

# Celebrating 25 Years

# CAPILANO COLLEGE SQUAMISH CAMPUS 1973 - 1998

Verna A. Jones



Squamish Campus, 1150 Carson Place, Squamish, B.C. VON 3G0

1998

This book is dedicated to all who worked so hard to bring a college campus to Squamish. As we celebrate its 25th anniversary we are very grateful; we are very proud.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to thank Bev Hill, archivist, who provided invaluable records and who coached me; the Squamish Chief who unhesitatingly gave permission to use articles and pictures from their files; and Lana Robinson (Executive Director, Capilano College Foundation) and Stephanie Forsyth (Dean, College/ Community Partnerships) for their encouragement and support not only when I floundered but from the start; and to all of you who took the time and made the effort to tell your story. You have my deepest appreciation.

#### Message from the President

October 1998

Having been at Capilano College in a variety of positions since 1971, I am especially pleased to offer greetings - and congratulations - from all the members of the College community.

I also had the privilege of being present at the official opening of the new campus on May 30, 1995, as the recently-appointed president.

Over the years, I have seen the vision, hard work and determination of the people of the area to have their own college campus. We are indebted in particular to Hilda Rizan, Slim Fouberg, Bill Manson, Jim MacDonald and Linda Carney for their leadership; to the first faculty and administrators who didn't get too discouraged when the temptation was there to do so; to the members of the community who would not take "no" for an answer; and to my predecessors and former College board members who listened and persisted.

There are many moving memories in the pages of this book; I commend the initiative of the Squamish Campus Advisory Council and the efforts of Foundation Director Verna Jones for this memento of how far we have come in the past 25 years.

Greg Lee, President Capilano College

#### Message from the Capilano College Foundation

The Capilano College Foundation is pleased to have provided a grant for the publication of this history of the Squamish campus and we would like to congratulate all those involved in making this history a reality.

We would also like to thank members of the Howe Sound community who supported the building of the new campus and for their continuing support of the Squamish and Howe Sound Chamber of Commerce Endowment Fund.

Founded in 1970, the goals of the Capilano College Foundation are to serve as the fund raising arm of Capilano College; to attract increased financial support for the students and programs at Capilano College; and to cultivate and maintain a committed volunteer base.

F. Allan Taylor, President Capilano College Foundation

# Looking Back

# THEY PIONEERED THE GROWTH OF THE COLLEGE

The pioneers who are no longer able to tell their story but would have had much to tell include Jim MacDonald who served on the local school board for several years and on the College Council during its formative years. Peter Jones, in giving his reflections in 1978, had this to say, "A resilient one, Jim is still on Council." T.B. (Slim) Fouberg and Margaret Marchant were two tireless fighters for education in Howe Sound School District and they did not stint in their efforts to bring the College to Squamish. Mayor Pat Brennan and Rose Tatlow were tremendously supportive.

Others who can tell their own stories but deserve recognition for outstanding service include Hilda Rizun, who served on the College Board and was its chairman for many years; Bill Manson, who has also served on the College Board and the local school board, as well as the Squamish Advisory Council since its inception; Linda Carney, who was appointed and served on the College Board for six years and still exerts her influence on the Squamish Advisory Council.

There are so many others, too numerous to mention, who helped make a dream come true. Louise Krohn, director of Extension Programs and Services at the College for several years, left her imprint. The programs she developed and the services which are still in place at the College speak for themselves about her expertise and the role she played.

On this 25th anniversary of the Squamish campus and the 30th anniversary of Capilano College, a standing ovation to all those dedicated people who made it happen. HISTORY: a story or many stories that link the past with the present. This book is a compilation of many stories contributed by students, instructors and staff in an attempt to record the history of Capilano College Squamish campus, as it celebrates its 25th anniversary. Avrille Gosling's story is about people who made things happen and had fun while doing it. It invites others to tell what happened before and

after Here is her story.

#### by Avrille Gosling

It all started in 1972-73 when I was taking an Adult Education correspondence course from UBC. My main paper was titled, "Why Women need Mental Stimulation." Mrs. Marchant was on the Capilano College Board and knew about my research. She suggested that I help set up a branch of the College. My daughter, Karin, was born in February, 1978 so I was able to work, plan, phone, etc. at home and then continue my work with her in my backpack At the beginning, my home on Skyline Drive was the centre. We had sketching classes in the rec room and, weather permitting, we worked in the yard. The early academic classes such as English and Philosophy met in schools but the guest professors stayed at my house rather than driving back late at night. One was the late Claire Culhane who was an advocate for prisoners' rights.

As the momentum and interest built, we talked about a storefront facility to accommodate the office and a classroom space. It worked very well and soon we were having English for New Canadians classes (mainly women) "taught" by volunteers. That led to celebrating Canada Day with an excellent community-involved celebration with food and music

In 1976, Bill (my husband) and I got jobs in Powell River, and so left Squamish and the College.

#### Congratulations, Howe Sound!

by Hilda Rizun, Dr. Doug Jardine, and Dr. Paul Gallagher

Capilano College in Howe Sound began as a dream of a community. In less than 25 years, it became a source of pride for so many people throughout the Howe Sound Corridor - and throughout the Capilano College region. The three of us were deeply involved in its development at various times during the last quarter century, and we would like to pass on some of our reminiscences as our way of saying "Congrats" and "Thank You"!

Few people recall the days when a referendum was held in the Howe Sound region to determine whether the citizens wished to be part of a new Capilano College region - and whether they would be willing to accept an additional 2% school tax burden for the opportunity to be part of the budding community college system then developing throughout British Columbia.

Unlike the Sunshine Coast, Howe Sound opted in from the start. That was

really the start of Capilano College in Squamish. People like 'Slim' Fouberg, Jim MacDonald, and Bill Manson played leadership roles in that era, but there was little visible evidence of the College in Howe Sound for some years to come. The main campus of the College was expanding in North Vancouver, and applicants to the College from the Corridor could get preferential consideration if they wished to attend the College there. Apart from classes held in Avrille Gosling's basement and some evening classes in the Squamish library, the College was essentially invisible beyond North Vancouver.

By the early 1970s, a storefront operation was begun near the Squamish post office and, some time later, moved to a ground floor location on Cleveland Avenue.

Major steps forward were taken when, in 1975, Hilda Rizun of Squamish was appointed to the governing Board of the College. On behalf of Howe Sound citizens, she, Jim MacDonald, and Slim Fouberg contended that the time was ripe for the College to offer courses on an ongoing basis in Squamish. They insisted that it should no longer be necessary for Howe Sound people to trek to North Vancouver for almost all College courses and services.

Slowly, their persistence paid off. First the old Forestry Centre was leased as an additional temporary site. It was used for daytime programs while the storefront served primarily as an information centre during the day and as a classroom in the evening.

The Howe Sound School District - and particularly

Indeed, this generosity and interest of the local communities in their College has always been a hallmark behaviour and one always greatly appreciated by faculty, staff, administrators, and Board members. trustee Marg Marchant and Secretary-Treasurer Don Ross - enthusiastically supported all efforts to bring additional educational opportunities to the Corridor. But the impetus for the next major leap forward really came from two additional sources; the Squamish Indian Band (and later the Mt. Currie Band), and from the Dean of Technical and Vocational Education of the College, Harold Kirchner.

The Bands wanted full-time training programs at home, rather than in far

away North Vancouver. Dean Kirchner responded with enthusiasm. Basic literacy and skills programs were offered. Carpentry, logging and office administration programs were launched in Squamish and Mt. Currie. Soon after, the volume of College activity increased to the point where the Cleveland Avenue storefront had to be replaced by larger facilities, and so Capilano College leased space on Second Avenue in Squamish as a "satellite campus."

In short order, a much broader range of courses and programs became available to adults in Squamish. Bill Schermbrucker, Shirley Brown, Bev Hill, Susan Herity, Stan Persky, and Graham Forst were just a few of the Squamish instructors in those early days. They and their colleagues ensured the credibility of Capilano courses and programs in Squamish.

At the same time, Hilda Rizun and other community activists kept pushing for even further and faster change. They were determined not to allow Howe Sound to become the poor cousin of a college in North Vancouver!

In 1980, their efforts were rewarded with a government decision in principle to build a permanent facility in Squamish. In the next two years, necessary planning and design work were completed, and a new campus for Howe Sound was at the top of the government's construction priority list. However, expectations were dashed as the economy of the province tumbled in the early 1980s, prompting the government to freeze all new building projects for community colleges.

To their credit, they persisted - and they were again rewarded, but it took almost a decade. New construction priorities were established by government when the recession ended and College construction could go forward. The College was able to obtain ownership of the Loggers' Sports Grounds, adjacent to Howe Sound Secondary School. But it was not until 1994 that construction of the Howe Sound campus actually got underway. In 1995, the College in Squamish officially opened. A college campus in and for Howe Sound was finally a reality.

In their new building, the faculty and administrators worked very hard to expand the range of educational opportunities to be available there, and to make the College truly a part of the local community. Closer participation with local community organizations, the Community Futures program, the Chamber of Commerce, local tourism and community development efforts, and individual businesses and business associations helped make the College a valued partner in the community life of the entire Howe Sound Corridor.

In turn, the communities responded and made gifts and donations to the new campus that helped to make it a well-equipped centre for learning. Indeed, this generosity and interest of the local communities in their College has always been a hallmark behaviour and one always greatly appreciated by faculty, staff, administrators, and Board members.

Congratulations again! The three of us are very proud of having shared in the development of Capilano College in Howe Sound!

# SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

These are the events along the way that help to tell the Squamish campus story; some are shared with Lynnmour (North Vancouver), while others are unique to Squamish.

- **1964** The school boards of North and West Vancouver, Howe Sound and Sechelt, formed a committee to determine the need for a community college to serve the North Shore.
- **1967** The proposal to build a college on the North Shore was passed by a plebiscite. The Howe Sound area voted 67% in favour of the college.
- **1968** The provincial government grants approval and Capilano College opens with 784 students in portable buildings attached to West Vancouver Secondary School.

Principal: Mr. Alfred Glenesk College Council Chairman: Mr. Peter Jones

- **1970** The Capilano College Foundation was created to provide scholarships and bursaries for Capilano College students.
- **1972** Lynnmour Phase I construction began on the North Shore in November.
- **1973** Lynnmour Phase I opens to 1,965 students in September. First vocational programs offered.

College Council Chairman: Mr. Jim MacDonald

#### BASEMENT U

Capilano College Squamish was dubbed Basement U' by the Squamish Times when art classes were held in the basement of the Gosling's home.

1973 The College expands offerings to Squamish. Mrs. Avrille Gosling was hired to coordinate organizational details for those who showed interest in having classes offered locally. Two art classes, an English, a psychology and a philosophy class were offered that fall.

#### FREE DAYCARE

Al Smith, the community services coordinator at the College, announced in August of 1973 that there would be free daycare during class time for any students with children.

**1974** The Learning Centre opened on Cleveland Avenue. It housed the office, student services and the art classes.

Principal: Mr. Peter Spratt

- **1976** The Basic Training and Skills Development (BTSD) program was introduced in conjunction with Canada Manpower. Classes were held in the Anaconda office building in Britannia Beach.
- **1977** Sunshine Coast School District became part of the College region.

Principal: Dr. Paul Gallagher College Council Chairman: Dr. L.M. Stivastava

**1979** Capilano College Squamish students (except for BTSD) now have a campus located at 37827 Second Avenue.

#### SOLD FOR ONE DOLLAR

Loggers' sports grounds behind the high school was purchased by the College from B.C. Rail for \$1 (after much negotiating).

- 1981 Chairman of the College Board: Mrs. Hilda Rizun
- **1984** All facilities are now under one roof. The Learning Centre moved from Cleveland Avenue and the BTSD students from the forestry building on Highway 99.
- 1986 President of the College: Dr. Doug Jardine
- 1988 Chairman of the Board: Mr. Norris Martin

#### FIRE AND SMOKE DAMAGE COLLEGE AND BUSINESSES

On July 20, 1989 a fire broke out in Glacier Athletics, a manufacturing business housed in the same building as Capilano College. One upstairs classroom and a washroom suffered smoke damage. Wendy Brown of the College stated that the damaged classroom held as many as 12 computers, but six had been moved downstairs for the summer.

- **1991** Howe Sound School District announced it would be closing down its Continuing Education program. Capilano College agreed to maintain and support many of the School Board's courses. It intends to bring more courses to the community as resources permit.
- **1992** The Squamish Campus Advisory Council held its inaugural meeting February 3. The Council exists for the purpose of providing support and informed advice in order to help the College meet the educational needs of students and prospective employers in the Sea-to-Sky region.
- 1993 On August 25, Advanced Education Minister, Tom Perry, announced funding was approved for construction of a new Squamish campus. The centre will provide an additional 100 full-time equivalent spaces.
- **1994** Groundraising ceremony for the new Squamish campus.
- **1995** The official opening of the new campus took place on May 30.

President: Dr. Greg Lee

- **1996** The Squamish campus enrolled a record 777 students during the fall term. A hugely successful Chef Training course was offered. It boasted 100% work placement for students who completed the course.
- **1998** The Squamish campus is bulging at the seams with record fall enrolment!

# Growing with the Community 1973-1998



MEMBERS OF CAPILANO COLLEGE faculty and staff met with Bob Ellison of the Squamish Adult Education Commission and Mrs. Avrille Gosling, who will be working with the College on the courses to be offered, and discussed the program. Shown left to right are Bob Ellison, Squamish Adult Education Commission; Frank Reid; Avrille Gosling, Squamish; Nigel Amon; John Dixon; Maude Cardwell; A.P.D. Smith, co-ordinator of Community Services for the College; Edward Lavalle; and in front, Ted Kingan of the art department.

27 November 1973

# Capilano college

from: Alan Smith, Director of Community Servicesto: A.H. Glenest

Re: Squamish Program - Fall 1973

As Director of Community Services, I felt it was my responsibility this last summer to try to generate a recommencement of a program in the long-neglected corner of our legal College constituency. It had been over a year since we tried anything in Squamish.

In July, faculty member, Maude Cardwell, and I met with Bob Ellison, Adult Education Director of the Howe Sound District. We reviewed the disappointing experience of little Squamish interest in any kind of College offerings. He also outlined his frustration that he had been asking the College for a couple of years to help lay on two specific non-credit courses - an English course for East Indians and a Supervisory Skill Development course and nothing ever happened in spite of promises. Instead, he said we infrequently turned up trying to persuade him that there should be an interest in academic credit courses. I insisted that I would try to organize those two non-credit courses and that day-time credit offerings (we only had evening offerings previously), if properly advertised and talked up to the "housewife," might make the difference. He was skeptical, but felt interest would be increased if we started our courses in late September.

