

St. Anthony grad to be featured in textbook

Bonnie Peyton, a recent graduate of the Office Administration program at the St. Anthony campus, will be profiled in the new edition of the textbook *Administrative Procedures for the Canadian Office*, which according to the publisher, is widely used by colleges throughout Canada.

Suzanne Schann, Senior Development Editor for Higher Education with Pearson Education Canada, states in her letter to Bonnie "...we think that your background, and experience will be of interest to new students who are just beginning to explore their career possibilities."

Bonnie, presently employed with the Town of St. Lunaire - Griquet, was selected not only for her training and experience, but for the attitude she displays towards her work.

"No matter what Bonnie is asked to do, she understands the importance of doing a good job," says Schann.

"Whether it be a face-to-face meeting, a telephone call, e-mail, or a letter, Bonnie knows that the ability to communicate effectively is very important. Sending out correspondence that does not show the best communication skills reflects not only on the person, but also on the organization."

While pursuing her studies at the St. Anthony campus, Bonnie was very active in the student council and was the chairperson of Shinerama, a major fundraiser for Multiple Sclerosis.

Recognition of this nature reflects very positively on the college and its ability to graduate first-class students with the skills and attitudes necessary to accept the challenges and responsibilities associated with today's workplace. We are very pleased that our students are displayed as role models for others who are exploring their career options.

What's Inside

Appointments made at CNA - Qatar.....2

Visually impaired student taking it day by day.....3

St. Anthony moving with the real-time.....7

High school students visit Carbonear9

Cooking students going to Mexico.....10



First grads

February 20, 2002 was a special day for the Bay St. George campus. They graduated their first class of welders to learn the trade through an evening continuing education course. The campus hopes to do more such training in the future.

Senior positions announced for CNA - Qatar

Pamela Walsh, President of College of the North Atlantic, is pleased to announce Dr. Trent Keough, former Director of Programs for the college, has been appointed president of College of the North Atlantic - Qatar.



Dr. Trent Keough

College of the North Atlantic signed a 10-year contract with Qatar in June. The contract calls for Newfoundland and Labrador's public college to develop a technical training institution in the Middle East country using Canadian curriculum and standards. The deal is the largest ever signed by a Canadian post-secondary educational institution.

"It is a personal honor to be the first President of College of the North Atlantic - Qatar," says Dr. Keough. "To be directly engaged with this initiative is a tremendous professional privilege."

Dr. Keough has worked with College of the North Atlantic for the past eight years. He holds a B.A. in Political Science (1986) and an M.A. (1988) in English from Memorial University of Newfoundland. His Doctor of Philosophy (1992) was completed at Queen's University in Kingston

(Ontario) in the area of postmodern Canadian nationalist fiction.

"We are bringing the very best of Canadian technical education to Qatar," he says of the plans for the new college. "The standards of educational programs and training at College of the North Atlantic - Qatar are identical to programs offered at other College of the North Atlantic sites in Newfoundland and Labrador."

College of the North Atlantic - Qatar will employ approximately 40 Newfoundlanders and Labradorians by the time it opens in September.

President Walsh is also pleased to announce the following appointments:

Enid Strickland, former Chair of Programs for the college headquarters, and Norris Eaton, former engineering technology instructor and program development leader at the College of the North Atlantic's Corner Brook campus, have been appointed to Vice-President positions.

Rick Penney, the former Director of College Development for CNA, has taken on the role of Director of Finance and Administration for the new institution.

Brenda Newhook, former student counselor at the college's Prince Philip Drive campus in St. John's, has taken the position of Director of Student Services.

Opportunity abroad for NNRT graduate

By Sharon Cochrane
Student Development Officer

Mildred Williams, a graduate of the Northern Natural Resources Technician program at the Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus, was recently selected to participate in the Environmental Leadership program.

This program provides young people with a unique opportunity to work on practical, community-based environmental and community development projects at home and abroad. It encourages participants to develop interpersonal communication skills and cross-cultural understanding, and to acquire and apply adaptability and perseverance in the work environment.

Environmental Leadership is a volunteer program designed for Atlantic Canadian youth 20-24 years of age. All expenses (travel, meals, and accommodations) are covered for the participants. The program runs from May to late August of each year and is jointly administered by Canada World Youth, the Conservation Corps of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Nova Scotia Youth Conservation Corps, and Talle International de Services.

