



# Jim Hamilton

## Virtual Retirement Celebration Comments

### Denise Amyot

I wish you the best Jim in your new journey. We will miss you....I hope you can become a mentor for presidents and future presidents with our CIGan Mentoring program...Take good care...

### Kyleen Myrah

Jim, you had a real impact on our students, like Drew, and have been a constant supporter of ACE/SIFE/Enactus - thank you and enjoy a well deserved retirement!

### Devin Rubadeau

Thank you so much Jim

### Randall Martin

Greetings - sincere thanks to Jim Hamilton from BCCIE, the BC Council for International Education - Jim did yeoman's duty for many years as Chair of the Board for BCCIE, then a new Crown agency, and supported us in our engagement with government and the international education sector's diplomacy overseas and, importantly to Victoria and to Ottawa - we raise a glass to you. Thanks, Randall

### Angus Graeme

Congratulations Jim! I have really appreciated your mentorship and friendship this past decade. We have had some great times advocating for our precious college system to anyone who would listen (some who didn't!). I'll miss our fun conversations and work together. No poem this time! :) But on behalf of all of us at your partner institution to the east, Selkirk College we wish you and your family the very best. Keep the weather astern, the sun on your face, and a good bottle(s) of local wine on the rack!

### Rick Thorpe

Yasmin and Rick Thorpe - Best Wishes for the future and may the wind be always at your back!

### Lane Merrifield

Jim, you are a rockstar my friend. Your leadership and passion for the College and the community around it leaves a tremendous legacy that will enable growth and success for decades to come. Thank you!

### Gladys Fraser

Hello Jim, We had an opportunity to share some thoughts with you at our last Okanagan College Foundation meeting. I wanted to share with everyone how important you have been to the growth and maturity of the Foundation. You are also an inspirational leader and demonstrate true allyship on so many levels. We wish you all the very best in the next phase and look forward to working with you in the future. Thank you! Gladys Fraser, OCF Chair and neighbour!





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### Andrea Alexander

Thanks Jim for all you have done and accomplished at the College. Your leadership is admired and something to follow. Happy Retirement!

### Charity Gerbrandt

I loved working with you! Always a fun time! Always a learning time! Thank you for having me on the board and for sharing all your great stories, wisdom, and humour. You're a legend and it's been an honour to be part of your crew! Thank you! Excited to see that you do next!

### Laura Thurnheer

Thank you for your leadership and mentorship Jim. I enjoyed my time as the faculty rep. on the Board of Governors. You treated me with respect and made me feel welcome and valued. Seems to be a common thread as I have seen you include and welcome many. Enjoy your retirement and cheers to you dear Sir. Laura Thurnheer

### Valerie Yorkston

Congratulations Jim! We at BCCAT well know what a joy you are to work with, and the many ways you help to bring people together to accomplish great things. Your leadership, collegiality, humour, and vision are all so very much appreciated.

### Justin Kohlman

Congratulations Jim. You have left the entire post-secondary system in a better place. It has truly been an honour to learn from you. I have no doubt you will find plenty to keep you busy in your retirement - and time to enjoy BC wine!

### Heather Stewart

Thanks for your significant contribution to Okanagan College and the communities which it serves. It's been a pleasure working with you and getting to know you over the past decades.

### Juliette Cunningham

I just want to thank you for the great experience working with you these past few years. All the best to you and Liz as you enjoy your family in retirement. Take care. Juliette Cunningham

### Dr. M. Bryn Kulmatycki

Congratulations on your retirement, Jim. I will miss your sense of humour, your incredible wisdom, and your leadership astuteness. Please stay in touch.

### Robert Adamoski

Jim, as foundational as your many contributions to Okanagan College has been, I'd like to thank you for your many contributions to the post-secondary SYSTEM in B.C. You've helped us all to create a collaborative system that really serves learners, and makes life-long learning accessible to so many. Thanks, and all the best in your next adventures.

### Steve Thomson

Hi Jim- congrats on a great career and sincere thanks for your leadership at Okanagan College. I am not able to stay for the full evening as I have a Land Trust Board meeting but I wanted to join to acknowledge your contribution to our community and to post secondary education in BC. You have left a great legacy and a great foundation for the future growth of OC. It was a pleasure working with you and I wish all success in your retirement. I am sure we will see you in the community and probably





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at a tasting in one our great wineries. Steve Thomson

### John Haller

Congratulations Jim! I hope you enjoy retirement to the fullest...you deserve it!

### Michelle Nicholson

Congratulations on a excellent career. You have always been a good leader and supportive of those you worked with. It was a pleasure working for you at OUC and OC. I wish you a long, busy, and happy retirement. Michelle Nicholson.

### Susan Johal

Jim wishing you all the best. I raise a glass and toast you. Enjoy - Susan Johal

### Christine Ulmer

Jim -- no words to sum up all that you've done and all of the kindness, friendship, and leadership you've shared with me over the years. We'll catch up in person with the pups at the dog park but until then -- congratulations on an incredible career friend!

### Rob Fleming

Congratulations and thank you Jim for your leadership, not only at OC but across the post-secondary system, which will continue in your role as Co-chair of the BC Council of Admissions and Transfer.

### Liz Plamondon

Jim - I'm watching your Farewell Webinar with mixed emotions. I'm so happy for you (and Liz) as you embark on your new adventure and much-deserved retirement. At the same time, I'm also very sad to see you go. I've always been (and have frequently told you that I have been) proud to work for you. I'll miss you as a committed leader, a euchre partner or opponent and (if I may say) as a friend. Wishing you well.