On this basis, I took the following steps:

- 1. Got the blessing of the two Deans to try to ascertain specific interests in Squamish.
- 2. In the third week in August we advertised (in local papers see attachment) and held a morning public meeting in the Library for all those interested in hearing about the College offerings and just what people would be interested in at Squamish. I was accompanied at this meeting by faculty members, Maude Cardwell (English), Ted Kingan (Art), John Dixon (Philosophy), Ed Lavalle (Political Science), Frank Reid (Languages) and Nigel Amon (Psychology). Bob Ellison also joined us. Some 40 women and one man turned out. Each of the faculty talked about courses they could offer in their area. There was much enthusiasm. Sheets were left for people to sign up their particular interests (see press clippings of meeting - attached).
- 3. I hired Avrille Gosling, a Squamish woman most keen on a College program there, to coordinate organizational details and keep contact with the interested women.
- 4. As a result of much work on the part of Avrille, we had about 35 women actually sign up their specific interests. On the basis of the highest interest indication we then advertised the following offerings to commence the week of September 24, to be offered in mornings 9:00-12:30 (see ad):

English 104 (20th century fiction) Psychology 100 Philosophy 101 Art 154 (General Drawing) Art 171 (Introductory Painting)

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Thursday 5. The enrollment result was:

English 104	8
Psychology 100	9
Philosophy 101	8
Art 154	15
Art 171	16
	56

Some people are taking two courses.

6. Three of the courses (both Arts and Psychology) are being given in ladies' homes and the other two in the public library. Avrille has been able to get the women working cooperatively for the babysitting, so we have been able to phase out our free service as of the beginning of November.

N.B. Attached are other press clippings on the courses and a report from Ted Kingan who has been particularly enthusiastic about our new Squamish development.

- 7. On Wednesday, December 5, we are holding two more public meetings (duly advertised) in the public library for current students and others interested to discuss what we might offer in the Spring term. The two Deans and myself and some of the faculty will be going up. The meetings are at 12:30 and 7:00 p.m.
- 8. From the pure Community Services side, I have been able to persuade Canada Manpower to mount the English course for East Indians (arrangements now being finalized with Ellison and Weldwood) and a Supervisory Skill Development course will begin on January 5. This is a joint project between Ellison and the College and the indication is that there will be a good response. I have also offered a Community School workshop with Jack Stevens (cancelled due to weather) and will do so again in the spring.
- 9. I feel we are now well under way onto a regular program of offerings in Squamish and are now at the point where we should start considering some kind of a permanent space arrangement. For insurance reasons, we can no longer use people's homes. The Art courses, which are in great demand, have particular space needs. In cooperation with Bob Ellison and Avrille Gosling, we are looking at various possibilities. Prospects will be ready for Council some time in the new year.

Alan Smith granted permission to have the memorandum included in this history book. It gives some measure of the struggles and efforts of dedicated people whose determination finally paid off

#### From Cleveland to Carson - and a Whole World in Between

#### by Bev Hill

I was hired on as Community Services Assistant in August of 1976 - not that I had planned on working for the College. I had gone in the storefront office on Cleveland (presently Needles & Pins) in late spring to inquire about upcoming classes. I had been taking courses at the Squamish campus since the fall of '74. I enjoyed them very much and took one per term from Fall '74 until Spring '78.

Avrille Gosling, who was in charge of the office at that time, told me she would be leaving for Powell River and urged me to put in a job application for her

position. I was ready for a change so I followed her advice. Not really expecting to hear anymore about it, I headed up to the Okanagan to help my father harvest his cherry crop. Lo and behold, I got a call to come in for an interview and a few weeks later was installed at the front desk - the sole representative for Capilano College in Squamish. I brought

all my plants from home to make the place cozier. One woman thought it was a plant shop and wanted to buy my pink begonia. There was a carpeted room divider behind my desk and all our classes were held there. There was barely room for a dozen students.

We held many art classes during those first years mostly weaving and fabric art and it was great fun to look over the students' shoulders at the process and to see the beautiful results. One of the most exciting things about working for the College was the endless parade of instructors and students who came through the door.

Susan Herity was hired in 1978 and turned out to be a great colleague for the next 20 years. It was great being able to share pleasures and problems with someone. The staff at the College in North Vancouver - the Lynnmour campus - were always a great help in those early years but they were - after all - many miles away. One of the most exciting events at the Cleveland location was the high water day. We'd had torrential rains for several days and then came a very high tide. The drainage system couldn't handle all the water so it poured in the back door. My husband and I kept busy sweeping it out the front door.

We were friends with our neighbours - the public health unit - and held prenatal classes on a regular basis.

Another memory I have is of the Family Film Series. The North Vancouver College would courier up feature length family films (these were pre-video days). My husband and I would go to Squamish Elementary School, drag out a huge tarp to cover and

> protect the gym floor, set up all the chairs, show the movie, stack up all the chairs, roll up the tarp and stow them under the stage. What a lot of work! People seemed to enjoy the movies, as many bought series tickets, so that made it worthwhile.

> When we outgrew the Cleveland Avenue location, we moved to Second

Avenue where we rented space in the building across from the School Board office and where a gym is presently located. The extra space allowed the upgrading class to join us. Previously they had been housed in the old forestry building on the highway opposite the Valleycliffe turnoff.

One of the more exciting times at this location was when we had a very strong wind which blew off a portion of the roof. I remember going into the neighbours' yards to drag out pieces of roofing.

Thanks to the hard work and persistence of the Squamish Advisory Committee, Louise Krohn and Greg Lee, we finally got our own building on Carson Place - behind Howe Sound Secondary School. It was wonderful being in a brand new building with a state-of-the-art computer lab plus a microwave oven and a fridge! Talk about luxuries!

Two other Squamish people that I recall who really supported the College in the early years were Hilda

I brought all my plants from home to make the place cozier. One woman thought it was a plant shop and wanted to buy my pink begonia. Rizun and Rose Tatlow. I wrote articles about the Squamish campus, and Rose would gladly print them in the Squamish Times newspaper. Just months before her passing she was attending Eldercollege courses at the Squamish campus.

Besides working half-time in the office of the Squamish campus, I also worked as a faculty member for 20 years - primarily with the Achievement Resource Centre (ARC) - but also, for short periods of time, with the Adult Upgrading program and the Business Office Training program. The ARC program was designed to help students do better at their studies. I offered workshops in Study Reading/Speed Reading, Writing Essays, How to Prepare for and Write Exams, Note-Taking, Vocabulary Development and Improving Memory at the North Vancouver, Sechelt and Squamish campuses.

In addition, I spent many, many hours teaching English as a Second Language in Squamish. I had students from Mexico, Costa Rica, Peru, Chile, Quebec, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, China, Japan, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Poland, Iran, Iceland, India, and Pakistan. It was almost like travelling around the world without leaving home. The most exciting part, aside from the people themselves, was the potluck Christmas parties. We got to sample the most delicious food from all around the world!



#### Memories That Come to Mind

#### by Susan Herity

When I started working as a full-time Library Assistant with the College in the fall of 1978 at the storefront on Cleveland Avenue, funds were plentiful. Rachel Aarons was hired as full-time Women's Resource Coordinator, Judy Vetsch as part-time Librarian and we had full-time counselling services shared by Gary Siegrist and Lynn Mansfield. Bev Hill had already been there for a couple of years as a part-time Community Services Assistant. ABE classes were held at the old forestry building on Highway 99 and other classes were taught in portables at the high school.

Over the years different staff came and went - Judy Crowston worked as a receptionist, and Christie Vidler was Community Services Assistant for a short time when Bev left her staff position to do more teaching. Wendy Brown worked as a relief receptionist. The Women's Resource position disappeared when the Howe Sound Women's Centre came into its own. Counselling services were cut way back. I chose to cut back to part-time. But Bev came back as CSA and we manned the office together until Inge Oord came on deck in 1992 as a receptionist. Bev's position eventually evolved into Campus Supervisor and Inge and I became Regional Assistants.

In 1981 we were one month away from starting construction on our own building when the government cut all capital spending. In the fall of 1984, the office, library, support services and ABE moved into the ground floor of the Second Avenue location. Classes had already been held on the second floor for a number of years. In April 1995 we finally moved into our existing site on Carson Place.

There are many memories that come to mind from the last 20 years and many students. My favourite student has to be Don John. I talked him into doing the ABE program and he persevered until he completed his Grade 12. He taught himself to type by practising every afternoon for half an hour after class. He eventually went to Lynnmour and completed his Business Administration diploma.

There were two women who enjoyed taking courses just for their own interest. If we had low enrollment in a class I knew I could call them up and get them to register. Sometimes we just needed two more students to make a class a go.

The Browns were a memorable trio of instructors. Wendy and Bill (no relation) taught the BOT Program and Shirley (Bill's wife) taught the ABE Program with Frank Ramsay. I can always remember the time when the students from Mount Currie called because their instructor, Bill Brown, hadn't shown up. It was a miserable snowy morning and I was really worried about him. Meanwhile, Shirley kept flitting in and out of my office and I was not going to share the information with her that her husband was missing on the snowy road. What a relief when they called and said Bill had arrived two hours late because he had been stuck behind a major accident.

#### An Update from the Counsellor of Squamish Campus

#### By Maggie Feist

The number of students seeking support services has increased over the years, and with a changing local economy the services offered have undergone a necessary evolution.

The counselling department of Capilano College has always been concerned with providing a variety of services designed to promote and support students' academic success and identification and achievement of career goals.

At present, students are provided with educational counselling to help them plan their career education, and career counselling for those having trouble deciding on a career, who perhaps feel unsure or confused. Personal counselling is also available to help students who are experiencing personal difficulties which affect their ability to succeed in college.

In recent years the campus has become very involved with providing bridges and transition services, as well as training programs to area residents who are in receipt of either Employment Insurance or Income Assistance.

One of the current initiatives involves the Career Access Centre, which opened in 1996 to provide people on social assistance with access to College services and support during their time here as students. As well as upgrading, students receive career and educational planning.

The Centre also provides a range of programs and resources for job hunters on Income Assistance:

1. Resource Centre:

Offers up-to-date information on: how to find work; choosing a career path; current labour market trends and how they affect job choices; helpful community resources and employment training programs.

#### 2. Counselling Service:

Offers opportunities to: explore training options; identify personal strengths; build confidence and increase self-esteem; problem solve; improve personal management skills; develop a personal action plan.

#### 3. Other programs:

A series of programs has been designed to assist people making the transition to employment. These include: Information Sessions; Starting Points; and Career Decision-Making Workshops.

These projects are funded in partnership with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology, and Human Resources Development Canada.

While the increasing number of students has increased the demand for student services, our focus remains the same: providing students and members of the community with the support needed to meet their personal and career goals.

Counsellors who have served our campus:

Lynn Mansfield Gary Siegrist Ian Forsyth Dave Jones Maggie Feist - present counsellor and local resident

Advisors to our campus:

Greg Sharp Geri Krogseth

#### Capilano College Library – Squamish Campus

#### by Judy Vetsch

In 1978, Capilano College decided to provide a broader range of services for students attending the College in Squamish. Expanded library services was one of these, and, to this end, I was hired as part-time librarian (10 hours per week), and Susan Herity was hired as a part-time library assistant. We worked out of a storefront on Cleveland Avenue (now a fabric store) along with the personnel at the reception desk, two counsellors, and the head of a newly-formed women's resource centre.

Supporting the learning and research of the Squamish students was our main mandate. Somehow, we managed to house our small collection of books, reference books, and magazine indexes in the storefront office, along with the microfiche readers for looking up all the titles and authors that were available from the North Vancouver campus library. No computers in those days! To help the students make the most of what was available to them, we crammed whole classes into our little space and gave instruction to them on how to find materials and how to use the materials for research.

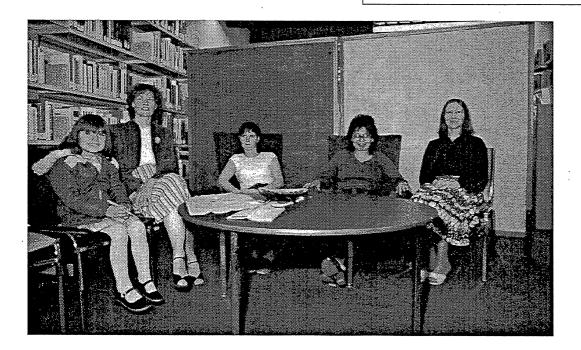
Outreach to the community was also part of our mandate. At that time members of the community could borrow materials and we provided interlibrary loan services to several Squamish professionals. Film discussion evenings were fairly popular. For example, we sponsored a series of films in French that both community members and College students in the Dialogue Canada program attended. (Perhaps advertising them as "French films" was the big draw.) As well, a number of high school students made use of the library to supplement what they were able to get at their school library for their studies.

A co-operative working relationship with the Squamish Public Library was fostered by both institutions. I gave tours in the Squamish Public Library to College students in order to encourage their use of their public library as another important source of information. I also gave a library skills training course for volunteers working at the Squamish Public Library. Several volunteers at the Pemberton Community Library also participated in this course. Another important area of co-operation was on a local history project. Specifically, the College applied for and received a grant to film the Squamish Times newspaper from its original publication date to around 1980, ensuring that this early source of information about Squamish would always be available.

Since 1983, there has been no Squamish-based librarian at the Squamish campus, but librarians from the North Vancouver campus come regularly to give instruction to Squamish classes. Susan Herity, who recently was honored for her twentieth anniversary with the College, has continued to offer such services as assisting students in locating library materials and ordering books and materials from the North Vancouver campus for students here.

#### **Exam Invigilation**

It is 8:00 a.m. on a rainy Saturday morning and it's exam time at the College! Exam invigilation is another service that has been provided by the College through the years for students who are taking correspondence courses. At the present time, this takes place six times a year for students enrolled with the Open Learning Agency who are taking upgrading, job-related, or university courses. As well, the GED exam, (General Educational Development), which can lead to a high school equivalency certificate, is given twice a year. This is a grueling, all-day exam, testing the candidate's general knowledge of the English language, math, science, social studies, and literature. We also give the exams for such professional groups as bankers, insurance agents, and accountants who are taking correspondence course in their field. And what if you need to take an entrance exam for that educational institution you've been trying to get into? This, too, is something that can be arranged through your local college - Capilano College.



