

ambassador

BCIT alumna marries wedding planning business with a South Asian focus, and finds success



Junita Thakorlal at the 4th annual East West Woman and Bride Show.

PLANNING A WEDDING IS not an easy task, so imagine having helped over 4,500 brides prepare for their special day. As a partner in East West Shows Inc., a media company which provides resources for brides, Junita Thakorlal has done just that.

After various stints at the City of Surrey and Telus, Junita decided to pursue a career that would utilize her creativity. She started a wedding planning business helping South Asian brides get ready on their big day. After meeting with *Apna Directory* (the largest South Asian telephone directory in Western Canada) to book advertising space, she was recruited to join forces with Sukhi and Harminder Sihota to form what is presently known as East West Shows Inc.

“I came on board and expanded their existing wedding planner and organized it into 10 easy steps. I took into account what my clients go through and what they need to focus on,” said Junita, who turned those ideas and experiences into a 240-page wedding planner.

The company has since expanded and this November, they organized the 4th annual East West Woman and Bride Show, an event packed with products and services relating to wedding planning, beauty, fitness, fashion, accessories, home décor, jewellery and more. The event is one of a kind and pairs vendors together with South Asian brides. “We found a niche here. The brides from these particular cultural segments were not being represented by other wedding shows or publications so we found a spot for us,” said Junita of the event’s success.

When asked what she enjoys most about her job, Junita answered, “I am really passionate about it. I get a sense of joy in being part of [a bride’s] special day. I love it when [they] tell us how we’ve helped them and the vendors too. There likely wouldn’t be a connection without us.”

Junita’s hard earned success can be attributed to her tremendous ambition, a dedicated team and an educational foundation from BCIT. After graduating high-school, Junita wasn’t sure what direction she wanted to take and she enrolled in the Marketing Management (Professional Sales Option) program at BCIT.

“I learned the tools and techniques on how to recognize people’s needs and wants and how to showcase the benefits of what I was selling. And because of the full course load, the number one thing I gained from my BCIT experience was how to stay organized,” which explains how she manages to juggle so many responsibilities in her current role.

There is no slowing down for Junita and her team at East West Shows. After seeing the success of their wedding planner and trade show, they decided to go the online route and created www.asianweddings.ca, an online wedding planner with over 1.5 million hits per month and 4,500 registered brides. They are also developing plans to add an online shopping component to their website.

In the meantime, be on the lookout for their latest initiative, the *East West Woman and Bride Magazine* due out on the shelves of Save-on-Foods, Chapters and various South Asian video stores and shops in February 2007.

Check out East West Shows Inc. online at www.eastwestshows.com.

The mission of the BCIT Alumni Association is to build and maintain relationships between graduates and the BCIT community, and to support the Institute in fulfilling its mission.

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BCIT carpentry students construct relief home for tsunami victims

SIXTEEN BCIT CARPENTRY STUDENTS recently completed the construction of a Britco Structures demonstration hybrid panelized and pre-cut home designed for Indonesian tsunami relief housing. All of the students are enrolled in the Entry Level Trades Training (ELTT) program.

Under the guidance of two BCIT carpentry instructors, Doug Betts and Bob Maikawa, students who had received a basic safety orientation and a few hours of classroom instruction were able to experience first-hand how quickly these almost 500-square-foot panelized homes can be assembled. The homes have four small rooms and a large covered deck, and take approximately eight days to assemble. Once complete, the house will be taken down by the students to make way for other projects.

The Province of British Columbia, BCIT, Britco Structures and Save the Children are jointly supporting this groundbreaking project. The first phase will see 300 homes sent to a region of Indonesia devastated by the December 2004 tsunami. Later phases of the project will result in up to 3,000 homes constructed in Indonesia.

Through Forestry Innovation Investment, the BC government is contributing funds to help assemble the houses on site in Indonesia utilizing a training program developed by BCIT's School of Construction and Environment. As part of the program, BCIT will be sending Mr. Betts and Mr. Maikawa to Indonesia to train local workers in the construction and assembly of the homes in villages throughout the affected region. This knowledge transfer component of the relief effort is a unique part of the partnership between BCIT, Britco Structures and Save the Children. BCIT's skills training program is designed to provide lasting and long-term benefits for local workers that go well beyond traditional relief efforts.

"BCIT prides itself on working closely with government and industry to meet the demand for highly skilled workers, both locally and internationally," says Wayne Stevens, director of



BCIT Carpentry students pose in front of a Britco-engineered house, 3,000 of which will be eventually assembled in Indonesia to help rebuild the tsunami-devastated region.

BCIT's Canadian Housing and Construction Centre. "We are very pleased to be working in co-operation with Forestry Innovation Investment, Britco and Save the Children to deliver training for this very special project."

Langley-based Britco Structures specializes in the design and construction of commercial, institutional, industrial and residential modular buildings.

"Britco is very proud to be part of this important reconstruction effort, we have designed and engineered a cost-effective, permanent and long-term solution that will have a real impact for dislocated families and children who were left homeless in the wake of the earthquakes and tsunami," says Mike Ridley, vice president of Britco Structures. "This is about rebuilding communities, rebuilding families and rebuilding a future for thousands of children in Indonesia."

Here's what you had to say

THE RESULTS ARE IN! Earlier this year we asked you to fill out an Alumni Feedback survey in order to learn more about our alumni and how to better meet your needs. Out of the 2,009 respondents, we discovered that most still reside in BC and 40% of respondents have also graduated from another post-secondary institution.

Just over 83% of respondents are currently working in their field of study which speaks to the high quality education delivered at BCIT and 53% have relatives that will or have attended BCIT.

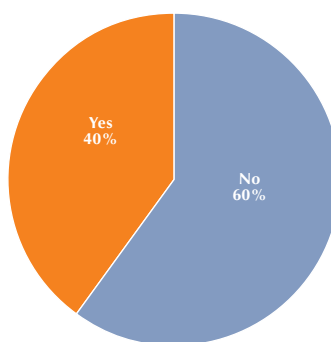
The results indicated the level of awareness around alumni benefits and services; it also helped us to identify other avenues you would like for us to pursue.

We were very interested in what you wanted the Alumni Association's role to be and the top three choices, in order as selected by the respondents, were to raise the profile of BCIT graduates, promote continuing education opportunities for graduates and to raise the profile of BCIT as a whole.

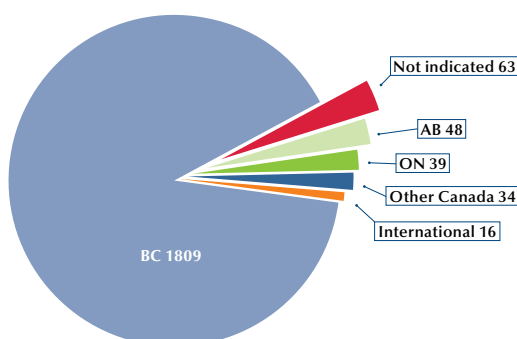
All of the results were taken into consideration at the Alumni Association strategic planning session which took place in October and helped us to determine future directions.

Thank you for your participation!

Other post-secondary grad?



Province of Residence



The *Ambassador* is published twice a year by the BCIT Alumni Association. The views expressed in this publication do not represent official positions of the Alumni Association or BCIT. If you would like to advertise in the *Ambassador*, please call 604-432-8847 for information. Letters, articles or comments will be edited for space, clarity, libel and taste. Please send submissions to:

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President's Message

Season's Greetings! This has been an excellent year for your BCIT Alumni Association and I hope that you, too, have enjoyed prosperity in 2006.

