

okanagan
college



A report to the community 2009



THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

\$28 million Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation underway in Penticton

91% of students reported "Attending Okanagan College has been a good experience for me"

52.2% of students are female

\$82.8 million annual budget

\$28-million Centre for Learning completed in Kelowna

19,000+ students trained and educated at Okanagan College in 2008-09

201 bachelor's degrees conferred in June

More than \$1.4 million in financial aid for students:

- \$438,166 given out by Okanagan College
- \$994,882 given out by the Okanagan College Foundation

420 tonnes of CO2 saved per year thanks to the Centre for Learning's LEED Gold design

1,686 scholarships, bursaries and awards to students

\$253,000 Aboriginal Gathering Place completed in Salmon Arm

SUSTAINABILITY

Led by its mission, vision and values, Okanagan College focuses on sustaining the needs of its learners, their unique cultures, community partnerships, innovation in teaching, leadership and creating a vision for the communities it serves. As a learner-centred institution the College acknowledges its responsibility to lead the region in the implementation of new technologies, systems and best practices.

Throughout the course of the 2008-09 year Okanagan College did much to deliver on its commitment to sustainability. Some of those accomplishments are highlighted in this report. Key among them is the increased access Okanagan College has provided for students. Since opening its doors in 2005, enrolment at Okanagan College has steadily increased, each year exceeding government enrolment targets. As an indication of how that growth translates, Okanagan College now provides training and education to approximately one in every 20 people in the region it serves.

On an operational front, the 2008-09 year delivered on new infrastructure developments, like the \$28 million Centre of Excellence in Penticton, which will be a hub of innovation and education in the South Okanagan. The past year also brought the completion of significant construction projects, like the \$28 million Centre for Learning in Kelowna, a LEED Gold project which is highlighted on Page Six of this report.

Okanagan College has offered new services for students and attracted top quality staff to its ranks to help students succeed, and these investments have paid off. Throughout the past year Okanagan College students won international business competitions, volunteered in their communities, made contributions and recorded important achievements; some of which are highlighted on the following pages.

In addition to the College's operational growth, student and staff successes, Okanagan College celebrated its largest graduating class ever at the 2009 Convocation.

The information, success stories and photographs within this report help to tell Okanagan College's sustainability story. It is a story about innovation, responsible growth, leadership and the student success that is helping to transform lives and communities.



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TRANSFORMING LIVES



As a community member of the Board of Governors for the past five years, and as Chair of that group for the past three years, I take great pride in how our College has developed and responded to the needs of the Okanagan, Shuswap and Similkameen valleys.

Changing economic circumstances have made very apparent the importance of educational institutions such as Okanagan College. It is essential that learning, retraining and skill development opportunities are at hand when jobs are scarce, and when industries face grand-scale restructuring. It is vital that those opportunities address the evolving needs of a region as dynamic as ours.

At the heart of Okanagan College are its students and staff. They have much to be proud of this year. There are many individual achievements and accomplishments, but more importantly, we can together boast of an organization that is supportive, well-regarded and an asset to the many communities of this region.

My fellow Board members have had a hand in that success, contributing insight and oversight to the development of the College. For that, thank you. On behalf of the Board I offer congratulations and thanks to our colleagues, alumni, students, supporters and partners whose efforts help Okanagan College fulfill its mission to transform lives and communities.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janet Shaw".

Janet Shaw
Chair, Board of Governors
Okanagan College



Okanagan College has significantly increased access to post-secondary education since 2005. Creating more opportunities for students to take the programs and courses that they want, programs and courses which connect them to rewarding careers, is a laudable achievement.

More important, however, is ensuring quality education and training. While many people and parts of the College are focused on that concept of quality, Education Council has a very important and unique role to play in that regard. It is a role recognized in provincial legislation, which establishes Education Council as part of the governance of the College.

The Council is made up of 23 people, drawn from the College's internal community, including students, administrators, instructors and support staff. They come to the Council from throughout the College region. The Council's business - and that of its committees - is to consider curriculum and educational policies relating to students, standards, planning and operations.

Education Council is a body focused on quality control; scrutinizing programs, courses, services and policies that help assure students, employers, colleague institutions, and other stakeholders that program content and delivery is first-rate.

It is a task that the members of Education Council take very seriously.

We believe that our work has helped confirm Okanagan College as an institution that is world-class, whose graduates can boast valuable credentials. The College mission is to transform lives and communities, and educate, train, and support our students to excel in the workplace, to succeed in further education and to become lifelong learners. In fulfilling that mission, our first priority is student success. Education Council members know they have a critical role to play in delivering on that success.

We all share in the sense of achievement when proud students graduate, able to pursue their goals with the knowledge that their program and credential are top-drawer, recognized by employers, other institutions and the people who invest to make their education possible. Increased access to education is good; increased access to quality education is better.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Gee".

Rick Gee
Chair, Education Council
Okanagan College

A year of growth, leadership and achievement



In 2008-09 Okanagan College continued to deliver on our promise to transform lives and communities.

By once again adding more programs and making them more widely available throughout the Okanagan and Shuswap, we have gone a great distance in

addressing student and community demand for education and training. In fact, over the past four years, our enrolments have grown by 48 per cent, making Okanagan College the largest college east of the lower mainland. In 2008-09, we provided education and training to more than 19,000 people at locations from Revelstoke to Oliver.

But success isn't measured only in numbers. It is also measured in the pride of people who have achieved their career and educational goals. When the new Okanagan College opened its doors in 2005, we recognized our growth had to reflect our role of contributing to the economic, social and cultural development of the communities we serve.

Today, our progress is evident everywhere. You can see it in the practical learning opportunities provided our students by dozens of businesses and organizations. It is evident in the jobs offered by employers who seek our graduates. It is clear in the doubling of our Aboriginal student enrolments, the result of our ever closer relationships with our Aboriginal communities. We see it in the new partnerships with School Districts that open more education opportunities for high school students. It can be seen in the generous support of individuals, corporations and governments for the growth and redevelopment of our campuses, and in the scholarships and bursaries they endow to help support our students.

This September, we opened the new Centre for Learning on the Kelowna campus. It's a remarkable addition to our oldest campus that moves us into a new era of energy conservation and sustainability.

In April 2009, a new \$28 million Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation was announced for the South Okanagan-Similkameen. It will open its doors in 2011, tripling our space on the Penticton campus and moving Okanagan College into the forefront of colleges providing the latest in green construction training.

A \$1 million expansion of the Trades Training Centre in Salmon Arm was announced in August. This project draws on the joint federal-provincial Knowledge Infrastructure Program and will make a significant difference to our ability to further meet student and employer demand.

You'll read more about these projects, as well as stories about student and staff successes, in the pages of this Community Report. One thing that should be evident in our growth to date and in the stories you find here is that Okanagan College is focused on sustainability; not just the sustainability of an institution that can continue to serve the communities of this region, but also on the economic, cultural and social sustainability of the region itself.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Jim Hamilton". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

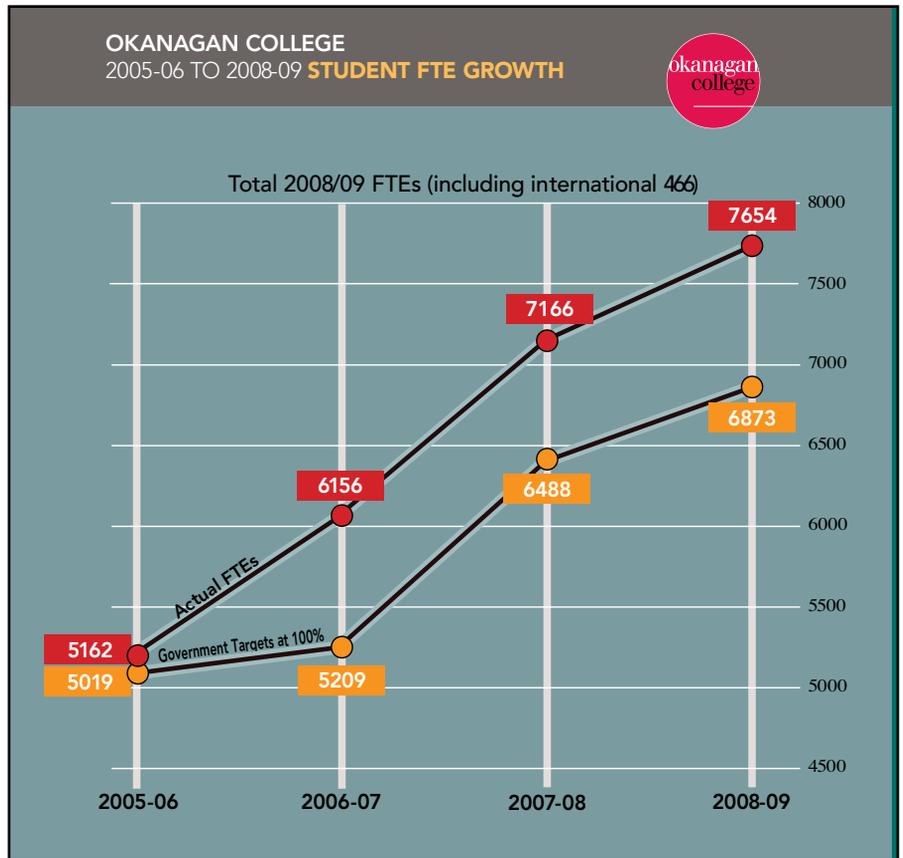
Jim Hamilton, President
Okanagan College

