

S'olh Shxwłèlì Siya:ye



Aboriginal Access Services



December 2007

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Elder and storyteller, **Tillie Gutierrez**

A Successful Open House at the Chilliwack Campus

On November 20th, the Aboriginal Access Services at the Chilliwack campus hosted an Open House. The new center located in the G building is now the new home for the Aboriginal students to connect with each other in this family setting.

The day was very busy, as many people were coming and going all day long. The lunch was unparalleled to any luncheon held on campus because it was made from heart in hand by the ARC staff. There was a slide show that was displayed in the background that added a tight-knit family and community feel to the environment. The slide show transcended visual interest and engaged our guests in an experience of the traditional songs of the Sto:lo people. The combination of imagery and song evoked a powerful sense of pride in the room that carried throughout the entire open house.

There was story telling by the Gutierrez family in the morning that captivated the audience as the story teller told the stories in a fun, upbeat and humorous way. Then in the afternoon there were readings and additional stories by well renowned Aboriginal authors Lee Maracle, Richard Van Camp (2007/2008 UCFV Writer in Residence), and Rusannah Marsden.

As the event drew to a close, the guests were coming in fewer numbers and the ARC staff, Shirley Hardman, Josephine Charlie, and Wendy Ritchie had an information session about the many new and exciting programs that are made available to the UCFV students.

Thank you to all who joined in on the gathering because of you, the day was a success.

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Sweat lodge Ceremonies with the Elder in Residence

S'olh Shxwłèlì Elder-in-Residence Terry Prest will be leading sweat lodge ceremonies in Soowahlie on every third Sunday of the month. These sweats are open to anyone who is interested in attending. The details for the December ceremony.

Sweat lodge Ceremony

December 16, 2007

9:00 a.m.

(meet at Cultus Lake mall to proceed to sweat lodge)



Elder-in-Residence
Terry Prest

Terry has made himself available to staff and students for guidance and counseling to the UCFV Faculty /Staff and students. Terry will be on UCFV - Abbotsford campus every Wednesday from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm

Please contact Josephine Charlie at the Chilliwack campus or Fern Campbell at Abby campus for more info.



Mandy says,

“Let's Indigenize our Academy!”





Important Dates



Winter 2008

January 7/08 - Classes begin

January 9/08 - Deadline to login to online courses

January 18/08 - Fee payment deadline

For more information on Winter /08 registration, go to:

<http://www.ucfv.ca/ar/registration/imprtr egdates.htm>

UCFV Closures

December 24 (noon) to January 1, 2007- Winter Holiday Break

March 21 - March 24 - Easter Break

May 19, 2007 - Victoria Day

Radio stations that inform you of Campus closures other than Stat holidays:

Star FM 98.3; Country 107 FM in Abby; CBC 690- AM or 91.7 FM; and News 11:30 AM in the Lower Mainland.



National Take Our Kids To Work Day!

On Wednesday November 7th was the "National Take Our Kids To Work Day," and the Aboriginal Access Services was pleased to welcome Shayla McLaren-Gabriel, an honor roll student from Walnut Grove Secondary in Langley. Below is Shayla's account of her day at UCFV - Abbotsford campus:

I decided to go and experience this day with my Auntie, Fern Campbell. It was fun and interesting to see the kind of environment she has to carry out every day as an Aboriginal Access Clerk at UCFV. (Now I finally understand the conversations we have together). My auntie made the day fun, but hard work, just for me. First of all, once we got down to business after my tour of UCFV, she let me decorate her windows to honor the Aboriginal Veterans for Remembrance Day. Then we started to set up for a bannock fundraiser, to raise money for a drum making workshop. During these few hours of selling bannock, I got to see the diversity of students that my auntie encounters everyday. Then we cleaned, packed up, and got ready for home. During this experience my auntie and I bumped into about 5 other high school students that took part in this day with their parents or relatives. I hope they had a great time like I did. Shayla McLaren - Gabriel



Shayla McLaren - Gabriel (Left) and her eldest sister Teila McLaren - Gabriel (Right) at the Sto:lo Awards in 2007.

Both, Shayla and Teila are honor students at Walnut Grove Secondary School in Langley.

Richard Van Camp, was this year's writer in residence here at UCFV. Van Camp had a closing reading and reception gala on November 29th at the University House in Abbotsford campus. Thank you, Richard.

Indigenous Smile of the Month!



Derek Hansom is a member of Skowkale First Nation, his traditional name is **Siyamteleq**. Siyamteleq is one of the many welcoming team members working around community linkage with the Fraser Region Interim Aboriginal Authority (FRIAA). Siyamteleq is an UCFV alumnus who had received his Bachelor of Arts in Criminology in 2002. (See page 3 for details about FRIAA).

FEELS LIKE NO ONE'S LISTENING?