### Robert Fine

What a pleasure working an partnering with you over the years. Your ability to get things done is what i remember most - from the animation school to the Jamaican initiative and beyond your influence can be seen all over the Okanagan daily. I will miss the conversations and many exotic locations we shared including Rotary speeches!

### Henry Reiser

Jim I really enjoyed working with you and appreciate your leadership in the Post Secondary system across Canada. Please enjoy your retirement. Thanks for all you have done. You made a difference.

### Ken Tourand

Good job Chief Chris. Excellent tribute to Mr. Hamilton. Jim all the best in your retirement

### Ajay Patel

Jim, on behalf of all of us here at Vancouver Community College, I want to congratulate you on your retirement. I am very thankful for the valuable time you always seemed to have to provide sage advice over the years. But most all, thank you for educating me about the wines. You are a good colleague, great friend and amazing mentor. I am sure you will not be far away.





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### Harwinder Sandhu

Many congratulations Jim! You have been such an instrumental playing a very important role in taking the Okanagan College to where it is now! Your leadership, contribution and tireless work is much appreciated by many and I am sure our future students will be equally grateful as you have made Okanagan College one of the best post secondary education institute of BC and in Canada. I wish you all the best!

### David Ross

All the best Jim. Enjoy your retirement. David

### Sherri Bell

Jim- I will truly miss you. Your wise counsel and wine counsel. Your hospitality and humour. Your partnership and passion. Your texts and talks. You are one of a kind. Cheers!! Sherri

### Tom Roemer

To the only president who speaks Old Icelandic (at least as far as I know), "til hamingju og bestu kveðjur!". Thanks for your friendship over the past 20 years, and best wishes for your retirement!

### Verna Simpson

All the very best to you, Jim, in your retirement. I have experienced many changes throughout my time at OC/OUC/OC; however, I must say this is probably the biggest change. You have been such a great leader to us and for us, and your footprints will forever be part of Okanagan College. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

### Sharon Manning

Congratulations on your retirement Jim - Sharon Manning (Brisbane, Australia)

### Kathy Butler

Jim you are a true leader. Thank you for the opportunity and privilege to work with you 15 years. Your skills in developing relationships and fundraising are a true legacy. I hope you take great satisfaction in knowing you have made an impactful difference.

### Tim Walters

Congratulations and many thanks, Jim, for everything you've done for all of us over the years. You've been a great leader of our institution, and I hope you enjoy a well deserved retirement with your family. Looking forward to catching up over a few pints now you are a free man!

### Maxine DeHart

Jim, what a wonderful retirement tribute this has been. So many great stories and so many wonderful people coming together to celebrate your last 17 years. It's been great "knowing you"! Come back and visit. Drop into the hotel for a glass of "wine". Best to you and Liz.

### Chris Derickson

See. The guy likes to talk.

### Harwinder Sandhu

Advanced Education Minister Anne Kang also sent you many best wishes and congratulations to you as well and she is so grateful to get to work with you and for your contribution towards the Okanagan College!!





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### **Cindy Battersby**

Congratulations on your retirement, may you enjoy each day. Thanks for your leadership and friendship.

### **Heather Banham**

Congratulations on your retirement - thanks for all you did to meet the challenges and achieve the successes throughout the years. Heather Banham

### **Frances Harrop**

Roy and I congratulate you on a great career. I can be hired as a time manager for your retirement years.

### **Bob McGowan**

all the best in your retirement, Jim, from Bob and Lynda

### **Lance Kayfish**

Jim, your legacy will always be the much coveted example of college presidents and sector leadership. Thank you for service and dedication.

### **Graham Moir**

Thank you Jim for all your work through the years! You do a great job of recognizing and keeping in touch with OC's alumni which I always valued.

### **Helen Jackman**

Jim, Thank you for the opportunity to lead the Foundation. It's been an honour to work with you for the last 2 years. We even managed some laughs through the COVID craziness! Thanks for your mentorship and encouraging innovation, and for everything you have done to support the growth of the Foundation over many years. Helen

### **Alice Mansell**

Thank you, Jim for inviting me to your Okanagan College world and to this wonderful celebration of your amazingness. I am even more amazed after hearing all the tributes!

### **Wanda Radies**

Congratulations Jim. Peace and joy in your retirement.

### **Dale Safinuik**

Jim, best wishes on your retirement. I have no doubt you will continue to make significant contributions to our communities in this next chapter of your life.

### **Connie Denesiuk**

I enjoyed working with you over my 6 years on the OC Board. You have left a tremendous legacy! Congratulations on your retirement!





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### Petya Whelan

Thank you, Mr. Hamilton, for all you have done for our international department and for your international employees'. You are well-known man not just in Canada, but all around the world. Thank you again for your dedication and professional work towards post-secondary education. You are a true legend and a role-model to so many of us. Happy retirement and best wishes to you!

### Mike Winsemann

Congrats Jim! A well earned retirement. Appreciate your support and friendship over the years. I look forward to hearing about your adventures in this next phase of your life.

### Heather Talbot

Congratulations Dad.

### Jayne Brooks

Congratulations on your retirement, Jim, and thank you for your incredible dedication to Okanagan College over so many years. Your support of OC students, graduates, employees and communities has been steadfast and always greatly appreciated. I wish you and Liz many years of happiness, especially safe travels - but I sure hope you brush up on your language skills before you set off so you're able to order that glass of cold milk when needed. Congratulations, Jim, and all the best in your retirement!

### Harwinder Sandhu

Beautiful pictures! Enjoy your retirement Jim, hoping to see you at the ground breaking ceremony for the Okanagan College housing project! Congratulations!

### Kathy Butler

Great presentation of great memories. All the best Jim