Mildred will be working on projects in Costa Rica. Examples of projects include reforestation, environmental education, eco-trail development, erosion control, urban river research, and archaeological digs.

Getting his life back - one day at a time

Up until four years ago Stefan Doyle's life was going along exactly as he would have liked it. He had just graduated high school and was interviewed and accepted to flight school. He hoped to become a pilot.

That all changed on October 6, 1997. While driving to the bank in Holyrood, near his home in Colliers, Conception Bay Centre, he hit a moose. The animal came through the windshield and into the car, breaking off the seat and leaving Stefan pinned in the wreckage.

He woke up three months later in the hospital. Five months after that, he was sent home in a wheelchair needing around-the-clock care and believing that would be his life.

Stefan spent a year and a half doing physio, occupational, speech, and cognition therapies. He could now speak and walk, but he was almost completely blind.

"The accident left me with a severe brain injury that literally required me to relearn all skills acquired since infancy," says Stefan.

"Once I mastered the skills of walking, dressing and so on, academic skills were next. The brain has two divisions, a language side and a math side. Last year I worked on the language side and did well. This year I decided to challenge the other side. Since math was always a favorite subject, I decided a math course would be the next step to regaining lost academic skills."

In September Stefan began a math course at College of the North Atlantic's Engineering Technology Centre in St. John's. Because he is blind (having only 20/300 vision in one eye) his mother attends classes with him to take his notes.

"I needed some help with the course as I'm legally blind and a seeing eye dog doesn't take notes," he says smiling.

"My mother had just retired and was completely bored, so I decided to offer her another unpaid job. My classmates and instructors see both the logic and the humor in the situation and offer support with assignments and day-to-day problems."

Because of the injuries he sustained in his accident, college is harder for Stefan than it would be for most students, but he is managing.

"Usually it takes me three to four times longer to do things these days. While I can see and read print, it's like working through a keyhole. So I lis-



Stefan with his note-taking mom in class. Stefan needs his mother's help taking notes in class due to injuries he received in a tragic car accident in 1997.

ten in class, then have my mother read the notes to me a couple of times while I try to reconstruct, in my mind, the right steps," says Stefan.

"Fortunately, I have a good memory, a good note taker, as well as a good instructor, Tony Biles, who likes to talk. As a visually impaired student, I know I am a challenge to a teacher. Tony not only gave detailed instruction but, for 50 minutes of every class, he used words to build visual pictures in my brain. While I couldn't see what he was doing on the board, I could certainly "see" it in my head. My mom's notes reinforced this."

Making attending college even more difficult for Stefan is the drive he and his mom face every school day.

"We have an hour's drive to the college. Usually this means dragging my lazy bones out of bed at least two and a half hours earlier than I would like. On bad weather days, this could drag into a two-hour drive. This also means listening to mother's comments on city drivers and a stop at Tim's," he says.

Despite all the difficulties, Stefan is having fun attending classes at the college.

"I'm enjoying the college experience," he says.

"Obviously, I'd like it to be under different circumstances, but I do like knowing that there is a chance of me regaining my independence and

Stefan can't from 3

there are people around me willing to give me that chance.”

His mom, of course, if one of those people.

“Over the past four years I’ve watched Stefan meet and overcome incredible challenges and beat overwhelming odds,” she says.

“On the day of his accident we were told that Stefan could not survive the night - the injuries to his body were too extensive. Despite that dire prediction, the instinct to survive in him was paramount.”

According to Ms. Doyle, Stefan came out of his coma like a newborn baby. He knew people, could count to 10 and speak simple phrases. But everything else he has had to relearn, including how to smile. No matter what was lost, Stefan has worked tirelessly to regain and continues to do so today.

“When Stefan decided to do a math course at the college in September, he was still on the wait list with Employability Assistance for Persons with Disabilities,” says Ms. Doyle.

“I had two choices – either allow him to stay home and risk undoing much of what he had accomplished over the past three years, or become his classroom support. I chose the latter.”

After discussions with college administration, it was agreed that Ms. Doyle would be Stefan’s note taker/reader. While the college made special provisions to help meet Stefan’s needs, Ms. Doyle says it was the caliber of instruction and level of support given by the math instructor (Biles) which allowed Stefan to succeed. Coupled with this is the assistance and social support given by his fellow students.