YOUR VIEWS AND EXPERIENCES ARE IMPORTANT TO US. TO FIND OUT MORE, CALL AMANDA AT 604-793-3054 or visit our Web site at www.fraa.ca.

THE FRASER REGION INTERIM ABORIGINAL AUTHORITY WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

DID YOU KNOW?

- IN THE FRASER REGION, ABORIGINAL PEOPLE WILL OVERSEE MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES TO THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES.
- THIS WILL INCLUDE FOSTER CARE, YOUTH JUSTICE, CHILD AND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AND MORE.
- THERE ARE SEATS ON OUR COMMITTEES SET ASIDE JUST FOR YOUTH (AGES 15-29) AND MORE YOUTH ARE NEEDED TO SHARE THEIR VIEWS AND EXPERIENCES.
- PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATE WILL BE COMPENSATED FOR THEIR TIME, TRAVEL AND MEALS.

Metis Celebration Day at UCFV



On November 16th, 2007, the Metis celebrate their unique culture on a day that commemorates the community of Metis people. The Metis people have successfully reestablished their presence as a distinct group of people since the mid-twentieth century. Their presence among the Indigenous population places a strong emphasis on the diversity in culture, traditions, and language among the Aboriginal peoples in Canada. (More on page 4)



Keith Wilson and the Central Fraser Valley Fiddlers Association. "Our aim is to maintain old time Canadian fiddle and folk music, through encouragement of young and old alike."



Metis Elder, Rene Inkster, teaches UCFV students, Baraa Ali and Amanda Large, how to jig Metis style.

“The Red River Jig is the most popular of the Métis dances and in the old days it was a very structured and disciplined competition dance between two contestants. There was virtually no movement of the body above the knees. It was all in the feet, and they hardly left the floor!”

© John Leclair 2005

This year UCFV - Abbotsford campus celebrated Metis Day on November 14th with fiddlers from the Central Fraser Valley Fiddlers Association along with the teaching from Metis Elder, Rene Inkster. Rene demonstrated her Metis jigging and she encouraged many of the students to join in and participate to dance with her. Rene explained a lot of the culture and traditions of the Metis people that was, not only fun, but very informative for all UCFV students to have experienced on this unique day.



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Lieutenants-Governor Adds Tradition to 150 Years of Tradition!

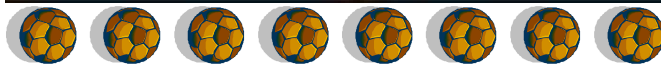
On November 18th, the Douglas Day ceremony began with a parade through Fort Langley, the first historical capital of British Columbia. The parade was led by a procession of Kwantlen Nation members that ended at the top of the Fort hill where a statue of Sir James Douglas is situated. In 1858, Governor Douglas followed the fundamental principle that the First Nations people had the right to use and occupy their traditional territory or to receive compensation for the loss of those lands. Honorable Stephen Point and his wife, Gwen Point, were in attendance at this traditional ceremony this year.



From Left: Gwen & the Honourable Stephen Point, and Kwantlen members Chris Thomas and Tumia Knott.

The Kwantlen Nation members incorporated a traditional welcoming ceremony led by Chris Thomas then followed by words of welcome from Kwantlen's Councillor, Tumia Knott.

The Honorable Stephen Point represents a positive symbol that Sir James Douglas' guiding principle has resonated throughout history and was recognized on Douglas Day in 2007: Douglas' ideal society has finally come to fruition.



Smoke Signals Sport Section

The Slammin' Salmons indoor soccer team placed second in the Intramurals Indoor soccer league here at the UCFV - Abbotsford campus. The Salmons have won three games, tied one game and lost one game.

The Salmons definitely have proved to their opponents that they are the team to beat in this fast paced indoor sport. Now the superior Salmons are sitting in the semi-finals waiting on their contenders.

The next semi-final game is scheduled for Monday, December 3rd in the North Gym at Abbotsford campus.

The Slammin' team members are: the solid defender, Ashley Camille; first round draft picks, Scottie Walters and Bryce James who be-dazzle their opponents with their fancy footwork; the dynamic duo, Michelle Julian and Tracey James, the Rookie of the Year, Amanda Large, and the ol' school veteran, Fern Gabriel-Campbell, who is still searching hard for her first shut out after a long season. The Salmons have a good chance of taking on three free agents, Matt Point, John Antone, and dazzling Dallas who may be ready to play for the next indoor match.

Come out, bring your drums and cheer the Salmons on to victory to take home the championship.