As we look forward to 2007, I'm pleased to report that our active and very committed Board of Directors met twice this year in full-day strategic planning sessions to review our mission and core values, to set a vision for our organization going forward to 2010, and to establish strategic goals to accomplish this vision. During this process we analyzed the results of the online alumni survey research conducted earlier this year and I want to thank all of you who participated in the survey. The feedback provided was invaluable in our planning process. Some of the survey results are reported on page 3. We have a great group of volunteers leading the charge and you can 'meet' them all on pages 12 to 13.

I look forward to presenting a revised mission and core beliefs statement to the Association members for approval at next year's Annual General Meeting, which will be held at BCIT's downtown Vancouver campus at lunchtime on May 24, 2007. Mark that date in your calendar and I hope you will be able to attend.

I trust you will enjoy this issue of the *Ambassador*. It is getting more and more difficult to choose among the wonderful accounts of our successful graduates to profile on these pages. You may also want to read up on inspiring alumni on BCIT's website, in the "Path Found" section right on the main page at bcit.ca. I encourage you to keep in touch and to communicate your own stories through this newsletter.

With best wishes for the holidays,

Adam G. Pion
DiplT '94, Financial Management
Director, UBS Bank (Canada)

PRESIDENT
BCIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Success breeds success!

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL Sharing Success Alumni Campaign is dedicated to building the BCIT Alumni Association Scholarship and Bursary Endowment, which helps BCIT students in programs across campus.

This year, our goal is to grow the Alumni Endowment to \$500,000 and continue to build this legacy to help BCIT students, year after year.

Thank you ~ 2005/06 Alumni Campaign Honour Roll

The BCIT Alumni Association sincerely thanks the following alumni and friends who contributed to the 2005/06 Alumni Campaign:

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Donors listed made their contributions between April 1, 2005 and March 31, 2006. Every attempt is made to include all eligible donations. If we have missed you, please accept our sincere apologies. Please contact Rita Southcott at 604-432-8803, Rita_Southcott@bcit.ca, and we will be sure to include you in the next issue of *Ambassador*.

Help 'set the pace' for Alumni Giving

We invite you to become an Alumni Pacesetter for this year's Sharing Success Campaign.

For a minimum commitment of \$500 you receive special recognition at the Pacesetter giving level. In addition to a charitable tax receipt, you will receive a BCIT black leather portfolio perfect for business or personal use or, if you prefer, a BCIT limited-edition print.

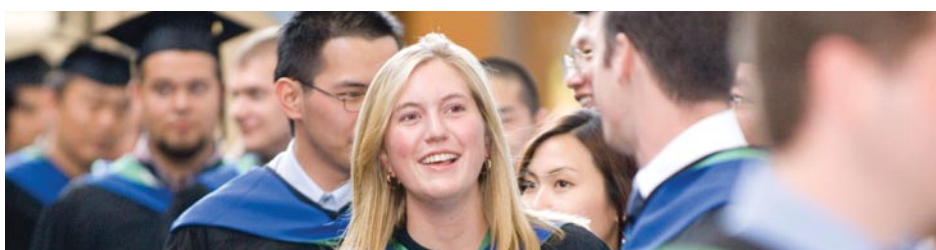
To increase the power of your donation this year, BCIT has pledged to provide an additional 25 percent in matching funds for all contributions to the BCIT Alumni Endowment up to a total of \$10,000.

For more information, or to donate to the Alumni Campaign online, please visit bcit.ca/alumni/donations.

Your gift is income tax deductible					
Your donation	\$100	\$250	\$500	\$750	\$1,000
Approx tax savings	\$21	\$64	\$173	\$282	\$392
Net cost to you	\$78	\$184	\$325	\$468	\$608

The BCIT Foundation/Alumni Association respects the privacy of our alumni. Our privacy policy may be found at bcit.ca/foundation/privacy.

Thank you for sharing your success!





Krista Thompson helps homeless youth reach their goals

FOR KRISTA THOMPSON, her 'dream job' is no longer just a dream. As executive director of Covenant House Vancouver, an organization that provides food, shelter, clothing and counseling to the homeless youth in Vancouver, Krista is living her dream doing what she is passionate about: making a difference in the community every day.

"I really enjoy being at Covenant House," says Krista. "I get to be part of a wonderful team of people working to help homeless youth reach their goals."

The education she earned is an important part of her career success. In 1977, Krista graduated with a Diploma of Technology from BCIT's Marketing Management (Professional Sales Option). Upon graduation, Krista had no problem finding work and launching her career. Her in-demand skills landed her a job with a large international corporation right after graduation. She spent the first half of her career working in the corporate sector, "learning about organizations and what makes them successful."

By the time she made the decision to make the leap from the corporate world to the non-profit sector (the third-largest employer group in Canada), she had the skills and the education she needed to realize her career dream as executive director of Covenant House.

"The non-profit sector and my work at Covenant House allow me to use my skills to directly impact the lives of young people," says Krista. "I get to meet influential people, advocate for the less fortunate, interact with courageous young people, and work with others who are passionate about helping their community."

From corporate world to non-profit, Krista has had to adapt to many changes in her career, but she remains unfazed, crediting BCIT for giving her an important extra edge.

"When I entered BCIT," reflects Krista, "I was young and inexperienced. The challenges presented at BCIT helped me adapt more easily to the demands of the workplace."



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Fitness World would like to offer all BCIT ID cardholders a discounted corporate membership. The membership provides a 15% savings on enrolment, with monthly dues of only \$24! Visit any Fitness World location for your first free workout. For more information go to fitnessworld.ca or email corporate@fitnessworld.ca.



A premier benefit of the myBCIT Alumni Card is a 20% discount off of one BCIT part-time course, up to a maximum of \$100. Please note: Registration must be in person to qualify.

Drop by the Burnaby campus at the BCIT Library (SE14) or visit bcit.ca/alumni/benefits.shtml to get your myBCIT Alumni card.

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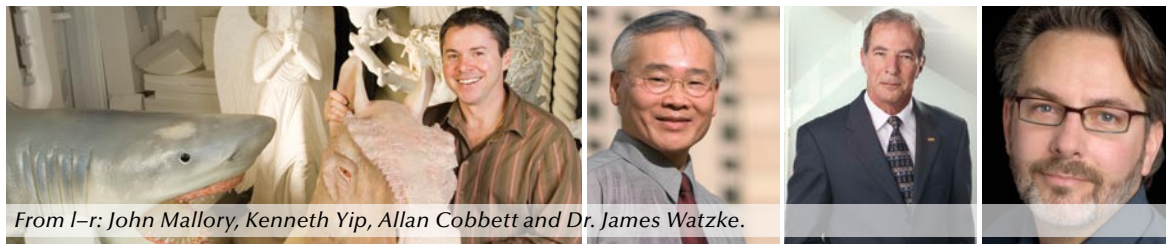
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Kudos! *Congratulations to the following individuals and organizations for their recent honours and appointments*



From l-r: John Mallory, Kenneth Yip, Allan Cobbett and Dr. James Watzke.

Alumni Association Vice President, **Kenneth Yip**, DiplT '74 (Biomedical Engineering), was recently honoured with the Outstanding Canadian Biomedical Engineer award, a major national award recognizing the contributions of biomedical engineers from the Canadian Medical and Biological Engineering Society.

