

Former British Columbia attorney general Wally Oppal was recently named an honorary fellow by Douglas College, the school's highest honour. CONTRIBUTED

Douglas honours former AG

Daniel Hendriksen For Metro

Former British Columbia attorney general Wally Oppal was recognized by Douglas College with the institution's highest honour. During its summer graduation ceremonies on June 3, Douglas named Oppal an honorary fellow.

Oppal, who grew up in B.C., has enjoyed a successful career as an attorney and in politics. A graduate of law from the University of British Columbia, Oppal began his career in a private practice. He has since served as a judge for the county court of Vancouver, the Supreme Court of B.C., and then the B.C. Court of Appeal, among numerous other prestigious roles.

In addition to serving as the province's attorney general, Oppal was MLA in the riding of Vancouver-Fraserview in 2005, and also served as the minister responsible for multiculturalism.

Yet another significant entry on Oppal's resumé was his appointment as commissioner of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, which investigated the disappearance of several women from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. As a result, the commission produced a 1,448-page report that included recommendations to better protect women and improve policing.

"The commission's report has resulted in changes to policing and how police deal with violence against women in B.C.," Oppal said in a press release. "From that perspective, I'm very proud of what we accomplished."

"It is our great pleasure to recognize the honourable Wally Oppal with the highest distinction Douglas College can bestow — honorary fellow," said Douglas College president Kathy Denton. "Throughout his career, Mr. Oppal has dedicated himself to improving public safety and promoting justice, particularly for some of the most vulnerable people in our society. He is a tremendous example for our students, especially those studying criminology, legal studies, and other programs that consider social justice issues."

KPU ANNOUNCES OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

The two newest recipients of the Kwantlen Polytechnic University Alumni Association (KPUAA) distinguished alumni awards were recently announced.

Thanks to their ability to enhance KPU's reputation through outstanding achievements in their careers, public and community service, Ken Puls and Tania Dick were pre-



Ken Puls. CONTRIBUTED

sented with the awards during the school's spring convocation.

Puls earned his diploma in accounting and general studies in 1998. Today, he lives in Nanaimo and is president and chief training officer at Excelguru Consulting Inc. He started his accounting career with a small business before moving into private industry accounting. An expert in Microsoft

Excel, Puls created a website that is home to Excel help articles, a blog, and forum dedicated to helping users with their Excel issues. The site sees approximately 400,000 unique visitors per year and has even been referenced by NASA in a project for reporting power levels on the International Space Station.

Dick, a resident of Port Alberni, graduated from KPU's bachelor of nursing program in 2003. She has been a nurse at Cormorant Island Health Centre and president-elect of the Association of Registered Nurses of B.C. Dick is from Dzawada'enuxw First Nation of Kingcome Inlet, B.C., and is dedicated to improving the quality of nursing care, with a focus on Aboriginal populations and rural communities. She is an advocate and role model for Aboriginal people interested in pursuing healthcare-related education.

Sheriffs assigned across province

A new cohort of deputy sheriffs has graduated from Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) and will be dispatched to courthouses across the province.

The 12 new grads have completed JIBC's 16-week sheriff recruit training program and have been assigned to Prince George, Fort St. John, Quesnel, Kamloops, Terrace, Williams Lake, Dawson Creek, Vernon and Cranbrook, with one additional recruit working out of New Westminster to serve courthouses in Vancouver, North Vancouver, Richmond, Surrey, and Port Coquitlam. "As Canada's leading

public safety educator, the Justice Institute of British Columbia is proud of our contributions to safer communities and a more just society, having trained more than 1,000 sheriffs in B.C. over the last 35 years," Dr. Laureen Styles, JIBC vicepresident, academic, said in a press release. "Our strong relationship with the ministry of justice affords us the ability to ensure that the training provided is highly relevant to the work that graduates will be undertaking. We congratulate our sheriff graduates for completing their program and wish them well in their new responsibilities throughout the province."