EXPANDING ACCESS FOR STUDENTS

One of the key ways Okanagan College is sustaining the region is by producing job-ready graduates that are trained and educated to meet the demands of a changing economy and a maturing work force. For the fourth year in a row Okanagan College exceeded the government's enrolment targets, providing education and training to 7,654 full-time equivalent students this year, including 466 international students.

With Okanagan College's enrolment numbers steadily rising, a focus for the College during the 2008-09 year was on providing adequate learning space for the thousands of students who choose to pursue their education at one of Okanagan College's four campuses. Not only did Okanagan College complete a number of significant infrastructure projects, it did so with a commitment to sustainable and environmentally responsible growth.

In Kelowna Okanagan College opened its doors to the \$28 million Centre for Learning, a project which will meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification. The new building is providing expanded space for students and staff, as well as creating a one-stop-shop approach for student services. Students are now able to access services such as the Learning Centre, IT Services, International Education and the Library in one building.

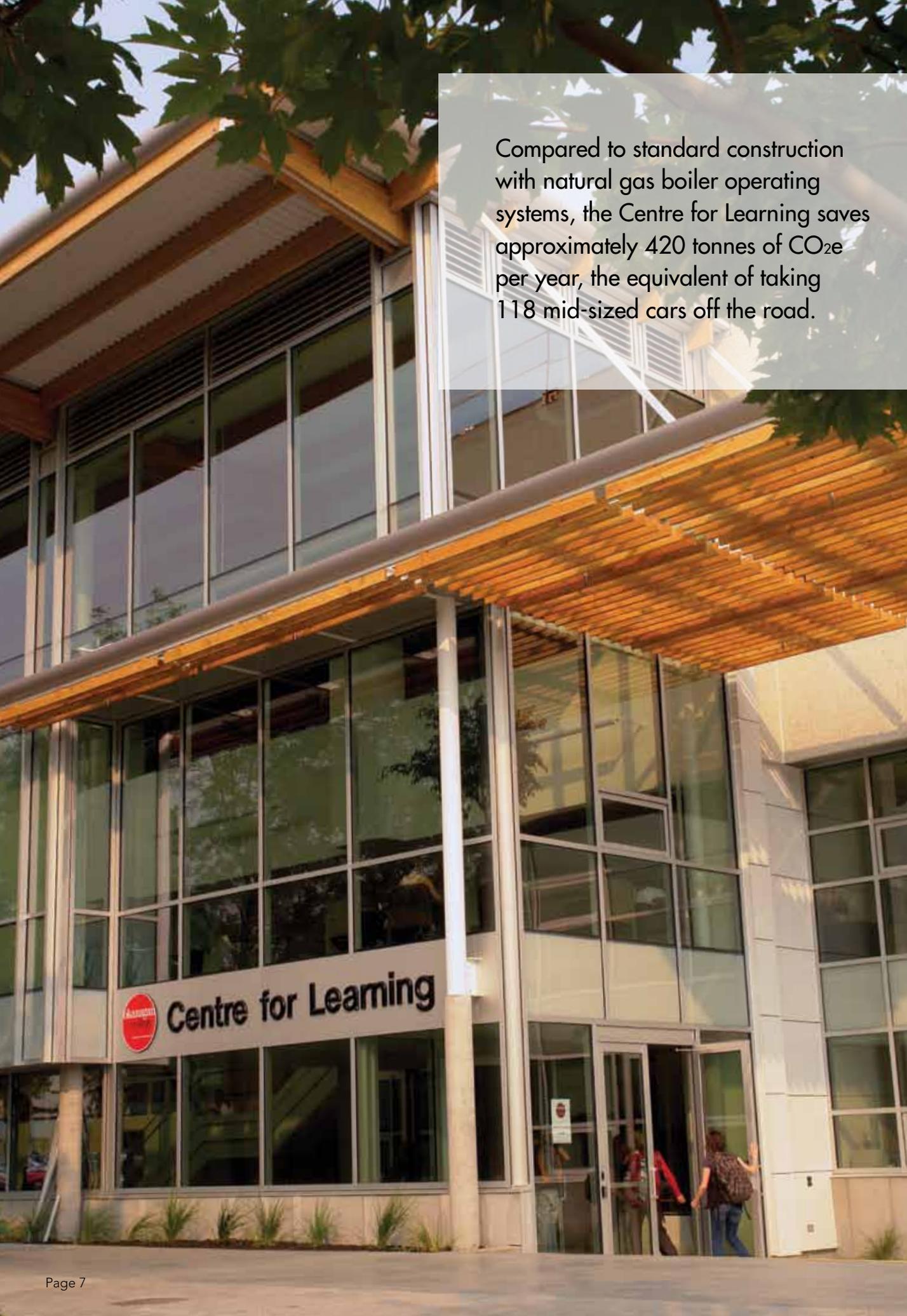


Okanagan College and the Central Okanagan YM-YWCA partnered to open the Little Scholars Child Care Centre, also at the Kelowna campus. The brand new building will provide child care services for students, staff and the community at large, and will be operated by the YM-YWCA.

The facility was built with environmental considerations in mind, makes use of solar panels and is powered with geothermal energy. Students in Okanagan College's Residential Construction program built the facility to the lock-up stage under the supervision of TEAM Construction ■



Little Scholars Child Care Centre, Kelowna campus

The image shows the exterior of a modern building with large glass windows and a wooden slat canopy. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the upper right portion of the image. The text inside the box reads: "Compared to standard construction with natural gas boiler operating systems, the Centre for Learning saves approximately 420 tonnes of CO₂e per year, the equivalent of taking 118 mid-sized cars off the road." The building's name "Centre for Learning" is visible on a sign below the windows.

Compared to standard construction with natural gas boiler operating systems, the Centre for Learning saves approximately 420 tonnes of CO₂e per year, the equivalent of taking 118 mid-sized cars off the road.

 Centre for Learning

PENTICTON'S CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

One of Okanagan College's most exciting days of the year came on April 8 when the Provincial and Federal governments announced their plan to help fund development of the \$28 million Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation at the Penticton campus.

A community fundraising campaign to raise \$5 million is currently underway for the facility, which will nearly triple the current size of the Penticton campus. Through the utilization of sustainable building technologies and processes, as well as alternative and renewable energy sources, the Centre of Excellence will aim to meet extremely high environmental and energy efficiency standards.

The 8,500-square metre, two-storey multi-purpose facility will provide expanded access for learners in the South Okanagan and beyond. The building will accommodate expanded trades and technology training and professional development, focused on sustainable (green) building technologies and processes and on the use of alternative and renewable energy sources.

The Centre of Excellence will provide space for incubation facilities, as well as research and development led by and in partnership with industry

professionals such as the Okanagan Research and Innovation Centre (ORIC), who will utilize research space in the new building.

The Centre of Excellence will accommodate an additional 800 full-time students annually on the Penticton campus and will be equipped with facilities and infrastructure to provide innovative programming in areas such as: Geo-Thermal, H-VAC, Power Lineman, Onsite Alternative Energy Sources and Life Cycle Management, to name a few.

The Centre of Excellence will also provide amenities for students, staff and the community at large, which will include a gymnasium and fitness room, to facilitate expansion of existing College-offered health programming (human kinetics diploma) and to create additional recreational opportunities.