Congratulations to **Allan Cobbett**, DiplT '68 (Business Management – Accounting) program head of BCIT's Bachelor of Technology Accounting Program, who was awarded the Fellow of the Society of Management Accountants of Canada (FCMA designation), the highest honour granted by CMA Canada. The FCMA is awarded to CMAs who demonstrate excellence in management accounting, a commitment to the CMA designation and their professional organization, and a civic-mindedness that enriches their community.

Ryan Gillis, DiplT '05 (Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Category 'M') a BCIT Aircraft Maintenance Engineer apprentice and graduate, recently won gold in the 2006 National Canadian Skills Competition for Aircraft Maintenance, beating competitors from six provinces. The Canadian Skills Competition is a competition that showcases students' technical and leadership skills.

Burnaby Business Person of the Year winner, **Bonney Rempel**, DiplT '97 (Marketing Management – Tourism Management) was the Marketing Director for Lougheed Town Centre (LTC), a position that she had held since 2001. Under her direction and with the strong support of the LTC management and marketing team, Bonney successfully enhanced the role of LTC within the community while creating innovative customer incentives.

3D Custom Foam Inc. was recently awarded a Burnaby Business Excellence Award for Business Innovation. Founder **John Mallory**, DiplT '96 (Building – Building Science) spent the last four years researching and developing innovative ways to transform bulk expanded polystyrene into desirable products. Through this technology, 3D Custom Foam has revolutionized BC's film industry by providing sculpted polystyrene in a quicker and more accurate fashion.

BOBOBABY Inc. is a market leader in the organic frozen baby food category and is a Burnaby Business Excellence Award winner for Entrepreneurial Spirit. BCIT alumna **Kalpna Solanki**, DiplT '89 (Environmental Health) comes from a long line of entrepreneurs with both her parents having run successful businesses and credits her family for her success.

Once again, BCIT Broadcast and Media Communications alumni shone at the 2006 Jack Webster Awards, an event that recognizes excellence in British Columbia journalism. Several BCIT graduates were either individual nominees or part of group nominations including **Melanie Nagy**, DiplT '03, **Deborah Goble**, DiplT '86, **David Kincaid**, DiplT '79, **Steve Lus**, DiplT '98, **Doug Cheng**, DiplT '05 and **Miyoung Lee**, DiplT '02. **Kent Molgat**, DiplT '86 and **Blaine Gaffney**, DiplT '86 of CHBC television in Kelowna took home the Webster for Best News Reporting — Television and **Amy Lapsley**, DiplT '03 of CKNW radio Vancouver won for Best News Reporting — Radio. The event was emceed by fellow alumna, **Jill Krop**, DiplT '86 of Global TV.

New Appointment

Dr. James Watzke is BCIT's new Dean of Applied Research. James is known to many in the BCIT community through his previous role as Research Head of BCIT's Living Lab. His new role includes senior management responsibilities for BCIT's Research Services Office, the Technology Commercialization Office and the Technology Centre and developing BCIT's capacity and credibility to undertake applied research.



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A second chance for Dan Brassard



WHILE MOST SIX-YEAR-OLDS are dreaming of a career as a fireman, policeman or astronaut, Dan Brassard wanted to be an engineer. His ambitions took a turn in his teen years when school was the last place that he wanted to be. It wasn't until after graduating high school, while working in retail that he really began to take stock of where he was and where he wanted to go.

Dan looked around and found BCIT. He enrolled in the Mechanical Engineering Technology program and was excited to be taking one step closer to his childhood dream; that is, until he got underway.

"I was mortified in my first semester because I couldn't understand basic math. I was devastated," said Dan of his first impression. "But there was an instructor who worked with me every day after class and I ended up passing. From there on, I did really well and graduated with honours."

And it didn't stop there. Dan went on to complete a bachelor's degree at Lakehead University and then a Master in Mechanical Engineering at Carleton, where he studied aeroelasticity and aeroacoustics as a member of an aerospace research group. Before returning to Vancouver, he worked for the National Research Council, building a test facility to study turbomachines.

Today, Dan is a project manager at Whitewater West Industries which designs water parks all over the world in places such as Dubai, Moscow, Las Vegas, Florida and Greece.

"The organizational skills I learned at BCIT are critical in my day-to-day duties where I'm responsible for making sure that everything happens in a timely fashion. Plus it was practical. A lot of what I'm doing now in my present job was covered in my classes," said Dan. "BCIT gave me a second chance."

BCIT partners with ASTTBC

Building Momentum, Forging Partnerships

THERE ARE FEW THINGS in business that you can achieve on your own. Cooperation, collaboration and partnerships are key to achieving success. BCIT and the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of British Columbia (ASTTBC) are committed to enhancing awareness of technology education and careers. With so many of the Association's members from BCIT, it is only natural that ASTTBC and BCIT enter into a partnership.

The careers conference in June 2005 hosted by ASTTBC, in which BCIT played a lead role, determined that technology careers are not highly visible and ASTTBC must take a lead role. There is a need to address the issue of the supply of technologists and technicians to meet a heavy and growing demand.

A key step forward following the conference was to outline the need and critical success factors and issue a call to action. In the Fall of 2005, ASTTBC published *Shaping Our Future, Building Careers in Technology*, which defined the issues and suggested roles for various stakeholders including employers, educators, associations, counsellors, teachers, parents, students and BCIT graduates/ASTTBC members. Accepting its role as the professional regulating body for technologists and technicians was ASTTBC's first step toward breathing life into this call to action. This led to discussions between BCIT and ASTTBC to define future directions and the joint Memorandum of Agreement, signed at ASTTBC's Awards Celebration in November 2005.

ASTTBC has taken steps to deliver on this agreement: BCIT graduate Jason Jung, ASCT, was hired as Manager, Membership Development, to significantly improve ASTTBC's presence on campus by profiling BCIT grads who are ASTTBC members in each issue of the BCIT *Ambassador* newsletter (see page 10), participating in BCIT's Open House and sponsoring the BCIT Distinguished Alumni Awards. BCIT is also working to enhance awareness of technology careers by partnering with ASTTBC in promoting National Technology Week and placing ads in community newspapers and the *Vancouver Sun*. Further collaboration is planned for the future.

The growing demand for qualified technologists and technicians in BC is not unique to our province. Other

provinces in Canada and most industrialized countries are seeing the impact of seismic shifts in technology, demographics and our global economy. The employment gap emerging over the past several years is now front and centre, challenging all stakeholders to be proactive in shaping our future. BCIT and ASTTBC are partnering to ensure world class technology education and careers.

In announcing CAMPUS 2020, a review of BC's post secondary education, Premier Gordon Campbell and Minister of Advanced Education, Murray Coell called on all stakeholders to outline their vision for the future of BC's education system. BCIT and ASTTBC will prepare and submit their views of technology education and careers, outlining options seen as being important to BC's future.



Minister of Advanced Education Murray Coell witnesses Keith Switzer, ASCT, ASTTBC President (l) and Marsh Heinekey, ASCT, Acting Vice President, Education BCIT (Nov 2005), signing Memorandum of Agreement.

Reunions

Financial Management 1995

Mak Matesan would like to get in touch with his fellow graduates.

Please contact Mak at mmatesan@telus.net or at 604-430-0302 to obtain more information.

Good memories and good times. Let's celebrate together!

First Annual Bachelor of Business Administration Alumni Reunion



BBA graduates Alisa Parker and Michael Rak during the BBA reunion event.

Held on November 23rd, 2006 at the BCIT Burnaby campus, the BBA Reunion event was a wonderful opportunity for the two hundred BBA graduates from 2003-06 to reconnect with friends, colleagues, faculty and current students. It was great occasion to network with other program graduates, to find out about the latest BBA developments and learn about mentorship opportunities.