“As you can imagine, Stefan’s accident has had a tremendous impact on my life,” says Ms. Doyle.

“It not only changed the chapter on my retirement, it rewrote the whole book! The dream of free time and self indulgence has evolved into what Stefan jokingly calls “his seeing eye Momma” role. And like Stefan, I wish it were under different circumstance that I was attending college, but until governments acknowledge the need for more funding to be made available to assist individuals with disabilities, I will be Stefan’s college classroom support.”

And while her retirement plans have been drastically altered since Stefan’s accident, Ms. Doyle has no regrets about what she’s doing to help her son.

“When I look at the larger scheme of things, I realize that since the accident, I have watched Stefan undergo a complete metamorphosis. I also realized that I retired from teaching, not from parenting. I’ll be a mom forever and I give thanks daily for the gift of Stefan in my life. If being Stefan’s support in class helps him reclaim what was lost, then all is as it should be. The fact that Stefan can accept the overwhelming changes in his life with such a positive attitude will continue to make the changes in mine very rewarding.”

And Stefan’s plans?

“Now I take one day at a time and try to stay positive. While I may never fly a plane again, I’m not grounded, and like everyone else in college, I’ll try to make a better life for myself. It’ll just take me longer.”

PPD campus hosts Culinary Competition

On Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2, the Prince Philip Drive campus of College of the North Atlantic hosted the annual Atlantic Culinary Competition and Conference.

During the competition on Friday evening, the Newfoundland and Labrador junior team, comprised of three apprenticeship students and a college graduate, won the bronze medal. On Saturday evening the provincial senior team, comprised of four well-known chefs, prepared a delicious and creative meal, but unfortunately finished out of medal contention.

“On behalf of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Chefs and Cooks, I would like to sincerely thank each and every one involved for your tremendous support and encouragement,” says Gerry Crewe, cooking instructor at the campus and president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Chefs and Cooks.

“The instructors and students from the other Atlantic colleges were very impressed with our facility, our staff, and our students. I personally felt extremely proud to be a member of the faculty of College of the North Atlantic.”

New appointments to college

The following appointments were recently announced by Robert Rideout, Director of Administration.

Lynn Cuff has been appointed as Librarian III at the Bay St. George campus. Lynn was formerly located at the Bonavista campus, and has relocated to Stephenville to take on this position.

Fintan Mullaley has been temporarily appointed as ADA for the Bonavista campus. He will be replacing Chris Turpin, who has accepted a position in Qatar. Chris was replacing Marilyn Coles-Hayley, who is on maternity leave. Fintan will be in Bonavista until Marilyn returns from her leave. Paul Cole has been temporarily appointed to replace Fintan in the Placentia campus on an interim basis.

Margie King is the successful candidate for the competition for Organizational Budget Analyst in District 3. She will be located in the Grand Falls-Windsor campus. Prior to this appointment, Margie was the HR Clerk for District 3.

Annette Morey has been appointed as Comptroller at Headquarters. She replaces, and reports to, Richard Vivian, who was recently appointed Associate Director of Administration (Finance). Annette was formerly Budget Officer at Headquarters, and has been on maternity leave since September 2001. Richard has been Comptroller with College of the North Atlantic since shortly after its inception in 1997. Prior to that he held positions as Acting Director of Finance and Manager of Financial Services with Westviking College.

Cathy McCoy was the successful candidate in the competition for Apprenticeship Admissions Officer at Headquarters. She replaces Judy Park who has accepted a two-year appointment in Qatar.

Lorne Barbour has been appointed Co-op Placement Officer in Corner Brook. Lorne replaces Elizabeth (Libby) Chaulk, who is the ADA Intern in District 2. Lorne was previously employed with the Department of Human Resources and Employment.

Congratulations to all on their recent appointments.



Sandwich anyone?

The St. John's Branch of the Association of Chefs and Cooks recently presented the Culinary Arts program at the college's Prince Philip Drive campus with a Panini Sandwich Maker (valued at \$1,700) in appreciation of the on-going support from the campus for the activities and initiatives of the association. Taking part in the presentation are, from left, Steve Watson, executive chef, Central Dairies; Marlene Best, food service worker, College of the North Atlantic; Deborah Newhook, associate district administrator; Marilyn Lewis, chef instructor, College of the North Atlantic; Bruce Baker, associate district administrator; Gerry Crewe, chef instructor, College of the North Atlantic; Cavell Knee-Greene, food service manager, College of the North Atlantic; and Vince Di Nillo, executive chef, Battery Hotel and Suites.