Other highlights of the Centre include an on-campus Women's Resource Centre and kitchen/cafeteria space capable of serving up to 200 people.

The investment is part of the federal and provincial government's Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP), which is helping to provide economic stimulus and promote employment by creating jobs for engineers, architects, tradespeople and technicians ■



SALMON ARM - EXPANDED ACCESS FOR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS AND GROWTH IN TRADES

The Shuswap-Revelstoke region cut the ribbon on a significant infrastructure project at the Salmon Arm campus when the new Aboriginal Gathering Place opened its doors to students. The space was made possible due to a \$253,000 grant from the Provincial government. Okanagan College worked closely with representatives from the surrounding First Nations and Métis Nation to ensure the new space would be welcoming for all users.

The Honourable George Abbott, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, was joined by dignitaries and Chiefs from the Spltasin First Nation, Shuswap Nation Tribal Council, Métis Nation, Adams Lake Indian Band, and Neskonlith Indian Band, among others, to cut the ribbon on the new facility. The Gathering Place will offer study, social and cultural space for students at the Salmon Arm campus and marks the completion of the development of dedicated space for Aboriginal students at each of Okanagan College's four major campuses.

The Shuswap-Revelstoke region received more welcome news recently with the announcement of \$1 million of funding to expand Okanagan College's Salmon Arm Trades Training Facility. The announcement was made in August as part of the joint Federal-Provincial Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP), which is aimed at stimulating the economy and developing capacity in post-secondary institutions ■



The expansion of Salmon Arm's Trades Training facility (above) will add 848 square metres of shop and classroom space as well as a 1,968 square-metre covered work area at the site. Once the expansion is complete it will accommodate an additional 144 students at the College location.



The Hon. George Abbott, Minister of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation, joined Board Chair Janet Shaw, Chiefs and Elders from the Four Nations and Métis BC to open the new Gathering Place.



David Peters, Habitat for Humanity Board Member; David Kalaski, School District 67; Brian Hughes, Okanagan College Board of Governors; Donna Lomas, Regional Dean Okanagan College, and Randy Werger, Associate Dean Trades and Apprenticeship break ground in Penticton.

The College that works

Okanagan College students partnered with a variety of community organizations this year to make their campuses and communities better places to be. Students in the Residential Construction program took part in Home for Learning projects in Penticton, Kelowna, Vernon, Salmon Arm and Revelstoke. Each project was unique and involved community engagement. In

Revelstoke and Kelowna students took part in programs that contributed to financial awards for students. They worked with a general contractor and developer to build single-family homes that will be sold with net proceeds going toward scholarships, bursaries and tools for trades students. In Salmon Arm the class partnered with the Adams Lake Indian Band to build a home for a

growing family who were in need of their own space. The Vernon project, Under One Roof, saw students partner with more than seven community organizations to build a multi-family affordable housing project. The Penticton Residential Construction class worked with the South Okanagan chapter of Habitat for Humanity and helped to provide support throughout the building process ■



College cleans up on waste

At the Kelowna campus, Okanagan College's Enviro Club was challenged by UBC Okanagan to initiate a campus-wide trash audit. Members of the Enviro Club braved unfavourable November weather conditions and spent the day in the courtyard separating and analyzing one day's worth of trash at the Kelowna campus. With analytical help from the Regional District, they determined that Okanagan College produced about half the amount of garbage (5,542 litres) per day, as compared to UBC Okanagan. They found that 30 per cent of the trash was actual garbage, 37 per cent was recyclable and 33 per cent was compostable.

Facilities Management implemented a new service which saw paper towels diverted from the waste stream into the compost stream, removing a large percentage of biodegradable materials from the College's garbage ■



Osprey find a home

Staff at the Penticton campus extended Okanagan College's on-campus housing to include accommodation for two migratory friends of Okanagan College, a pair of young Osprey. After concerned neighbours watched the young pair struggle to build a nest on a nearby power pole, they contacted the Ministry of Environment to find out if there were any means to assist the birds in building a home and ensure their safety.

The Canadian Wildlife Service contacted Biology professor Sharon Mansiere and with help from Regional Dean Donna Lomas and Graham Kershaw of Campus Planning and Facilities Management, the group initiated a plan to erect a nest pole and platform for the couple on the campus grounds.

With help from the City of Penticton and BC Hydro, Okanagan College was able to secure a 50-foot pole that TELUS installed for the Osprey. The pair became well-known members of the Penticton campus and was soon joined by a third young Osprey. Penticton staff watched with interest as the group built and defended their nest on the new platform. Though they did not breed this year, the birds made great use of their new home before migrating to their summer habitat, which may be as far south as Ecuador ■

Mayor names College most dedicated group

Staff earned a commendation from Kelowna Mayor Sharon Shepherd for their efforts to clean up Fascieux Creek, which runs adjacent to the Kelowna campus. The College adopted the creek in 2007 after noticing an unsightly amount of garbage in the creek and on its banks. The trash, which included items such as shopping carts, pots and pans and pop cans, was preventing the flow of water through the creek.

As a result, Fascieux Creek's water was stagnant and nearly barren of fish and wildlife. Students, staff and neighbours joined forces in quarterly clean-up sessions, pulling out garbage, noxious weeds and clearing the banks of rubbish. Nearly three years later, the water flows swiftly and wildlife have returned in abundance. The clean-up group, which varies throughout the year, now routinely sees birds, snakes, turtles, fish and muskrat.

The City of Kelowna took notice of their efforts and recognized the group with the Mayor's Environmental Award for the most environmentally-dedicated group. Angie March, who organizes the creek clean-up sessions, received the award from Mayor Sharon Shepherd this spring ■



Mayor Sharon Shepherd and Angie March



Okanagan College's Rick Gee and Amanda Warman add to the Fascieux Creek clean-up effort

During the 2008-09 year Okanagan College made significant contributions in furthering environmental sustainability. These projects, some of which are highlighted in this report, are innovative, progressive and above all, measurable. But how do you measure an institution's social, cultural and community sustainability?

Over the past year Okanagan College students built upon their reputation as community-minded contributors. These stories provide a glimpse into the much larger picture of Okanagan College's students and how they excel in the classroom, in competitions and in life.



A cause worth smiling about

In late March, Okanagan College's Dental Assistant class volunteered their time and skills when they opened up their lab to offer free oral screenings to people who otherwise would not be able to afford them. Working under the supervision of their instructors and local dentists, who also volunteered their time, the students helped 32 residents in one day.

The College students partnered with the Kelowna Gospel Mission and B.C. Dental Association as part of a program that serves low-income residents in the region. **Over the past seven years, more than 6,500 people have received an estimated \$2.5 million worth of free dental care as a result of the partnership.** Okanagan College's Chair of the Dental Assistant program, Catherine Baranow, says the work is part of the program's code of ethics, which teaches students about the importance of using their skills and training to help those who need it most ■



Jace Albrecht (centre) with Glenmore Elementary students

Alumnus gives back to youths

During his time as an Okanagan College trades student, 22-year-old Jace Albrecht made a big impact in his chosen field of carpentry. While he was an Okanagan College apprentice, Jace won gold at the provincial BC Skills Canada competition and gold at national Skills Canada in carpentry. At the national competition Jace also earned the Best of Region Award, scoring higher in his division than any other BC competitor in their respective area. Jace finished his fourth year at Okanagan College with top honours, scoring 94 per cent on the inter-provincial exam – tying the highest ever scored by an Okanagan College student.

In May 2009, Communications professor Marc Arellano volunteered to photograph a group of students at Glenmore Elementary who had undertaken a carpentry project at their school. When he arrived at the schoolyard Marc found a young journeyman carpenter had volunteered to help the students build and install a number of wood features such as benches, tables and a tool shed for their Garden Club.

It didn't take long for Marc to learn that Jace had been an award-winning apprentice at Okanagan College. Though he has a busy work schedule as a journeyman carpenter, Jace's volunteer work speaks volumes about his community focus. **He is just one of the growing network of Okanagan College alumni who take the time to give back** ■

GREEN PLAN

Okanagan College's focus on sustainability was sharpened early in 2009 when a new special-purpose committee undertook development of a Green Plan for the institution. Led by Business Professor and environmental consultant Arnica Rowan, the committee engaged students and staff and looked at everything from transportation, to food services and learning practices, to employee wellness on the College's campuses.