Call for all Aerospace grads!

The grand opening of BCIT's Aerospace Technology Campus is set to take place in 2007 and we want to invite you! If you or someone you know graduated from the Aerospace program, please contact us at alumni@bcit.ca or call 604-432-8847.



Master of ceremonies Rick Cluff, CBC Radio One — The Early Edition, hands lucky draw prize winner Carly Graham a trip for four to Disneyland.

Honouring alumni achievements at t

On September 21, BCIT honoured five pre-eminent alumni at its 2006 Distinguished Alumni Awards held at the Four Seasons Hotel, where over 400 guests were on hand to celebrate the successes of these inspiring individuals.

The event was emceed by Rick Cluff, host of CBC Radio's *The Early Edition* who spoke highly of a BCIT education. After reading off a long list of CBC colleagues, who are BCIT graduates, he said, "every day BCIT plays a huge role in our newsroom . . . there are newsrooms, engineering firms, medical laboratories and a host of other successful businesses and institutions that are what they are because of BCIT graduates."

"An institution like BCIT becomes well defined by its graduates," said Dr. Tony Knowles, president of BCIT. "There are 115,000 of them out there and it's a pleasure each year to select a very few of them to be honoured; people who have made significant contributions to their local communities, helping others and the world in general. We are very pleased to say thank you on behalf of all of those who have benefited from what you are doing in your career moving forward."

A special play performed by child actors, produced and directed by Dolores Drake, local actress and acting coach, brought the childhood hopes and dreams of the award winners to the stage. Guests were also introduced to each of the recipients in a series of video presentations which helped illustrate why they are deserving of such recognition. Each recipient was clearly touched and accepted the honour with grace and humility.

"I'm very humbled to be a part of the BCIT community," said Diana Swain upon receiving her award. "I'm so glad that BCIT kick-started my career as a journalist; it was a fabulous start to a career that I've really enjoyed."

Sandra Wilson also attributed her success to BCIT by saying: "there's no doubt in my mind that BCIT contributed to building my strong work ethic and if anyone is thinking of starting a business, this is definitely a requirement."

"This program was established to celebrate [alumni] successes and to raise even greater awareness of the quality of a BCIT education," said Adam Pion, president of the BCIT Alumni Association, "and we are proud to count you among our alumni."

The evening was brought to a close by BCIT's vice-president, Development and executive director of the Alumni Association, Laurie Clarke, who paid tribute to the extraordinary people who make the event a huge success and recognized the winners for their tremendous achievements. Videos of the award winners may be viewed online at bcit.ca/alumni.



THOMAS ABBÜHL

A.Sc.T. DiplT '77 (Civil and Structural Engineering), Faculty, BCIT Department of Civil Engineering

BCIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Thomas Abbühl began his 30-year teaching career as a Part-time Studies instructor while still a student in the Civil and Structural Engineering Technology Program. Over this period, Thomas has held a variety of positions in the Department of Civil Engineering, including Assistant Instructor, Faculty, Program Coordinator, and a six-year tenure as Program Head. He participated in developing BCIT's first Bachelor of Technology degree, the B.Tech in Environmental Engineering, and was instrumental in the initiation and preliminary development of BCIT's first Bachelor of Engineering degree, the B.Eng in Civil Engineering. He has functioned as teacher and mentor to both students and faculty, and his passion for seeing students develop character and lifelong career skills has earned him respect and admiration from students and colleagues alike.

In addition to his work at BCIT, Thomas has functioned as a consultant in his field. While on a recent sabbatical, he worked with BPA Group Inc. as a Structural Projects Manager, designing projects in Los Angeles, California and ChongQing, China. Thomas is currently working on course development for international projects through the Canadian Housing and Construction Centre at BCIT.



JOHN NAGY, FCGA

DiplT '77 (Financial Management), Partner, Reid Hurst Nagy CGAs

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD FOR PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

John Nagy started a career in banking before returning to school and earning his CGA designation. In 1980, he took a position with Brock H. Oakley CGA where he eventually became partner and in 1999 John merged

his firm with Reid Hurst & Company. This resulted in one of the largest CGA firms in the Lower Mainland, Reid Hurst Nagy. The practice provides accounting, tax, management advisory and financial planning services to individuals, owner-managed businesses, and non-profit organizations with specialties in Strata Corporations and First Nations services.

With a desire to have more direct input into the decisions that CGA BC and CGA Canada were making about the profession, John decided to take a proactive approach and held several positions within the professional associations including Chair of CGA BC in 1999 and Chair of CGA Canada in 2003/04. John is the CGA delegate to the Accounting Standards Oversight Council of Canada and Chair of CGA Canada's International Qualifications Assessment Panel.



DIANA SWAIN

DiplT '87 (Broadcast and Media Communications), News Anchor, CBC

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD FOR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO A TRADE OR INDUSTRY

In her 16-years with the CBC, Diana Swain has made a career out of getting to the heart of the matter. After working in both radio and television, Diana joined the CBC in 1990 as a national reporter on the program *24 Hours* after which she moved on to host *Disclosure*. She is currently the host of CBC's supertime news program, *CBC News at Six/Toronto* and is a correspondent and fill-in anchor for *The National*. Additionally, Diana hosts *Face to Face*, a new CBC program which features in-depth, hard-hitting and timely interviews with newsmakers around the world.

An accomplished journalist, Diana is a five-time Gemini nominee, recognized for her reporting, writing, and hosting and was awarded the Gemini for Best News Anchor in 2000. Her work has been recognized at New York festivals in the News Documentary category and in 1991, she won the annual media award from B'Nai Brith Canada for human rights reporting. Her work has twice been included in winning submissions for the Michener Award, Canada's award for meritorious public service journalism.

The BCIT Distinguished Alumni Awards



Congratulations to the winners of BCIT's 2006 Distinguished Alumni Awards pictured above with BCIT president Tony Knowles (second from left), BCIT vice president, development Laurie Clarke (far right), president of the BCIT Alumni Association Adam Pion (far left) and CBC Radio's Rick Cluff (centre): (l-r) Thomas Abbühl, Katherine Gerry, Diana Swain, John Nagy, and Sandra Wilson.



SANDRA WILSON

DiplT '81 (Financial Management),
Founder, Robeez Footwear

**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
AWARD FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL
INNOVATION AND SERVICE TO
THE COMMUNITY**

Before starting Robeez, Sandra Wilson enjoyed a varied career and gained several years' management experience with the Royal Bank of Canada and Canadian Airlines. In 1994, Sandra recognized a unique business opportunity and created Robeez Footwear. In the early days, Sandra took care of all aspects of the business, from product design through to sales and distribution, and as a result, her personal values formed the pattern for Robeez's culture of caring.

As sales grew, Sandra recognized the importance of surrounding herself with talented people — a strategy that she credits with much of the company's phenomenal success. Robeez is now the leading worldwide manufacturer and marketer of soft-soled leather footwear for newborns to four-year olds and is sold internationally at over 6,500 boutiques and specialty stores.

The same caring ethic that she sewed into the first pair of Robeez shoes is upheld in all aspects of the company today. Since its inception, Robeez has donated almost 100,000 pairs of shoes and booties through non-profit children's and family charities around the globe, including Central and South America, Asia, Africa, and the hurricane victims in the southern United States. Robeez is also working with Free the Children by committing to their "Adopt a Village" program to help build a school and establish the means for continued education.