Throughout their studies, the graduates learned their craft in both a classroom setting and with hands-on training. Joining approximately 495 sheriffs serving throughout the province, the recruits will be responsible for: Providing prisoner escorts between courthouses, correctional centres and police lock-up facilities; courthouse and courtroom security, including the management of courthouse lock-up facilities; jury management; and providing protection services to government, as well as threat assessment to ministries. DANIEL HENDRIKSEN

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Funding from the federal government will allow the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) to launch the National Advanced Placement and Prior Learning Program (N-APPL) for military veterans. CONTRIBUTED

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Daniel Hendriksen For Metro

New funding in the amount of \$830,000 from the federal government will enable the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) to launch the National Advanced Placement and Prior Learning Program (N-APPL) for military veterans.

The announcement was made May 22 by Pierre Poilievre, minister of employment and social development, along with Dan Albas, member of Parliament for Okanagan-Coquihalla. The initiative will allow former and current members of the Canadian military to receive advanced placement into programs across Canada so they can enter the labour market more quickly using the skills they have acquired in the military.

Creating jobs, economic growth and long-term prosperity continues to be our government's top priority," Poilievre said in a media release. "That is why our government is taking action to help military veterans get credential recognition for their valued military service, so they can more easily, and quickly, transition into civilian employment. By helping these men and women who have served our country, we are also helping address shortages in key occupations and regions across Canada."

The program will also be put into place at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (Edmonton), Fanshawe College (London, Ont.), triOS College (locations across southern Ontario) and Memorial University (St. John's).

According to BCIT, the project will help support all military members in Canada, including veterans and noncommissioned members. There are 70,500 regular and reserve members in the military in Canada, of which 59,000 are non-commissioned members.

SCOTIABANK DONATES \$1M TO SIMON FRASER

Scotiabank has donated \$1 million to Simon Fraser University (SFU) in order to promote social innovation at the postsecondary institution.

The funds will be most beneficial to students involved in the Beedie School of Business' RADIUS (RADical Ideas Useful to Society). The program is designed to keep students on the cutting edge of social innovation and entrepreneurship.

"Thanks to the generous support of Scotiabank, SFU will be able to further facilitate the development of the next generation of social innovators," SFU president Andrew Petter said in a media release. "We are extremely grateful to Scotiabank for its generosity and foresight.'

The \$1 million will be broken up into three different allotments to support specific initiatives: \$500,000 will be used to create the Scotiabank student award in social innovation in order to attract and retain entrepreneurial undergraduate or graduate business students; \$300,000 will be put towards the social innovation student competition team fund, a student competition that will inspire

novel solutions to society's most pressing challenges; and the remaining \$200,000 will be for the student social innovation conference and event fund, which will allow students to attend and compete at social innovation-focused conferences and events.

"Now is a time where innovation is key to survival for any business, and entrepreneurs need to be adaptable to ever changing circumstances,' said Winnie Leong, senior vicepresident of Scotiabank's B.C. and Yukon region.

"Scotiabank is investing in young people by supporting SFU, as it helps guide Canada's future social innovators. We look forward to seeing the achievements of these dynamic young students through the new social innovation offerings at RADIUS.3

The gift from Scotiabank was announced June 1, as the two parties celebrated their 50-year relationship, and also to coincide with SFU's 50th anniversary.

For more information on RADIUS, visit radiussfu.com.

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Dropping positive vibes

Daniel Hendriksen For Metro

It may be "all about the Benjamins" for some rappers, but it's also about giving back to the community and reaching out to the area's youth for a Surrey duo.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) graduate Rick (Big Love) Kumar and his partner, KPU student Calvin (Kalvonix) Tiu, are using their musical talents to relay a positive message to high school students.

The rappers recently took part in a four-month high school outreach program called Frontier Poetics, which saw Kumar and Tiu travel to 16 different high schools. The visits to the schools allowed the pair to deliver rap/spoken word/poetry workshops on the power of language, creativity, anti-bullying, lifelong friendships, and becoming teachers.

