

What you don't know can kill you

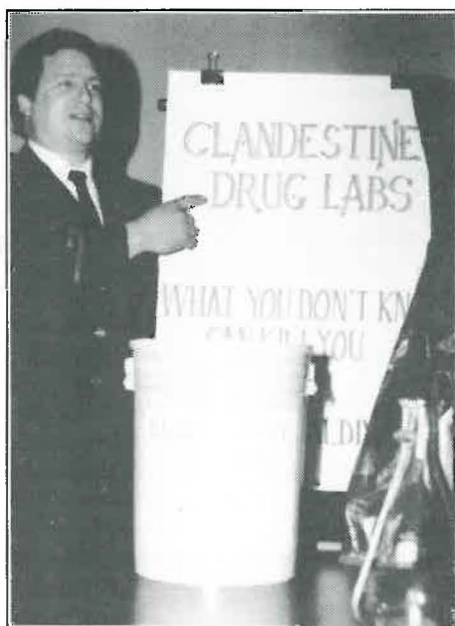


Photo: Tony Williams

Workshop presenter Carlos Valdivia

by Flora MacLeod

A house in a suburb burns following an explosion in the kitchen. It may be a relatively routine house fire, but it could be an illicit drug lab burning. People at the site are injured. Cyanide gasses are in the air. Toxic substances are stored in the house. There is a danger of more explosions. The site may be booby trapped. Firefighters, police, ambulance attendants and hospital personnel risk contamination with life-threatening chemicals.

Did the firefighters have protec-

tive clothing and self-contained breathing apparatuses available and did they use them? Did police follow procedures and protect themselves when handling evidence? Were cyanide treatment kits on hand? Were ambulance and hospital staff made aware of the risk of contamination and were emergency decontamination procedures followed by all personnel attending the fire? Did all responders know the symptoms of chemical exposure?

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Colour me green

by Paul Harris

Green..... enviro bio nutri fibre natural - these, and a few other pithy prefixes are the buzz-words of modern marketing. Have you trundled your buggy through the supermarket recently, and stopped to consider how we are being assailed and manoeuvred by the multinational agribiz and pharmaceutical companies to buy products labelled thus? I know you have. If greed or gluttony won't sell a product, well, why not try guilt as a sales tool? If you're anything like curmudgeonly old me, you've probably been tempted to load up your shopping cart with white bread, canned food, detergents with phosphates, highly bleached paper products, plastic garbage bags and T.V. dinners packed in styrofoam - simply out of sheer contrariness, a desire to thumb your nose at the corporate manipulators.

Common sense and a genuine feeling of concern ultimately win out with me, however, and I end up trudging (not driving!) dutifully home with my whole grain bread, my bio-degradable garbage bags and phosphate-free detergent, my glass-bottled milk and - whenever possible - food bought in bulk with little packaging. Etc. Etc.

Unless you've been living in a cave for the past 20 years, you'll know that the world has major

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Police recruit's essay reveals unusual field training technique

by Cpl. Mark Johnstone

Part of the requirements to complete the Police Academy's Block III Recruit Training involves writing an essay. The essay must describe an incident which occurred during the recruit's eight weeks of field training and which evoked some sort of emotional response in the recruit.

One recent essay was particularly revealing. The recruit described an incident in which he was attempting to check a denizen of the skid row area of Vancouver. His polite inquiries were being met with a certain degree of verbal abuse and a total lack of cooperation. In fact, the recruit remarked that some of the replies involved actions which were likely to be physically impossible. Adding to the recruit's discomfort was the fact that his lack of success was being observed by his ever vigilant field training officer.

Eventually, the field trainer intervened and used a tactic that truly amazed the recruit. He asked the man if he was hungry and then gave him a sandwich and cookies. The person became very co-operative and the check went smoothly from that point.

The recruit was astounded by the generosity and insightfulness of his supposedly hardened and cynical field trainer. He remarked, "That was awfully nice of you to give that guy your lunch."

The field trainer turned to the recruit and gave him a smug smile as he responded, "That wasn't my lunch - it was yours."

Cpl. Mark Johnstone is an Instructor in the Police Academy. □

EHS Academy wins research grants

by Tony Williams

Every academy at the Justice Institute has files full of compliments about the quality of its training. The compliments come from many sources including actual course evaluations. But these "whoopie ratings" do not give us hard data about the effectiveness and efficiency of our training. For this we must look at what we are doing with the eye of a statistician and researcher. Research projects will tell us not only if we are doing things right (efficiency), but also if we are doing the right things (effectiveness).