Today, Robeez is part of Stride Rite Corporation's family of leading shoe brands, which also includes Keds, Sperry Top-Sider, and Stride Rite children's shoes.



KATHERINE GERRY, R.N.

BScN '06 (Nursing), Registered
Nurse, St. Paul's Hospital

**BCIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
OUTSTANDING STUDENT
LEADERSHIP AWARD**

During her time as a full-time nursing student at BCIT, Katherine Gerry provided inspirational leadership to her fellow classmates. Throughout the program, she was the student representative to the College of Registered Nurses of BC and was a class representative at BCIT. She led several successful campaigns to improve elements of the program; all while maintaining a first class GPA in a demanding program which produces over 60 nurses to the health care market each year.

Bedside care and working with patients is a particular skill and passion of Kathy's and upon graduation, she accepted a position at St. Paul's Hospital as a staff nurse. She has recently received notification from the College of Registered Nurses of BC that she passed her exams to become a Registered Nurse.

Outside of the classroom, Kathy manages to find time to give back to her community and volunteers at Women's Information Safe House (W.I.S.H.), a downtown Eastside Vancouver agency that provides women with hot meals and respite from the street. She has also been active on many fronts in support of community initiatives, including advocating for a new library branch for the Downtown Eastside and Strathcona.

We gratefully
acknowledge the 2006
BCIT Distinguished
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If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Awards program, please contact Sherri Magson, Director of Alumni Relations at 604-432-8847.

2007 DAA Nominations

Nominations are invited for the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Awards. Contact the Alumni Relations Office at 604-432-8847 or alumni@bcit.ca for more information.

Three hundred BCIT construction trade students say thank you to PCL for half-million-dollar boost



BCIT trades students thank PCL Westcoast Constructors Inc. for its generous donation of \$500,000.

TRADES TRAINING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA recently received a shot in the arm as PCL Constructors Westcoast Inc. (PCL) presented a gift of \$500,000 to BCIT.

An estimated 300 construction trade students were on hand in BCIT's Carpentry Courtyard on September 8, to thank PCL for its gift, donated as part of their centennial year celebration. The PCL contribution will be divided into two parts: \$420,000 to increase the number of trades people trained at BCIT over the next three years, and \$80,000 to fund a permanent endowment to provide student financial aid to the best and brightest students applying to construction trades training programs at BCIT.

"PCL is demonstrating exceptional leadership in making a gift of this size at a time when the demand for skilled workers in the construction industry is at an all-time high," said Dr. Tony Knowles, President of BCIT. "It will directly benefit students by giving them access to training, and will help ensure the health of BC's economy, and the industry, as a whole."

"British Columbia is currently facing the largest shortage of skilled tradespeople in recent history," said Anibal Valente, Vice-President and District Manager, PCL Constructors Westcoast Inc. "In order to help sustain both the short and long term viability of this important industry, PCL Constructors Westcoast Inc. is taking a leadership role and making a major gift to support the next generation of trades people in Western Canada."

"PCL is entirely employee-owned," said John English, Dean of BCIT's School of Construction and the Environment "so the people their gift will help train today, could very well be the owners of PCL tomorrow."



A TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONAL FROM BCIT BCIT's Alumni at Work!

Heather Andreychuk, AScT

Heather grew up in the East Kootenays, BC. After high school, she pursued her passion to 'build communities' and graduated from BCIT in 1985 with an Economics Major in Building Technology. Seasonal positions with BC Parks and Blackcomb followed her studies.

In 1988 Heather moved to Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, where she worked for MM Dillon and Ferguson Simek Clark, gaining experience in architectural, electrical, civil, mechanical and structural engineering disciplines. Notable projects included the design-build of a village in Siberia and assisting architects with design for the Legislative Assembly Building in Yellowknife. While in NWT, Heather registered with ASET, the association for techs in Alberta.

After moving to Prince George in 1993, she gained employment with L&M Engineering Limited, a civil engineering firm, working on municipal, residential, industrial, commercial and recreational projects in numerous northern communities. Highlights include development of 1,000+ single-family residential lots, expansion of the regional hospital and numerous commercial projects. Recently, Heather joined the City of Prince George where she is responsible for the transportation projects design and budgets, project administration and liaison with City work crews, regulatory bodies, utility companies and contractors.

Transferring from ASET to ASTTBC, Heather has been professionally registered as a Technologist for over 16 years. The most rewarding part of her career... providing families with the infrastructure required to build their homes and create neighbourhoods, and providing amenities to sustain a community's growth and viability.

Heather enjoys an active family life with her husband Darren and two children, and having set roots down in Prince George, supports community sports by getting involved.

- BCIT grad in 1985
- Professional registration as AScT
- Engineering Assistant, Transportation Division of Development Services City of Prince George

Applied Science
Technologists & Technicians
of British Columbia



About ASTTBC...

ASTTBC is a self-governing association of technology professionals with 8,500+ registrants including technologists, technicians and technical specialists. ASTTBC's mandate is to regulate the standards of training and practice of and for its members and to protect the interests of the public.

For more info... www.asttbc.org

New vice-president of education brings international experience in research and technology to BCIT



DR. ELIZABETH THERIAULT is the new Vice-President of Education at BCIT. Theriault, who has a background in neuroscience, joined the Institute in July from a position at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo.

“A key responsibility for me will be to ensure that BCIT’s programming remains vibrant, innovative and responsive to industry and learner needs, including addressing the skilled trades’ shortage.” says Theriault.

Theriault possesses a very unique blend of education and experience. After completing a PhD in neurosciences from McMaster University, she went to Harvard Medical School for postdoctoral studies. She then spent 14 years as a researcher and professor, at the University of Toronto and the Toronto Hospital, in the area of traumatic spinal cord injury.

In 1999, she was appointed Dean, Science and Technology, at Sheridan Institute of Technology and Applied Learning in Oakville, Ontario. Her portfolio included programs in the technologies and the trades. Part of her role at Sheridan was to advance its applied research agenda and to develop degree programs in addition to supporting the advancement of skilled trades training.

In 2003, Theriault was seconded to the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo as one of six dedicated Science and Technology Counsellors representing Canada in key OECD countries. A major responsibility for Theriault was to promote Canada’s international S&T interests in Japan by fostering relationships between governmental institutions, the academic community and the business sector. This included the development of bilateral partnerships between universities, funding agencies, and research organizations.

In her role at BCIT, Theriault oversees the development of programming within the Institute’s six schools — Business, Computing and Academic Studies, Construction and the Environment, Health Sciences, Transportation, and Manufacturing, Electronics and Industrial Processes — and help build partnerships with industry to address training and human resource needs.

“In the knowledge-based economy of the 21st century, Canada is critically dependent on the productivity and the competitiveness of its workforce,” says Theriault. “I look forward to helping to strengthen and increase BCIT’s contribution to the economic and social well-being of the province of British Columbia, and to the Canadian economy.”

You recruit the best
BCIT Careers Fair 2007



Come meet them in person!

Don't miss your opportunity to recruit the best and the brightest at BC's largest post-secondary careers fair.

BCIT Careers Fair 2007 will be held on Monday, March 27. Plan to participate in person or join our online careers fair.

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If you DON'T have your BCIT Mosaik®MasterCard®* yet, then apply TODAY! Go to mosaikcard.com/offer enter code (BCITALU) or call 1-800-263-2263 and get a 5.9% introductory interest rate for 6 months on cash advances and balance transfers.¹

Deadline for submission is February 15, 2007. Please send your story (maximum 150 words) to alumni@bcit.ca or mail to the BCIT Alumni Relations Office, 3700 Willingdon Ave. Burnaby, BC, V5G 3H2. The winning story will be published in the Spring 2007 publication of *Ambassador* (winner's photo is not a requirement but would be appreciated). 500 AIR MILES®†reward miles can be redeemed for travel, entertainment, merchandise, and more.

