

School of Education Terrace Campus March 2017 Newsletter



My 10th Year Anniversary (March 2007-2017) with UNBC

by Marian Kotowich-Laval

I am celebrating my 10th Year Anniversary at UNBC and will be hosting a **Spring Equinox Dessert Fest** at the UNBC Terrace Campus on Monday, March 20th in Room 103 from 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm. Everyone is welcome!

It is also my pleasure to give a short retrospective in this newsletter. Firstly, I want to acknowledge the traditional territories of the Ts'msyen Nation, where I live. I also want to thank UNBC, my colleagues, students, elders, friends, and my family for contributing to the last ten amazing years. I am continually awestruck by the beauty and spirit of the Northwest.

My introduction to the Northwest began in May 2003, when I flew into Terrace with a colleague to conduct workshops in the Nass Valley. From my seat on the plane, my heart raced as I peered over the vast terrain of mountains and pristine glacial outflows. Little did I know then, that I would replay this moment many times over.

When my colleague and I landed in Terrace, I felt an overwhelming sense of awe even before I reached the terminal. The remaining 100 km-trip to Gitlaxt'aamiks was unforgettable with breath-taking landscapes and mountain views. Upon our return, a beloved elder from the Nass hitched a ride with us into town. As we drove, she cracked hilarious jokes and intermingled stories of the land. She also began encouraging me to move to Terrace and even jokingly pointed out old and abandoned places I could fix-up. As we laughed and teased each other, the seed of relocating started to take root. It took another workshop in Gitlaxt'aamiks and a 2 ½ -year search for a home when we arrived in Terrace in August 2006. It was a daunting time for our family, having no contacts in Terrace and little more than a call in our hearts to guide us.

Continued on next page...

NEW: Masters of Multi-Disciplinary Leadership

Would you like to complete a **Master's degree in 24 months?**

UNBC (Northwest Regional Campus Terrace) is offering a 24 Month MDL program in Leadership/Curriculum.

For more information contact: Dr. Ed Harrison
250-615-3316 or ed.harrison@unbc.ca

We hope to see you there!



School of Education, NW Region
4837 Keith Avenue Terrace BC V8G 1K7
Phone: (250) 615-5578
<http://www.unbc.ca/northwest>

Come Join Us On Campus!

Public Presentations

March 8th

"Aboriginal Education"
Presenter: Charity Peal
12:00 - 1:00 pm

March 22nd

"Can Large Resource
Developments Contribute to
Sustainability in First Nations
Communities?"
Presenter: Debra Stokes
12:00 - 1:00 pm

Bachelor of Education

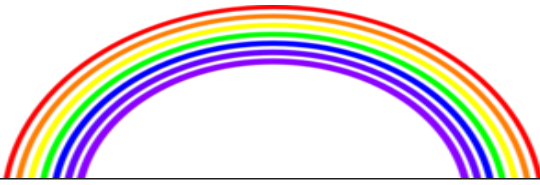
If you are interested in taking the B.Ed program, it is strongly recommended that you meet with Cathy Lambright (Macintosh).

Please contact:
catherine.macintosh@unbc.ca or
phone: 250-615-3325

Important Dates!

March 13th – 24th
Mid-Semester Break
B.Ed Students ONLY





I started with UNBC in March 2007 as the *Aboriginal Teacher Education Bridging Coordinator* (ATEB). ATEB promoted teaching careers amongst aboriginal students, bridging them into the Terrace Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.). From 2009 – 2016, I coordinated Aboriginal Services. As of this year, I will be concentrating on initiatives within the School of Education.

Although there have been many changes at UNBC since I have arrived, the guiding principle remains the same, “a Northern university for the people in the North”. UNBC, with its campuses situated on many traditional territories, is always in my awareness and is a priority for me. I share the belief that improved educational outcomes for aboriginal students will be a pivotal driving force for Canadian society. As Canada enters its 150th year, I can only hope that all Canadians are reminded of the sacrifices made by the generations that came before us, to continue to shape a more inclusive and fair society as we progress forward.

With the introduction of *BC's new school curriculum*, it is opening new pathways of student engagement and encouraging leadership at a younger age. This is a very exciting time for educators. The powerful presence of a well-trained and culturally-informed teacher is needed to lead today's generation. It strikes a deep chord in me to have the opportunity to assist in training culturally-competent teachers. Outside of one's own family, teachers can make a fundamental difference in a person's life. From an indigenous perspective, teaching is a sacred responsibility, requires a great deal of commitment, and is a life-long journey.

I have so many people I wish to thank. However, for their ongoing inspiration to me, special mentions go out to my community mentors: Alice Azak, Charlotte Guno, Debbie Moore, Hester McKay, and the timeless Mildred Roberts, Raymond Lavallee, and Campbell Papequash.

I hope those reading this, can join me at the UNBC Terrace Campus on Monday, March 20th between 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm for desserts!

Marian Kotowich-Laval, Faculty of School of Education
 Email: marian.kotowich-laval@unbc.ca
 Direct: 250-615-3328



**Bachelor of Education K-7
 Terrace
 September 2017 Intake**

Applications are now being accepted at the Terrace campus!



Linda's Links

www.learningreviews.com

“Learning Review’s directory of 3000 mostly free educational websites, apps and games is referenced by thousands of schools, districts, teacher and parents worldwide”

www.storywheelapp.com

This interactive app “assists students in oral language development as well as for those writers who may need a scaffold to get their ideas flowing”. The basic level is free.

Linda Lee