The result was two sets of recommendations – one focused on immediate action, the other for the long-term. Even before classes started in September 2009, evidence of the effect of the plan was to be found:

- the existing recycling program on campuses has been kicked up a notch with new recycling stations (and improved informational signage) that allow staff and students to recycle more material
- reduction of use of non-recyclable materials in food services outlets
- paper towels from washrooms are being redirected from the garbage bin to the composting stream
- changes in bookstore practices (no plastic bags, more environmentally-friendly, sustainable products)



Arnica Rowan

The work of the committee is captured in a plan and process called Three Steps Forward (www.threestepsforward.ca).

In launching and developing Three Steps Forward, though, the committee and others quickly realized Okanagan College was already well along the path that leads to sustainability. Energy-saving and environmental projects undertaken by the College's Facilities staff and by instructors have helped put the institution in the forefront of several important initiatives. There is the eco-friendly, water-based paints being used in the Automotive Collision Repair and Painting programs, where students are gaining expertise in environmental regulations soon to be implemented nation-wide.

There is the new \$28 million Centre for Learning on the Kelowna campus that has been built to LEED Gold standards, and which incorporates carbon-footprint reducing technology that saves approximately 420 tonnes of CO₂e (carbon dioxide equivalent) per year, the equivalent of taking 118 mid-size cars off the road.

In the coming year, even more will be done as Okanagan College aims to achieve carbon neutrality as part of its commitment to sustainability ■



The Hon. John Yap, Minister of State for Climate Action, joined Vice President Andrew Hay and Facilities Management's Peter Csandl on a tour of the Kelowna campus Centre for Learning in the fall of 2009.

COLLEGE MOVES FORWARD WITH ABORIGINAL PROGRAMS, SERVICES

A number of advances in providing access and support for Aboriginal learners at Okanagan College were made during the 2008-09 year. One of the notable achievements was hiring two full-time Aboriginal Recruiting and Events Coordinators.

With support and guidance from the College's Aboriginal Access and Services Coordinator James Coble, Loleen MacDonald and Shelley Witzky work closely with secondary schools, dual credit programs, as well as specifically connecting with Aboriginal learners in their respective regions and those who come to Okanagan college from outside the region.

During the past year another significant achievement was the opening of the new Aboriginal Gathering Place in Salmon Arm. Okanagan College now has space at all of its campuses that is specifically dedicated for Aboriginal learners. The new space, which was funded through a \$253,000 grant from the Provincial Government, provides space for studying, meeting and socializing for students in an environment that reflects Okanagan College's cultural diversity.

The 2008-09 year saw educational partnerships develop and flourish. One example of such a partnership took place in Salmon Arm when Residential Construction students partnered with the Adams Lake Indian Band to build a home for a growing family of five who were in need of their own space. Working together, the College and the Adams Lake Indian Band were able to provide training and skills for students, as well as build a superb home for Elwin Gaze and his family.

Through innovative programming, like the Home for Learning projects, and by increasing support for Aboriginal students, all indications are that these joint efforts are paying off. This year Okanagan College has seen a significant increase in Aboriginal student applications for the fall semester ■



Shelley Witzky and Loleen MacDonald



The Gaze family checks out their new home



Salmon Arm Residential Construction class of 2009

IN SEPTEMBER 2009 OKANAGAN
COLLEGE HOSTED A TRADITIONAL
POW WOW AT THE KELOWNA CAMPUS



I like to focus on fresh, vibrant flavours.



Apprentice chef, best of the best

Second-year Okanagan College apprentice chef David Colombe earned international acclaim at the Florida Tomato Committee's 20th Annual Best of the Best Recipe Contest when his creation - Fire Roasted Tomato Gumbo – was named grand prize winner. Colombe used Florida tomatoes and infused them with a Louisiana twist, serving up a spicy and savoury approach to a classic soup.

The award-winning recipe draws on flavour derived from fire-roasting the tomatoes to intensify their taste, and then is ramped up with cayenne pepper and andouille sausage and fresh rosemary.

Colombe works at the Armstrong Inn, lives in Vernon, and is originally from the United States. He chose to study at Okanagan College because of its location and proximity to a great wine region. Though he considered studying in Napa, California, Okanagan College won out, not just for reasons of cost, but because there are great things happening in both industries here, and in the fusion between the two, said Colombe ■

Civil Engineering students catapult to the top

A team of five Civil Engineering Technology students from Okanagan College performed a near record-breaking demonstration of analytical and technical command when they captured first-place at the Western Canadian Wood Catapult Competition in Vancouver in April.

Using a simple trebuchet design, Chris Miller, Craig Stickland, Dave Sonmor, Kelly Frame, and Thao Kenny scored 1,809 points in 30 minutes after most accurately hitting targets set at 20, 30 and 45 meters, solidly beating the second-place team from UBC Engineering (565.3 points) and the third-place finishers from BCIT (537 points).

Team captain Kelly Frame was proud of the team's accomplishment on the field and even more pleased when the judges announced Okanagan College had won the best technical report for the competition.

"Winning the best report was really a feather in our cap for Okanagan College," said Frame. "We are very proud of the accomplishment because we were up against the degree-granting engineering programs from schools across Western Canada." ■

We performed best on the field and on paper.



Students in Free Enterprise

Okanagan College's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Okanagan broke new ground in the 2008-09 year through its participation in new environmental initiatives, select competition categories and by earning a place **among Canada's top three business schools in the national competition.**

In recognition of its rapid start-up success, SIFE Okanagan was invited to take part in the Walmart SIFE For the Greener Good Challenge Pilot Topic competition. Okanagan College was selected as one of only six student teams in the nation to compete and was the only college among competing university teams that included: the University of Toronto, Concordia University, Université Sainte-Anne, University of Calgary and Ryerson University. The team was selected based on its proven record of developing sustainable, effective programs that create impact in the community.

Matt Cosar, SIFE Okanagan; Sharon Shepherd, Mayor of Kelowna; Arnica Rowan, Okanagan School of Business; Weldon LeBlanc, CEO Kelowna Chamber of Commerce; and Norm LeCavalier, President Kelowna Chamber of Commerce at the 2009 Eco-Nomics Awards.



While preparing for the national competition, SIFE Okanagan was instrumental in delivering Kelowna's first Eco-Nomic Awards, which aim to recognize businesses and organizations that successfully operate with environmentally responsible practices. SIFE Okanagan partnered with the Kelowna Chamber of Commerce to organize and deliver the awards, which represented five different categories. The top winner from the inaugural 2009 Eco-Nomics awards was Summerhill Pyramid Winery.

After placing first in three categories at the Western Canada Regional SIFE competition, SIFE Okanagan finished third in three categories at the national competition. The team placed third in Entrepreneurship, Financial Literacy and Sustainability. The students' efforts were commended by judges and resulted in SIFE Okanagan's selection as **one of three post-secondary institutions in Canada invited to attend the International competition in October in Berlin, Germany.** The College team will participate in the Accelerator Training Program after being identified as an up-and-coming leader in entrepreneurialism ■



SIFE Okanagan's Mike Blonde, Brittany Sjoblom, Brant Jackson, Melissa Veregin and Rob Fulthorpe

College students sweep up at Skills competitions

Seven Okanagan College students solidified their reputation as being among the best tradespersons and technologists in the province after putting forth medal-winning performances at the 15th annual BC Skills Canada Competition in April.

The College won three gold, two silver and two bronze medals in four different categories.

Okanagan College apprentices swept the Automotive Service category with wins from: Andrew Goll (gold), Ryan Vlooswyk (silver) and Devon Kritsch (bronze). In Automotive Collision Repair, students finished first and second with medals earned by: James Sawatzky (gold) and Oliver Teal (silver). Devon Hamilton won a bronze medal in the Carpentry division and Christy Hyde took the gold in IT PC Network Support.

Since it began competing in Automotive Collision Repair challenges at Skills competitions in 2000, Okanagan College has dominated the category, winning 13 provincial medals (nine gold, three silver and one bronze) and seven national medals (five gold, a silver and a bronze).

After winning their respective categories at the provincial level, Sawatzky, Goll and Hyde had the opportunity to represent team BC and join other gold medal finishers at the Canada Skills Competition in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, where they vied for national honours. Sawatzky and Goll both earned bronze medals at the Canada-wide competition. They were coached by instructors Jeff Francis and Jamie Bloomfield ■



Skills Canada bronze medal winners James Sawatzky (Automotive Collision Repair) and Andrew Goll (Automotive Service Technician)

Partnership plays ball



Okanagan College students represented the institution on a new platform during the 2008-09 year when they formed the Okanagan College Baseball Team. The team, which plays in the Canadian College Baseball Conference (CCBC), was developed in the fall of 2008 after a partnership was struck between the Kelowna Baseball Society and Okanagan College. Once formed, the team participated in the fall exhibition season to sharpen its skills before competing in the regular spring season of 2009.