Contest is open to all BCIT graduates that are 19 and over. For full contest details call: 1-877-432-8847 or log onto bcit.ca/alumni/contests.

¹The ongoing interest rate will apply at the end of the 6 month introductory interest rate offer, and will depend on the interest rate plan you choose. *Registered trade-mark of Bank of Montreal, Patent Pending. **Bank of Montreal is a licensed user of the registered trade-mark and design of MasterCard International Inc. *†TM Trademarks of AIR MILES International Trading B.V. Used under license by Loyalty Management Group Canada Inc. and Bank of Montreal

We want your story

Why is word-of-mouth so effective? People love hearing personal, first-hand accounts of real-life experiences. Help us spread the word about BCIT — tell us your story!

What is the one thing that sticks out for you about BCIT? Was it something that tipped the scales for you to choose BCIT? Or something unforgettable about your time here? Or maybe it's the success you've had since graduating? Whatever it is, we want to hear it. Everyone has a story to tell, and those stories are invaluable.

Send us an e-mail with a few words, or lots of words, it's your choice. The Alumni Association or BCIT's Marketing and Communications Department may contact you to publish your story in the *Ambassador*, the bcit.ca homepage Path Found section, or other marketing and communications for BCIT, with your permission. While it's not exactly word-of-mouth, it may work to generate some!

We look forward to hearing from you.

Contact:
alumni@bcit.ca
604-432-8847

Search for BCIT Education Council Minutes.

When you were on-campus, were you involved in EdCo? Some meeting minutes are missing for the following years: 1986–1993. If anyone is able to supply the archives with records/minutes from this time period it would be most appreciated. Please contact Deidre Brocklehurst at Deidre_Brocklehurst@bcit.ca or call 604-431-4990.

Your 2006/07 Alumni Association Board of Directors.

The BCIT Alumni Association board of directors is key to the Association's mandate and activities. Volunteers elected to the board make decisions about services that help students and graduates make the most of their education and careers. The board works hard to establish contacts and business links that benefit BCIT, students and alumni.



Adam G. Pion, Financial Management '94

PRESIDENT

Adam is a Director at UBS Bank (Canada) and is a Pacesetter donor to the Alumni Annual Appeal. He is a Director on the BCIT Foundation Board and recently played a role in securing a major gift to the BCIT Endowment Fund.

"My education at BCIT propelled me in my career and helped shape who I am today. I am deeply grateful to some key individuals at BCIT who assisted me along the way.

My involvement with the Alumni Association allows me to give back and have a positive impact on the lives of other BCIT alumni and students."



Shantal Cashman, Marketing Management '00

PAST PRESIDENT

Since 2004, Shantal has been the Advancement Officer for the Faculty of Science at Simon Fraser University during which time she has raised close to \$4M for students, research positions and science innovation. Prior to that, she led the YWCA's Women of Distinction Awards and volunteered with the Alzheimer Society and St. John's Ambulance among other roles.

"My experience at BCIT was transformational. My student experience was enriched enormously by the passion and dedication of faculty and staff. I believe 100 percent in the education and marketability that BCIT can deliver and felt that an active role on the Alumni Association Board would allow me to be a part of strengthening that message in the minds of our alumni, industry and the public."



Kenneth Yip, PEng '81, Biomedical Engineering '74, BAsc '72,

VICE PRESIDENT

Ken is the Director of Healthcare Technology Management (Biomedical Engineering) at Vancouver Coastal Health Authority. He heads a large team of technologists, engineers and specialists at VGH and UBCCH, many of whom are BCIT alumni. Most recently, he was awarded the 2006 Outstanding Canadian Biomedical Engineer award which recognizes outstanding contributions in the field.

"One of the reasons I stay connected to the BCIT community is because it is critical in supporting my staff in their endeavours to keep up with the training and education necessary to further their careers."



Edward Shawchuk CGA, BTech '02 (Accounting), Financial Management '97, Carpentry '93

TREASURER

Ed is a Senior Manager with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP and is currently working on his Master of Science in (U.S.) Taxation degree through Golden Gate University. He also serves on the BCIT School of Business, Financial Management Advisory Committee. Ed volunteers considerable time to his community through his service in the Knights of Columbus and the Western Canadian

Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

"My experience with the Board of the BCIT Alumni Association is they are a group of uplifting and caring people who work to facilitate the furtherance of the BCIT family."

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Anthony Cavanaugh, BTech (Management) '05, Marketing Management Certificate '99, Broadcast and Media Communications '94

DIRECTOR

Anthony is the Communications and Privacy Officer for the Real Estate Council of BC. The Council is the public watchdog in the province's real estate industry and is charged with administering the Real Estate Services Act.

"After completing my education at BCIT, I felt that it was time to give something back to the school that has

helped me rapidly advance my career as a public relations professional. The BCIT Alumni Association has provided me with the perfect way to contribute to the BCIT community as well as a means to enhance the profile and demand of BCIT graduates."



Jason S. Cooledge, CA, Financial Management '91

DIRECTOR

Jason is a senior manager in the Canadian tax practice of KPMG LLP, working in its Burnaby office. He has 15 years of professional experience, including 11 years tax experience advising large corporate groups and entrepreneurial businesses. His specialties include corporate reorganizations, corporate partnerships and general corporate tax work.

"My BCIT education was key to my career success.

Participation on the Alumni Association board is my way

to both thank BCIT for the opportunities it has provided me and to contribute to BCIT's continuing success."



Robert Deverall, Chemical and Metallurgical Sciences '76

DIRECTOR

Rob co-founded ASL Analytical Service Laboratories Ltd. in 1982, which grew to become one of the largest environmental testing laboratories in Canada and merged with the ALS Laboratory Group in 2001. Rob currently serves as Director of Business Development for the ALS Laboratory Group in North America. In September, 2005, Rob received the BCIT Distinguished Alumni Award for Excellence in Applying Technology and Technical Skills.

"I am involved with the Alumni Association as a way of giving back to the institute that gave me my start in what has become a rewarding career. I hope to help fellow alumni remain connected to BCIT by utilizing the many benefits the association has to offer."



Gordon Farrell, Financial Management '66

DIRECTOR

Gordon is well-known to the BCIT community as instructor, Associate Dean of Financial Management, former Dean of the School of Business and Acting Vice-President Education. Gordon is currently the Director of Business Development at Kwantlen University College.

"A strong and vibrant Alumni Association enhances opportunities for the BCIT community."



Ron Killby, Business Management '70

DIRECTOR

Ron is the Western Regional Coordinator for the Automotive Industries Association of Canada. He has more than 30 years of experience in the automotive aftermarket industry in Canada and the United States, most recently with Hastings Canada.

"One of the reasons I got involved with the board is to help build a relationship between companies in our industry and BCIT. The valuable message that a student learns is not the

technical skills learned in class as those are always changing, but that success in your career requires ongoing and continuous upgrading."



Bob Ostle, ASTT '71, Chemical Sciences '69

DIRECTOR

Bob has retired from his career in the Industrial Chemicals industry and is currently mentoring the founder and owner of a marketing company that specializes in cause relationship marketing for non-profit organizations. Bob has also worked as an independent contractor for the BC Trade Development Corporation and the Provincial Ministries of Competition, Science and Enterprise and Energy and Mines.

