



First Annual Women in Trades Evening on March 7, 2007

The Trades and Apprenticeship Department at Okanagan College hosted the First annual Women and Trades event in recognition of International Women's Week. International Women's Week is a time to celebrate the progress made to advance women's rights and to celebrate women successes. The Women In Trades event focused on celebrating Women's advancement in the trades' careers. We recognize that many more women are working in what use to be male dominated fields and we wanted to celebrate their successes.

Over 40 women had the opportunity to meet each other and share best practices and network with one another, while enjoying refreshments created by our Culinary Arts students. We also had inspirational presentations from three women who completed their apprenticeships: Rishia McDowell, Journeyperson Carpenter; Mariam Pouriliaee, Jouneyperson Automotive Service Technician and Lisa Huth, B certified welder and entrepreneur. Each of our presenters gave us a glimpse of their journey and how they succeeded in the trades. It was both inspirational and thought provoking.

Door prizes were donated by the Construction Trades Department and were enjoyed by several participants.

Pat Dandeneau
Apprenticeship Manager
Trades and Apprenticeship
Okanagan College
www.okanagan.bc.ca/apprenticeship