Compton named recipient of the David E. Lawrence Literacy Award

Stanley Compton, a Level I adult basic education student at the Literacy Outreach Centre in Grand Falls-Windsor, has been named the winner of the 2002 David E. Lawrence Award valued at \$500.

The award is presented annually by the provincial Department of Education to a level I ABE student who has been registered at the college for two consecutive semesters. It is based on financial need, occupational goals, perseverance, and attitude.

College's international project will benefit province

By Cyril Farrell
Project Director, CNA - Qatar

A year ago nobody would have thought that today College of the North Atlantic would be setting up its first international campus in an oil rich country in the Arabian Gulf - a campus that will grow to 3,200 students in a new facility that will be approximately 800,000 square feet in size.

Well, through the leadership of President Pamela Walsh and the dedication of college employees, and in partnership with the Canadian Bureau of International Education, it has happened. On September 30, 2001 a 10-year Comprehensive Agreement was signed between College of the North Atlantic and the State of Qatar providing a framework for the development and operation of CNA-Qatar, which will have its first intake of students in September, 2002.

The question is often asked "Why did the State of Qatar come to Newfoundland and Labrador to partner with our college?" Simply put they came, looked at and analyzed the programs and structures of College of the North Atlantic, and compared what they saw to many other technical institutions throughout Canada and other countries. They liked what they saw in relation to their needs. They recognized the quality of the programs, they liked the warmth and hospitality of the people, and they related to the historical similarities between our province and the State of Qatar.

Since the signing of the agreement, College of the North Atlantic has been a beehive of activity, developing all of the mechanisms in order to have the first programs in place for September. A Project Director was hired to oversee the start-up phase and to ensure that all of the college's obligations under the contract were fulfilled in the first year. A Human Resources Manager was hired to prepare for recruitment, orientation, and related activities. Many other faculty, operational and support staff, managers and other contracted experts have been engaged, on an as needed basis, since September, 2001, to ensure the college fulfils its requirements and meets the expectations that so many have for College of the North Atlantic in this project.

Much has been done to date. The senior administration team has been hired and they have

already left to take up residence in Qatar. Key operational staff have been offered positions and have joined, or will be joining the administration team very shortly. Faculty recruitment is in full gear. It is expected that by spring we will have made offers of employment to more than 40 Newfoundlanders and Labradorians who are keenly interested in participating in this unique and exciting project.

You might ask what are the benefits of this partnership to the college and to Newfoundland and Labrador? There are many. This is the largest international contract ever awarded to a post-secondary institution in Canada, and as such College of the North Atlantic has become recognized across Canada for its quality programs. This can only benefit our students.

It provides opportunities for our college's faculty and staff to experience a new culture and the building of a new institution, while at the same time receiving an attractive benefits package.

It provides opportunities for us to showcase our college and our province in an international marketplace. It provides opportunities for the generation of new money for our college and the province by having students come and attend our campuses, such as what will happen in Placentia in June, 2002 when 13 Qatari students will enroll at the campus.

It will provide opportunities for new employees to join the ranks of College of the North Atlantic, thus acting as an employment generator right at home.

It has and will continue to inject new dollars into our economy through the hiring of new employees to support the project, engaging experts from within the college and the business community to provide services, the purchasing of airline tickets, and many other activities.

College of the North Atlantic - Qatar will be a world class institution providing programs in Engineering Technology, Business Administration, Information Technology, and in future years, Health Sciences. We are proud to have been chosen by the State of Qatar to develop this college and recognize that this accomplishment is based on the success of our students and graduates, the quality of our programs, and the hard work and dedication of all college employees.

Good Start for Home Support Worker program

On February 4, 2002, the Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus began delivery of the Home Support Worker program to 13 students at the North West River/Sheshatshiu Learning Centre.

The offering of this program is in response to the need for trained Home Support Workers in the area, and they were fortunate enough to hire Cynthia Hodgins from Vancouver as the instructor.

