is one of Canada’s leading investigative journalists and CBC News’ Senior Investigative journalist. In three decades of reporting on stories across Canada and around the globe, Diana has developed a reputation for compelling interviews and uncovering stories that Canadians care about. That work has garnered numerous awards from the leading journalism and professional associations in Canada. Her work has twice been included in winning submissions for the Michener award, recognizing meritorious public service journalism in Canada and she frequently fills in for Peter Mansbridge as anchor of The National.



## THE HONORABLE DAVID EMERSON O.B.C **HONORARY DOCTORATE**

David Emerson has had a long and distinguished career in the public and private sectors, contributing greatly to BC’s economic success over many years of leadership and serving his province and country with distinction. David was a Member of Parliament between 2004–2008, as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Industry, and Minister of International Trade overseeing the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and the Asia Pacific Gateway Initiative. David also played a key role in developing and signing the 2006 Softwood Lumber Agreement. David sits as the current Chair of the Asia Pacific Foundation, Canada Maple Leaf Foods and TimberWest Forest Corporation. David was also recently named BC’s trade envoy on softwood lumber.



## FRANK RIZZARDO **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD**

Francesco immigrated to Canada in 1953 from Italy. He attended first year general science at UBC and then attended BCIT, graduating with a diploma in Civil and Structure Engineering majoring in Hydraulics and Highway Design. Frank began his career with the Department of Highways, playing a role in the design of projects including the King George and Barnett Highways, and long range projects for the Inland Island Hwy, Coquihalla Highway and Alex Fraser Bridge. In 1988, Emcon Services was created to respond to tenders of highway maintenance in BC. As President, Frank leads a wide range of professionals and is one of the larger highway maintenance contractors in the province.



## SUKI SEKHON **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD**

Suki Sekhon is President of CRS Group, which owns and manages a diverse portfolio of properties, including office and warehouse buildings, retail centres, recreational properties, a golf course, and development lands. He is also the proprietor of Vanessa Vineyard in the Similkameen Valley. Suki graduated from BCIT in 1984 with a Marketing Management diploma, Real Estate option. Before attending BCIT, he attended UBC. Suki dedicates significant time to philanthropic initiatives, serving on numerous boards and committees. When asked what philanthropy means to him, Suki replies, “... philanthropy comes from within. It comes from a desire to give. Philanthropy makes you feel good! It’s not necessarily about money, but being giving of your time.”



## AMY FELL **FACULTY AND STAFF ASSOCIATION AWARD**

Amy Fell is passionate about learning and innovation. She began her career at BCIT as a Program Advisor, working with prospective students, current students, and parents to support students’ program selection and their successful preparation for entry into BCIT programs. She then went on to become BCIT’s longest-serving President of the Faculty and Staff Association, serving for seven years. Amy is now Acting Director, SITE Centre, which oversees the SITE Centre-Human Capital Initiative. In this role, she secures industry partnerships and designs applied business research projects, which are then carried out by BCIT students and faculty. She exemplifies all that is best about BCIT.



## NADIA DOBRIANSKAIA **OUTSTANDING STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Nadia Dobrianskaia is a rising star and is currently a Computer Scientist with Simba Technologies. Nadia first graduated from UBC with a BSc in Biochemistry, before coming to BCIT to graduate with Honours in Computer Systems Technology (CST), receiving her Diploma in 2015. BCIT’s CST program is very intense, leaving students with little time to engage in extra-curricular activities. Nadia not only found the time, but used it to lead her peers and help them come together in a new club, building engagement and a sense of belonging, all while graduating with a 91% GPA. Nadia represents the promise BCIT offers to many who hold post-secondary training from other institutions: applied training that will prepare you for a career.





## SPONSORSHIPS, DONATIONS AND AWARDS

### EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

Student and Alumni: \$3,250  
Industry and Community: \$6,500  
BCIT Events: \$23,000

### DONATIONS AND AWARDS

Legacy of Leadership: \$83,333.33  
50th Legacy Fund: \$3,000  
For Alberta Fire: \$1,000  
Outstanding Student Leadership Award: \$2,500

### STUDENT AWARDS DISBURSED ON BEHALF OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IN 2016-2017

32 Awards totaling \$46,902 were disbursed as follows:

#### JUNE 2016 – GRADUATING AWARDS

\$7,653 (3 @ \$1531 and 2 @ \$1530)  
School of Business (1), School of Computing and Academic Studies (1), School of Health Sciences (1) School of Energy (1) and School of Construction and the Environment (1)

#### NOVEMBER 2016 – ENTRANCE AWARDS

\$7,654 (4 @ \$1531 and 1 @ \$1530)  
School of Business (1), School of Computing and Academic Studies (1), School of Health Sciences (1) School of Energy (1) and School of Construction and the Environment (1)

