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MEDIA RELEASE

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Okanagan College Alumni Association announces 2007 Alumni Award winners

Penticton's Corinne Inman and Kelowna's Nick Arkle have been named winners of the Okanagan College Alumni Association's 2007 Young Alumni and Distinguished Alumni Awards.

Inman and Arkle will receive the honours at a ceremony and dinner reception held on October 25, 2007. Also being recognized at the same ceremony will be Team Scott – winners of the Canadian Scotties Tournament of Hearts and World Women's curling gold medalists – and four members of the Okanagan School of Business' award-winning competition team, Arluene King, Janta Quigley, Arend Hoekstra and Jane Long.

Inman will be the second person to receive the Young Alumni Award. At age 26, Inman opened Morpheus Graphics & Printing Solutions Inc. in Penticton. The full-service design and printing studio offers convenient, one-stop business solutions for a variety of business needs and promotional materials.

In its start-up year, 2005, Morpheus Graphics was nominated for two Penticton Wine Country Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards for New Business and Young Entrepreneur. In 2006 Inman and her company received three nominations, taking home the award for Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

Inman graduated from Penticton Senior Secondary in 1996 before attending Okanagan University College's Business Administration program. In 2002 she completed the diploma program with a specialization in Marketing and went on to attend Trend College, where she earned an honours diploma in Digital Graphic Design/Prepress.

With more than eight years of experience in the print industry Inman has carved a solid reputation in the Southern Interior as a designer, entrepreneur and important contributor to her community. This year Inman joined the Penticton Peach Festival's Board of Directors where she offered her expertise and experience with advertising, marketing and sponsorship while acting as Marketing Director for the festival.

This year's winner of the Distinguished Alumni Award is the Woodlands Manager and Chief Forester at Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd.

Nick Arkle moved to Kelowna in 1975 and began a working relationship with Gorman Bros. Lumber that has proven to stand the test of time. In 1980 Arkle graduated from BCIT's Forestry Technician program. He spent one year at Okanagan College where he studied first-year science. Arkle graduated from UBC in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry and obtained Professional Forester status in 1987. He was President of the Provincial body for professional foresters from 1999-2000.

Arkle's community involvement and volunteer work extend beyond Kelowna to include regional, national and international organizations. A few examples of Arkle's civic participation include: Director of the Regional District of the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission from 2001-2003, Appointee Director representing the forest industry on the Kelowna Chamber of Commerce and Director of a non-profit organization, Hope for the Nations, directed at children at risk in the third world. In this capacity Arkle oversees the projects in the Himalaya region as well as being the UN Liaison for the same organization working on economic and social council issues. Arkle is a steward for forest industry interests in the Okanagan Partnership Society as well as co-chair. He is also an appointed member of the UBC-Okanagan President's Advisory Council.

"The success of our graduates is very impressive and selecting our award recipients for 2007 was difficult," says Christina Ferreira, Okanagan College Alumni President. "Our Board of Directors is pleased to see the increase in nominations and awareness for these awards."

The 2007 Alumni Awards will also include honours for Kelly Scott (Business Administration diploma 1999), Jeanna Schreader (Computer Information Systems diploma 2000) and Renee Simons (Office Administration diploma 1991). The fourth member of Team Scott, Sasha Carter, will be recognized as an honorary alumna.

Okanagan School of Business students Arluene King, Janta Quigley, Arend Hoekstra and Jane Long worked under the team name of Inukshuk Sound when they won top honours at the 43rd annual International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition in San Diego this April. The only Canadian team in the competition, Inukshuk Sound won best overall team performance, top written report, top stock portfolio performance coach, top stock portfolio performance students (first and second place).

The four Okanagan School of Business students finished the competition with a stock price that was four times higher than the next best competitor – the MBA team from Regents Business School in London, England.

The 2007 Alumni Awards banquet will take place at the Ramada Inn in Kelowna at 5 p.m. on October 25, 2007. Tickets are \$85 for alumni and \$100 for other guests. To purchase tickets, call Katerina Hay at (250) 862-5630, ext. 3.

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For more information contact:

Christine Ulmer, Public Affairs 862-5616 or culmer@okanagan.bc.ca