



Okanagan College Aboriginal Access and Services

Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1

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available for students. It also has information on how to apply and people to contact. It is available throughout Okanagan College, and online at The Aboriginal Student Services website: <http://www.okanagan.bc.ca/aboriginal>

Scholarship and Bursary Information

Scholarships and Bursaries are amazing things, however they can be a pain to try and look through. There is also information that may help you which you may be unaware of. This is why Aboriginal student services have created two resources to help you with your funding.

The First if is a scholarship brochure that is filled with information and websites, with an emphasis on students from the aboriginal community. This brochure will be available throughout the college, and may help you in planning for this year, or the years to follow.

The second resource made available to students is an Awards and Bursaries data base. Come in and look through the up to date binder of major scholarships and talk to the Coordinator or any of the mentors about questions or concern you may have.

New Aboriginal Student Handbook

If you have questions about the services available to you at Okanagan College, try referring to our new student's handbook. The handbook will give you a brief overview of the various campuses and has overviews of the various student services and support that is

Skills Canada BC First Nation Bursary

The Industry Training Authority wanted to find a way in which to reduce the



barriers for Aboriginal Students wishing to enter the Foundation Trades program. They have set aside 240,000 to skills Canada B.C in order for this happen. Okanagan College is pleased to announce that they have been allocated \$15,000 to aid students in need.

The Bursary is for up to \$5,000, which is enough to cover the costs of books, and tuition. Individual circumstances are considered in determining the amount each student is eligible for. For more application information, and to see if you meet the application requirements, please see the Financial Aid and Awards section of the Okanagan College website at

<http://www.okanagan.bc.ca/administration/students/financialaid.html>

Aboriginal Services – Mentor Profile

Ethan is Syilx (People of the Okanagan Nation) and was born and raised in Oliver, on the Osoyoos Indian Band reserve. He graduated from Notre Dame High-school in Wilcox Saskatchewan, then attended UBC Vancouver and majored in political science and economics and, thereafter, attended Concordia University College and majored in Business Administration while playing varsity hockey.



After which, he attended Thompson Rivers University and completed a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a major in Finance. Currently, he is attending UBC Okanagan pursuing a Master of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Indigenous Studies. Ethan believes a strong cultural and traditional background are the key to any Western education, whether post-secondary or graduate. As such he has dedicated his time to learning Syilx way of life and worldview, traditional songs, attending ceremonies and has co-organized the annual Traditional Okanagan Hunting Trek.

Local Okanagan Nation Student Wins Important Scholarship

It is with great pleasure that we send out a congratulations to Rochelle Saddleman, the successful recipient of a New Relationship Trust Scholarship worth \$5000.00. Rochelle is member of the Okanagan Indian Band and a student in the Bachelor of Business



Administration program. Her dedication to her studies has paid off and she is certainly a great role model for other students.

Her success is not only a benefit to herself but to the College as a whole as she is able to share her knowledge of the College and all it has to offer working as a peer mentor in the Vernon Aboriginal Student Centre. Great work Rochelle!

Important Dates For Fall 2008

September 2: Orientation Day

September 2: Co-op Work Term Begins

September 3: Classes begin for Business, CIS, Commercial Aviation, Arts/Science, Engineering Technology, and Advanced Culinary Arts Diploma

September 12: Last day to register in a course for the fall semester

September 12: Last day to receive a tuition rebate for withdrawal from a fall semester course

September 12: Last day to withdraw without record of course resignation entered on the student's transcript for a summer semester course

September 12: Last day to submit a waiver or an addition to the Medical and Dental Plan. Forms to be submitted to Student Association offices by 4:00pm

October 13: Closed for Thanksgiving



October 24: Last day to change from credit to audit

October 29: Last day to withdraw, without penalty, from a fall semester courses

November 11: Closed for Remembrance Day

December 8-18: Ten Day Final Exam Period

December 22: Last Day to submit final grades

December 24-January 1: Holiday Break

Upcoming Events

8TH WORLD INDIGENOUS WOMEN & WELLNESS CONFERENCE

Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2008

Calgary, Alberta

Information at <http://www.awotaan.org/>

Alberta will be hosting the **8th World Indigenous Women & Wellness Conference**.

This is an excellent opportunity for participants from across the globe to share information, innovative initiatives, and models. Research and best practices on Family Violence and Indigenous Peoples. The conference will also provide participants with the opportunity to network.

This conference will bring together people from a range of disciplinary fields and nations who are engaged in developing responses to global challenges of Aboriginal and/or other indigenous peoples. The purpose is to identify common themes and key issues, and explore ideas for the future.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES: FIRST NATIONS PARTNERSHIPS CONFERENCE

October 1, 2008

8am-6pm

**Penticton Trade & Convention Centre
Penticton, B.C.**

The Okanagan Nation Alliance is inviting local, regional and national business people to come and meet with us to discuss emerging opportunities to do business with

our bands and band members.

CHILD OBESITY CONFERENCE

October 2-4, 2008

Vancouver B.C

More Info at

www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/Obesity_Conference.htm

This conference brings together an interdisciplinary group of professionals who work in the field of childhood and adolescent obesity or are confronted with this growing problem. The sessions have been proposed based on a framework of living (home/community environment), learning (school environment) and working (work environment) and how these settings are associated with childhood obesity. A focus of this conference will include cultural considerations for working with Aboriginal communities and individuals.

DREAM CATCHERS CONFERENCE

October 17-19, 2008

More Info at

www.dreacatcher.macewan.ca/iondex.cfm

If knowledge is power, the indigenous youth of our country need to embrace the connection between education and success. Not all education happens within the classroom- the cultural teachings of the Elders help youth to become grounded in traditional values that enable learning at every level. The largest Aboriginal Youth conference in Canada, Dream catcher brings together youth and chaperones from the four directions, offering career development workshops, entertainment, and a chance for aboriginal youth to connect and celebrate their cultures.

8TH Annual Western Canada ABORIGINAL BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

October 20-21, 2008

Vancouver, B.C

Information at <http://www.insightinfo.com>



Register Online or call 1-888-777-1707

A great forum for young entrepreneurs. With three key issues that will be considered which are:

- ~Overcoming the obstacles to speeding up Aboriginal economic development.
- ~Increasing the Aboriginal leadership role in the process
- ~Taking key actions to move aboriginal economic development forward while earning a good return on investment

THE 2nd INTERNATIONAL DIABETES IN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FORUM

**November 17-19, 2008
Vancouver, BC
More info at**

www.interprofessional.ubc.ca

This conference brings together an interdisciplinary group of professionals who work in the field of childhood and adolescent obesity or are confronted with this growing problem. The sessions have been proposed based on a framework of living (home/community environment) and working (work environment) and how these settings are associated with childhood obesity. A focus of this conference will include cultural consideration for working with aboriginal communities and individuals.

Websites of Interest

Okanagan College Aboriginal Programs and Services Webpage:

<http://www.okanagan.bc.ca/aboriginal>

Aboriginal Funding Tool:

<http://www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca/acp/apps/fundingtool.nsf/>

Shuswap Nation Tribal Council:

<http://www.shuswapnation.org/>

Aboriginal Access and Services Contact Information

James Coble
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Robert Searle
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Marilyn Alexis
Educational Advisor, Aboriginal Mentor
Okanagan College, Vernon
Office: A306 (Wed.), D220 (Tues. & Thurs.)
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