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**OKANAGAN COLLEGE** students Louis Ensign (left front), Luc Beauchamp (left back) Kevin Linqvist, Tracee Harder, Dean Nutter, Danielle Racicot (right front). Louis, Luc, Kevin and Danielle are four of the students who worked on the time capsule project. Tracee is the instructor and Dean is the chair of welding at the college.

## Okanagan College students help make history

With the opening of the William R. Bennett Bridge just months away, Dean Nutter, chair of Okanagan College's welding department, didn't hesitate when asked by the B.C. Ministry of Transportation if the college would be interested in being a part of history.

"Okanagan College's welding department gets a lot of requests to help with community projects, but being asked to construct a time capsule for the new bridge was a great opportunity for our students to contribute something meaningful to the city," said Nutter.

"We spent some time figuring out a way to build the construction of the capsule into our curriculum for the class of steel fabricator pre-apprenticeship students and from there the students really ran with the project."

Led by instructor Tracee Harder, the group of trades students worked together to conceptualize the design of the capsule.

After considering many options, the apprentices based their design on the profile of the small wooden boxes that would later be placed inside the capsule by elementary school students from across the Central Okanagan.

The sleek shape of the capsule complements the simplicity of the material used to build it.

The 700 pound aluminum box was built

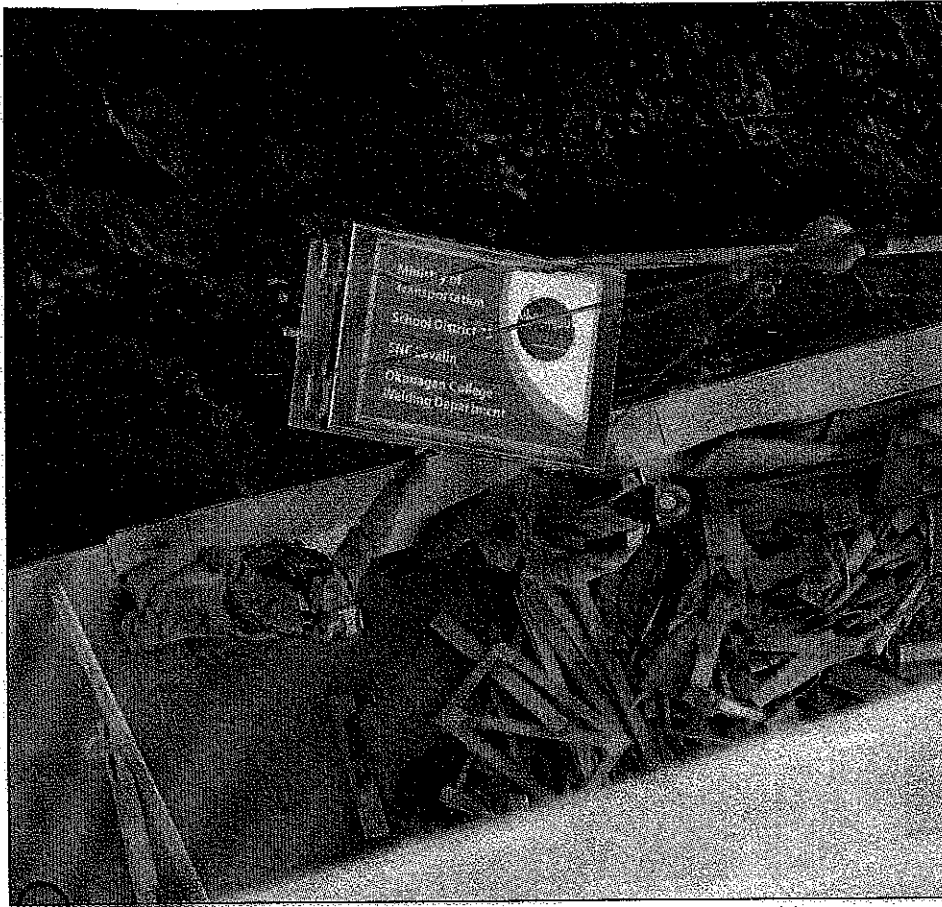


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**GILL HARDY** (left), a manager on the William R. Bennett Bridge, a bridge worker (centre) and Dean Nutter, chairman of the welding department at Okanagan College with the time capsule on the bridge deck.

to withstand the harsh environment under the bridge.

The capsule was placed and fastened on one of the floating pontoons, where it will stay for the next 27 years until it is re-opened to a whole new generation.



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**THE TIME** capsule as seen from the summit of the new bridge as it is lowered to a barge before being placed on one of the floating pontoons.