"BCIT now counts on its alumni from their early 20s to

over 60 years of age. I believe that by having a board with a similar demographic, we can develop programs, events and opportunities that will ensure grads remain active in the BCIT community."



Asifa Samji, CPHI(C), BTech '00 (Environmental Engineering), DiplT '96 (Environmental Health), B.Sc. '92 (UBC Nutritional Sciences)

Asifa is the Director for Government Services for Jacques Whitford Limited in Western Canada, a consulting engineering firm providing Engineering, Scientific, Planning, and Management services. In addition to her business development role, Asifa also manages large-scale indoor air quality projects dealing with residential mold and hazardous materials. Asifa is currently enrolled in the Master of

Business Administration in Executive Management and Leadership degree program at Royal Roads University and is an active volunteer in the Ismaili community.

"It is an honour and privilege to be a member of the BCIT Alumni Association Board of Directors. BCIT has provided me with a first class education and practical experience, so it's only natural that I would want to give something back to the BCIT community."



Valerie Wan, Bachelor of Commerce (RRU) '03, Marketing Management '00

DIRECTOR

Valerie is a Consultant at National Public Relations, providing media relations, public relations and event management to a variety of clients. She manages the real estate marketing practice group and works with the leading developers in Vancouver. Outside of the office, she co-chairs the Lower Mainland's Red Cross Communications Committee and sits on the communications committee for the Harry Jerome

International Track Classic.

"After receiving a great education at BCIT, I am pleased to have the opportunity to support the institute while connecting with other grads and new students through the Alumni Association. I'm honoured to be a part of the Board of Directors and look forward to continuing its mandate and success."



David Yochlowitz, Administrative Management '87

DIRECTOR

David is the CEO and majority shareholder of ABC Recycling Ltd., a fourth generation, 94-year-old, family-owned and operated business based in Burnaby, dealing in metal recycling. With four locations in BC, ABC Recycling achieved \$130 million in sales last year and is on pace to exceed \$200 million in sales for 2006.

"I am involved with the Alumni Association Board because the education that I obtained at BCIT gave me the

tools needed to become a leader in our family business. As a former student, a Burnaby-based company owner and employer of BCIT grads, I feel honoured to have the opportunity to give back in whatever way I can."



Scott Blythe, Communications and Outreach Manager, BCIT Student Association (BCITSA)

APPOINTED DIRECTOR

Scott is a professional employee of the BCITSA and is a staff representative on the BCIT Alumni Association Board to help provide continuity and representation from the SA. Scott has six years experience working in student organizations and in his current position is responsible for managing communications and media relations, publications, events, student development programming, support services,

advertising and sponsorship, and outreach to satellite campuses.

"Working with the Alumni Board has allowed me to identify and implement opportunities for BCIT students that help our student members make the very most of their student experience. For me personally, the relationships that have been fostered within the Alumni Association have reinforced my belief in this Institution, its students and graduates."



Jennifer Leaman, President, BCIT Student Association

APPOINTED DIRECTOR

Jennifer is the President for the BCITSA for 2006/07. During the last year she has been the VP Student Affairs, a student representative on Education Council, a member of Toastmaster's BCIT and involved in many BCIT events. She has completed her diploma in Human Resources Management and will be graduating next spring with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree.

"As an appointed member of the Alumni Board I bring a current student view of what students want from their alumni association after they graduate. Working together, both parties benefit in this relationship."

Grapevine

BCIT Alumni are In Demand, Delivering Results — and we're hearing more and more about you! As space prevents us from printing all the information and updates we've received, we invite you to visit bcit.ca/alumni/grapevine to read up on all the latest news.

2006

Lauridsen, Krista Faye

Business Administration

Krista will be going to Korea for a year in August to teach English.

2005

Menard, Jayne

Specialty Nursing

Jayne is currently the manager of the ICU/Medicine/Diabetic Education Program and Cardiac Clinics at Cambridge Memorial Hospital in Cambridge, Ontario. She is also enrolled in the Master of Health Administration — Leadership at the University of Athabasca.

Iorio, Leonardo

Business Management-Accounting

Leo graduated from BCIT with two certificates, a diploma in Financial Management and a Bachelor of Technology in Accounting. Leo plans to write the CA exam in 2007.



Kim, Jae Young

Automotive Service Technician

Jae Young has accumulated his mechanic experience at Ford, Toyota, Honda and Hyundai dealerships. He has received his certificates for auto repair work, Real Seal, Air Care, Inspection, etc. Consequently, he opened his own shop in April 2006.

2001



Fretwell, Kristine (Wetzel)

Marketing Management — Professional Sales

Kristine has been in sales since graduation and is currently working as an Account Manager with a well known vitamin company. Brent Fretwell (Marketing Management '01) and Kristine tied the knot on April 29, 2006 at a local golf and country

club. Brent is currently working in advertising for a print directory company. Their former classmates are welcome to get in touch with them at brent_kristine@shaw.ca

1999

Guizzo, Remo

Management Systems

Remo just celebrated his five-year anniversary at Chevron Canada Ltd. He started as a Bankcard Representative in retail is currently a Commercial and Industrial Account Manager within the Chevron Global Lubricants organization, traveling throughout the province. His experience at BCIT was great for him and he is proud to be a BCIT alumni.



Genge, Darren

Renewable Resources — Forestry

Darren took the knowledge and experience from BCIT and went on to earn a certificate in GIS at OUC in Salmon Arm. He then secured his employment in Forestry Consulting and has worked with a few companies over the past six years. Darren recently wrote and passed the

RFT exam and became a member of the Association of BC Forest Professionals.

1998

Pasic, Nadia

Management Systems

Nadia is living in Vancouver and works as a licensed Real Estate Sales Representative with Sutton Group West Coast Realty (www.pasicrealestate.com). She has been in the Real Estate industry for the past five years and is now providing sales service to our community. She can be contacted at npasic@sutton.com.

1996

Lunsted, Nicole (Mandryk)

Environmental Health

On April 3, 2006 Nicole changed employers and now works as an Environmental Health Officer for the West Region Tribal Council Health Department in Dauphin, MB. Colleagues may e-mail Nicole at nlunsted@mts.net

1993

Rabbai, Daiana (Urbani)

Marketing Management-Tourism Management

After graduating in 1993, Daiana got married and currently has three children which fill her life completely. For the past 10 years she has been working as a Claims Adjuster at ICBC and is always challenged at work. The BCIT Marketing Management Program was the best schooling she ever did, as it carried her through her current position. She would like to send out a hello to everyone that she graduated with.

1992

Laird, Andrew

Broadcast & Media Communications — Radio

Andrew has been in Kelowna since 2003 working with the sales team at 101-5 SILK FM. Previous to Kelowna, he was a director and co-owner of CJNL Merritt, partnered with NL Broadcasting of Kamloops. Andrew spent 11 great years at CJNL where he gained experience with virtually every aspect of broadcasting. He appreciates the opportunity to work in the industry among very talented people!

1988

Renema, Yvonne

Financial Management

In January 2006 Yvonne started her own Accounting Business, Renema & Associates. She can be reached at 200 – 4361 Kingsway, Burnaby or 604-433-5554.

1980



Jaggard, Brian

Administrative Management
Since graduating from BCIT in 1980, Brian has spent the majority of his career in the finance industry, working with Ford Credit, VW Financial Services and Toyota Credit Canada. In 2000, he graduated from the Executive MBA program at Simon Fraser University and started up

YzApp International, Inc. which developed an interactive, online credit application. He is also setting up a finance company for Canadians and Filipino-Canadians who wish to purchase and finance property in the Philippines.