# CAMPUS LOCATIONS!

#### Fall 1973

Determined to offer accredited courses in Squamish, private homes were offered for use as classrooms. The basement of Avrille Gosling's home served as an art studio and her backyard was used when the weather was pleasant. Eager students and Mrs. Doreen Taylor-White were jammed into a half-finished basement which measured 30' by 18'. Sparse furnishings consisted of borrowed tables and a mixture of stools and chairs. Psychology classes were also held in a private home, while English 104 and Philosophy 101 were given in the Squamish Public Library.



But new quarters were needed for this endeavor to continue in a satisfactory way. In January of 1974, the annex of the United Church and Howe Sound Secondary School accommodated the students.

English 105 classes met from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in H.S.S.S.

Philosophy 102 met from 9 to 11 a.m. in the public library  $% \left( {{\left[ {{{\left[ {{{\left[ {{{c}} \right]}} \right]_{{\rm{T}}}}}} \right]_{{\rm{T}}}}} \right)_{{\rm{T}}}} \right)$ 

Art 178 (weaving) classes were held in H.S.S.S. from 7 to 10 p.m.

Art 164 (drawing) and Art 172 (oil painting classes met in the annex of the United Church from 9 to 12 (noon) and 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. respectively

Psychology 201 was also held in the Church annex.

#### Spring Semester Credit Course Offerings for 1975

English 105 (drama) - Janet Marx, Tuesday 12:30-3:30 p.m. Squamish United Church Annex, commencing Tuesday, January 14.

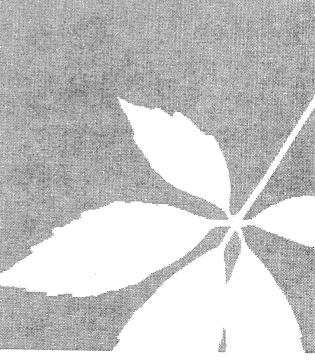
Art 169 (weaving II) - Mieneke Mees, Wednesday 7-10 p.m. Howe Sound Secondary School, commencing Wednesday, January 15.

Art 184 (life drawing) - Doreen Taylor-White, Thursday 9-12 noon, Squamish United Church Annex, commencing Thursday, January 16.

Art 255 (painting media) - Doreen Taylor-White, Thursday 12:30-3:30 p.m. Squamish United Church Annex, commencing Thursday, January 16.

Philosophy 200 (political) – Mark Battersby, Tuesday 7-10 p.m. Howe Sound Secondary School, commencing Thursday, January 16.

\*All students can register on the first day of class. \*Senior Citizens have classes free except for the lab fee (\$7) required in the Art classes.



#### Spring 1975

#### SQUAMISH LEARNING CENTRE 38038 CLEVELAND AVENUE

On March 21, 1975 the new Capilano College community information centre was officially opened with Mayor Dave Stewart cutting the ribbon. Others taking part were Chairman of the Capilano College Council, Jim MacDonald; Capilano College principal, Peter Spratt; art instructor Doreen Taylor-White; and dean of community education, Dirk Smit.

This office, referred to as the Squamish Learning Centre, housed the administration, resource library, women's resource centre, lounge and counseling department. Hours of operation were from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 1:30 to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday. The coordinator was Avrille Gosling.

Room dividers gave the centre added space for displays of student artwork as well as adding to the decor of the building.

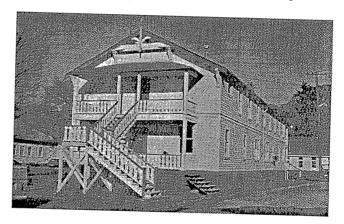
Note: this is the present site of Needles and Pins.

The office and other services were relocated in July 1984 to 37827 Second Avenue where classes had been held for some time.

#### Fall 1976

#### THE BUSINESS PREMISES AT ANACONDA MINES IN BRITANNIA BEACH

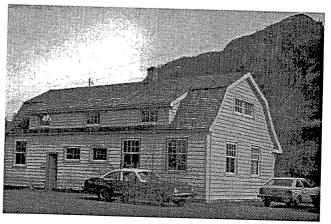
Capilano College, in conjunction with Canada Manpower, offered a Basic Training and Skill Development course, which commenced in October of 1976 and continued through to the end of March in 1977. Classes were held five days a week, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Britannia Beach. The purpose of the program was to upgrade adults for entry into vocational training or enable them to further their education and obtain a high school equivalency.





#### FORESTRY BUILDING ON HWY. 99

The following year the Basic Training and Skill Development program moved from Britannia Beach to the forestry building. There it remained for several years.



#### 37827 SECOND AVENUE (SECOND AVENUE CENTRE)

This building was used for the classes run by the Squamish campus: academic, credit-free, Business Office Training, Learning Assistance and Women's Resource Centre courses.

There were five rooms:

Room 1 - Vocational Room 2 - Lounge Room 3 - Learning Assistance Room 4 - Academic Room 5 - Business Office Training

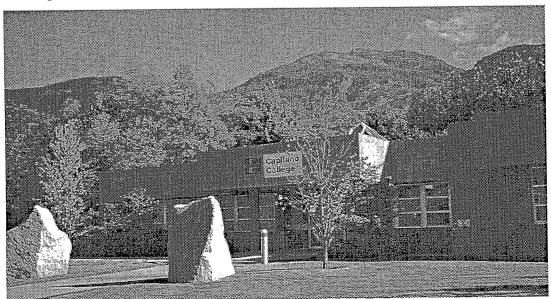
After the office was relocated in 1984 to Second Avenue, the downstairs housed the offices, reception area, Achievement Resource Centre, and Media Centre. Classes were held in the five upstairs rooms.



#### Spring 1995

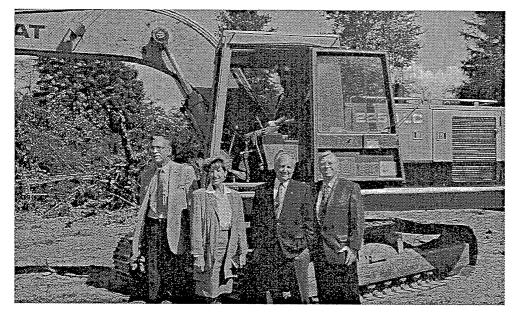
#### 1150 CARSON PLACE

On May 30, 1995, Capilano College in Squamish finally had a permanent location. It houses three regular classrooms, a science lab, and a multimedia computer lab. The campus is completely accessible to students with disabilities. The single-storey building sits on four hectares of land obtained from B.C. Rail after two years of negotiations. The recession in 1981 and subsequent government cutbacks led to long delays before construction could begin. Through the tireless efforts of many people, however, the new campus officially opened its doors.



#### Groundraising Ceremony

Site of new Squamish Campus



Taking part in the Sept.1 groundraising ceremony for the new Squamish campus are, from left: Squamish Acting Mayor Ron Barr; College Board member Linda Carney; Bill Manson, representing the Squamish Advisory Council; and Jack McKeown, vice-chair, Capilano College Board.

Capilano College Informer Newsletter, Sept. 23, 1994

They're predictable as winter snow on Mount Garibaldi. Gusty afternoon winds that visit Squamish every day, making it one of the best windsurfing destinations in the world. On Sept. 1 they were there, swirling around the groundraising ceremony at the site of the new Squamish campus.

As invited guests looked on under the shadow of the mountain's beautiful but barren peaks, various speakers approached the podium to express their anticipation towards all those who helped make the project a reality.

"The investment we make in education today will benefit every aspect of future life in the Sea-to-Sky communities," said Jack McKeown, vice-chair of the Capilano College Board. "This campus is tangible evidence of this region's commitment to higher education and to its future economic growth."

The 760 square-metre facility, replacing Capilano College's present leased facility in Squamish, is expected to open its doors in spring 1995. At a cost of \$1.48 million, the campus will house new labs, classrooms, a library, and will provide access for people with disabilities. Along with the approval of the new campus, Capilano College has received funding under the Skills Now! program, which will provide instructional space for 100 full-time students," said Dennis Streifel, MLA, who was there on behalf of Dan Miller, minister of Skills, Training and Labour.

Louise Krohn, director of Extension Programs and Services at the College, was overwhelmed at the number of people who showed up for the event. "The support from the community for this facility has been tremendous," she said. "The fact that 60 people were there for the ceremony was really heartwarming."

Following the event, an open house was held at the existing Squamish campus where light refreshments were sold. All proceeds went towards establishing a bursary fund for a student enrolled in a credit course in Squamish.

"We netted approximately \$150 that day from the sale of hot dogs and T-shirts," Louise said. "Plus, because of the publicity from the event, we have been approached by at least one community organization who is interested in contributing to the bursary fund."

#### College Has Come a Long Way Since 1973

#### by Julie Anderson, The Squamish Chief, May 23, 1995

The Capilano College Squamish campus has come a long way since 1973 when the first class was held in the basement of instructor Avrille Gosling's home where she taught craft classes.

Craft instruction led to other educational programs such as English as a second language and psychology. Once this happened it was time to move, said longtime (retired) College board member, Hilda Rizun.

"It (the College) went from the basement to a storefront on Cleveland Avenue, and was called Capilano College Storefront," says Rizun, who chaired the College board for eight years and was a member for 13. Classes were also held in portables on Howe Sound Secondary School property, and later on they were held at the old forestry building on Highway 99.

The campus eventually moved from these various locations to a leased facility across from the school board office on Second Avenue. The campus remained there for many years before it was necessary to find an even larger facility.

In the years 1975-77, Rizun said Howe Sound's population grew rapidly. She and other board members felt it was time to build a bigger facility to meet growing demands.

The people working to make it happen at that time were board members Margaret Marchant, Jim MacDonald and Slim Fouberg, who together lobbied for a larger College campus.

"Much negotiating took place for many years," said Rizun. Finally, with the help of Pat Brennan, who was Squamish mayor at that time, and support from then-MLA Allan Williams, their efforts paid off.

After two years of negotiating, the College delegation was finally able to obtain the property located at the foot of Carson Street, just east of Howe Sound Secondary School. The area owned by B.C. Rail was used by Loggers' Sports as its show grounds.

B.C. Rail graciously sold the property to the College for a grand sum of one dollar, and in turn the Ministry of Education paid the Loggers' Sports committee \$25,000 to assist in relocation.

Everything was ready to go except the economy, which slumped into a recession in 1981. Rizun says the great recession came along and because of government cutbacks the College lost its development funding.

"We negotiated with the government and lobbied for many years," says Rizun. "It is only in the last few years that new people and new presidents have accomplished what a lot of people set out to do 20 years ago. The College has gone through several generations of hard working, committed community people that saw the need for a community college many years ago."

#### OFFICIAL OPENING

The official opening of the new Squamish campus of Capilano College was held on May 30, 1995. Festivities began with Squamish high school student, Lorraine Gamba, singing O Canada. This was followed by a traditional blessing by the Squamish Nation, addresses by members of the platform party, ribbon cutting, and the planting of a dogwood tree.

#### Capilano College New Campus Opening Remembered

#### by Linda Carney

I remember, with help from technology, the wonderful day that Capilano College opened the doors of the new campus on May 30, 1995.

I was asked to write an article about this happy day. Thanks to Harry Greenwood of the Squamish Advisory Council and Cable 10, I was able to watch the whole ceremony on video and therefore can give an informed remembrance of that great day rather than spending hours interviewing people who attended. Lorraine Gamba sang a lovely version of O Canada and later we were entertained by the Sea to Sky Singers. Eleanor Andrew from the Squamish Nation said a prayer of blessing for the building. Dr. Greg Lee, newly appointed as the President of the College, spoke warmly of the many people who had contributed their time to making the campus a reality. In particular, he spoke of the dedication of Hilda Rizun, Slim Fouberg, Bill Manson and Jim MacDonald. These four people, who were Capilano College Board members in the original years of the College, were given lifetime honourary chartered students cards which invites them to participate in any course at the campus, free of

charge.

Watching the video I was struck by how wonderful technology is. My old friend Slim Fouberg, who has since passed away, was so proud and happy on that day and it made me feel like he was with us again. His sense of humor even in advanced years never failed him!

The history of the College and the start-up back in 1969-70 was recalled and many speakers noted that with perseverance the College survived many moves from basements to storefronts on Cleveland Avenue and leased space on Second Avenue. We all felt very good about the permanent home now ready to

The Squamish wind, along with many of the supporters of the College, attended the outdoor ceremonies in front of the campus that day. The MC, Louise Krohn, Director of Extension Programs, welcomed the members of the faculty, staff and local supporters. The wonderful granite rocks, donated by Garibaldi Granite, framing the entrance (my grandsons love to climb them) welcomed the crowd as they entered the new building.

open beside Howe Sound Secondary.

Mayor Corinne Lonsdale, myself, Laurie Vanzella and Board Chair Robin Wilson all happily cut the ribbon and the new campus was filled with people.



# **Excellence in Education** From the classroom to the community

# UNIVERSITY TRANSFER PROGRAM

In the beginning, two or three of the following courses were offered each term: English, Psychology, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Sociology and Political Science. Often, there were only seven or eight students in a class, a great advantage for students and instructors. It took two or three years to obtain first year university transfer depending on which courses were offered each year.

#### Who took these courses? Why?

The majority of students were women and their reasons varied. For most, it was for intellectual stimulation and to get out of the house for a while. Others had career goals in mind and took further courses at the Lynnmour campus and a few eventually went to university and obtained their degree.

Each successive year, the three to four courses offered had larger enrolments. In 1997/98, 10 different university transfer courses were held, with a total enrolment of 182 students. It is now possible for a student to complete the first year of university at the Squamish campus.

There can be no argument about the value of the Squamish campus to the people who live here. But at times it is important to talk about it. These former students were willing to do just that.

Ruth Lipsey, in recounting her experiences, said she took several academic courses for self-fulfillment. She expressed appreciation for her instructors and remembered how various classmates were fun particularly one man who loved poetry.

Over the years Lynn Wilbur has taken several academic courses at the College. Some of his comments are included. "Post secondary education has helped to spark within me many ideas/values/ beliefs which now form part of my world view. There is abundant personal power available through language, ideas, and actions."

Hilary Fisher agreed to share her experiences in a letter which is so special it is included in its entirety.



#### Dear Verna,

You have really got me thinking about my seven years spent studying part time at Capilano College!

My daughters were born in 1977 and 1979, and I started my academic studies in the fall of 1978. I had taken a two-year business/secretarial course in England when I left school at age 16, but apart from that had no further education. From 1978 to 1984 I took one or two evening courses each term in Squamish and simply loved them all! It was the perfect intellectual outlet for a stay-at-home mom!