The CCBC is made up of teams from Thompson Rivers University, the University of Calgary, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Vancouver Island University and the Prairie Baseball Academy (which draws from both the University of Lethbridge and Lethbridge Community College).

Led by head coach Geoff White, the team finished first in its division. Coach White will be back for the 2009-10 regular season, which kicks off this fall. The team's schedule can be found online at:

www.okanagancollegebaseball.com ■

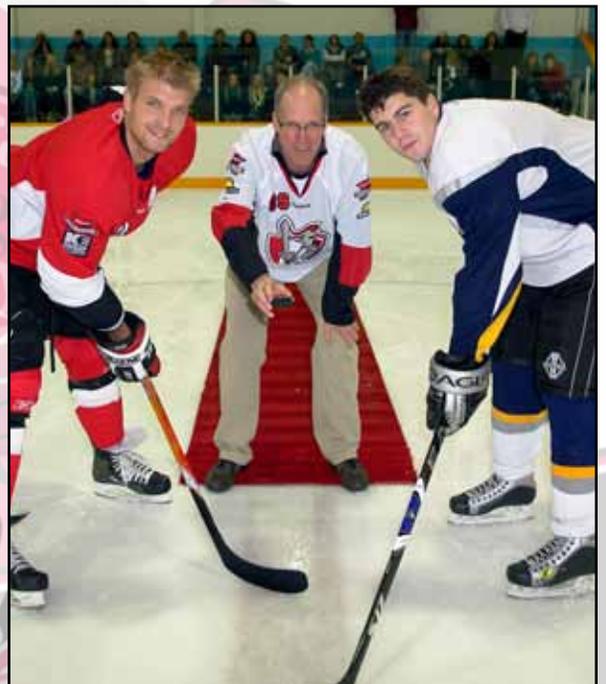
Puck drops for hockey team

A recent development will see one more college sport added to Okanagan College's roster with the addition of the Okanagan College Crusaders hockey team. President Jim Hamilton met with directors of the Okanagan College Crusaders Hockey Association in September to sign an agreement that will include Okanagan College in the British Columbia Intercollegiate Hockey League (BCIHL).

The Crusaders will begin playing regular season games this October against competitors from six other teams in the BCIHL: Selkirk College, Simon Fraser University, Thompson Rivers University, Trinity Western University, the University of the Fraser Valley and the University of Victoria.

The team's directors include Okanagan College business students Kelly Loudoun (President) and Kolby Barnstable (Vice President). The team is coached by Kim Barnstable and Ryan Ryder and will play its home games at the Winfield Arena. To see the team's schedule and results visit:

www.okanagancrusaders.ca ■



President Jim Hamilton dropped the puck at the Okanagan College Crusaders' first home game against the University of Victoria.

INSTITUTE FOR LEADERSHIP IN LEARNING & TEACHING

Quality of learning and teaching is a prime focus for Okanagan College. Amidst a year of tremendous growth and success, the College further distinguished itself as a learning organization with the development of the Institute for Leadership in Learning and Teaching (ILLT).

The ILLT is a peer-driven group of 11 Fellows that represent all departments of the College, and includes several Institute Liaisons, an Institute Coordinator and Director. The ILLT's primary vision is to encourage reflection, dialogue and the exploration of leadership in learning and teaching.

At Okanagan College there are many excellent examples of practices and activities that support learning and teaching. The Institute creates an opportunity to provide formal support to those activities.

The Institute will operate through an innovative peer-led approach devoted to helping new and veteran employees reflect on and enhance their learning and teaching practices.

Learning and teaching is at the heart of Okanagan College. The ILLT will shape and support a primary goal of the College, which is to be learning-centred. Unlike typical centres, the ILLT will be peer-driven, peer-led, and utilize the concept of communities of practice to develop a culture that encourages dialogue, builds trust, and supports collaboration among peers ■

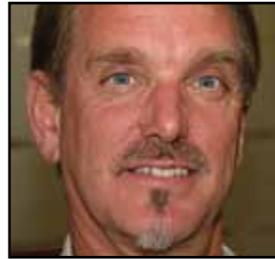
We support a culture of risk-taking, trust, and creativity - to help us learn from each other, share, and celebrate our achievements.
Stan Chung



Court Ashbaugh



Dini Steyn



Jim Gamble



Kerry Rempel



Margaret Evans



Nolan Fretz



Brett Wade



Patricia Toma



Paul Stephenson



Carl Doige



Rob Kjarsgaard



Terry Scarborough



Stan Chung

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Okanagan College's dedication to internationalization has deep roots evidenced by anniversaries, new partnerships and opportunities for foreign and Canadian students.

In 2009, under the leadership of director Steve Robinson, Okanagan College celebrated the 20th anniversary of its partnership with Kyoto Tachibana University in Kyoto, Japan. Kyoto Tachibana University is Okanagan College's oldest international associate. Two decades of partnership have resulted in more than 400 students from Japan studying at the College's Vernon campus.

The 2008-09 year also brought new partner school exchange agreements in Croatia, Korea, New Zealand, Spain, and Switzerland. This year Okanagan College sent and welcomed more than 75 students who took part in the exchange program. Okanagan College is also a partner in a consortium of Canadian and European institutions that participate in a three-year student exchange program.

Currently, international enrolment includes more than 400 students from almost 40 countries. China continues to be the College's largest single source of international students with a full-time marketing representative now active in the region. This year International Education redesigned its regional marketing team to focus on the following regions: China and Southeast Asia, Japan and Korea, the Americas (including the Caribbean, Central and South America), the Middle East and India.

There has been growing interest in instructor training from institutions in China wishing to increase faculty knowledge of teaching in English as well as learning instructional skills. This year, International Education welcomed three groups of Chinese teachers for four to eight weeks.

With an emphasis on maintaining and building upon existing markets and partnerships and by strategically adding new markets, International Education expects to have continued growth in an ever competitive international marketplace ■

Okanagan College and Kyoto Tachibana University marked their anniversary with a commemorative sculpture, which was commissioned by Geert Maas. The sculpture is on display at the Vernon campus. An identical sculpture will reside at Kyoto Tachibana University; it will be unveiled by President Jim Hamilton and Chairman Yutaka Umemoto in Japan in October.



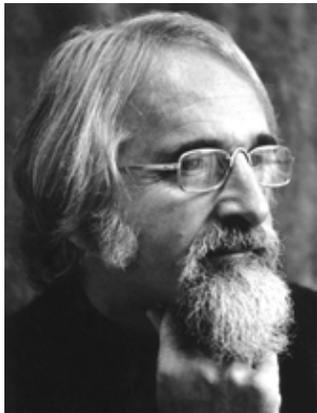
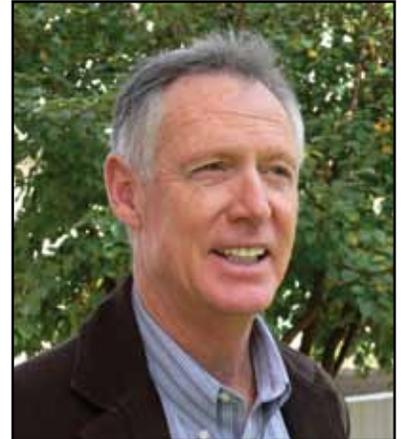
CONNECTING STUDENTS TO EXPERIENCE

The 2008-09 year saw three industry professionals contribute their experience, knowledge and passion for education to students at Okanagan College through a variety of in-residence programs.

Entrepreneur-in-Residence: Ed Hall

The Okanagan School of Business welcomed one of the Central Okanagan's best-known developers and businessmen to its roster when it welcomed Ed Hall as its Entrepreneur-in-Residence. Hall is the co-president of Canadian Adult Communities and CEO of Regency Retirement Resorts and has been involved in building several retirement resorts and communities, accounting for about 2,500 dwelling units in the region.

Hall has a Master's of Business Administration from the Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario and an undergraduate degree in economics from the University of Calgary.



Writer-in-Residence: Gary Geddes

In the fall of 2008 the Kalamalka campus welcomed one of Canada's most renowned writers, Gary Geddes, to the Mackie House as its Writer-in-Residence.

