

THE JI NEWS

JI JUSTICE INSTITUTE OF B.C.

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Career & Community Studies
Corrections Academy
Courts Academy
Educational Services
Finance & Administration
Fire Academy
Fire & Safety Training Centre
Paramedic Academy
Police Academy
Provincial Emergency Program
Academy

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Aboriginal Fisheries Officers Train at the JI

Inspector Ed Kelly and 12 Stó:Lô Nation fisheries officers patrol an area which spans from the Port Mann Bridge to just north of Yale. Similar to employees of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, their role is to enforce fishing regulations in both the aboriginal and non-native communities in their area. As Director of Enforcement for the Stó:Lô Nation, Ed is responsible for ensuring that the officers in his department are properly trained. In the



"The JI is a first class institute"
Ed Kelly, Director of Enforcement,
Stó:Lo Nation

Fall of 1995, when he was looking for an advanced enforcement training program for his staff, he

looked to the JI Police Academy.

"The DFO recommended the JI, so in September



The graduates and program instructors.

I contacted Bob Hull to talk about our training needs," says Ed.

On February 12th, the course was up and running with 25 aboriginal fisheries officers.

"The class could handle 25 students, so with the 10 Stó:Lô members, that left 15 spaces. When the other bands heard about it they started calling me, and in no time we had a full program with several on a waiting list," he adds.

In addition to the Stó:Lô, there were eight members from Nuuchahnulth, three from Musqueam, and

one each from Sliammon (Sunshine Coast), Klahoose (Cortes Island), Chilcotin and the GUWA Rangers from the Smithers area.

The five week training program was intensive, covering a wide range of topic areas including

human relations, driver training, search and seizure, investigation and patrol and several other areas.

"The instructors are excellent," says Ed "although the program was intense, it was a relaxed learning environment."

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Sharing the Experience

Storyteller has two main purposes — to share the stories of First Nations people with Natives and non-Natives, and to help First Nations people in the healing process as they try to deal with the effect of residential schools.

Storyteller is a group of First Nations women who use drama, dance and song to tell the stories of their people. Their performances deal with the effect residential schools have had on generations of First Nations people.

Storyteller has given two performances to staff at the JI, both have been organized by Renée Nyberg-Smith, First Nations Advisor. Renée says "I think it's important for staff at the JI to have an understanding of the effect

before we went further with it, and I believe we're ready to go ahead," says Renée.

Renée is working on a schedule for performances for staff throughout the JI. "Although it's a learning opportunity, it's also a



Understandably, these performances are powerful and often emotional, involving both sadness and celebration.

The group is led by Vera Manuel, daughter of the late Chief George Manuel who organized the first International Conference of Indigenous People. Vera believes Storyteller has two main purposes — to share the stories of First Nations people with Natives and non-Natives, and to help First Nations people in the healing process as they try to deal with the effect of residential schools.

of residential schools on First Nations people - this is the biggest issue facing this community, and knowledge and understanding of the issue will help us as we work with First Nations communities."

Staff in Ed Services and CCS have seen the performance and the response has been very positive. "On each occasion staff have told me that this is a very powerful performance - one that all JI staff should have an opportunity to see. I wanted to see how the group was received by staff in CCS and Ed Services

Vera Manuel (second from left) and the members of Storyteller during their latest performance at the JI.

social experience," says Renée "we hold the performances in the late afternoon and start with a bit of a potluck. Food always helps to get people talking, and by ending the day with the performance people don't have to quickly shift gears back to thinking about work."

Details of upcoming Storyteller performances will be sent to staff in the academies as they are scheduled. ■



Welcome to Paramedic Students from Singapore

For the next two months, seven instructor-candidates from Singapore will receive training as instructors at the JI's Paramedic Academy. They will be certified to Paramedic Academy standards to instruct in Singapore. These students represent part two of a four stage contract with the government of Singapore, designed to enhance the country's emergency medical system.

The students will spend the eight weeks learning in classroom, ambulance and hospital settings. Four students are from the school of Military Medicine, and three from the Singapore Civil Defense Force. After completing their studies at the JI and back in Singapore, they will work along with other JI instructors to train the country's paramedics.

Welcome to Tay Kok Kwang, Megala Devi, Mohd Fauzi Rodrigues, Juma'at Hassan, Chew Lay Cheng, Siti Afzan Hariri and Ithnin Ahmid. ■

Saving Trees

Before moving to the new campus, the JI cleaned house and sent a huge batch of paperwork for shredding. By doing so we saved 41 trees, and received an Environmental Certificate of Merit for 1995 from Shred-it British Columbia.

Each day, more native people are coming forward to tell the story of their experience, and this is positive, because in many cases it is the first step toward healing.

Supporting Survivors of Residential School

While the impact of residential schools has long been felt by First Nations people across Canada, for many non-Native Canadians the issue is only just coming to light.

As the number of people who do come forward and disclose abuse in residential school increases, First Nations communities have recognized the need to provide support to their people.

"Supporting Survivors of Residential School", a new program developed at the JI, aims to do just that.