I studied Geography, Psychology, Sociology, Philosophy, English, History, and Political Science. The small classes of mostly mature students were a fantastic way to discuss issues and really delve into course content. I remember my History 205 instructor who made B.C.'s history so interesting I could hardly wait till each class to hear the next fascinating installment. We used to persuade him to join us afterwards for a beer so we could continue to pick his brain! Stan Persky taught Political Science and his classes always stretched my brain in directions I didn't think possible. As a teacher of grade seven students, I now teach the essay format and organization strategies I learned from my English 100 professor. Psychology taught me so much about human behaviour and myself. A section on animal rights in Philosophy was a large reason why I later became a vegetarian! All in all, these courses had a profound influence on me.

Finally, in the spring of 1985 I enrolled in four courses at the Capilano College North Vancouver campus, and felt I was well on my way to being able to handle being a full-time commuting student. So, with both children enrolled in school and 54 credits from Cap College under my belt, I applied and was accepted at Simon Fraser University where I completed a Bachelor of General Studies degree and my PDP teacher training year. I have been teaching at Valleycliffe School since 1987.

I was delighted with the personal attention and encouragement received at Capilano College and am very pleased that both my daughters have chosen to start their academic careers at Cap. Sarah has completed almost two years in both Squamish and North Vancouver and has just been accepted at SFU. Kyla is starting the one-year Engineering Program this September after which she will then transfer to UBC, SFU or UVic. I heartily recommend Capilano College to young and old alike!

*Verna, I hope some of this information is of use in your book. What an interesting project! All the best.* 

Sincerely,

Hilary Fisher

#### Vivid Memories of Interesting People

#### by Paul Avery

I am not absolutely sure when I started to teach psychology at the Squamish campus. I do however, know that over the years from 1980 onward I have had the opportunity to meet many interesting people of all ages and lifestyles. The most vivid early memory of a 'great' class was the Psychology 100 class held in the Second Avenue building in the fall of 1981. In particular I remember Isabel Arundel, a senior, whose stories and lively communication style added both fun and vivid examples to the course material. Nola Dinwoodie, Richard Magill and Peter Staton come to mind too as do Doug and Gladys Brooks (Doug was the first RCMP member I had in psychology class). Most of these people went on to take Psychology 101 with me and overall I have to say that the class of '81 still conjures up warm memories of interested people providing interesting questions and opinions in an interesting (hopefully?!) psychology class.

Over the years from then on I always felt privileged to be able to drive "that highway" from the Lynnmour to Squamish campus. I knew at the end that another motivated and appreciative class would be waiting for knowledge and intellectual stimulation. This was a two-way street as I never new what was in store for me. For example, there was the class of fall 1994. This class was filled with a motivated array of folks who came to be known as the "dysfunctional family". They were great fun but the combination of personalities, styles and ages made for what always seemed to be an "out-of-control" ambience. I guess in thinking back, I really earned my salary in teaching this group. Denise Imbeau and Joanna Schwarz were vital people in the class who took their community interests and high motivation on to the greater good when they became members of the Squamish College Advisory Board. I could tell you stories about most of the people in this class but I think for my own safety I won't.

One instructor years ago made a statement that captured what it felt like to teach at the Squamish campus: "It always feels like a nice warm bath." Well to add to that from my own experience I must say that mostly it has felt like an enjoyable undertaking though at times the water has been too hot, or as is the case in the fall of 1998, there have been too may folks in the tub. Overall, I do confess the water has never been cold and somehow the experiences have remained stimulating and pleasurable.

#### The Wow of Education

#### by Mary Billy

It's hard to remember the first time I was in contact with Capilano College in Squamish, but I think the first office was in the Drenka Building, upstairs from the post office, or maybe it was above where Hidden Treasures is now. I took a test to see if I qualified for high school upgrading as I'd only gone as far as (and not quite completed) Grade 11 before quitting school may years before. Frank Ramsay was the one who gave me the test and later informed me I'd scored higher than anyone so far taking it, so the seats would be given to those who "really" needed them.

One of those was my husband at the time, and he attended classes for two years. I believe the first year was at the old forestry building on the highway where the Alternate School is now, and the second was in Britannia Beach.

My next memory is of the office on Cleveland Avenue, and that soon after, there was a women's centre staff person, Rachel Aarons. I was so thrilled to have a

women's centre here as I had been a member of the North Shore Women's Centre up until then, so jumped in and volunteered to do anything to help get this one going. However, in what seemed like a short time there was a lot of conflict which ended in another group forming and splitting off to become the Howe Sound Women's Centre.

The one continuum though has been Bev Hill, and perhaps Susan. I'm not sure when Susan started, but it was while Cap was still downtown. Both of these people have always been very helpful and pleasant to deal with, directing anyone who wished to take classes or get information as to the best way to do that.

I took a writing course from Bill Schermbrucker in 1977/78, another writing course during a summer down at the North Vancouver campus, and, many years later, a five-month business course at the Second Avenue campus. I've attended lectures or talks on politics, attended open house for Eldercollege and some of the lectures given through them, and a wonderful talk by Joy Kogawa, all little gems one can tuck into the corners of one's life.

This past year I attended the first Women's Studies course to be held at the Squamish campus in the new building on Carson. I, along with others, had been requesting a women's studies course since Capilano College first came to Squamish, and although it took over 20 years to get it here, it was worth the wait once it came. It was one of the most stimulating, wonderful courses given by one of the best instructor/professors I've ever had the pleasure to work with, Margaret Denike. I have been a

And surely that's what education is all about - that "WOW!" that happens when your life is enhanced and expanded by the experience of learning. feminist/activist for 30 years and in that class learned a lot of the "whys and hows" of things I knew the highlights of to be "the way it is for women." I went home after every class feeling like I'd really learned something, from someone who really knew what she was talking about. Wow!

And surely that's what education is all about - that "WOW!" that happens

when your life is enhanced and expanded by the experience of learning.

So congratulations and thanks to everyone who has been part of this great experiment: those great women in the office, Bev, Susan, Inge, all the teachers, professors, instructors, lecturers, and all the students who have taught their teachers so much and left their own mark on the College.

I hope it won't be another 25 years before we have another women's studies class though, so I'm putting my request in now to have Ms. Denike continue what was started last year. And I wonder what the College here will look like in another 25 years? It's hard to imagine, but what we can dream of we can not only realize, but often surpass. So let's not only dream big, but dream richness of experience and the true depth of learning that will ripple out to enhance our world.

#### Teaching at the Squamish Campus

#### by Bill Schermbrucker

Even before Capilano College opened its doors in August of 1968 (not our own doors, because we didn't have any, but the doors to a couple of rooms borrowed from West Vancouver Secondary School) we were committed to offering classes in Squamish. Howe Sound residents had voted in favour of the College in the required referendum, and we were determined to reciprocate that support. It took a while, but eventually, with meetings being held in the quaint little old library building, and classes meeting sometimes in people's homes, we began to offer a few courses in the early 70s. In my

department, English, there were always faculty willing to drive up and teach a course, and for myself it was always a pleasure and a change from routine. For a while, as the College Council (with strong representation from Howe Sound) contemplated different options for a permanent campus, including a tower on a bridge by Park Royal and the West Van

garbage dump, it looked as though a 24-hectare site in Squamish might actually become the main College location; but that option was superseded by the choice of the Lynnmour site in North Vancouver, and we ended up in Squamish with the storefront office on Main Street and a couple of portable classrooms in the high school, about 100 metres from where the new campus now stands.

There was no preregistration in those days; enrolment was done on the first day of class. I remember driving up in the late 70s to teach a Creative Writing workshop limited to 15 students, and finding 30 students sitting waiting to enroll. In view of their presence, it seemed more sensible than foolish to lay on a second workshop in exactly the same time slot, so my colleague Pierre Coupey and I would drive up together, conduct the two workshops, and then repair to the local beer parlour for a game of pool before driving home again. Some fine writing came out of those workshops - and even one career that I'm aware of in publishing. On occasion, I've run up against some strong personalities in the classroom and have had to exercise a firm control, but mostly it has been a sheer delight. Quite a large proportion of the students tend to be older and more traveled than the average college entrant, which makes for some enriching experiences for students and faculty alike. One remarkable woman was writing her memories of taking the lunchbucket to find her father at the docks where he was building the Titanic ("It wasn't a ship - it was a city!") Once, recently, when a younger student expressed amazement at the depth and thoroughness of research done by an older student from Whistler and asked "Where do you find all this reference material?" the answer came back, "Mostly

I must say with gratitude that teaching in Squamish has been one of the highlights of my life.

under my bed." Also recently, I praised the quality of a couple of movingly expressive personal essays written in English 100 and suggested publication, and then had the pleasure of reading them later in The Vancouver Sun. Two or three times my Squamish students have been awarded English Department fee-waiver scholarships for their fine

achievements on research papers, and I was particularly moved to see one of them attend the graduation ceremonies to accept his award, proudly accompanied by his wife and two children.

The liveliness and variety of the Howe Sound communities and student population were evident at the Internal Evaluation hearings which I had the job of chairing a few years ago, and our resulting report strongly, and deservedly, urged the College to devote as much as possible of its resources to the regional campuses, increasing staff hours and making available at least a full year's course offerings. The new Squamish campus is light and roomy, and the staff maintain a friendly and efficient atmosphere. And the students - well, over the years, I must say with gratitude that teaching in Squamish has been one of the highlights of my life. CHERYL DAWSON took university transfer courses at the Squamish campus from 1994 until the fall of 1997. She obtained her first year university credits this way and was able to continue working at Save-On-Foods. She says this worked out very well for her. She wasn't certain of her career goals so she took courses of interest as they were offered.

Cheryl is now taking three courses at Capilano College in North Vancouver and one course at Squamish campus and is still working at Save-On-Foods. She says her marks are very good and she has decided she wants to be an elementary school teacher.



#### A Creative Approach to Education

#### by Uzonka Kathleen Deminger

Twenty-five years ago, when Capilano College's Squamish campus opened, I began to take courses, painting and drawing with Doreen Taylor-White. The first site of our classes was Avrille Gosling's basement in the Highlands. At that time, Avrille became the first co-ordinator. Since there was lots of bush behind her house, we used to have visitors at the back sliding door. A family of racoons could always sense when we would have tea time, and they would huddle together at the open door.

I think it must have been in the new year, 1974, that we moved to the second campus, a small church in downtown Squamish. I remember driving down with

a friend from the art class in fairly deep snow. In the art classes, I became fascinated with colours. I enjoyed mixing the acrylic paints and going wild with the colours. The College chartered a bus for a tour of Seattle's major art galleries. Since the price was right, my friend and I signed up for the tour. We thought that the trip to the Asian gallery, alone, was worth the price of the fare. The gallery has an impressive collection of Chinese and Japanese paintings, carvings and sculptures. Since I am not as interested in modern art, I found the gallery of the Space Needle less interesting. Our final stop was in the heart of downtown Seattle, where heritage buildings housed private galleries. In that seedy part of the city, my friend and I stuck as close together as possible. On one street corner, we saw a group of men exchanging some white powdery substance. After we looked at each other, we walked away as fast as our legs would carry us. We returned to the bus early. The driver had specified that everyone should meet at the bus at not a minute past 5:00 p.m. Unfortunately some jolly matrons from West Vancouver lost all track of time. We waited for them for two hours; it was a tired, hungry bus load of ladies who returned with a grumbling bus driver. Of course, those of us from Squamish had another hour's drive after North Vancouver. After I had arrived home, I remember I was too exhausted to eat.

Later, in the drawing classes, we had life drawing, where one of the girls posed nude for us. Since there were no men in the class, nobody was embarrassed. Doreen was a portrait artist, and preferred to work in chalk pastels; she taught us to use chalk pastels, as well. Doreen would bring up wonderful art books from the College's North Vancouver library, and I remember reading about the artists of the Renaissance, about the Impressionists, about modern European artists, about the Group of Seven and Emily Carr.

In the late 70s, I enrolled in Creative Writing classes. Since at the beginning, there were enough people for two classes, the College sent two instructors, Bill Schermbrucker and Pierre Coupey. Because I was interested in writing fiction and non-fiction, I was happy to end up in Bill's class. Pierre was not only a poet, but also an equally good artist. In those days photocopy machines were expensive, so we had to use a Gestetner. We had to type our writing onto

purple and white stencils, and then run them through the machine at the College office, that by then was on Cleveland Avenue. I remember having purple fingers, a purple nose and purple clothes. Somehow we managed. We held our class in a mobile behind Howe Sound Secondary where today's Capilano College Squamish campus is located. When the monsoons hit Squamish we could barely hear each other read out our work.

Bill, a stickler for concise, Hemingwayesque writing, gave me valuable advice that I have continued to use to this day. He got me into the habit of keeping a journal. He taught me to look at all that I saw in a new way. I learned to smell the smells, hear the sounds, touch objects, and see and record the specific details around me. Since he knew I was a reader, he kept me supplied with books from the College's North Vancouver library, as well as his own personal one. He introduced me to Audrey Thomas - Songs That My Mother Taught Me and Mrs. Blood; the author had inscribed both books to Bill, an old friend. I first read Michael Ondaatje because Bill brought me his copy of Coming Through Slaughter. He recommended Doris Leesing's The Golden Notebook and Paul Theroux's The Great Railway Bazaar: By Train Through Asia.

From Bill's class, there is an incident that sticks in my mind. In the class, we had a young man who attended only our first class and the last one. When Bill asked him where he'd been and why he hadn't written anything, the young man said he'd suffered from writer's block, that he could think of nothing about which he could write. Bill took a look down at the young man's tattered and battered sneakers, pointed to them and said, "For God's sake, if you can't think of anything else, write about those shoes. There ought to be a good tale in them."

Since most of us in the two classes wanted a follow-up class, I wrote a letter and we all signed a petition requesting more Creative Writing classes. Although the College complied, neither Bill nor Pierre could fit us into their schedule. On their advice, the College hired Bob Sherrin, a brilliant young man who came straight from UBC's Creative Writing Department with an MFA. His Master's thesis The Black Box, was his first published novel. Although we were Bob's first class, we found him extremely knowledgeable and helpful. Our classes were held upstairs on Second Avenue, in the building across from the school board offices. After all these classes, most of the members used to spend the fourth hour with the instructors at the Chieftain Hotel's beer parlour. Since I did not drink and couldn't stand smoke, I never went. By then the Highlander Hotel had opened up in my neighbourhood and they had a weekly ladies night with male strippers. One night some of the women decided we all (including me) had to go. I don't know if it was providence or what, but after we'd finished class, we found it had started to snow hard. The Brackendale women decided they had to rush home before the road became too slippery, so we all left. I never did get to any of the bars.