With more than 700 students participating in the workshops, Frontier Poetics, which was sponsored by the KPU English department, the faculty of arts, and Coca-Cola Refreshments, was hugely successful.

However, Kumar and Tiu went even further than that in their efforts to give back. The young men created a onetime bursary in their name to support a struggling arts

"Alumni give back, but Rick and Calvin's award would be the first of its kind for undergradu-



Kwantlen Polytechnic University student Calvin (Kalvonix) Tiu, left, and KPU graduate Rick (Big Love) Kumar are using their musical talents to relay positive messages to high school students. CONTRIBUTED

ate students supporting other undergraduate students," KPU English instructor and Frontier Poetics manager Greg Chan said in a media release. "They are also donating proceeds from the sale of their CD, Become the Dream, to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.'

Their unprecedented philanthropy didn't go unnoticed as Big Love and Kalvonix were awarded top 25 under-25 awards by the Surrey Board of Trade on May 28 after being co-nominated for their community activism by instructors Chan and Sue Ann Cairns.

Thanks to support from Chan, a KPU faculty of arts excellence and advancement award, and a Coca-Cola Refreshments grant, the rap duo was able to release their first music video called Hello Farewell, which they also performed at KPU's spring convocation.

Langara instructor makes a difference

An instructor in Langara College's school of nursing was recently presented with the outstanding woman of Canada award. Dr. Lyren Chiu received the honour at the United Global Chinese Women's Association of Canada Celebration dinner last month at the River Rock Show Theatre.

Chiu was nominated for the award in recognition for her contributions to Canadian health care. Over the past 15 years, she has put countless hours into starting and working with several not-for-profit organizations, community services, and social enterprises.

"Lyren's approach towards nursing education through spirituality and integrated healing provides a fresh point of view in our department," Janine Lennox, chair, school of nursing, said in a press release. "We are very proud that our faculty member is receiving this prestigious award.'

Being recognized for her tireless work is nothing new for Chiu. She was also the recipient of the Peter Wall Institute for Advance Studies early career award. In the past, she has also been called both a "visionary" by Vancouver Women's Magazine, and as a "change agent" by the Diasporas Project, led by SFU, in recognition of her work in educating Canadian society about the values and practices of integrated healing.

"I was thrilled to be nominated for this award," Chiu said of the outstanding woman of Canada award. "I have dedicated my career to researching, teaching, and advocating for spirituality and healing. It is wonderful to know that I have been able to make a difference in this field."

Chiu holds a master's of



Dr. Lyren Chiu, an instructor at Langara College, recently received the outstanding woman of Canada award. CONTRIBUTED

science from the University of California, San Francisco, and earned a PhD in nursing

from the University of Texas at Austin.

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Perseverant graduate

KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

Woman earns bachelor degree in psychology after 18 years

Daniel Hendriksen For Metro

The recent spring convocation ceremonies at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) were the largest in the school's history, with almost 1,000 students graduating from various programs.

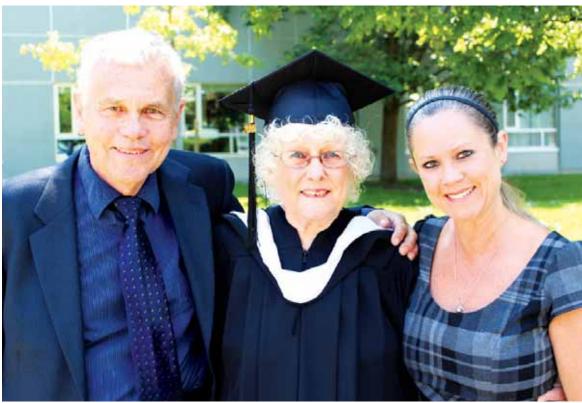
One of those students was Rodlynn Cheetham, a woman who received her degree after 18 years.