Geddes joined the esteemed company of the first six writers who began this tradition with Okanagan College and The Mackie House: Ron Ayling, Dennis Cooley, David Pitt-Brooke and Christine McPhee, Robert Kroetsch and Dawne McCance.

His writing career has spanned four decades of work and, aside from editing two of the most popular poetry anthologies in the country – "20th Century Poetry & Poetics" and "15 Canadian Poets X 3" -- Geddes has written a powerful and significant body of original work including these books: "Letter Of The Master Of Horse," "War And Other Measures," "The Acid Test," "The Terracotta Army," and, most recently, "Falseworks," a book of poems about the collapse of the Second Narrows bridge in 1958, which was short-listed for The George Ryga Award. Among his other notable achievements, Geddes was awarded the 2008 British Columbia Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence.

Publisher-in-Residence: Robert MacDonald

New to Okanagan College in the 2008-09 year was the development of the Publisher-in-Residence program. In its inaugural year, Okanagan College welcomed an experienced publisher with a national profile to the position.

Robert MacDonald has extensive national experience as publisher, marketer and educator. He is well known in the Okanagan for the active role he has taken in promoting the arts and the creative sector. As publisher, editor and designer of Okanagan Arts and Okanagan Home magazines, a founder and director of the Okanagan Institute, an advisor and mentor to a number of individuals, organizations and businesses, he has demonstrated a solid commitment to the creative community throughout the Okanagan.

His experience as a publisher and marketer, and his 15 years as director of the Publishing Workshops at the University of Toronto and the Banff Centre, helped to bolster existing and emerging College initiatives.



College at its best while helping prepare for the worst

A unique community partnership was brought to life in the fall of 2008 when emergency services providers joined forces with staff from Okanagan College to build the Okanagan's first and only Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Trailer Unit.

The idea for the unit, which contains 180 spineboards, a generator, emergency lights and an emergency command post, first came to organizers Gerry Harris and Brian Moore during the September 11 attacks and was revisited after the Okanagan Mountain Fires.

Seven years in the making, the MCI Trailer Unit was launched at Okanagan College's Kelowna campus, where much of the project had been built. Carpentry students, led by Alf Leimert, donated their time to cut, sand and spray all 180 spineboards for the project. Students and staff from the welding department also stepped up to help and constructed the generator mount and metal racks that house the spineboards.

In a letter of thanks to the Okanagan College Board of Governors organizer Gerry Harris said:

"I wish to stress the importance of what you and these dedicated staff have provided to our communities. **Corporate social responsibility is a current 'buzzword' in the outside world - Okanagan College lives that philosophy.** I and my colleagues are humbled to have this calibre of dedication and energy to the community. In a world of cynicism, it is refreshing to see that the concept of service and quality are being practiced in spades." ■



Kelowna Mayor Sharon Shepherd with Alf Leimert (left) and Gerry Harris at the launch of the MCI Trailer Unit

We need to do everything in our power to help students clarify and achieve their career passions.



Fitzgerald makes history with award nomination

Okanagan School of Business professor Cathy Fitzgerald was recognized by the BC Human Resources Management Association (BC HRMA) as a finalist for the 2009 Award of Excellence as HR Professional of the Year. **Cathy's nomination marked the first time a professor from a post-secondary institution was selected as a finalist.**

In the words of her nominator, business student Jennifer McKenzie, "Cathy Fitzgerald is an HR professional that epitomizes quality HR teaching, leadership, and guidance. She demonstrates highly effective leadership skills in each of her classrooms, in her interactions with her colleagues and peers, and through her involvement in our community. Many students in our business program regard Cathy as the 'HR guru,' and her willingness to provide guidance and support to each student is unparalleled. Cathy inspires students to reach their potential, and to understand the positive attributes of their particular talents. She helps others see the light in themselves." ■



I love words. Finding the right one is fly-swattingly satisfying.

Alix Hawley publishes collected works

Okanagan College English professor Alix Hawley was one of several Okanagan College staff who published books during the 2008-09 year. *The Old Familiar* is a collection of Alix's short fiction, and was published by Thistledown Press.

The Old Familiar received critical acclaim in the *Globe and Mail* when reviewer Shelley A. Leedhal wrote "I love the fact that it's a debut book. I love that the acknowledgements page does not pretentiously list literary journals these stories have appeared in. And I especially love the words within. 'Genius' is a word I hesitate to use in a review: Hawley's work requires it...Great fiction changes us. Read Alix Hawley. Lighting, or something like it, strikes." ■



Marc Arellano's film makes the cut

The 2008-09 year was a good one for Communications professor Marc Arellano, whose eight-minute documentary **kə nā dē ən** was recognized at international and local film competitions. The film, which is an exploration of identity and how it plays out for a man from Bolivia (Marc's father) and a woman from Quebec (his mother), was a top-10 finalist in CBC/RCI's international competition, *Migrations*.

kə nā dē ən was also nominated for the Best Home Grown Film in the Okanagan Film Festival and was screened at the Paramount Theatre in Kelowna in April. The film went on to screen at many cinemas around the country in 2009.

Marc blended digital video interviews with his parents with material taken from old home movies to create the story that charts the family from his parents' honeymoon in the Laurentians to now. He explained that while the film focuses on his family, it addresses the larger issue of identity construction; his story is a metaphor for our larger Canadian family ■

Storytelling is at the heart of being human, so film and video are expressions of how we are and who we are in the world.

Kyleen Myrah: Top Advisor, Top Talent

After leading a team of Okanagan School of Business students to the final round of the National Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) competition, Dr. Kyleen Myrah was honoured by the SIFE organization with **a national award recognizing her contribution to her students, Okanagan College and the advancement of entrepreneurship in Canada.** Kyleen was named the 2009 John Dobson ACE Fellow of the Year, which recognizes the top Faculty Advisor, as nominated by the students.



It's inspiring to work with SIFE students and an honour to be recognized by such an innovative organization and movement.

Earlier in the year Kyleen also received the Executive Certified Management Accountant (CMA) Top Talent Award. She earned her CMA designation and received the award after being awarded the highest total aggregate mark in year two of the executive program. The award recognizes academic success and demonstrated leadership. Kyleen is one of 11 colleagues with doctorate degrees in the Okanagan School of Business ■

Great ice takes patience, attention to every detail and the ability to plan ahead while reading and reacting quickly to an ever-changing environment.



Mike Craig makes NHL Classic shine

During the winter break, while many were on vacation, Mike Craig, Okanagan College's Recreation and Student Life Coordinator, joined his father Dan to help make history in Chicago. The Craigs were responsible for building the ice surface for the 2009 NHL Classic, which took place on Jan. 1 at Wrigley Field in Chicago in front of 41,000 people and millions who tuned in to watch on television.

Mike, a former college hockey player, grew up watching his dad build the ice for the Edmonton Oilers. Known in the industry as the ice gurus, Mike and Dan have built surfaces for NHL teams, Stanley Cup Finals and even the 2006 Olympic Games in Torino, Italy.

Mike and his father worked long hours in the late days of December with a 10-person team to lay the ice for the outdoor classic game. According to Mike it was time well spent. Not only was the surface perfect, the experience of working with his dad made it all the more memorable. **Mike will work with VANOC as the game supervisor for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games.** He and his dad will also build the ice for the 2010 NHL Winter Classic in Boston's Fenway Park ■

Launi Skinner Distinguished Alumna

Launi Skinner, President and Chief Operating Officer of **1-800-GOT-JUNK?**, was named Okanagan College's 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award winner.



Skinner graduated from Okanagan College in 1985 with a Business Administration diploma. Less than a decade later she began a prolific career with Starbucks, during which time she became the most senior woman in the organization, rising to the position of President of Starbucks U.S.

In 2007 Fortune Magazine named her one of its "Four Women to Watch." With her career climbing steadily and after nearly 15 years with Starbucks, Skinner took command of 1-800-GOT-JUNK? in 2008. As President and COO of the growing organization, she is responsible for the growth of the 1-800-GOT-JUNK? brand in North America and Australia.

"I am proud of my association with Okanagan College and credit the valuable education and great community culture I experienced there with many of the successes I've enjoyed in my career," said Skinner.

In addition to earning her business diploma from Okanagan College, Skinner is also a Certified General Accountant and sits on the Board of Trustees for the Northwest Hospital and Medical Center in Seattle, WA ■

Regier brothers Young Alumni winners

Okanagan College's Alumni Association celebrated the achievements of two of its most notable graduates under the age of 35 when it conferred the 2009 Young Alumni Award on local entrepreneurs, Todd and Mark Regier.