At its planning meeting last year the JI executive identified research as one of its strategic objectives. Since we are novices in this field, the EHS Academy turned to its more experienced colleagues at UBC Hospital, Shaughnessy Site, for help. The research group there, headed by Lark Susak, guided us through the grant application forest. We sent out over 30 applications and as each "We regret to inform you ..." letter came back we began to wonder if we would ever have the money we need to research our effectiveness. But, as so often happens, everything happened at once. Not one ... not two ... but three applications were approved. A week later yet another funding agency called to say it was interested and wanted more information.

To cut a long story short, we now have research grants totalling over \$75,000. The projects and the funding agencies that supported us are as follows:

Project/Funding Agency

- Develop an EHS medical database/Woodward Foundation;
- Role of automatic defibrillators in improving survival

from cardiac arrest/University Hospital Foundation;

- Feasibility of pre-hospital administration of thrombolytic therapy by paramedics/University Hospital Foundation;
- The accuracy of pre-hospital diagnosis of patients with shortness of breath/University Hospital Foundation; and
- The efficacy for maintaining automatic defibrillation skills using a non-instructor led, stand-alone simulator/Lear-dal Corporation.

The team that launched our research section includes Instructors Pat Seline and Dave Macdonald, Program Director Kelly Murphy and medical advisors Drs. Schrieber, Glazer, Rumball and Christenson.

We are excited about moving into the research field. Not only do we expect to learn more about how to conduct research, but we hope it will confirm that what we do is both efficient and effective.

Tony Williams is Director of Emergency Health Services Academy. □

1990 Christmas Celebration



Saturday, December 15, 6 p.m.
at the Delf Lounge
13020 Delf Place, Richmond

Ask your social committee rep. for details.

problems, and that we humans have turned into the numero uno problem. We're soiling our own nest and - with almost six billion of us around - we'll be destroying that nest soon. Newspapers have recently reported on research that shows mother's milk to contain six times the "acceptable" levels of dioxins and air pollution in the lower mainland on some hot summer days approaches that of the famed L.A. smogs. Hey, I don't have to tell you all of this stuff - you know it already, I know!

We can wait for governments - who will waffle until we're choking in our own waste - to do something about the situation, or we can take action as individuals and groups to make a better world for ourselves and our children. It's not a fad, it's not a trend, and it's not going to go away. We can do something about it, or not, as we choose.

The Executive Committee of the Justice Institute, recognizing these simple truths at its recent retreat on Vancouver Island, made the decision to place the JI amongst those who *are* concerned, and who are willing to work for change. Certain changes have been made already, on an ad hoc basis, with the paper recycling programme and the introduction of the JI ceramic coffee mug. The decision was taken to create a Green Committee at the JI to try to determine how we as an institution can contribute to a cleaner and better world. The first meeting will be held on November 8, and as far as I'm concerned, anything is grist for the mill at this stage. Do we content ourselves with the simple actions which will help clean up our own act, or do we put ourselves in the position of proselytizer and proponent, attempting to exert influence beyond our own grounds? In other words, do we simply concentrate on the mundane issues of recycling, encouraging public transit, reducing waste, etc., or do we see ourselves as an advocate on the broader scale, and look to see how we can have an influence on the world population ex-

plosion, the use of driftnets for fishing, the razing of the tropical rainforests, and so on?

What about B.C.'s rainforests? Indian land claims?

We have no answers yet - we're not even sure what the questions are - and we welcome your ideas, suggestions and criticisms. We're open to all. Send them in to me, or talk to your divisional "Green Rep." We don't plan to create any sort of "Green Gestapo," and I, personally, if I see you walking up the hall with a styrofoam coffee cup in your hand, will not upbraid you for that fact (though I may have secret thoughts on the subject). My feeling is that the world will not come to an end if the odd individual uses a styrofoam cup, nor will it be saved if another individual conscientiously uses a ceramic mug, but drives to work every day in a

polluting automobile. We can stand around all day pointing fingers at each other, but that's not the point.

The point is to get on with it - and that's exactly what we intend to do.

We are (in no particular order):

Chair:	Paul Harris
EHSA:	Barb Hunter
Police:	Diane Oberton
Corrections:	Chris Beresford
Media Centre:	Will Mah
Fire:	Anne Langdon
Ed. Services:	Tad Dick
Courts:	Gail Makowski
PEP:	Sam Meckbach
	Linda West - Recording Secretary

Paul Harris is the newly-appointed chair of the Green Committee. □

• • • S P O T L I G H T • • •

On staff

Changes...

Kelly Murphy has left Emergency Health Services Academy. Kelly successfully bid on a Superintendent's job in the B.C. Ambulance Service. **Edlynn Rivard** has also resigned from EHS Academy and has moved back to Kelowna. **Kathryn Reid** is the new Accounts/Travel Clerk for the Academy, and **Monica Mantler** has joined EHSA as Office Support Clerk.