Čheetham, 69, who came to Surrey from South Africa in 1990, received her diploma from KPU in early childhood education in 1997. Since then, she has worked 12 hours a day at her daycare while enrolling in one or two courses per semester. Finally, 18 years later, she was able to walk up on that stage to accept her BA in

"When I started I was mother to most of those students, but completed my degree being grandmother to many of the professors," Cheetham said in a press release. "I forgot my age, and the fact that my grey hair was slowly turning white. My life experience made studying rewarding. It was now an interest rather than a means to acquire a profession.'

Cheetham's family was in attendance at the convocation ceremonies. Her daughter, Tammy Johnson, said her mom's tenacity and determination never wavered as she pursued her degree while working and raising her family.

"Most of us would have given up, but my mom loves education and believes it's important regardless of your age,



Rodlynn Cheetham, centre, received her BA in psychology from Kwantlen Polytechnic University. CONTRIBUTED

and now, as a senior, she believes it has the added bonus of keeping her young and her mind alert," Johnson said.

Cheetham said she enjoyed how the information and technology involved in education has evolved over the years,

calling it "mentally refreshing." She went on to say her family, instructors and peers played a significant role in

keeping her going throughout the years, and she feels she is living proof that you can achieve your goals at any age.

METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING



Building a better future with Brighton College

For people looking to make their mark on the world, few careers give you the opportunity to make a dramatic statement like architecture. Brighton College's Surrev campus will launch the architectural design and building technician program in September.

The 35-week program is fully instructor led, with all instructors possessing relevant designations and a minimum of five years

industry experience. In addition, a fourweek practicum at various design or engineering firms is required for graduation.

"I took the construction drafting technician program and the architectural drafting technician program at the same time," says Matt Maxey, a student in the program who explained that he entered into a career change following an injury that forced him out of his previous job teaching snowboarding. "The job skills were all really relevant for what I noticed in my practicum placement. I enjoyed it and everything that I learned here I put to good use."

A high school diploma (or equivalent) or mature student status is required for admission, along with English language requirements. Students interested in applying to the program can visit brightoncollege.com or call 604-430-5608.

Maxey says taking advantage of the support the school provides can be invaluable.

"Work hard every single day, ask all the questions you can, and make use of the resources that are provided," he says.

"And the biggest resources here, it's not the software, it's not the books — it's the teachers. These people are fantastic and they will help you with whatever you need. You just have to ask."



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For parents of young children, sending a child to school for the first time can be stressful. For those rearing a child with unique gifts and abilities, the transition can be particularly daunting.

"A lot of people think of giftedness as simply referring to kids who excel in school," says Eric O'Donnell, director at Madrona, an independent school in Vancouver that focuses on the needs of gifted learners. "High-ability

kids need particular supports in the same way other children with special needs do."

Madrona is working to make that transition easier on families. With very small class sizes and a philosophy of meeting each child at their level, Madrona hopes to make elementary school a more rewarding experience for bright children from Day 1.

It does this by having a teacher for every four to eight children, teaching in ability-

based groups rather than strictly by grade, and getting to know students and families carefully.

"We take each child as they are, meet them there, and then work with them to find the right level of challenge to inspire them to learn more," O'Donnell says.

Madrona is accepting applications for September for students in kindergarten through to Grade 3.





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CDI College's dental technician program — one of five programs in Canada recognized by the College of Dental Technicians of British Columbia — provides consistent, world-class education that gives students the hands-on training and precision they need to excel in this exciting field.

Work carried out by dental technicians is highly sensitive and requires the utmost attention to detail, which is why textbook learning is not enough. Through state-ofthe-art on-campus labs, students will be able to develop and hone their skills prior to entering the workforce.

"Hands-on practical training is better because it prepares you for situations that arise in which no traditional textbook methods can," says CDI College graduate Nikki N.

Students will also partake in multiple practicum placements, where they can observe lab procedures as well as acquire direct work experience building dental appliances and more.