Upcoming Events at S'olh Shxwleli Siya:ye in November 2007

December 3, 2007 - Last Day of Classes

December 6, 2007- Christmas dinner at the University house for \$2.00 - Appetizers drinks and turkey dinner. 5 - 8 pm
Please **RSVP** to martin.kelly@ucfv.ca by Tuesday, Dec. 4th

December 5-18, 2007 - Examination period, which includes Saturdays (no classes)

December 24, 2007 - January 1, 2008 - Winter Holidays.

February 18 - 19, 2008 - Spring Break (no day or evening classes)

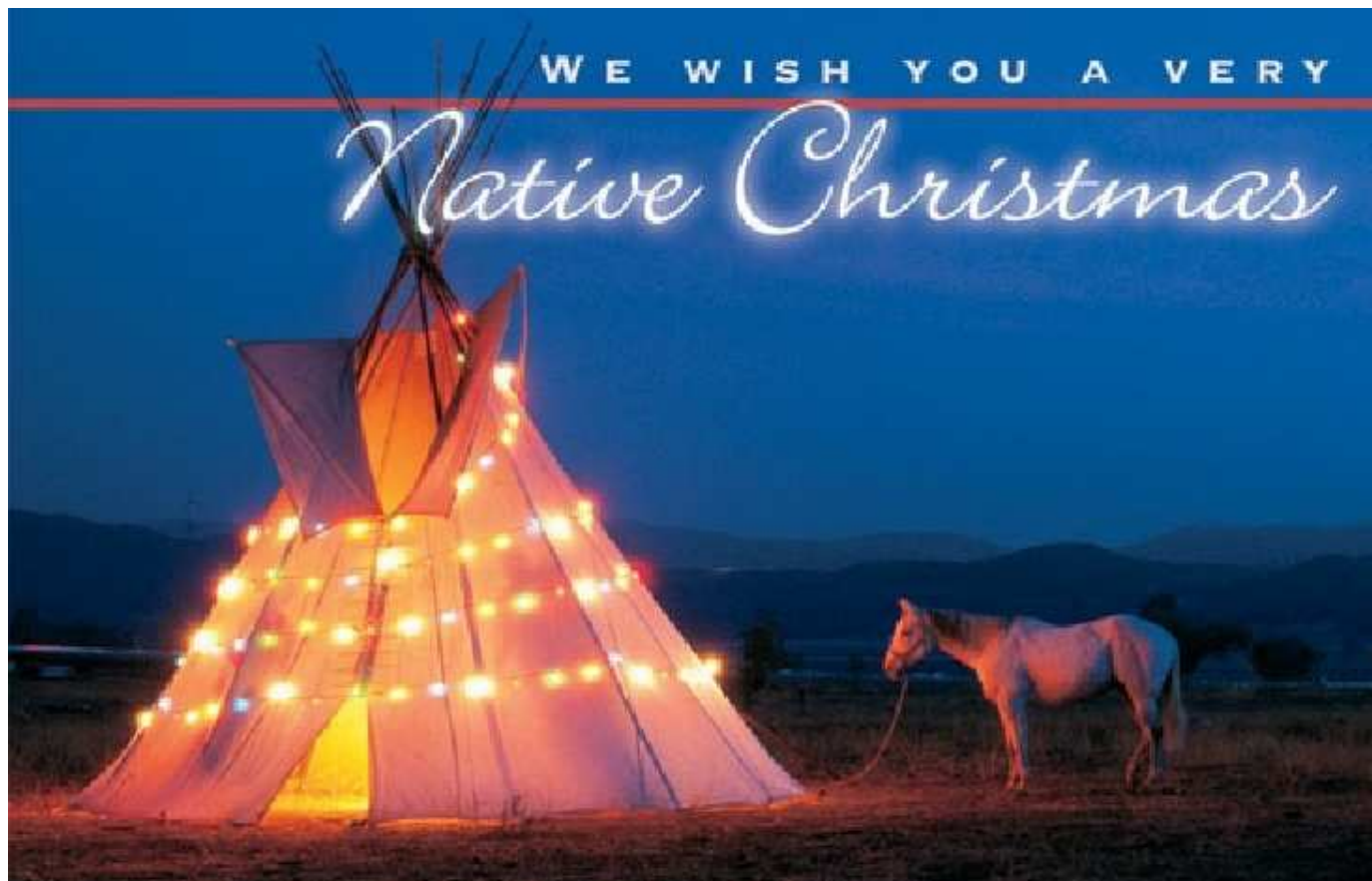
March 21, 2008 - Statutory Holiday - UCFV closed

March 24, 2008 - Statutory Holiday - UCFV closed

May 19, 2008 - Statutory Holiday (Victoria Day observed) UCFV closed



The Staff at the Aboriginal Access Services in Chilliwack and Abbotsford Campus Wish Faculty/Staff and Students a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May You All Have a Prosperous New Year in 2008!!!!



Mali klesmes qas te Xaws silolem
Merry Christmas and New Year