In our class with Bob Sherrin we had the local artist Mark Armstrong. Each week during the coffee break Mark would doodle and draw a quick pen and ink sketch. Each time he would give the drawing to a different member of the class. My husband framed mine and I face it whenever I work at my computer. In that class the eldest member was in her mid-seventies. Even though she had difficulty reading her own handwriting, she wrote the most fascinating account of how her husband had helped build the Titanic in Belfast. He was supposed to have sailed on its maiden voyage but because of her turbulent dreams and superstitious nature, she would not let him leave. She saved herself from widowhood.

Ten years after I started the Creative Writing classes at Capilano College, I returned to UBC where I finished my degree that I started in 1962. With grey hair, I earned my BFA (Creative Writing) in 1991.

### ART COURSES

Course offerings over the years consisted of various levels of drawing, painting, weaving, fabric painting, and design. These courses were very popular and attracted many students, several of whom took more than one class.

#### Notes on my Instructional Experiences with Capilano College at Squamish

#### by Doreen Taylor-White

In the fall of 1973, I was requested by Dean Harold Kirchner to teach at the new facility in Squamish, with classes to be held in Avrille Gosling's basement

in the Garibaldi Highlands. Avrille was the co-ordinator for Capilano College classes in Squamish.

For the next few years, each Thursday, I drove my trusty yellow Pinto the 40 odd miles on the old Squamish Highway to a very satisfactory teaching experience.

My classes consisted of students between the ages of 20 and 70 years, all having

had some previous knowledge of art. It would have been hard to find a more enthusiastic and hard working group.

From Avrille's basement we moved to the more spacious church hall. Here it was often necessary to clear snow from the access pathway before any students arrived.

Apart from classroom activity we made several field trips to various beauty spots to sketch and paint 'on location'. Myrtle Herndl invited us on several occasions to visit her home on beautiful Edith Lake. On one occasion my students from North Vancouver also joined us. On another outing we went to Ruth Smith's property on Anderson Lake; we rode the train from the North Shore, and an obliging train driver let us off at Ruth's house on the lakeshore.

Some of my students traveled to Welch St. on the North Shore to attend an evening life drawing class and requested that such a class be held in Squamish. I was able to arrange with Capilano College for a model and gave her a ride each Thursday. As we were still occupying the church hall, a request was made to have the model clothed from the waist down; for the first class I asked Vicky to bring a colourful skirt, which she did, but when requested to enter the classroom, appeared carrying the skirt in her hand - later, the proprietor of the Brackendale Inn let us meet in his lovely building and also supplied the models.

Ted Kingan, co-ordinator of the Art Department at Capilano College in North Vancouver, came to visit us several times. He evaluated my classroom instruction and each time gave the class an informative and very well received

discourse on art-related subjects.

In the several years commuting, I only missed one day instructing. On that occasion, some large trailer trucks had skidded on the ice while driving down the road into Brittania and the police had closed the road.

On another winter's day, the Pinto and I landed in the ditch, somewhere on the highway above Brunswick Beach. A tow

truck arrived before I had even gotten out of the car, and the

driver had us back on the road in no time. I continued on my way, cleared the snow and prepared the classroom before the first arrivals.

And so, at last, we were to have a college of our own; Capilano College, Cleveland Avenue, Squamish. To celebrate our new facility, I took Irene Poskit to demonstrate her new technique, a pastel and tissue paper collage. Irene created a masterpiece for us; it was so inspiring - everyone experimented and, with Irene's help, we managed to master the concept. In fact, several pastel collages were painted in future classes.

The class ended with a slide show; everyone brought their chair to the back of the room and I operated the equipment. Those nearest the screen began to feel sick, Ellen who had been recently ill, was taken

For the next few years, I drove my trusty yellow Pinto the 40 odd miles on the old Squamish Highway to a very satisfactory teaching experience. home. The slide show ended and everyone left. We discovered later that the gas heater behind the screen was leaking gas. Irene felt quite ill on the drive home but had recovered after a night's sleep. Being at the other end of the room and at some distance from the source of the fumes, I was not affected to the same extent, but the drive home seemed more tiring than usual.

It was usual for me to return the projection equipment to the school library after class but as Irene was not well and wanted me to take her home as soon as possible, Maureen Brown offered to take the projector home to be returned to the school by her husband the next day.



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DOREEN TAYLOR-WHITE, with some of her art students. Capilano College has always offered courses to meet the needs and wishes of the community. The courses offered during the first five years of its existence indicate the popularity of the various art courses and the demand for academic courses (though classes were relatively small). It was a time of great opportunity for stay-at-home mothers, as classes were given during the day and babysitters were initially provided. These were the classes, 1973-1978:

5 1			
Fall '73	English 104	Spring '76	Psychology 100
	Psychology 100		Religious Studies 104
	Philosophy 101		English 105
	Drawing 154		Art 268
	Painting 171		Art 269
Spring '74	English 105	Fall '76	English 200
	Psychology 201		Religious Studies 200
	Philosophy 102		Psychology 222
	Art168		Art 168
	Art 164		Art 160
	Art 172		
Fall '74	English 108	Spring '77	English 201
	Art 168		Psychology 220
	Art 152		Religious Studies 201
	Art 250		Art 161
			Art 169
Spring '75	English 106	Fall '77	Psychology 100
	Philosophy 200		Fine Arts 100
	Art 255		Math 100
	Art 169		Art 158
	Art 184		Art 284
			Art 267
Fall '75	English 104	Spring '78	Fine Arts 101
	Art 251		Psychology 222
	Art 267		Geography 220
	Psychology 204		Art 268
	Religous Studies	102	Art 178

#### Weaving Classes

#### Meineke Mees

The Capilano College weaving class started, if I remember correctly, in 1974.

The home economics classroom in the high school was a large space, with sinks, hotplates, large tables - all the things we needed for the wool dyeing.

The Capilano College Learning Centre was opened in downtown Squamish in 1975. Quite a few students had signed up and we just fitted in the central area, with all the equipment which was needed, such as spinning wheels, carders, looms (there even was a large floor loom) and dyepots.

I remember the enthusiasm and keen interest of the students and I found that the different levels beginners, intermediate and advanced - worked well together and tended to make a better and more interesting class.

Traveling once a week through the winter months from West Vancouver to Squamish was an adventure; rain, fog, icy roads and sometimes snow. But only once did I have to cancel, at the advice of the Highways Department. The classes and the great students more than made up for it.

#### Meineke Mees with student Ruth Smith



## Capilano College Puts on Art Show

#### Squamish Times 1974

After much work the results of the first semester of painting and drawing were on display in the United Church annex last week. The instructor, Doreen Taylor-White, placed each piece of work in just the right position to show off the students' efforts.

On January 18 and 19 the show was seen by many people as they came to see their friends' work, their own, or to speak to the counselor, Wally Firth, about their classes.

"Flowers by Lily" supplied potted plants to set off the pictures. Doreen also demonstrated her great talent in working with pastels on velour paper. She is a professional portrait artist.

Also in the show were the results of the fall term in the Adult Education classes. Batik (Barbara Rudkin), Woodwork (Walter Huber) and Painting (Yolanda Destradi) classes had a room full of their efforts. This spring, in April or May, there will be another Art Show at the culmination of the classes but it will be open to all crafts (amateur and professional) in the area.

The college courses are still open for more registration. Phone Avrille Gosling at 898-3681 and turn up at the class for more than \$21 worth of pleasure.

Classes are:

English 105, Monday and Wednesday, 6-7:30 p.m. in the high school.

Music 110, Monday, 7-10 p.m. in the high school.

Philosophy 102, Wednesday, 9-12 noon at the library;

Art 178 (Weaving), Wednesday, 7-10 p.m. at the high school;

Art 164 (Drawing), 9-12 noon, United Church Annex;

Art 172 (Oil Painting), 12:30-3:30 p.m. in the United Church annex;

and Psychology 201, 9-12 noon in the United Church kitchen.

### My Interest Lay in the Arts

#### by Maureen Brown

Capilano College opening a campus in Squamish was a great opportunity for myself and many like me to take advantage of continuing education.

My interest lay in the arts, which was taught by a gifted instructor, Doreen Taylor-White. She traveled up from North Vancouver once a week, and taught a drawing class in the mornings and painting in the afternoon.

These classes were held in the United Church Hall.

At first I enrolled in the drawing class, which I thoroughly enjoyed. Then I decided to take painting, oil being the medium in which I had the most

interest.

This was followed by Art History, Fabric Design & Graphic Arts.

By this time the campus had moved to Cleveland Avenue, followed by a location on Second Avenue. I found it to be a wonderful learning experience.

I continued with my painting and have exhibited my work in The Brackendale Gallery, Silk Purse in West Vancouver, Customs House at Britannia Beach, and the new Squamish Library Gallery.

A personal highlight had to be having an oil painting accepted in the provincial "IMAGES & OBJECTS" exhibition.

The help given to me by those earlier Capilano College courses all contribute to the enjoyment I still realize when painting.

## VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The first of the vocational programs to be offered was Basic Training and Skills Development (BTSD). In 1976/77, Capilano College, in conjunction with Canada Manpower (now Human Resources), offered an upgrading course to adults so that they could enter vocational training. The course covered English, mathematics and science, and upon completion gave a grade 10 equivalency.

The course ran from October until the end of March. Classes were Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There was no charge and Manpower paid a small living allowance to successful applicants.

The instructors were Shirley Brown and Frank Ramsay.

#### Basic Training and Skills Development Program

#### by Gwen Harry

The BTSD program consisted of classes in English, mathematics and science. The first month we had no textbooks so we used newspapers and magazines for our English studies. Our science teacher brought books from the library and our math teacher found some books somewhere. Classes were held every weekday from September to the end of March.

The first part of my story will be about my husband, Ernie Harry. Ernie completed his grade seven at St. Paul's Indian Residential School, and from the time he was 16 years old he worked on the boom - sorting logs. But he developed arthritis and was forced to retire at the age of 40. May Harris, who was employed by the Squamish Band as Education Director, worked hard to coordinate an upgrading program for people like Ernie. Ernie completed the two-year program, giving him a grade 12 equivalency. He drove the bus for Totem Nursery School and later he taught the SKO-mish language to the pre-school students at Totem Nursery School.

I had a Manpower grant while Ernie was on unemployment insurance. I also received my grade 12 equivalency through the upgrading program and then became the teacher at Totem Nursery. I had previously been the assistant teacher. Two years later I was offered the newly created position of Native Home School Coordinator. I served in this capacity for seven years, and then I decided to run for a position on the Band Council. I was elected and served for 12 years. I retired last year.

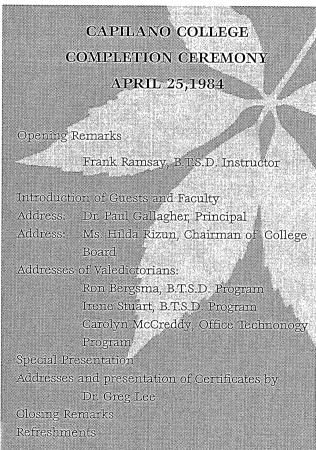
FIRST YEAR BTSD Front Row: Lynn, Diane, Diane Second Row: Ernie, Gwen,Carolyn, Edith, Frank, Margaret, Cid, Shirley Back Row: Ronald, Dru, Jackie, Mary



#### Even My Children Benefitted

#### by Victoria Smith

I went to Capilano College to get my upgrading in 1982 and 1983. I would have to say I enjoyed doing the basic subjects, especially the mathematics (algebra). Frank and Shirley were the greatest. They were so patient and always took the time to explain things. I found the upgrading beneficial when my children started going to school as I could help them with their homework. I now work for a gravel company where I perform various office jobs. I plan to go back to Capilano College in the near future for some computer courses.





#### A Super Mix of People and Talents

#### by Shirley Brown

Initially the program was designed to meet the needs of Canada Manpower in this area. Brian Alexander, a Manpower counsellor, met with Capilano College officials to purchase an upgrading program for 16 students. This program ran 35 hours per week for six months. Brian chose the students who would enter the program and they received a payment for attending class. Attendance in the program was reflected in their weekly UIC (EI) cheque. The first site was a wonderful old office building at Britannia Beach with Frank Ramsay and me, Shirley Brown, as instructors.

This was a super mix of people and talents. Mary received her driver's license; she also learned how to apply make-up. Ernie told us stories of his childhood in the Howe Sound area. Baby Deanna, the first of many babies, arrived into our lives. Mary, Gwen, and I had our first grandchild born during the year. Frank entertained us with his great sense of humour. Recipes were exchanged, the whole school board attended our Open House, and we read the temperatures from around the world every day. Near the end of the program, text books arrived and our studies took a different slant. This program, BTSD (Basic Training Skills Development) was underway.

After one year, the BTSD program moved to the old forestry building in Squamish. This building also suited our needs. It didn't have the shape or design of the regular classroom. It didn't remind the students of the secondary school where they had all experienced failure. Instead, we had comfortable areas to start over again. One young woman could not believe she could not only learn chemistry, but could excel in the subject. During our stay there we had many great meals. Once we had huge bowls of salad and students' homemade buns. In winter, we used the snow bank as a refrigerator and even had shelves for our lunches. Another time we had The Great Jeans Exchange where everyone brought jeans and went home with better fitting ones. Skit Days were always popular and both Frank and I were

easily recognized in their skits. One group mastered writing with their toes and could pick up dimes with their bare feet. One October, to get to know each other better, we gathered and identified every tree, plant, and grass on the old forestry site. Judy Vetsch, the librarian, had identification books sent up from the main campus. We used the process of classification and had one wall covered with our trophies.

Brian Alexander encouraged the students to visit other post-secondary institutions. We also visited Victoria and saw the legislative assembly in action. There was a yearly trek up the Chief. During the early years of our program there was also a BTSD program at Mount Currie, and we were invited to join them for a ball game and picnic on more than one occasion.

Eventually the program changed in title and presentation. It became ABE (Adult Basic Education). Canada Manpower didn't buy blocks of seats as they had previously. The programs became more tailored to the specific needs of the students and the focus was on academic upgrading.