"My career choice has changed my life by giving me a purpose — a career instead of just a job," says graduate Allison E. "I would recommend this program to anybody who is looking to start a career in the field."

For more information on the dental technician program, visit study.cdicollege.ca or call 1-800-360-7186.

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Baking and pastry arts Thursday, June 11, 10:30 a.m room 216	Downtown
Access to careers and education Friday, June 12, 2 p.m room 236	Downtown
Sports and recreation management Monday, June 15, 11 a.m room 419	Downtown
First-year university transfer engineering Monday, June 15, 3 p.m room B1227	Broadway
First-year university transfer computing sci Monday, June 15, 3 p.m room B1227	i ence Broadway
Medical transcriptionist Monday, June 15, 4 p.m room 829	Downtown
Medical office assistant Monday, June 15, 4 p.m room 829	Downtown

Downtown campus

located at 200-block Dunsmuir at Hamilton, two blocks west of Stadium SkyTrain station.

Broadway campus

located at 1155 East Broadway, one block west of Clark Drive, across from VCC/Clark SkyTrain station.



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Are you hungry for a new career?

Culinary arts at Vancouver Community College

What's the perfect recipe for a successful career in the culinary arts? Find out at Vancouver Community College.

"The VCC culinary arts program prepares learners for employment by providing authentic learning experiences in professional kitchens," says Mike Steele, the assistant department head, culinary, at VCC. "We have numerous different kitchens and outlets and a huge, diverse faculty that has been trained internationally, including in England, Scotland, and more."

There are 11 different kitchens and outlets where students gain experience. The school has a fine dining restaurant on campus, JJ's, which is run by its culinary students. That's in addition to pop-up kitchens that the students run.

And that experience is translating into

"Students enter the industry at all levels and styles of cooking," Steele says. "Our graduates make up a large part of the workforce of the Lower Mainland and you can find our chefs in most kitchens all over the city. Some have gone on to start their own businesses."

VCC instructor Shelley Robinson is the executive chef for Coast hotels and won Chopped Canada in January, John Carlo

Felicella is also an instructor and department head who serves as team manager for Culinary Team Canada Olympics 2016. And that's just two of many success stories.

The hands-on experience, combined with the elite teaching, ensures students are preparing for the workplace the right way.

"It allows them the opportunity to develop their knowledge, skills, and attitudes through a true experience," Steele says. "Students get quality and quantity at the same time."

Students don't need to be proficient chefs to enter the program.

"Anyone interested in professional cook training would be interested in our program," he says. "Prior culinary experience is helpful, but not necessary."

Upon completion, students can receive industry training authority professional cook Levels 1 and 2. The program is designed to prepare students for all entry-level cook positions.

Students interested in the program can visit vcc.ca and click on the culinary and baking section under programs/courses. There are monthly information sessions offered by VCC, the schedules of which are posted on the website. Intake for the foundation program occurs monthly.

METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING METRO

LEARN MORE ABOUT CYBERSECURITY

Whether it's information stored on the cloud, to our day-to-day financial transactions and business interests, cybersecurity is of extreme importance to people from all walks of life. That's why the New York Institute of Technology, a leader in technological education, is bringing together some of the industry's top minds for a cybersecurity symposium.

The event will be held June 17 from 10:15 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the Vancity Theatre at 1181 Seymour St. Tickets are free to NYIT students

and faculty members. The symposium is open to the public, who must buy tickets.

The cybersecurity symposium will focus on must-know topics in 21st-century cybersecurity. It also includes industry-leading panelists with experience in corporate, government, and military organizations who will bring perspectives as academics, consultants, directors, and specialists.

There will also be ample opportunity for networking and further discussion.

The event features guest speakers, including Dominic Vogel, an enterprise security analyst and security awareness evangelist, Dr. Babak Dastgheib-Behesthi, NYIT's associate dean, Lloyd Jura, a senior managing security consultant with IBM, and Lachlan Turner, from Ark InfoSec Labs.