#### NOVEMBER 2016 – 1ST YEAR AWARDS

\$7,500 (5 @ \$1500)  
School of Business (2) and  
School of Health Sciences (3)

#### JANUARY 2017 – ENTRANCE AWARDS

\$1,500 School of Health Sciences

#### MARCH 2017 – BURSARIES

\$22,595 (16 @ various amounts)  
School of Business, School of Computing and Academic Studies, School of Construction and the Environment and School of Energy

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY ENDOWED FUND:

Since fund established: 821 students have been helped with \$921,217  
Endowment value: \$1,208,361.10

# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AFFINITY PARTNERS

Ensuring our BCIT alumni members can continue to be successful and share the Alumni Association's goals, we take care in aligning Affinity Partners with our core values. These Affinity Partnerships help our alumni members as well as provide an important revenue source to our Association, ensuring that we can continue to support alumni and student success at BCIT through our donations, sponsorship of alumni events and BCIT's annual Distinguished Awards.

To date, we have five Affinity Partners that provide exclusive deals, special promotions and preferred rates to benefit our alumni, students and the general BCIT community.

The Association is very proud to be associated with our five Affinity Partners:



BMO Bank of Montreal



Dreyer Group Mortgages



IA Financial Group



Merit Travel



TD Insurance  
Meloche Monnex

Current benefits:

BMO® BCIT Mastercard® from Bank of Montreal – up to \$75 cash back promotional offer. Get 1% cash back on everything you buy with a BMO® BCIT Mastercard®.

Mortgage support from Dreyer Group Mortgages – benefits include securing the best mortgage rate, free appraisals and contributions towards legal fees.

Life, extended health and dental, critical illness and disability insurance from iA Financial Group – offers a variety of flexible, customizable insurance plans to ensure you and your family have the financial resources to recover after a serious illness, accident or death.

Exclusive travel benefits from Merit Travel – in the form of the very best destinations, hotels, cruise lines, long-stay vacations, adventure travel, beaches and restaurants.

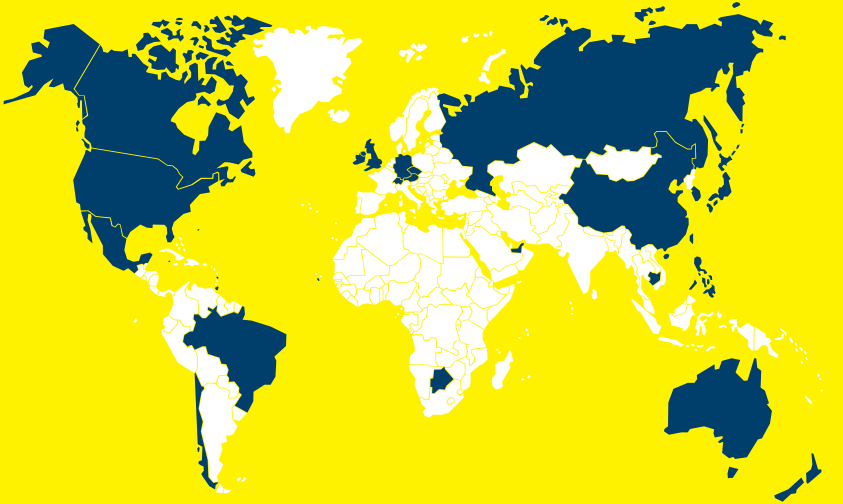
Home insurance from TD Insurance Meloche Monnex – offers preferred insurance rates, other discounts and great protection that is easily adapted to your changing needs.

# DID YOU KNOW...

WE ARE ACTIVELY  
ENGAGING WITH OUR  
ALUMNI IN OVER

29

COUNTRIES, AND  
REPRESENTED IN  
6 OF THE 7  
CONTINENTS.



in

75%

INCREASE IN  
MEMBERSHIP OF  
OUR BCIT ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION LINKEDIN  
GROUP FROM 2014  
TO 2016.

f

220%

INCREASE IN THE  
NUMBER OF PEOPLE  
REACHED FROM 2015  
TO 2016 VIA OUR  
ORGANIC POSTS  
IN FACEBOOK.

Twitter bird icon

300

AVERAGE ANNUAL  
TWEETS WERE SENT  
OUT ON OUR ACCOUNT  
FROM 2014-16. THE  
ANNUAL AVERAGE FROM  
2011-2013 WAS 120.





—  
STAY CONNECTED.  
BE INFORMED.

**ENJOY MEMBERSHIP  
BENEFITS.**

604.432.8847  
1.877.432.8847  
alumni@bcit.ca

[BCIT.CA/ALUMNI](http://BCIT.CA/ALUMNI)

**BCIT** <sup>TM</sup> **ALUMNI**  
ASSOCIATION