During the 13 years that I worked with the adult education program in Squamish I always appreciated the concern and dedication of the Board chairman, Hilda Rizun. She graciously accepted every invitation issued and she always supported our work. The principal of the College, Paul Gallagher, was also very supportive. He always knew our names and interests. He was never too busy for the Squamish campus. The deans, library staff, and counselors went out of their way to help make our program a success. I was very lucky to be part of the process and today I still enjoy meeting former students and hearing about the results of their efforts.

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#### Towards a Better Future

#### by Frank Ramsay

In August 1976, I first heard of the projected Capilano College Upgrading Program. Roy Penrose, who was co-ordinating the night study program for the Howe Sound School District mentioned it, and

asked if I would be interested in taking part. I didn't know how it would work, but I was definitely interested. Toward the middle of September, Hilda Rizun, who was on the College board, informed me that I would have a part in the program.

Our classes started the day after Thanksgiving Day in 1976, in Britannia in one of the empty buildings of the old

copper mine. Our local Indian Band proved to be great supporters of the project, and provided 16 band members that first year. An additional eight or nine non-natives were also registered, and we were underway.

Our primary objective was to prepare the students to successfully complete the G.E.D. exam, which would be held the following spring. This provincial exam was accepted at that time as a Grade 12 equivalent.

We tested each student to determine their level of capability, and then provided them with study plans and appropriate text books and let them go to work. Since they had tested out at various levels, from grades 3 to 10, it had to be done in this way. When a student needed assistance, they received one-on-one instruction. The following year we moved to the old forestry building on Highway 99, just opposite the entrance to Hospital Hill, and stayed there until 1983. This was a period of intense development. The average age of the students dropped somewhat, and their needs became more specific. Most of them began to realize that they had a future and were working toward future job opportunities. We also opened up a night program, for those who worked by day but wanted the chance to upgrade themselves for better jobs later on.

Our day program continued for those who didn't have any job. Many of these had very low selfesteem, and it became necessary to build up their self confidence. We also tried to convince them they could achieve any goal they set for themselves.

At this time, we met up with some different types of students who were very willing to work. One of these completed the entire program from about a grade 5

> level to our grade 12 equivalent in just seven months. Another, who had nine children before she was 29, completed the work in two years. Both of these ladies are now managing small businesses. One very determined lady stayed with the course for three years, to complete her grade 9 equivalency. Two months later, she passed away at the age of 54 years.

Our night program became extremely popular at one time, picking up additional students each night for about three successive weeks. On entering their classroom to see if they required any assistance, I found it empty. However, I could hear loud discussions in the washroom. Being suspicious, I went back to their room later and told them if anyone was using or dealing in any illegal substance, it would have to stop. The next night, we were missing some 20 students whom I have never seen since.

In 1984, the entire Capilano College administration came together under one roof, in a building opposite the Howe Sound School Board office. This was a more convenient facility, with access to our library, direct communication with the College in North Vancouver, several classrooms, and a computer system.

We helped quite a few people to have a chance to become independent, but we also learned from them. Money was becoming scarce, and we had to abandon the night program. To compensate, we established a combination day/night program in order to help those employed during the day, night workers, or those on shifts. Each group attended when they could. Our system of instruction was ideally suited to this plan.

The program changed its name to ABE, or Adult Basic Education. Many of our students were sponsored by various social agencies, and by the Workmen's Compensation Board, for retraining. Unfortunately, their support was withdrawn on several occasions because the course was too time consuming.

During this time, we had to upgrade all of our programs, because the local universities agreed to accept our subjects as standard entrance requirements. We also began to receive a few young people who found it too difficult to keep up in the school system, yet wanted to enter university.

We were able to find time to expose the students to computer operation, which helped everyone, especially those who eventually found work in that type of business. Again we found that the average age of the students was decreasing significantly, and their needs were more academically oriented. For this reason, we sought help from the high school to enable us to use their laboratory, and they generously permitted us to do so.

About this time, another short course was introduced to counteract the lack of funding. The students had access to student loans and grants for textbooks, which were becoming very expensive. With this new course, we were able to enter into contracts with local businesses who provided work sessions between periods of study. Our ABE instructors provided the course outlines for English and Mathematics segments of the study sessions and the necessary instructors.

It would be correct to assume that we helped quite a few people to have a chance to become independent, but we also learned from them. We feel that most of them lacked confidence in themselves, and we were able to help them build that confidence. Over a period of 15 years, there were many changes taking place, and everyone needed to be flexible enough to change with it.

I hope that everyone will be prepared for the changes that will probably occur even more rapidly in the next 15 years.

#### Adult Basic Education at Capilano College in the 90s

#### by Vern Giesbrecht

There's no such thing as a typical ABE student at the Squamish campus of Capilano College, but most share certain characteristics when they enroll: they're nervous but eager to make up for lost time. Whether they're just a year or two removed from a less-than-happy high school experience or returning to the classroom after a quarter century of working and raising children, ABE students realize the "work-at-your-own-pace" instructional setting practically guarantees success if they make the necessary commitment.

Enrolment has jumped dramatically in the 1990s about 200 per cent - with the construction of a new campus four years ago and a sharp reduction of fees in September, 1998 being two of the biggest factors.

The success of other ABE students has also played a part in attracting adults to the College. Many students have used the ABE program as a springboard to further studies at colleges, universities, nursing schools and other post-secondary institutions. For some ABE students, just obtaining a high school diploma or learning to read and write

more fluently were sufficient accomplishments.

During the 1990s, the curriculum has remained stable, with English, mathematics, general Students realize the "work-at-your-own-pace" instructional setting practically guarantees success if they make the necessary commitment. science, biology, physics and chemistry the main subjects offered. Recently computer classes have been added. Classes are offered at a variety of morning, afternoon and evening times. I have been the English instructor during the 1990s, with Paul Pi teaching math and sciences for several years and Dr. John Field and Richard Brand teaching at the campus for shorter periods. The new math and science instructor for the 1998-99 year is Dilbagh Dhammi. Inge Oord is the computer instructor.

While many of the ABE students are longtime Squamish residents, others are recent arrivals from all across Canada or from other countries. Beatrice Gaudiche, for example, came to this area from Chicoutimi, Quebec, her husband's hometown. She was born in Vitre, a town about the size of Squamish in the Brittany region of France.

"I was afraid at first because everyone (in the ABE classes) spoke well, but I found there was no pressure and I could work at my own pace," she commented. Beatrice's excellent writing skill enabled her to complete both Intermediate and Advanced level English courses in one year, but she's hoping conversation classes will resume so she can develop her speaking fluency.

The enrolment this fall is the biggest ever, with classes strained to capacity. Additional classes may be necessary. Students include several forestry workers (two of them, Roy Jameson and Norm Gott, drive down from D'Arcy together four days a week), a family from Iran (father, mother and 20-year-old son studying together), several young women resuming their education after having babies, recent high school graduates who need to boost their marks for university entrance, immigrants from Lebanon, India and Korea, and a woman who's determined to get her Grade 12 certificate 29 years after she left school.

The combination of self-paced classes, convenient class times, individualized instruction and tuition free enrolment should make ABE classes at the Squamish campus increasingly popular as we end this decade and begin the next.

#### **Mount Currie Students**



Students graduate, Back Row: Gayle Frank, Mary James, Derrick Sr Front Row: Matilda Pacal, Judy Smith, Nora Pase



Wendy Brown (Lab Supervisor) with Matilda at her Lynnmour graduation



Business Office students in the Mount Currie portable

### EXTENSION COURSES Continuing Education Courses

Extension courses, now referred to as Continuing Education courses, are non-credit activities and as such there are no formal education prerequisites. But in some cases certain levels of achievement are recommended. A wide variety of courses have been offered over the years. The list which follows is a sampling of the creative, the fun, and the educational experiences.

Extension courses were offered for the first time in the spring of 1979.

Creative Writing • Family Film Series • Confidence Building • Basic Literary Skills • Bartending • Women and the Law • Family History • Starting a Small Business • Mini Computers • Enjoying Motherhood • Wen-Do • Hypnosis • French for Children • Filing • Living With Teens • Career Planning • Basic Conveyancing • Public Library Volunteer • Kodaly/Orff Music • Mushrooms • Writing for Profit • Writing for Fun • Sculpture and Design • Word Processing • Super Host • Blasting • Stone Sculpture • Japanese Home Stay • Emily Carr • Basics MC • DOS Level 1 • Career in Motion Pictures • Spanish • Magazine Writing • Airbrakes Theory • Flagging • Eldercollege • Falling & Bucking • Basic Photography • Horticulture • Windows Quickstart • Sign Language • Music Therapy for Children • Learning Language and Loving It • Introduction to Ornamental Plants

A few of these courses are described in the various articles which follow.

KODALY/ORFF MUSIC FOR CHILDREN was offered in the fall of 1982, with 65 students registered. Dr. Patrick McCrum was the instructor. Rhythm and melody are introduced in a physical way through chants, song games, creative movement and dance. Using the widely-recognized Orff method, one learns to sing a tune from music. Emphasis is on active, enjoyable participation.

INTRODUCTION TO MICROCOMPUTERS was offered in the winter of 1983.

WRITING FOR FUN AND PROFIT proved to be an interesting course. Marsha Drake was the instructor. The course outline gives the objective of the course, which was to help you sell your work. The workshops offered tips on the five rights of writing, manuscript mechanics, and individual help for specific problems.

#### OCCUPATIONAL FIRST AID: LEVEL 3 by Karen Shewflet, Instructor

Occupational First Aid: Level 3 has been offered as a continuing education course since Howe Sound School District stopped offering adult courses in 1991. This course was formerly known as Industrial First Aid, and is needed by working first aid attendants. While it is a definite advantage for job seekers, other students take it for self-improvement or interest. The course requires 70 hours of class time and an equal amount of home study time. An OFA 3 certificate is valid for two years.

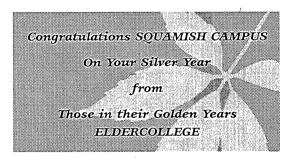
#### ELDERCOLLEGE by Harry Greenwood

Eldercollege arrived on the Squamish campus five years ago and provides a learning experience for seniors who are 55 years and older.

With the valued assistance of Lynn Jest, Director of Continuing Education, and many volunteers who generously gave their time to promoting the concept, our first program was launched in the fall of 1993 and has sustained Spring and Fall semesters. To date, the courses have included The Great Books; Still Photography; An Introduction to Computers; Life Writing; Women in Literature; The Women in Shakespeare's World; and a series called, Canada... Within and Beyond. The cost for each course is \$25 which includes Eldercollege membership. There is an additional cost for Great Books material.

Eldercollege courses are fun and we emphasize this by encouraging open participation in the classroom. There are no examinations and no formal classroom disciplines.

Learning is fun at Eldercollege and everyone over 55 is welcome!



#### Eldercollege Does it All

#### by Molly Doran

Not everyone looks forward to retirement but most of us do. At last we have time to do whatever we please, whenever we please, with whomever we please. Setting up the new lifestyle is exhilarating and fun. Keeping up with world events, community happenings, politics, and the arts requires constant attention if one does not want to slip too far into retirement.

Reading is a constant source of enjoyment and knowledge but there is something missing: conversation, discussion, debate with people of like mind. Eldercollege does it all — allowing for the transfer of ideas through conversation. My interests include literature and writing, both of which I found at Eldercollege. The history of English literature brought back so much of what I had forgotten and was a stimulating intellectual activity.

Writing one's memoirs is strictly personal and of interest only to oneself and one's family. However, how does one do it without being tedious? It is amazing how much each member contributes to a group whose ambitions are similar. They cannot provide the discipline to sit down and write, but they do keep the ambition alive. Retired people are fascinating, interesting and full of life, and joining them in groups at Eldercollege keeps one stimulated, alive and having a lot of fun.

#### Life Writing

#### by Audrey Rhodes

The Life Writing class began in 1995 and has offered two sessions per year since that time. Class members have ranged from 6 to 12, and are usually female.

The class provides an opportunity for members to recall their early lives and record their experiences in an organized form. Because the participants have come from many different parts of the world and a variety of cultures, these experiences are very diverse.

#### Japanese Homestay

#### by Wendy Brown

1987 - ads were placed. Can you host a student? I began placing 20 students for one week and over the years it quickly rose to 35 students to place. Not an easy task at first but as the word spread in Squamish, many outstanding families would take on this adventure. A wonderful cultural experience was offered to Squamish families to host a student from

Japan. The Koto-Ku Board of Education teachers began to bring students from abroad for a short-term study of the English language. The studies take place at Capilano College and students live for one week with their "host families." What an intense week.

The experience began in July 1987 and was part of the College Extension program. The idea originated from the days of Janet Morris and Lousie Krohn.

The host families provide meals, accommodation, transportation and family activities. Capilano College provides daily English classes in the morning. As well as the classes, there are a variety of activities. Among the group and family adventures which are crammed into one week are: a day at Whistler, a day at Stanley Park, the Royal Hudson, numerous field trips, ball games and picnics. The unimaginable would take place when, at the end of the week, we were communicating with these young Japanese



students (the accomplishment of the fine instructors at Capilano College). Monitors - Squamish high school students - were hired to lead groups of students around the community. I have never witnessed such close attachments in such a short time. Every year without a doubt there are tears as the students board the bus. Tears and sadness are understood in any language.

Many teachers and students have returned over the years because Squamish, for one week in their lives,

became a second home. The Koto-Ku students still come to Capilano College every summer. Cards and letters still arrive from Japan. Last year, Mr. Ito was kind enough to send me a book they had published entitled, "Koto-Ku, 10 years in Squamish." I think that's what it said, it was written in Japanese. Inge Oord has been placing the students for the past eight years. One might consider such a

notion if you would like to be re-introduced to Squamish through the eyes of a teenager from Japan. I recall one Japanese teacher telling me "the friendliness of the town, and the beauty and mountains surrounding it, brings warmth to my heart." Isn't that a fine way to be remembered. The young exchange students always had an "arigato" (thank-you) for their mama-san and papa-san. Giggles and laughter were saved for the children. An exceptional practice introduced to Squamish by Capilano College.

SUBARASHI (excellent)!!



Every year without a doubt there are tears as the students board the bus. Tears and sadness are understood in any language.

#### THE OFSTIE FAMILY

Our years of hosting Japanese students have been wonderful and as exhilarating as the students themselves. We've acquired extended sons and daughters as the students all have a great deal of thankfulness and respect for us. We've opened our home and our lives to them and all insist on calling us Mommy and Daddy.

By hosting a student it has allowed our children to realize the opportunities and rewards of having goals, dreams and ambitions. It has given us an opportunity to provide our children with positive role models making good choices and reaping the rewards.