For more on the symposium, contact vancouverinfo@nyit.edu. To register, visit eventbrite.ca/e/cyber-security-symposiumtickets-16718883631.



SHUTTERSTOCK



See the sights with NEC

Native students looking for entry into a career that truly lets you see the sights are encouraged to apply as soon as possible for entry into the NEC Native Education College's Aboriginal tourism operation program, as 12 spots are available, with tuition paid for by the government.

"This program is a wonderful experience for students," says Tanya Skvortsova, the Aboriginal tourism program co-ordinator at NEC Native Education College. "It follows the B.C. provincial curriculum, but also includes Aboriginal cultural courses, events, and support from the elders and the community."

The program is offered as a one- or twoyear program. After one year, students receive a certificate; after two years, students receive a diploma. And the course is transferable to selected four-year degree-bearing universities. The first year prepares students to enter the tourism industry; the second year includes more business courses, designed to help students start small businesses or get a head start in the industry.

"It's a very hands-on program," Skvortsova says. "We do a lot of field study, visiting tourist destinations, learning from tour guides, and observing customers."

The program starts July 6. Interested students can visit necvancouver.org (online applications available) or call 604-873-3772. While there is no specific deadline for applications, Skvortsova recommends students contact the school or apply as quickly as possible to take advantage of the subsidized tuition program.



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Aboriginal Justice Studies | Certificate credits accepted by the BA Criminology Degree at SFU • Aboriginal Youth Care | Delivered in partnership with Douglas College, course credits accepted by the BA Child and Youth Care at Douglas College • Family & Community Counselling Certificate and Diploma course credits accepted by the BSW degree at NVIT • Early Childhood Education | Certificate and Diploma have block transfer to ECE degree at Capilano University and Education degree at UBC •

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Linking classes with clinical skills

MTI Community College dental assisting program

Graduates from MTI Community College's dental assisting program are taking a solid bite out of the job market thanks to a redesigned student-centred program that emphasizes the development and nurturing of students' critical thinking, problem solving, and communication abilities.

"Our small class sizes and engaging student learning approaches create a caring, supportive learning environment," says Daniel Shin, director of marketing and sales for MTI Community College. "The curriculum is designed to link classroom content with clinical skills to prepare students for holistic patient care. Learning is relevant, practical, and fun. Most students come to MTI because they want job-ready skills. Not only does the dental assisting program prepare students for employment as a certified dental assistant, we assist graduates with finding their dream job."

The program focus is on role-playing, hands-on creative projects, games, and

small group projects, combined with small class sizes and supportive teachers. The 12-month program involves classes that occur for four hours a day, which enables students to maintain family and job commitments.

"Students who are attracted to the dental assisting program range from high school graduates, university graduates who cannot find employment in their field, stay-at-home moms whose children have grown up and left home, and those changing professions," Shin says. "We also have internationally educated dentists and dental hygienists enrol in our dental assisting program as a way of finding employment within Canadian dentistry."

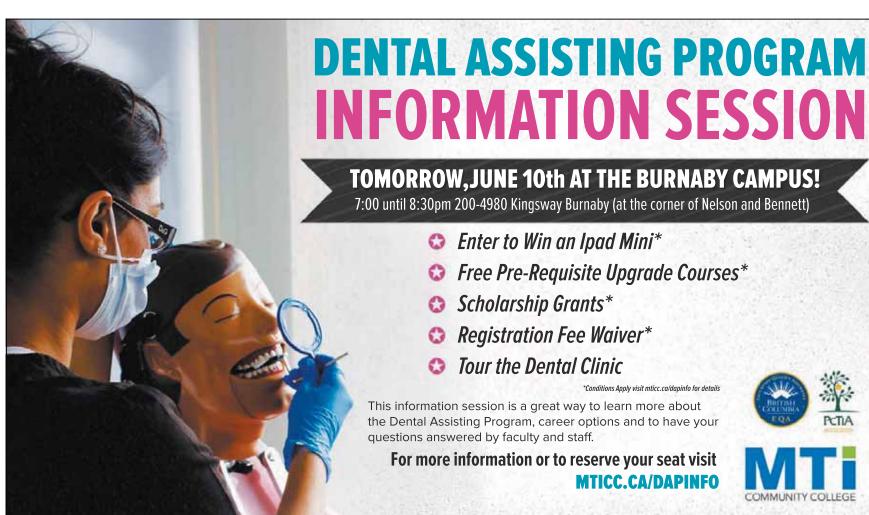
Graduates receive a dental assisting diploma that permits them to write the National Dental Assisting Examining Board exams, which is a requirement for all graduates in order to be eligible for registration and certification by the College of Dental Surgeons