1979

Hunt, Sidney

Building Engineering Technology

Sidney is specializing in managing and designing mixed-use urban centres around the globe at one of the largest architecture firms in the world, Callison Architecture, Inc. He has been married 22 years to Susan Amirault and they have three teenage sons, Theo, Marshall and Karl.

1978



Ewanchuk, David

Computer Systems

After returning to BCIT to manage the Client Services department of Computer Resources from 1990–1994, Dave has been the Information Services Manager at Bull, Housser & Tupper LLP for the past 12 years. He and his wife Colleen Proctor have recently completed their eventual

retirement home on Mayne Island.

1973

Wike, Brett

Administrative Management

Brett is single and living in Kelowna and is employed as a Senior Account Manager, Commercial Banking at RBC Financial Group. His interests are skiing, snowboarding, motorcycling and having his children over for dinner.

1970

Wahl, Edward

Electronic Engineering Technology

Edward has retired after 35 years in the Aeronautical Navigation Service.

1968

Sundher, Tom

Administrative Management

Tom is currently the President of Coast Clear Wood Ltd. which was awarded the BC Export Award for Manufactured Products in 2005.

Grapevine

Ambassador Readership Survey

In an effort to ensure that the *Ambassador* is interesting and relevant to our readers, we want to know what you think! Please take the time to fill out and return this survey and you will be entered into a draw to win a \$500 Best Buy gift certificate. For contest rules and an online version of the survey, go to: bcit.ca/alumni

1 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEUTRAL	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	NO OPINION
I find the articles interesting	1	2	3	4	5	6
The writing is easy to understand	1	2	3	4	5	6
I like the design	1	2	3	4	5	6
I learn something from each issue	1	2	3	4	5	6
I think there are too many ads	1	2	3	4	5	6
I think that 16-pages is the right length	1	2	3	4	5	6
I think the <i>Ambassador</i> should be longer	1	2	3	4	5	6
I am satisfied with the <i>Ambassador</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6

2 Which sections in the *Ambassador* interest you the most? (Please check all that apply)

- Alumni Stories
- BCIT Updates
- Kudos
- Grapevine
- Alumni Benefits and Discounts
- Reunion information
- In Memoriam
- Other. Please specify: _____

3 Would you be interested in a BCIT Magazine with Alumni content?

- Yes
- No

3a If you are interested in a BCIT Magazine, how often would you like to receive it?

- Once a year
- Twice a year
- Three times a year
- More than four times a year

4 Would you be interested in receiving an e-newsletter from the Alumni Association?

- Yes
- No

4a If you are interested in an e-newsletter, how often would you like to receive it?

- Once a year
- Twice a year
- Three times a year
- More than four times a year

5 What other topics would you like to see covered?

6 Do you have any suggestions to improve the *Ambassador*?

7 The *Ambassador* is published twice a year. How often do you read *Ambassador*?

- Every issue
- Most issues
- Some issues
- This is the first issue I've seen

8 Are you...

- Female
- Male

9 Are you currently involved with BCIT?

- Yes
- No

10 If yes, please check all that apply.

- Staff
- Volunteer
- Donor
- Annual General Meeting Attendee
- Distinguished Alumni Awards Attendee
- Other, please specify _____

RETURN THIS COMPLETED SURVEY TO: BCIT Alumni Association, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V5G 3H2
E-mail: alumni@bcit.ca

For contest entry please complete the following Stay in Touch form and send separately if you wish to remain anonymous.

Stay in Touch! We want to hear your news! Stay in touch and help us keep our records up to date.

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____

MIDDLE INITIAL(S): _____ MAIDEN NAME (IF APPLICABLE): _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ PROV./STATE: _____

POSTAL CODE/ZIP: _____ COUNTRY: _____ E-MAIL: _____

EMPLOYER: _____ TITLE/OCCUPATION: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

BUSINESS TEL: () _____ FAX: () _____ BCIT STUDENT NO.: _____

PROGRAM: _____ YEAR GRADUATED: _____ DIPL.T DEGREE CERT. TECH.

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____ BCIT GRADUATE: YES NO

PROGRAM: _____ YEAR GRADUATED: _____ DIPL.T DEGREE CERT. TECH.

WOULD YOU LIKE THE ABOVE INFORMATION SHOWN ON THE BCIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WEBSITE (ALUMNI ONLINE DIRECTORY)? YES NO

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION / PROTECTION OF PRIVACY CONSENT

BCIT Alumni Relations, the BCIT Foundation Office and the BCIT Alumni Association routinely contact alumni to offer BCIT programs and services, inform BCIT graduates about alumni events, administer elections of the Alumni Association, facilitate alumni surveys and research, and conduct fundraising appeals. BCIT Alumni Relations and the BCIT Alumni Association will also send to BCIT alumni marketing information about commercial products and services upon the consent of BCIT graduates. If BCIT Alumni Relations does not receive this returned notification, BCIT Alumni Relations and the BCIT Alumni Association will use your name, address or phone number for the purpose of marketing commercial products and services.

I do not authorize BCIT Alumni Relations and the BCIT Alumni Association to contact me for the purpose of marketing commercial products/services.

MESSAGE FOR THE GRAPEVINE _____

Unless otherwise requested, we will publish your news in the *Ambassador* newsletter and online Grapevine. Please note submissions may be edited for brevity and clarity. Please print, maximum 30 words.

SIGNATURE: _____ SPOUSE'S SIGNATURE: _____

RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO: BCIT Alumni Association, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V5G 3H2 E-mail: alumni@bcit.ca

The personal information on this form is collected under the authority of the College and Institute Act (RSBC 1996, Ch.52). BCIT will use this information to maintain alumni relations by providing notification of BCIT services and courses of instruction in technological and vocational matters and subjects. The information is also used to facilitate alumni surveys and research and to conduct fundraising appeals. BCIT, with the graduate's consent, also offers information about commercial products and services of interest to alumni. If you have any questions about the collection and use of this information, contact BCIT's Manager of Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy.

In Memoriam

The Alumni Association Remembers

Dan Schweers 1952–2005
Building Engineering Technology 1974
Daniel tragically passed away on May 24, 2005 at the age of 52, after a courageous battle with cancer. He will be deeply missed by the love of his life Eini, as well as their children who are now 25, 22 and 19. His school mates, countless friends and family will remember Danny's infectious sense of humour and compassion.

A life's work: Doug Drummond: 1943–2006

Courtesy of *Burnaby Now*
Jennifer Moreau



Dr. Tony Knowles, BCIT President presents Freeman Doug Drummond with the Honourary Doctorate of Technology in 2003.

On Thursday, November 2, former mayor and councillor Doug Drummond passed away after a long struggle with cancer.

Drummond, 63, was many things to people in the community: mayor and councillor, father and husband, colleague and friend, teacher, blues aficionado, young traveller, community activist and nature-lover. Drummond may be best remembered for his work around creating urban trails in Burnaby, but his career touched thousands of lives and many areas of the community, according to colleagues.

Drummond was the longest-serving politician in Burnaby's history. He was elected 10 times and served as councillor and mayor over a span of 27 years.

In 2003, he received one of the Queen's Golden Jubilee medals for community leadership and an honorary technology degree from BCIT.

Drummond is survived by his two sons, Michael and Colin, and his wife, Jean.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the local SPCA.

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