#### Lonnie & Dixie

It's lots of fun, but somewhat strange and different when you have someone in your home that doesn't speak English very well and is not accustomed to our way of living. But the thrill you get when you teach and show them something of our culture is great.

#### Adam

It has broadened my knowledge of other cultures and I'm very impressed by the kindness they show to us.

#### Alena

It is really neat working with and meeting different people. We get to learn and experience firsthand about a different culture. I'm impressed with their manners and how they grasped the English language in such a short time.

#### Linnea

Matt

I like learning new things about Japan from the kids. I enjoy the experience of having a Japanese teacher in my home to teach me Japanese words.



# CAREER/VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Capilano College offers a variety of employmentrelated programs, which are constantly reviewed to ensure that they incorporate the latest techniques, and are meeting the needs of the community.

Until 1979 the only career courses offered in Squamish were the various art courses. They were extremely popular and the talents which developed have given much personal satisfaction as well as public acclaim.

In 1979/80 business courses (Business Management and Office Training) were introduced. And in 1983 word processing was offered. As the demand for courses in BASICS and DOS arose, they too were provided.

In 1996 a full-time computer skills program was introduced to meet growing demand.

Long Term Care Aide was first introduced in 1983 and re-introduced in 1987 and 1990. In the spring of 1994, the Resident Care Attendant program was given and in 1997 the Special Needs Certificate program was introduced.

In January 1998 the Early Childhood Care and Education Certificate program was offered. The part-time certificate program is given over a three-year period and is approved by the Community Care Facilities Branch of the Ministry of Health.

A few of these programs have been highlighted in the pages which follow.

#### Happy Birthday Squamish Capilano Campus!

#### by Carol Wynne

When I first came to Squamish 23 years ago, I was looking for a recreation centre and a college where I could continue my work and education in the recreation field. Twenty-three years ago, Squamish didn't have a recreation centre, but Capilano College was there in a small storefront, on Cleveland Avenue. I enrolled in the Art Program and enjoyed many creative hours at the Squamish campus.

The Recreation Centre was soon constructed and I continued my career in recreation. My work for the Squamish Recreation Department and education at Capilano College has gone hand in hand for several years. The creative experiences in Arts courses I took in the early years were a boost to my work in the Tot Time program at the Civic Centre.

After seven years in the preschool, I was promoted to the Program Supervisor position in the Recreation Department, which offered me exciting new challenges. Once again, I looked to Capilano College for support in my new role. When the fitness boom hit the recreation industry, Capilano College was quick to offer the Fitness Leadership Program at the Squamish campus. It couldn't have been more related to my work. I completed the program in 1986 and have been an avid jogger ever since.

Over the next couple of years, recreation became more of a business operation than it had ever been. Capilano College was timely in offering the Business Management Program... and I was in it. The daily expectations and changes at the Recreation Department were challenging and the courses I attended helped me every day in my work.

Today, computer courses are helping us get through the 90s and I have no doubt that the Squamish campus will get us through year 2000! HAPPY 25th BIRTHDAY!

#### I Took a Few Courses and I Was Hooked!

#### Madeline Robertson

The thirst to learn drew me to further my education. As I raised my children, I attended night school through School District #48 and took courses such as driver's training, tailoring, bookkeeping and typing. It was at Capilano College where I took "career testing" and found out I wasn't a rocket scientist but was no dummy. I delved into career planning, stress management and time management. Each fall and spring I looked forward to receiving the College calendar, hoping there would be something of interest to me. Around 1990, the business management certificate was listed. I took a few courses and was hooked! I completed all six courses and obtained my certificate.

I have been a volunteer worker for many organizations over the years and am presently serving on the Sea to Sky Housing Society, Squamish Credit Union, and the Royal Canadian Legion. I am certain that as an employee of a local business and as a volunteer these courses have been useful. I am presently working on my advanced certificate. Having the College in Squamish has been a great opportunity not just for knowledge but for enjoyment. It is a great place to meet people and develop new friendships. The staff - Bev, Susan and Lise - who greeted, encouraged and helped me on many occasions are awesome!

#### Office Administration Program

For several years the College offered an effective secretarial/bookkeeping program. But in the fall of 1983, a new program, Office Technology, was introduced to train students for the electronic office. An intensive three-days-a-week, six-month program was designed to give the needed skills.

## Memories of Capilano College in the 1980s

#### by Linda Firbank

As a new mom and a new resident in Squamish, I enjoyed my association with Capilano College in the 1980s. I started at Capilano College in the old building on Second Avenue as an instructor in the Office Technology Program. I was fortunate to get a part-time position teaching Business English. My colleagues, Shirley, Bill, Wendy, Susan and Bev made me feel right at home. I had resigned my teaching position at Britannia Secondary School to move to Squamish and this was a traumatic event for me. The friendly folks at the College eased this transition. My students (adults, of course) made sure I stopped treating them like grade 8's very soon into the teaching term. Unfortunately, with cutbacks and being the lowest person on the list, I lost my position to a person from North Vancouver. But, I returned to Capilano College as a night school business student.

I began to ease my way into the public school system and I decided to upgrade my business skills while I was still working part time. I started night school at Capilano College in 1982 and did my last course in 1991 with a few gaps along the way. We had a fun group of people taking the Business Management Diploma - Inge, Anna, Myrna, and Beth, to name a . few. Of course, Bev and Susan were still in the library and office to help us figure out all the registration procedures. My favourite courses were Business Law and Marketing, but Taxation left me a little cold! I even persuaded my husband to take an introduction to computers in the fall of 1991. We learned DOS commands and struggled with the equipment. Shortly after our rebellious group finished, new equipment arrived. We had lots of fun with Jeanne, Harriet, Jack, Hazel, Vera and many others - what a great group!!! Thanks for the memories, Cap College - Happy Anniversary!



## Long Term Care Aide

#### by Linda Stephens

Long Term Care Aide was first offered in January of 1984 with 24 students registered in the program.

In the spring of 1984, I completed the 10-month Long Term Care Aide course offered for the first time at the Squamish campus of Capilano College. The fact that it was offered locally made it financially feasible to attend, as well as saving the time of commuting... plus wear and tear on the vehicle. Another bonus was that, after graduation, I was hired locally. The course served to spark an ongoing interest in the medical field. I have since gone on to get my RN and work at the Royal Columbian Hospital. I am currently raising three children and am working on my B.Sc. degree in nursing.



Class of 1984

#### Long Term Care

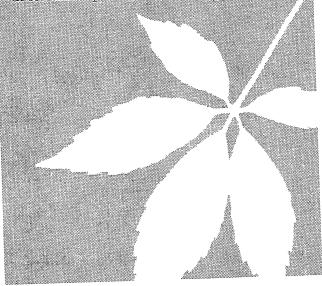
Squamish Citizen, Aug. 18, 1983

The Long Term Care field is expanding steadily with B.C.'s aging population and few of the recent layoffs in the health field were in that area. With the new extended care unit at the Squamish Hospital due to open in the spring of 1984, there will be job openings.

A four month full-time course in long term care nurses' aides training will begin in January. Graduates will receive a provincially recognized certificate which has good standing across the country.

Those eligible should be between the ages of 19 years to their 50s and be in good physical and mental health, interested in taking care of others, and have grade 10 English or the equivalent. Students will learn nursing care, emergency procedures, human relations skills, employee responsibilities, and will practice these in the classroom and in clinical settings.

An information meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 23 from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Learning Centre, 37827 2nd Avenue. If interested but unable to attend, please contact Capilano College at 892-5322. Spaces are limited for this course.



## From the Trunk of My Car

By Lynn Jest, Director Continuing Education Department

In March 1978, the trunk of my car became the storage cupboard for what would become the initial Business Office Training Program on the Squamish campus. I'll never forget driving from my home on Capilano Road to the Lynnmour campus to pick up books, handouts, calculators, and then negotiating the Squamish Highway to start teaching at 11 a.m. We operated out of a storefront on Cleveland Avenue, and Bev Hill, the campus support person, put up a privacy screen between our Business Office Training Program and her desk.

I wonder now how Bev managed the telephones, the people walking in with inquiries and me teaching a broad range of business subjects behind that screen. At 4 p.m. in the afternoon, we packed things up and moved over to Mr. Hubner's typing room in the Howe Sound Senior Secondary School - one of the many collaborative ventures with the school district that would evolve over the years. This collaborative venture resulted in Mr. Hubner's classroom receiving 10 IBM Selectrics from Capilano College - and the College could not have run that program without that room!

In the fall, we hired Sharon Brady, a resident of Brackendale, to be the program's lab supervisor, and we were fortunate to move into one of the two portables behind the high school.

#### The Business Office Training Program

by Bill Brown

The Business Office Training Program (BOT) ran from the fall of 1979 to the spring of 1985. I was hired to teach bookkeeping and business math in early 1990. Although I had taught bookkeeping at night school for several years, I was nervous giving my first lecture, doubly so when, half way through, one student left the classroom, never to return.

I was amused to learn that my fellow instructor, Walter Stewart, who had a bad back, often lectured while lying flat on his back on the floor.

One year, when I was living in Britannia Beach and teaching in Squamish, Sechelt, and Mount Currie, I was passing Brownings Lake on the way to Squamish when I realized I was supposed to be heading for Sechelt. I immediately turned around and managed to be the last car on the ferry. My wife, Shirley, managed to top this. She arrived at the North Vancouver campus one morning only to discover that she was supposed to be in Squamish in the morning and North Vancouver in the afternoon. So she had to race back to Squamish and drive back to North Vancouver in the afternoon. That particular year, I attended a faculty gathering at North Vancouver. The dean did not recognize me when I introduced myself until I said, "You know, have text book, will travel."

When we introduced computers in the BOT course, we received the computers and related disks and teaching materials in August. I had barely a month to learn programs well enough to teach them. I promptly wiped out the DOS disk while trying to make a back-up copy and had to phone in a panic to North Vancouver for another copy. They sent me a new disk AND a back-up copy.

Students were required to obtain a speed of 50 wpm on the typewriter before advancing to the computers. So it was interesting to watch students who had attained the required speed suddenly slow down considerably until they became used to the computer keyboard.

I want to acknowledge the wonderful support I received from Wendy Brown (no relation) who, after completing the BOT program in the first year, went on to become a Lab Supervisor in the program.

I must confess that when I wiped out that disk I felt like a real computer dork. I have just purchased a new computer complete with Windows 98 to amuse myself in retirement. I now feel like a computer dork again!



#### SOME OF THE 1980 "BOT" GRADUATES

Back Row - Gail Fowler, Wendy Brown, Walter Stewart (Instructor), Julie Homar, Eileen Lewis, Bill Brown (Instructor), Diane Adams Front Row - Lydia Patry, Edwina Mountenay, Linda Looyen, Elizabeth Parsons, Carolyn Penn

#### Capilano College - from a Student, Instructor, & Friend of the College

#### by Wendy Brown

My connection with Capilano College in Squamish spans a 20-year period beginning in 1979. A small office (The Learning Centre) was on Cleveland Avenue near the post office. There I met a friendly, knowledgeable and helpful administrator, Susan Herity. I wanted to upgrade my skills to a marketable level and become employable. I enrolled as a student in the first 8-month Business Office Training Program (BOT) which began in September 1979.

Upstairs in a building close to the foot of Second Avenue were new classrooms, a student lounge with pop and candy machines, and two rest rooms. The

program was an intense 30 hours per week with many clerical subjects, including typing, bookkeeping, calculators, business arithmetic, business English and more. Computers had not yet arrived at the satellite campus on Second Avenue. We were trained on IBM Selectric typewriters. The

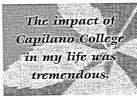
program was partially sponsored by Canada Manpower, sponsoring 16 "seats" and four fee-paying students. We were 20 students in all.

I am sure Walter Stewart, the instructor, is memorable to all students of "BOT." He was a young, tall, postured man who often came to class in his kilt. We learned, had practicums, and had "typing labs" directed by Sharon Brady, the Lab Supervisor. We bonded and we studied until Christmas holidays and returned in 1980. Bookkeeping was introduced into our schedule and with the introduction of bookkeeping, the introduction of William Brown fondly remembered by "BOT" alumni as "grumpy." Bill isn't a grumpy man; he just sometimes looked that way. We never asked questions until Bill had his coffee.

The campus support was tremendous and my recollections bring to mind names like Anne Ludgate, Janet Morris, Andrea Kiss, Hilda Rizun, and the irreplaceable administrative and library staff, Susan Herity and Bev Hill. The community support was

superb for our work experience placements and many students gained employment from those practices. I was lucky enough to be invited to the office on Cleveland to substitute in the reception area as needed. We graduated and received our diplomas in May of 1980 at a small ceremony in Squamish. Walter advised each student to write a letter to themselves and seal it, to be read only by its author in 10 years time. The purpose was to find out if we had achieved the individual goals we had set for ourselves.

In the little office on Cleveland Avenue was a women's resource centre much like the one at Lynnmour but on a very small scale. Managing the Women's Resource Centre was Coordinator Rachel Aarons. Rachel was instrumental in designing and



developing many resources for women in the community. For example, Rachel managed to secure a grant for student summer employment and hired Janet Reid and me for eight weeks in the summer of 1980 to prepare a women's

resource file.

This was the first of many steps taken to provide information to women requiring various forms of assistance. Counseling, crisis information, transition houses, drug abuse, parental problems and legal assistance resources were compiled and filed at the Learning Centre for access. Unfortunately, at that time most of the resources were in the Lower Mainland. The file was more of a referral information service. Although Rachel had many programs and services to offer women, the Resource Centre was short lived at Capilano College and soon went on to become the Women's Resource Centre as we know it today.

For me, life at Capilano College continued as I was hired as Lab Supervisor in 1981 for the next BOT session. I also was urged, pushed, and/or supported into enrolling at UBC to become an Adult Education instructor while I continued to work at Cap as a lab supervisor and in some instructional positions in Extension Programs. Extension Programs were those of a vocational nature and were often held evenings and weekends. The new fall BOT session brought new instructors from Lynnmour and I soon replaced Sharon Brady. Betsy Smith and Diane Blaney replaced Walter Stewart as he became Business Office

Training Coordinator. For a while, Walter continued

to teach Business English at the Squamish campus. It seemed the faculty was always shifting

in the vocational department. The group graduated in 1982 and I still see many of them today - employed.