The Regier brothers own and operate Prestige Collision, a full-service automotive collision repair shop in Kelowna. They established the business in 2003 as a small start-up enterprise with a staff of two. At the time, Todd was 24 and Mark, just 22.

Six years after opening their doors, the Regiers increased their business ten-fold, building a strong reputation and making a name for themselves as high quality craftsmen with a customer service driven approach to business.

Todd completed his Automotive Collision Repair apprenticeship training at Okanagan College in 2001 before earning a second red seal accreditation in Automotive Painting and Refinishing in 2003.

While his brother honed his technical skills and experience, Mark enrolled in the Okanagan School of Business. While working toward his Business Administration diploma, which he earned in 2004, Mark and Todd launched Prestige Collision.

The Regiers' complementary skill sets have proven to be a dynamic and effective combination. **Prestige Collision now employs 10 full-time staff, nine of whom are Okanagan College alumni** ■



Todd and Mark Regier

FINE, MARCHAND AND ARMSTRONG 2009 HONORARY FELLOWS

During its 2009 season of Convocations, Okanagan College named three distinguished individuals, Robert Fine, Barbara Marchand and Charles Armstrong, as Honorary Fellows of Okanagan College.

Fine, Manager of Economic Development for the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission has an extensive history of cooperation and collaboration with the College through both the Okanagan School of Business and the International Education department. In his role as Executive Director for the EDC, Fine is well respected for his efforts and innovative leadership in the economic development of the Okanagan.

Fine's support of the work of the research cluster in the Okanagan School of Business has resulted in awards for students involved in the Business Research Project of the honours program of the Bachelor of Business Administration. He has also contributed his time to the direct supervision and mentorship of student researchers and their projects.

Marchand's contributions as an artist and educator have contributed richly to the Okanagan Valley

over the past 20 years. She is an accomplished and recognized interdisciplinary multimedia artist, an award-winning illustrator of four seminal books for First Nations children, and is a respected instructor at the En'owkin Centre's Visual Arts program. Marchand is of Syilx (Okanagan) native heritage, is an Okanagan College alumna and a recipient of the First Annual British Columbia Creative Achievement Award for Aboriginal Art.

Armstrong has a distinguished record of local, national and international service as a retired corporate officer. He has served on a number of for-profit and not-for-profit organizations and has held the position of President of the Community Foundation of the South Okanagan, Director of the Art Gallery of the South Okanagan, Chair of the Penticton Economic Development Bureau and Director of the Interior Health Authority Board. In 2002, Armstrong was awarded the Queens' Commemorative Medal for Service to the Community and the Canadian Crown and in 2007 was recognized with the BC Health Association Legacy Award for his work on board governance ■

Okanagan College Honorary Fellows:

2009 Charles Armstrong
Robert Fine
Barbara Marchand

2008 Jeannette Armstrong
Dick Cannings
Rob Cannings
Syd Cannings
Ken Harding

2007 Ross Gorman
Lorraine McGrath
Ken Smedley

2006 Rev. Albert Baldeo
Mike Roberts
Lois Serwa



President Jim Hamilton, Board Chair Janet Shaw, Charles Armstrong, Barbara Marchand, Robert Fine and Education Council Chair Rick Gee

POWERING THE PROMISE 2008-09

The Okanagan College Foundation did much to further its mission of supporting student learning through the raising of funds for programs and capital projects during the course of the 2008-09 year. While other institutions were cutting their grants and scholarships as a result of economic woes, the Okanagan College Foundation was growing its commitment to student support.

Among the Foundation's highlights was **a record-breaking \$994,882 distributed to students through scholarships and bursaries**. The significant growth in financial awards for students can be partially attributed to the support Okanagan College students received by way of grants from the Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust (SIDIT), which totaled more than \$450,000 this year alone.

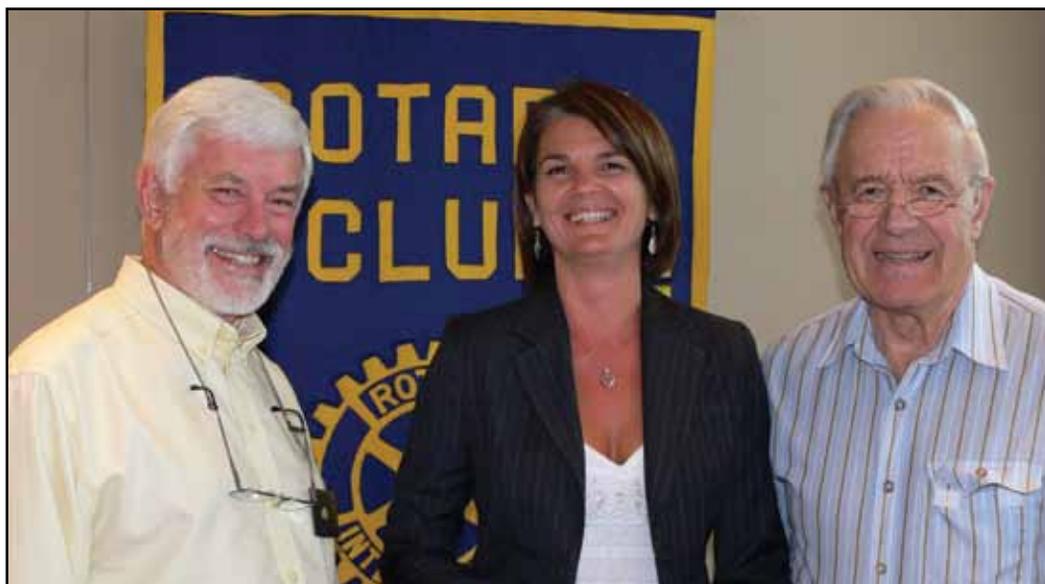


With close to \$1 million dollars in financial aid distributed, students like Lejla Kusturica were able to spend more time focusing on their studies, thanks to the support of the Foundation and Okanagan College partners like the Rotary Club of Kelowna and Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd. Lejla, a Practical Nursing student in Kelowna, was the 2009 recipient of the \$5,000 Gorman Bros. Rotary Scholarship. She came to Canada 10 years ago from Germany, where she fled with her two daughters after being forced from her native country of Bosnia. She began her education at Okanagan College with English as a Second Language classes. As a single mother and full-time student, Lejla benefited greatly from the scholarship and was successful in completing the program in August. She plans on returning to school in the future to become an operating room nurse.

Twenty-five new donor initiated financial awards and endowment agreements were instigated in 2008-09 such as the Interior Savings Life Long Learning Bursary, the Silver Star X-Country Ski Racers Award, and the Westside Joint Water Committee Award.

One of the primary focuses of the 2008-09 year was the launch of the fundraising campaign for Penticton's Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation. An investment of \$23 million from the Federal and Provincial governments will cover the majority of the cost of building the landmark centre and the Okanagan College Foundation has committed to raising the final \$5 million to complete the building. The campaign got underway in the spring of 2009 with its first major contribution coming from the Penticton Wine Country Chamber of Commerce, which contributed \$30,000 to support the new building. The Centre of Excellence is scheduled to open in March 2011. To contribute to the fundraising campaign, or to find out more about the \$28 million Centre of Excellence, please visit: www.okanagan.bc.ca/centreofexcellence ■

Lejla Kusturica receives the \$5,000 Gorman Bros. Rotary scholarship from Tony French, Past President Rotary Club of Kelowna (left) and Ross Gorman, Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd.

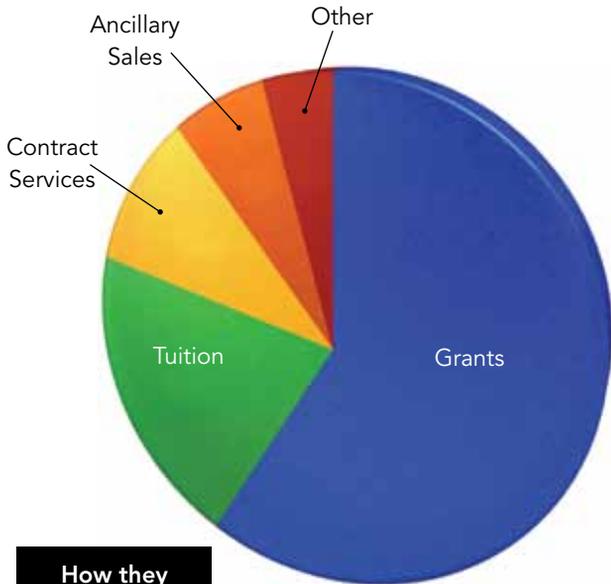


Ron and Priscilla Russell are building their legacy as Okanagan College Foundation donors. "We are motivated to support Okanagan College because we realize that Canada is going to have a desperate shortage of skilled workers, especially in the trades and an equal need for well-trained nurses and entrepreneurs in business."