In Finance and Administration Division, **Sabrina Tong** has served as Secretary to the Justice Institute's Board, President and Bursar. Effective October 22, **Debbie Watts** joined the Division as Supervisor of Administrative Services. Sabrina will now handle increased responsibilities for the Board and President's Office.

Courts Academy secretary **Gail Makowsky** returned from

maternity leave on October 1, while **Cindy Teather**, who had held temporary positions in Extension Programs and Courts over the past several months, left for an extended visit to Australia.

On visitors

The Honourable Lyall Hanson, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Culture visited the Fire Academy on October 11th. Mr. Hanson, Fire Commissioner R. Dumala, Mr. Ian McLean, and Mr. Pat McGrew, who accompanied the Minister, spent approximately two hours at the Academy where they received an overview of the history of the Academy and its programs, and the Safety Training Centre. Following their briefing the guests were introduced to Fire Academy staff and toured Lawrence Hall. □

A report from the 1990 JIBC Executive Committee retreat

by Larry Goble

October 2-4 were the dates selected for the annual JI Executive Retreat — held this year at Dunsmuir Lodge in Sidney, BC.

The focus of the retreat was to

Staff workshops cover the range of JI courses

If you have always wanted to:

- learn the basics of emergency first aid,
- test your reaction time on a driving course,
- practice using a fire extinguisher,
- take part in native healing practices,
- learn a better way to resolve conflicts, or
- participate in an earthquake preparedness workshop,

now is your chance!

The JI is in the business of developing and delivering training programs — and JI staff make those programs happen. But they seldom have an opportunity to take part in programs offered in academies and divisions other than their own.

To remedy that, several workshops have been scheduled over the coming months that will provide an opportunity for JI staff to learn more about the types of training offered by the different academies and divisions. Participation in the workshops will also provide an opportunity to get to know staff from other departments while learning new skills.

Brochures describing each of the courses have been distributed to all staff and board members. If you have any questions about the courses, contact Pat Ross, local 220. □

follow up on last year's strategic planning session by identifying and dealing with specific issues that directors felt were affecting our day-to-day operations. The issues selected for the agenda included:

- identify ways to better recognize excellence by staff and students involved in JIBC programs and services;
- identify and encourage more joint programs and use of shared resources in the coming year;
- increase the JI's efforts to improve our environment;
- continue to find ways to strengthen the JIBC corporate image;
- develop new ways to capture and report the results achieved by academies and divisions in providing contracted educational support services to clients over and above student training day reports;

- improve the consistency of our major client contracts; and
- evaluate our JI infrastructure support services (i.e., food services, gymnasium use, marketing services with the Open Learning Agency, etc.)

The Executive also made recommendations to the JI Board for institute-wide projects to be supported from surplus funds, revisited our mission statement, and considered a new statement on organizational values.

The Executive made decisions on each of the issues presented, developed action plans, and added time lines.

As we work toward implementing these actions, a number of the existing committees and staff groups will be asked to participate in the process. The results will be shared in future issues of *The JI News*.

Larry Goble is President of the Justice Institute. □

• • • NOTES & NOTICES • • •

Committee updates

Perhaps unbeknownst to many of you, the JI has a system of committees in place to deal with a variety of concerns and issues having to do with the everyday workings of the Institute. Soon to join the list of 16 existing committees will be a new "Green Committee" and an "Excellence Committee." The members and terms of reference for the Excellence Committee have not yet been determined but committee chair Phil Crosby-Jones (Police) will approach potential members over the next few weeks. His aim is to have the committee up and running by the first of the year.

Green Committee members have been appointed and chair Paul Harris (Administration) has outlined some of his environmental concerns in an article beginning on page 1. He has also invited your ideas, suggestions and criticisms. To respond to his appeal, call Paul on local 250.

The Room Booking and Information Systems committees both have new chairs: Ross McIntyre (PEP Academy) replaces John Laverock (Corrections) as information systems committee chair; and Steve Hess (Police) replaces Irwin DeVries (EHS Academy) as chair of the room booking committee. □

Law Enforcement Torch Run raises \$140,000



by John Laverock

During the summer, the Law Enforcement Torch Run raised over 140,000 for the Special Olympics. Twenty-two core runners, including Corrections Academy Director John Laverock (above, right), carried the Special Olympic torch from Calgary to Vancouver.

The run took place over a ten day period which culminated at BC Place stadium on July 11 with the official lighting of the olympic flame at the games' opening. At each community along the way local co-ordinators arranged fundraising drives and local runners joined the core runners through each community. The run helped to raise a positive profile of law enforcement in each

community and the funding contributions went to a very worthwhile cause.