"We believe this is a program that can help make a difference in people's lives," says Renée Nyberg-Smith, First Nations Advisor, and

one of two JI staff involved in the project. Renée and Cindy Bettcher, a program coordinator with expertise in abuse intervention, are responsible for developing the program curriculum and selecting trainers.

The program is being developed on contract for the Provincial Residential School Project, a project that involves the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, the Medical Services Branch, the RCMP, Solicitor General and the provincial Summit of Indian Chiefs.

The goal of the RCMP task force investigating claims of abuse is to promote healthy communities. From the beginning they've recog-

nized the need for strong victim support services, and they're working with the Provincial Residential School Project to do just that. The JI's role has been to design a program for support workers in the native communities who are providing support to the residential school survivors.

By the end of March, five communities had completed the first module of the program; they expect to complete parts two and three by September.

If you'd like to know more about this project, contact Cindy Bettcher (528-5627) or Renée Nyberg-Smith (528-5621). ■

KitKatla Leads the Way

by Amber Teed

The First Nations Emergency Preparedness Training Program trains people in communities throughout the province. The goal of this program is to improve emergency planning and preparedness in First Nations communities.



(from right) Amber Teed of the PEP Academy with Bill Spencer of Kitkatla, Jackie Thomas (PEP Academy) and Erwin Robinson of Kitkatla.

As a trainer, I feel that every once in a while we should look back at the communities that we have visited and evaluate their progress. In doing so, we can evaluate the effectiveness of our training. We can also give them further

guidance and support to continue if they are struggling, or we can share in their success.

I find myself at this point, and I want to share with you the story of an extraordinary community that despite tremendous challenges, has done every-

thing possible to prepare their community for emergency response. Kitkatla is 50 miles by air southwest of Prince Rupert. This village, with a population of about 500 on reserve, is one of 197 First Nations communities in the province. Located on Dolphin Island, it is an isolated, quiet community, only accessible by air or sea. Basic services are provided through an outpost nurs-

ing facility, a volunteer fire department, a provincial school, and a band administration office.

Last year, with the help of some very keen individuals, and the full support of the Chief & Council, this community began to think about its emergency preparedness responsibilities. They began by taking a close look at past experiences in emergency situations, and talked about how they wanted to improve their response. Discussions centered on what level of education and training their emergency response team had, and needed, and where the training would come from in the future. They focused in on the areas of Fire, First Responder, Search & Rescue, (land and sea), Critical Incident Stress, and Emergency Planning. They formed a team of dedicated individuals and went after the training they needed.

My first contact was from Debbie Pynn the outpost nurse, a kind and dedicat-

ed person from Newfoundland, who has been in the community for two years. (I liked her a lot, she thinks like me!) Since that first call last year this group has excelled. They are on the final stages of writing an emergency plan, and will complete their first responder training at the end of April. They also hope that one member of their First Responder team will go on to get his/her First Responder Instructor status.

Their fire department has completed a number of intense training sessions to prepare them to respond to many situations in the community. The Coast Guard will be training a group of Auxiliary members to respond to sea rescue. The community has also set up training for a land search group. The response group has implemented the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing program. The Provincial Emergency Program has committed to two basic search and rescue courses, to train four to six band members as search team leaders, and will eventually offer a SAR manager course. Their aim is to have a qualified SAR instructor on reserve to deliver training sessions for future members. The community of Kitkatla should be very proud of their efforts. I have no doubt

that they will be a shining example for many other communities that are developing emergency programs.

Over the years I've had many conversations with people who believe that First Nations communities don't need their own community response program. But times have changed; cutbacks in services and personnel have left a gap for all communities, and the bands are no different. When an emergency or disaster occurs, they need to be able to respond quickly, and not rely totally on outside help, which in many cases may not arrive for days.

The intensive work that's been done in Kitkatla helped us realize that many forms of training are required and that the training has to come from a number of different training agencies.

My focus has been to bring together traditional native practices with today's emergency management system in B.C. A coordinated response, starting within the community and branching out to agencies beyond their border is a key component. People within First Nations communities are very good at looking after each other in times of emergency, they've done so for many hun-

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New Crush Injury Program a Success

"Crush Injury and Confined Space Medicine" is a mouthful of a name for a training program; but it's a very accurate description of what this new course is all about. In an earthquake, people will be crushed or trapped in confined spaces, and many will require medical attention on the spot.

This "first ever" Crush Injury course in B.C., was developed by the Paramedic Academy for the City of Vancouver's five-person Heavy Urban Search and Rescue medical team. Although it was designed for the City, they encouraged the JI to offer spaces in the course to other professionals interested in the training opportunity. A total of 36 students took part in the two day course, including fire fighters, paramedics, police and doctors.

The course was held in February at the JI's New West and Maple Ridge campuses. The training was delivered by five members of Puget Sound's Heavy Urban Search and Rescue Task Force, with assistance from 12 paramedic academy instructors.



"The course was an excellent exercise in team building," says Yvonne Beckett, project manager "we had people from several different disciplines... they felt it was a great opportunity to work together."

The program was designed to make the participants realize and cope with the logistics of disaster. Day one involved lectures and demonstrations at the New West campus. Day two was split between lectures and very challenging simulations at the Fire and Safety Training Centre. During the simulations, the participants had to cope with the realities of working in a confined space without their full range of equipment.