September 1983 began another BOT group. By this time there was very little sponsorship available to students and more and more students became fee payers. Bill taught almost all courses and I was the Lab Supervisor. It was often confusing because we were both

W. Brown. Bill decided to change to W.M. Brown but I was also W.M. Brown and if that doesn't mean much to the world, it certainly did

to me when payroll at Lynnmour campus decided there could not possibly be more than one W.M. Brown at our fine Squamish campus, so they paid only him - both our salaries. By Christmas I was paid and Bill's hefty income tax bracket decreased.

Bill and I went to Mount Currie to teach Business Office Training in a tiny portable at the old T'Zil School. I wasn't fond of driving in snow and I went on the BCR bud car. It was a small, but good group. Some were often late for class (they told me they were watching "Bonanza" on the television) but they worked hard and by the spring I was joining them at Lynnmour for their graduation. I have yet to see a prouder group of students.

Basic Training and Skills Development, aka Adult Basic Education, had now invaded our privacy and joined us at the Second Avenue Centre. We had to share "our" space. An attitude adjustment was required. The Learning Centre closed its doors and moved downstairs at Second Avenue and became the library and administrative office. Downstairs were Bev Hill and Susan Herity and some faculty and counselor space. In the summers I would substitute for Susan Herity.

Job Entry programs began - sponsored programs funded by CEIC but facilitated by Capilano College in

Some were often late for class (they told me they were watching "Bonanza" on the television) but they worked hard and by the spring I was joining them at Lynnmour for their graduation. Squamish. Computers also invaded our space. Technology was changing and so was Capilano College. It started with VIC 20s, proceeded to Hitachi humongoussized computers with eight inch disks (now obsolete) to IBM 286s. I had to quickly learn to add computers to my teachings or I would be obsolete as an instructor. We began with Wordstar, and progressed to Word Perfect, Microsoft Works and more. Our quaint "BOT" program was not "Office Technology."

More Job Entry programs were introduced along with Job Re-Entry. Job

Re-Entry was for students who had been unemployed for some time and wished to update skills and reenter the work force. Tourism comes to mind, which hosted a group of exceptionally talented women. Programs

continued, followed by graduations and more beginnings and more students. By 1984, I had a UBC diploma to teach Office Technology to secondary and post-secondary students.

As the office technology programs decreased, the College was offering Long Term Care & Nurses' Aid training. I continued to teach at Capilano College until 1988 and left because of a medical condition. For a few summers I returned to assist in the placement of the Koto-Ku students as they arrived at the College year after year for the Japanese Homestay Program. The impact of Capilano College



#### I Decided to Try Something New

#### Diane Adams nee Kliparchuk

When I moved to the Squamish area in the mid-70s I had already completed post-secondary education in Europe and worked in the big city for some time. I did miss some of the activities of the city, especially adult education opportunities.

Capilano College was a tiny satellite in Squamish and began offering a few courses. Although I had worked at a couple of jobs, there wasn't much opportunity for a newcomer. After experiencing a few short adult education courses at Capilano College, I decided to try something new and enrolled in the Business Office Training

program. This was the first eight-month, full-time vocational program offered in Squamish. The program was an advanced level. I had no office training and was accepted because of my academic education.

Our students came from extremely diverse backgrounds - age, ethnicity, education, social and economic positions. This diversity exemplified the unity of humanity in the endeavour to achieve excellence. Our class excelled in achievements and each of us encouraged and assisted others who may have had to endure added life difficulties. That year was a very positive experience for me and I believe for every staff member and student.

After working with the public school system until cutback layoffs, and another position which required the academic and business knowledge I already had, it was time to return to school again. In 1987 I enrolled in the Long Term Care Aide program. Once again the class was diverse and interesting. The program was very well organized and produced some very fine long term care nurses. I say nurses because that was what we were trained to do after we graduated.

The instructors I had at the College were all very good. They have impacted my life immensely. Good

"old" Walter Stewart always said, "the only stupid question is the one that isn't asked." I'm not sure if that was a subliminal message to constantly be thirsting for knowledge or not, but that is certainly the impact his statement had on me. Another instructor, Terry Adler, was a magnificent example of an instructor. Somehow she was at the beginning of

The instructors I had at the College were all very good. They have impacted my life immensely.

the path I am presently on, a career in therapeutic counseling. It is very interesting to look back and reflect upon the years gone by and how each person we come in contact with contributes to the person we are today. Some have a big influence and some smaller, nevertheless they all have touched our lives and we theirs.

## She Said I Could Call Her Wendy Now

by Robin O'Kane

Reflecting back on yesteryear in '83 and '84 My first year at Capilano College Turned into so much more

The course I took was Office Technology It was very comprehensive Tuition and books as I recall Were not too terribly expensive

Bill Brown taught us all about bookkeeping and such And after his coffee, he was very kind too It was akin to being with an old time friend Cuz he looked like Captain Kangaroo (ha ha)

Wendy Brown, no relation to Bill Taught typing, filing, computers and more This was rather hard to adjust to We were neighbors, and she lived next door.

She said I could call her Wendy now But this was way too foreign for me And though I'm in my thirties today She is still respectfully Mrs. B.

Through the year I learned so much Bill and Wendy's teaching was very fine To say anything less than excellent Should be considered a heinous crime

A few of us would celebrate our grad At the Cliffside Pub, where our party was teeny I fondly remember cheering our success And Captain Kangaroo buying me my first martini (yuck)

So my first year began at the Squamish campus It was the opening of a new door Over the years have taken many other courses Have learned a great deal more

This first course of study gave me my start Though I could not become an "Office Creature" Still happily now, I have found my niche I became a Drivers Ed. Teacher.

## CONTRACT SERVICES

The Squamish campus seeks to work with business, community organizations, government agencies and industry to meet new and emerging education and training needs.

#### Entrepreneur Program - Squamish Campus

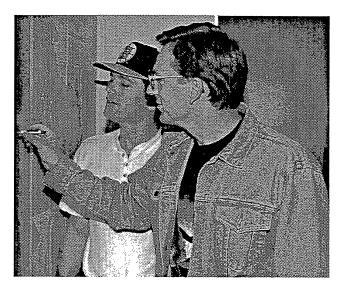
In 1994 Canada Employment Centre enlisted the help of Louise Krohn, director of Extension Programs and Services at Capilano College, in the designing of a program for those interested in starting their own business. The program which was created with input from several community members and a team of instructors gave the students an intensive training in the various components (public speaking, accounting, marketing etc.) that promote success. The final stage for the students was to develop a comprehensive business plan.

In 1995 another program, Local Area Network (LAN), was developed. In this program, participants received training in the growing field of network administration: design, install and maintain the security and efficiency of computer networks.

#### Forest Renewal B.C. Program

In 1996 a forestry journeyman program, in which 12 employees from Interfor and Empire Logging Companies broadened their skills to create new job opportunities for themselves, was introduced at the College. Funded by Forest Renewal B.C., the program was operated by Capilano College Squamish and coordinated by Gord Prescott (an Empire Logging forester).

Allan James who had been logging since he was 16 years of age participated in the program. He says it was a good experience; a real eye-opener. They spent half of their time in the classroom and the other half on site. They're still working as a crew in the Upper Squamish. Since their jobs had been abolished it has been good for them and good for the forest.

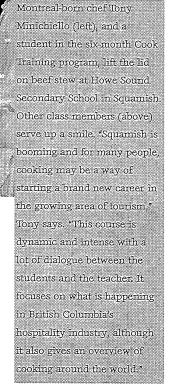


#### Professional Cook Training Program

#### by Ron Enns, Squamish Chief

Professional Cook Training program is sponsored by Human Resources Development Canada, therefore applicants must be receiving Employment Insurance or have received it in the last three years. This is a 24-week program and employment prospects for graduates are high. It was first offered in 1996 and used the kitchen facilities at Howe Sound Secondary School. A partnership existed with an equal number of high school and college students in the class.







#### Property Managers' Assistants Program

Joyce Berezowski, managing coordinator Mary Jane Charman, program manager

This six-month program sponsored by Human Resources Development Canada, was managed and developed by the Squamish campus of Capilano College. It was designed to meet the need in the Sea-to-Sky Corridor for trained people in the property management industry, an industry that is growing rapidly.



Included among the first graduates of the property management assistant program at Cap College are Paul Acorn, Cathy Spence, Angela Ruffer, Cindy Grass, Zita McLarty, Phil Donville, Alistair Bruce, Debra Siatecki, Margo Gilcrist-Neis, Paul Lewis and Bert Goodrum. Teachers of the program include project manager Mary Jane Charman, Murray Arnott, Nizam Doss, Margaret Pattison, Anne Twilley, Bill Van Luven, John Murray and Derwyn Owen

In the final leg of their journey, students met once a week to discuss their experiences learned while on their practicums.

"I feel positive about the whole experience." Said Phil Donville.

These words are echoed by fellow graduates, who feel the property management assistant program allowed smoother transition from lessons taught in the classroom to the realities of the industry. About 50 percent of the graduates have already been offered jobs in their field of study, with prospective opportunities for the remainder. Some of the practicum placements were with Black Tusk Realty, Blueberry Hill Property Management and Whistler Chalets.

Instructors extended their admiration on graduation day for the hard work each student put forth, and their phone numbers, for any advice and support grads may need in their future endeavours.

Graduates walk away with a diploma in property management assistance and two credits towards a degree should they wish to pursue further studies.

"I'm a firm believer," said Charman, "if you set your mind to something, you'll get it, and you've shown that."

#### Managers' Assistants Graduate at Capilano College

#### By Joanne De Frias, The Chief

The first students to graduate from Capilano College in the property management assistant program raised their diplomas to the future on April 24.

"This is a tough program. Very, very intense," said Mary Jane Charman, program manager.

Eleven students survived an intense six-month course in which they learned the diverse labor needs of property management in the Sea to Sky corridor.

Human Resources Development of Canada (HRDC), sponsored the program which prepared students for several employment options.

Five months are spent in the classroom learning from qualified teachers and professionals working in their respective fields.

The last four weeks were spent working on internships with area property management organizations.

The average age in the classroom is 42-44, with collective backgrounds in construction, plumbing or those working to get off of Employment Insurance.

#### Entry/Re-entry Program

The program consists of 12 weeks training in the classroom and 10 weeks training on the job. There is no specific occupational focus. Rather, trainees have the opportunity to upgrade their basic skills and to explore employment in a variety of occupations within their hometown. Finding and keeping employment is the primary focus.

While in the classroom, the participants receive training in Life Skills, Job Search Techniques, Microcomputers and a variety of generic occupational skills. On the job, the trainees go through a carefully planned three-phase program aimed at coaching them to become productive and efficient workers.

The classroom training is delivered by Capilano College at its Squamish campus. The on-the-job training will take place in businesses representing many sectors of industry: small retail stores, day care centres, offices, etc.



This program was developed at the request of MSSH and the Canada Employment Centre in Squamish. It proposes to enable 20 unemployed men and women with little or no previous sustained employment to become job ready and to gain some successful work experience with a variety of training hosts.

- 1986/87 Job entry program was first introduced
- 1988/89 Job Re-Entry program focused on tourism
- 1989/90 Entry-Re-Entry program no specific occupational focus
- 1990/91 Program focused on the trades and encouraged women to get involved in the trades



Louise Krohn Presents Certificate to Britt Nichol

Class of 1989/90 and Instructors

## CAMPUS ENROLMENT AT A GLANCE

Eall 1973	48	Spring 1974	64	Total 112
Fall 1978	51	Spring 1979	172	Total 223
Fall 1983	130	Spring 1984	177	Total 307
Fall 1988	171	Spring 1989	170	Total 341
Fall 1993	240	Spring 1994	481	Total <b>721</b>
Fall 1997	819	Spring 1998	1128	Total <b>1947</b>

While statistics are useful, they tell only part of the story. The College's efforts in working with the community to provide affordable, accessible education to the citizens of Squamish is the success story. The next 25 years will present more challanges and more reasons to celebrate.

#### Squamish Tree Planter Honoured

The Squamish Chief, Dec 19, 1995

A memorial plaque to honour the life of William John Plaatjes (1968-1995) was erected at the new Capilano College Squamish campus on Nov. 8.

The memorial gifts of sturdy granite and silvertipped spruce were chosen with great care by members of the community.

The engraved words on the polished plaque which graces the granite read, "Blue spruce, a living tree in memory of William John Plaatjes - 1968-1995."

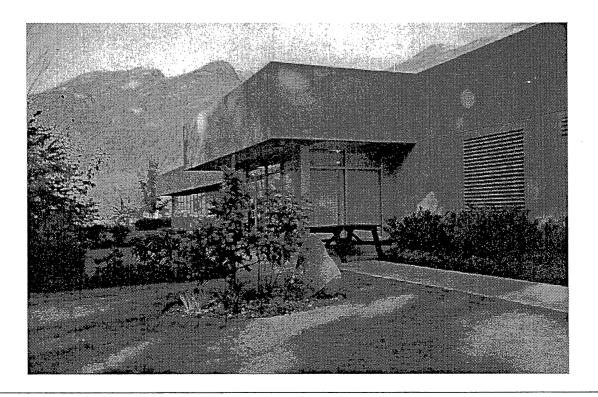
Just 27 years old, William died on the afternoon of June 16, of natural causes while tree planting in Boston Bar.

As a result of William's untimely death, his employers, Jennifer and Steve Lauriault of Hawkeye Reforestation, met with Tom Bruusgaard, president of the SOO Coalition for Sustainable Forests, to convey their wish, as well as the wish of the other crew members, to remember William in a special way, preferably with a living tree memorial. Tom knew that William's father John, and his mother Andeline, were active in the school system as principal and teacher respectively. Also, William had attended Capilano College in North Vancouver for two years before attending the University of Victoria.

A link was forged between the forest, the college and William.

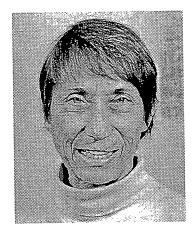
The Capilano College Foundation enthusiastically approved the idea and supervised the financial and organizational details.

To make the memorial to William Plaatjes a reality, the community of Squamish donated the granite with inscription, the equipment and labor required to move the large stone and the blue spruce tree which was planted.



#### About the Author

Verna Clark Jones always knew she would become a school teacher. After all, that was the career chosen by her mother, her two aunts and a great aunt. She taught school for 35 years, 24 of which were at Howe Sound Secondary School in Squamish. Now retired, she is a member of Capilano College Foundation Board and Squamish Campus Advisory Council. Upon learning that the Squamish campus is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year she was prompted to record its history.



Cover illustration by Larrissa Nahhas