of B.C. This registration is mandatory to work as a certified dental assistant in B.C.

"Most dental assisting graduates assist a dentist in a private dental office," Shin says. "Certified dental assistants may also find employment in community health units, educational institutions, hospitals, and pharmaceutical companies." Those interested in the program, which is accepting enrolment for its Burnaby dental assisting program that starts Sept. 28, can contact Shiin at 604-682-6020, ext. 226, or by email at daniel@mticc.com.

You can also visit mticc.com or drop in at any of MTI's six campuses to speak to one of its admission representatives.



METRO CLISTOM PUBLISHING metr⊕

Adding to your resumé

Navigating the world of summer internships can be tricky. There is a lot to think about when deciding whether to take on an internship during your summer break, but the main consideration for many post-secondary students is finances, says Tracey Lloyd, director of career and counselling services at Centennial College in Toronto.

"Only those who are financially able tend to participate in unpaid internship opportunities during the summer," Lloyd says. "The summer months are critical earning periods for most students."

With a preference toward paid opportunities, Lloyd says that in some creative sector programs, journalism for example, unpaid internships are common and can offer valuable learning experiences. But she warns that unpaid opportunities should be carefully researched.

"Students can be taken advantage of, young people in particular," she says. "Look at the company's track record and examine whether it is a reputable company. Do they have a formal internship program with a formal training program and supervision provided for interns? Also, explore how meaningful and relevant the



job duties are to your future career goals."

It's also important to keep in mind that unpaid internships are usually full time, Lloyd says, making it difficult to balance an internship with paid part-time work.

Once you have decided that an unpaid internship will be viable, you will have to put in some legwork. Finding an internship will

involve reaching out to your network, speaking to teachers and other faculty members who may have connections in the industry in which you want to intern, and approaching companies that are of interest to you, especially those you may want to work for after graduation.

"Similar to when looking for a paid job, tell everyone you know," Lloyd says. "You never

know who will provide a good lead for you." Lastly, Lloyd suggests approaching the internship as if it was a paid opportunity.

"This is a chance to prove yourself, expand your network and make a great impression on the employer. Always do your best, work hard and don't burn any bridges."

– Izabela Szydlo



INSPIRING THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

For many, a career in education is a calling that is often inspired by a teacher or a personal experience. For Hoda Mohamoud, a Vancouver Career College early childhood education graduate, it is the latter.

Having two children with special needs, Mohamoud witnessed first-hand the attention, care, and interaction delivered by early childhood educators to her children.

"Seeing the impact they had on my children's lives, I felt that it was a career that I wanted to pursue," Mohamoud says.

Unlike traditional educational institutions, Vancouver Career College offers smaller class sizes, allowing for a more intimate environment that encourages students to communicate more openly with each other, as well as the instructors, which is especially helpful during practicum placements.

"The moment you see a child improve physically, socially, emotionally, or any overall improvement, it is an honour," Mohamoud says. "I live for those moments when a parent comes and hugs you, thanking you because they spotted an improvement in their child's life."

Graduates from Vancouver Career College's early childhood education program can pursue specializations in the ECE post-basic programs — infant/toddler specialization, and special needs specialization.

For more information, visit study.vccollege. ca or call 1-800-993-4086.



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