The program was very well received, and plans for the next course are underway. ■



(top) Members of the Puget Sound HUSAR team debrief participants following an exercise.

(bottom) Exercise simulating evacuation of a hypothermic adolescent who had been trapped for 26 hours.

Insiders - Snapshots from



around the JI.



- 1) Over 60 students participated in the Fire Academy's Intro to the Fire Service program in February. The program began with a panel on "The Changing Culture of the Fire Service", with panel members (from left) Chief Bob Gordon of Richmond, fire fighters Rita Payne from Langley City and Janet Beal from Seattle, and Chief Brian Singleton of Vancouver.
- 2) Cpl. Chris Rattenbury is "the offender" (left) in a training simulation for Block 3 of Class 61.
- 3) Michael Krancevic (left) and Steve Spence, at the JI completing their EMA II recertification. Krancevic has been a paramedic for 18 years and currently works at the Colwood station in Victoria. Spence has been a paramedic for 9 1/2 years, and works in Trail.
- 4) Instructor John Lacavera (right), pictured with Paul Pershick, Director of the Corrections Academy, celebrates 20 years with Corrections.
- 5) Taking a break. Participants in the Executive Development program of the Fire Academy.
- 6) Congratulations to the 16 graduates of the Deputy Sheriff Employment Readiness program! The class celebrated completion of the six week program with their graduation on March 15. Pictured with the grads are Roger Allison (front row left), Coordinator of Deputy Sheriff Training, and Susan Hall (front row right), Program Coordinator for the Employment Readiness program.
- 7) The JI's Fire and Safety Training Centre hosted Extrication '96 on March 10, an auto extrication competition for fire departments from across Southern B.C.
- 8) April Haddad (front row, second from right) hosted a meeting of the Council of Post Secondary Library Directors association in February. Library Directors from colleges and institutes across B.C. attended the meeting.

Working With Youth Program Graduates 20

March 15 was a day of celebration for 20 participants from across the province in the Working With Youth in Community Settings Certificate Program. It marked the last day of their 140 hours of classroom training to strengthen their skills and increase their knowledge when working with youth in different types of community settings.

The group's last day in the course was capped by a luncheon at the JI.

From the evaluations received from the participants, the initial offering of the revised program was a big success. The next offering of the certificate program in May is filled with a waiting list.

— Sandra Rice

VISITORS

Public Relations gave tours of the JI's New West campus to the following groups:

January

Millworkers from Westcoast Plywood

B.C. Film Commission

February

Council of Post Secondary Library Directors

March

Compucollege Legal Secretaries

WHO Widows Group

B.C. Fire Prevention Officers

UBC Architectural Students

UBC Masters in Adult Education Program

Students from Haiku Japan

FSTC Hosts Auto Extrication Competition

Vancouver Fire Department wins the Auto Extrication contest, and will represent Southern B.C. at the Western Canada competition in Fox Creek, Alberta at the end of May.



A total of 36 cars were used for the competition. The cars were provided through sponsorship from ICBC.

The thrill of competition is often enough to get anyone's adrenaline going, but when the competition involves safely rescuing

someone from a simulated motor vehicle accident, the anxiety level is bound to increase.

On March 10, 13 teams

competed for the chance to represent Southern B.C. at the Western Canadian Auto Extrication Competition. The competition was organized by the Fire and Safety Training Centre in conjunction with the Maple Ridge Fire Department, and included a seminar on the Saturday before the competition.

The competition winners - Vancouver Fire Department, favorites going into the contest given their more frequent experience with "the real thing", and the fact that they've participated in several previous competitions. The Surrey Fire Department finished second, followed by Abbotsford. ■

Thanks!

Contributors to this issue:

Amber Teed
Sandra Rice
Jackie Goodwin
Wil Mah
Ryan Shellborn
Kevin Perkin

Comments on the new look for JI News?

Something you'd like to see in the next issue?

Send your comments or submission to Peggy John, Public Relations, by May 10, 1996.

Aboriginal...

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On March 15, the graduates were joined by friends and family to celebrate their achievement, and the end of five weeks of hard work.

Ed Kelly believes this kind of training is essential to enable Aboriginal fisheries officers to perform their duties in the field. With the completion of this course, 50 of the 126 Aboriginal fisheries officers in the province now have advanced training. ■

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times of emergency, they've done so for many hundreds of years. When a call for help goes out, there is an immediate response. The biggest challenge today is to give those who respond, the skills they need to carry out an effective and safe response. There is a tremendous cost, physically, mentally and also financially. A connection to resources and support that are outside of the community must exist

In my work with Kitkatla I have found a network of trainers that can assist each other in tying the training programs together. Although we work in different academies within the Justice Institute we can strengthen what we do, and more effectively deliver training, by working together.

Congratulations to Kitkatla, for their desire to lead the way in ensuring their community is properly prepared to respond to emergencies and disasters. We have all learned from their experience. ■

Amber Teed is a First Nations Emergency Operations Program Instructor with the PEP Academy.