Police Academy Director Phil Crosby-Jones was the race director for the BC portion and through many months of detailed planning he significantly contributed to the success of the run. Bill Lyon (Administration) volunteered to handle the accounting for the run and Robyn Towle and Susan Huffman (Police Academy) provided secretarial and organizational assistance.

The torch run was so successful that it will likely become an annual event to assist in generating funds for the Special Olympics. □

Blind drivers try out the PTEC track

Imagine the frustration of wanting to drive a car but not being able to. A group of blind and visually impaired people who have felt that frustration had an opportunity, on September 5, to find out what a thrill it can be to be "Behind the Wheel."

The group met at the Pacific Traffic Education Centre (PTEC) near the Boundary Bay airport, where they took turns driving dual control cars under the direction of volunteers who gave verbal instructions to the drivers.

Many people contributed to making the day a success: Burt Johnson of The Canadian National Institute for the Blind organized the event; Bestway Driving Centres donated the use of the dual control cars; Bestway's owner Mary Baker and her professional staff instructed the blind and visually impaired drivers; the Provincial Transportation Museum in Cloverdale arranged to have a collection of vintage cars on hand, complete with volunteers who took everyone for drives; and PTEC co-ordinated use of the facility.

With plans to make "Behind the Wheel" an annual event, others may experience the thrill of their first drive next year. □

Fire Academy contributes to the first National Native Firefighter Competitions

The JI's Fire Academy played an integral role in the very first National Native Firefighter competitions. The competitions were hosted by the Richmond Fire Department and were conducted in Steveston on October 6. Participants in the event came from Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, the Atlantic provinces and Yukon Territory.

Four Fire Academy staff members assisted with the competi-

tions, two of them served as judges. The Fire Academy pumper was also used in the competitions.

A highlight of the competition was the presentation of the "Justice Institute of BC Fire Academy Recognition of Excellence Award." Fire Academy Director Paul Smith presented the inaugural award to the team from Moricetown, which represented British Columbia. □

**The Justice Institute
of B.C.
is dedicated
to improving the
quality of justice
and public safety
by developing
and delivering
training programs
and offering
educational services
to professionals
and the public.**

JI/First Nations Tribal Justice Institute form "partnership"

by Phil Crosby-Jones

The movement towards greater autonomy for first nations peoples across Canada has seen the emergence in BC of tribal peacekeepers or tribal police responsible for law enforcement and related community social services on tribal lands.

Last year, the Police Academy assisted the Lillooet and Gitksan wet' Suwet'En Tribal Councils with their training program. This November the Academy will conduct a ten week basic Tribal Peace Officer Training program for the newly formed First Nations Tribal Justice Institute established by the Westbank Band in the Okanagan.

Thirty-five young men and women representing native bands primarily from within BC,

but also from as far afield as Ontario and Manitoba, will attend this program.

Former faculty members Don Walden and Darrell Kean have agreed to assist with instruction which will be delivered on site at Westbank. Driver training and firearms instruction will be conducted at PTEC and the

Academy range in the Lower Mainland.

This is the first of what is hoped will be a significant partnership between the JI Police Academy and aboriginal police training here in BC.

Phil Crosby-Jones is Director of Police Academy. □

Hostage-taking, barricaded gunman incidents featured in Police Academy course

by Steve Hess

In September, 18 emergency response team supervisors from around British Columbia attended a five day Tactical Commanders course held at the Police Academy. This

course provides police commanders with the knowledge, skills and techniques they need to plan and direct operations in hostage-taking or barricaded gunman situations.

Instructors for the program were Supervisory Special Agent Ben Tisa and Special Agent Hugh Galyean of the San Francisco office of the FBI. Both instructors



have an extensive background in tactical operations and are presently attached to the training section of the FBI, through which this program is presented.

Other users of this program have been a wide variety of American police forces, as well as the US Marine Corps.

One of the features of the Tactical Commanders course is the extensive use of situations and scenarios involving case studies and working with a model city complete with international airport. □

The JI News is produced nine times a year to keep staff up-to-date with what's going on at the JI. If you have suggestions or comments, please contact Patricia McNeill in Extension Programs (222-7229), Justice Institute of B.C., 4180 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6R 4J5 (228-9771).

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month - except July, August and December when the newsletter is not published.

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What you don't know...can't from page 1

On October 5 and 6, Carlos Valdivia, a HAZMAT specialist from the Seattle Fire Department delivered two day-long seminars on clandestine drug labs. Some 165 firefighters, police, emergency health workers and hospital staff received practical information in see-it-for-yourself detail about "cookers," chemical fires and hazardous materials incidents.

This service-integrated seminar was an example of JI collaborative training on an issue of joint concern to health and public safety personnel. The event was co-sponsored by Emergency Health Services, Fire and Police Academies, and Extension Programs.

Flora MacLeod is Program Director, Extension Programs. □