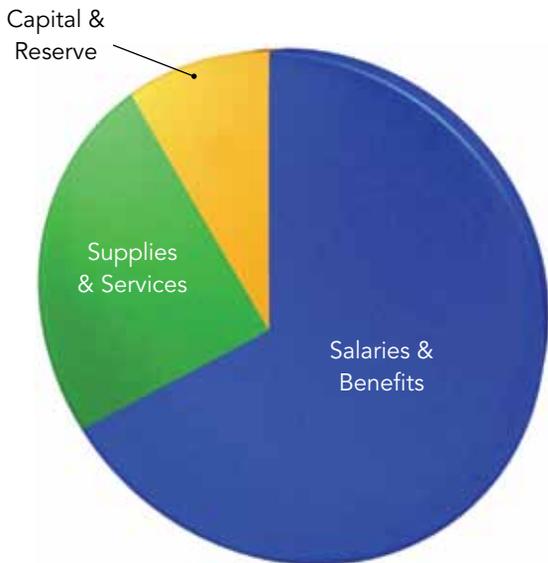


Statement of revenues and expenses March 31, 2009

Revenue Sources



How they were used



Millions %

Income Statement Summary

Revenue sources:		
Grants	50.2	59.8%
Tuition	17.8	21.1%
Contract Services	7.6	9.1%
Ancillary Sales	5.5	6.6%
Other	2.8	3.4%
\$	83.9	100%

How they were used:		
Salaries & Benefits	56.9	67.8%
Supplies & Services	22.0	26.2%
Capital & Reserve	5.0	6.0%
\$	83.9	100%

Balance Sheet Summary

Assets:	
Capital Assets	72.9
Cash & Investments	26.7
Other Assets	2.6
	<hr/>
	102.2
Liabilities:	
Accrued Payroll Benefits	12.2
Deferred Revenues & Other	12.4
Deferred Contributions	54.4
	<hr/>
	79.0
Net	\$ 23.7
Represented by:	
Investment in Capital Assets	17.1
Fund Balance	6.1
	<hr/>
\$	23.2

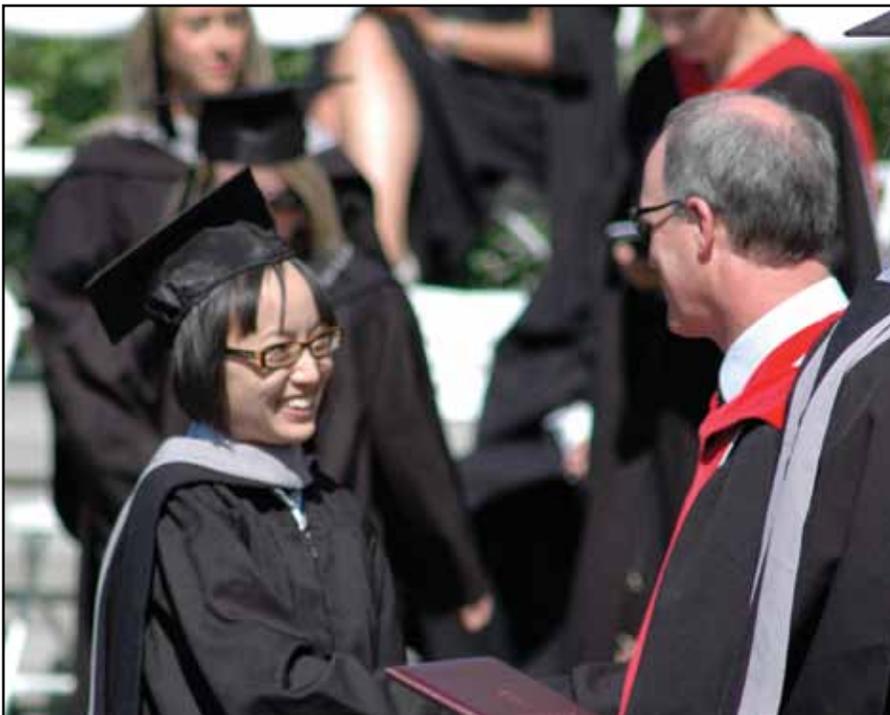
GOVERNING BODIES OF OKANAGAN COLLEGE

Okanagan College Board of Governors

Janet Shaw, Chair
Lance Kayfish, Vice Chair
Michael Conlin
Bill Cooke
Brian Hughes
Paul Johnson
Jane Lister
Angelika March
Yvonne Pinder
Loretta Swite
Zhen Zhou
Rick Gee (ex-officio)
Jim Hamilton (ex-officio)

Okanagan College Education Council

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Alf Leimert, Vice Chair
Derek Cook
Anne Cossentine
Rajveer Dhillon
Sarah Dieno
Jacek Gabanowicz
Andrew Hay
Yunke He
Robert Huxtable
Charlotte Kushner
Clint Lee
Janet Mantyka
Siri Marken
Ann McKinnon
Sandra Mendoza
Mike Mitsch
Marie Ouellet
Heather Schneider
Jim Hamilton (non-voting member)
Robert Ruf (non-voting member)



Student Board of Governors member Zhen Zhou receives her Bachelor of Business Administration from President Jim Hamilton



Professional engineers and geoscientists shaping the future

Professional engineers and geoscientists have a significant, if not always obvious, impact on public safety and quality of life in the community and beyond. They use their technical expertise, ingenuity and vision to create solutions to real-world challenges. As the licensed and regulated professions, the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia (APEGBC) works to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public and the environment by maintaining high academic and professional standards. APEGBC apply their standards to all aspects of life in B.C. and providing solutions.

P.Eng. (professional engineer) and P. Geo. (professional geoscientist). APEGBC works to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public and the environment by maintaining high academic and professional standards. APEGBC apply their standards to all aspects of life in B.C. and providing solutions.



From left: Mike Skanda, Britney Karlson, Grant Jackson, Melissa Veronesi and Paul...

OC students earn high grades

OC students earned high grades in their first semester. The average grade was 80 percent. This is a testament to the quality of instruction and the hard work of the students.

In the news

okanagan college

College plan targets expansion

STEVE KIDD
Western News Staff

BY RICHARD ROLKE

19 Business Review & Forecast

College enrolment up

BY CARA BRADY
MORNING STAR STAFF

Okanagan College regional dean Brent Lister looks back on his second year as dean with pleasure. "We've seen a lot of good change since 2007, there has been a 26 percent increase in enrolment and renovations, some small things made a big difference, but the outlook is good. We've hired some



CORY BIALECKI/MORNING STAR

HIGHER LEARNING

Greenbacks to green building

Eco-Nomics Awards recognize sustainability

Students build 3,000 sq. ft. daycare at Okanagan College

Businesses integrate environmentally sustainable practices into their operations

By STEVE MacNAUL
The Okanagan Register



Enviro Club helps clean up campus

BY KEVIN PARNELL
STAFF REPORTER

Seven Ulline will leave Okanagan College this year knowing that they made a positive impact on the Kelowna campus. The co-executive of the OC Enviro Club was

carefully reviewed past year's teams' performance and reports to award their own. The team's fourth day indicated the turn-on carefully imple

Local dentists and Okanagan College team up to give back

BY KEVIN PARNELL
STAFF REPORTER

Without dental insurance, many Kelowna residents can't afford to put their money where their mouth is. But thanks to a combined effort by students at Okanagan College, the Kelowna Gospel Mission and local dentists, 23



This year 23 students are enrolled in the one-year Certified Dental Assistant program at OC and will graduate in June. "This is an opportunity for the students to give back to the community while it is in our 'code of ethics,'" said dental assistant program chair Catherine Barron. They are getting a screening in two days before first April, which is the health month. More than a dozen dental students will volunteer their time to provide dental care to the patients who attended the initial screening. In the program's first year, \$2.5 million of free dental work has been donated by local dentists.