This 12-week Home Support Worker program (which teaches students how to care for the elderly/ill/disabled in their own homes) is on a wild roll.

"Our students hail from North West River, Sheshashiu, Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Mud Lake. We have laughs every day as we learn how important humour is to illness and healing and learning," says Valerie Andersen, Inuit Education Coordinator.

"At the 4 week mark the other day we watched the movie "Patch Adams" (based on a true story) where this fact was shown in true Robin Williams' style. And the popcorn we served was a nutritionally "healthy food choice," well, if we had left out the salt and butter."

Besides their course study, the students have had "a ton" of guest speakers and field trips.

"We had the local fire chief explain how, in the case of a fire, one could get out of a room with no window using an axe or heavy boots and a good kick," says Anderson.

"Then there was the Environmental Health Officer who made us wash our hands with a bright orange soap then look at them with a special light to see the germs we missed."

The class also visited an Innu panel speaking about various forms of abuse, went to the Paddon Senior's Home to practise communication skills to the confused, hard of hearing, or those who do not have English as a first language, and visited a dietitian who made them realize they could not count cups of tea in their daily eight glasses of water per day requirement.

"We have planted flower seeds to care for. We have baked bannock and banana bread. We've discussed the 101 uses of baking soda and found out why Tide gets your clothes whiter!" says Anderson.

"We have bandaged heads and revived Annie and her baby 26 times. The students have endured

physicals, immunizations, chest x-rays and police checks. They're gonna be one good bunch of Home Support Workers!"

According to their instructor Hodgins, things are going great and the program is moving along quite well.

"We have a wonderful group of students and we are positive that they will be good Home Support Workers once their training is complete," she says.

Moving with the Real Times

Beginning in the spring session 2002, the St. Anthony campus will be piloting Statistics MA 1670 through "Real-time learning" technology.

This technology was introduced to the St. Anthony campus in the fall of 2001, and since then has been used primarily as a means to conduct video-conferences from one campus to another.

The St. Anthony campus, however, plans to maximize the use of this technology. In the spring of this year, instructor Chad Simms will be teaching Statistics MA 1670 to a contingent of students in St. Anthony. Through "real-time learning," a video camera will be carrying Mr. Simm's voice and image to other classrooms and students across the province, allowing a larger registration into the program.

This technology allows students from across the province to participate in courses at campuses where these courses do not normally exist. It provides an environment which allows students from across the province to interact with one-another and to interact with their instructors on a daily basis through video.

Plans are to expand the course offerings through real-time learning in the fall of 2002. The St. Anthony campus plans to offer First Year Engineering Technology to other campuses through the same technology and is currently researching the possibility of using this technology as a means to offer courses in rural environments where no post-secondary institution exists.

Students and grads sweep competition

In the last issue we told you about the success of Eric Hynes, Jay Stuckless, and Barb Ryan at the provincial Culinary Competition held at the college's Prince Philip Drive campus in St. John's on February 9.

The team from the college's Bay St. George campus won gold at that event. However, it is interesting to note that every medal winner in the competition was, or is, a student of the college.

The silver medal winner was the team from the Fairmont Hotel which included Dionne Power, currently enrolled as an apprenticeship student at the Prince Philip Drive campus, and Brian Barrett, a journeyman chef who is a former graduate of the Commercial Cooking program at the campus.

The bronze medal went to Paul Murphy and Henry Pike. Paul is an entry-level Commercial Cooking student at PPD, and Henry is an apprenticeship student currently working at the Delta Hotel in St. John's.

As in past years, the competition was a huge success, thanks largely to faculty members Patricia Dooley, Marilyn Lewis, and Gerry Crewe. Your enthusiasm is surpassed only by your culinary skills!



Members of the bronze medal team are seen here with their instructor Patricia Dooley (left) who was recently named the provincial Chef of the Year by the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Chefs and Cooks. Congratulations team and congratulations Patricia.

Ancient Art

Robert Griffin, Stone Mason instructor (second from right), demonstrates this ancient art using hand tools on a piece of stone while answering questions posed by Art Teacher Dave Trainer (fourth from left), and a group of intrigued students from Crescent Collegiate High School. The students were visiting College of the North Atlantic's Carbonear campus as part of a partnership between the Art Class of Crescent and the Stone Mason class. See story page 9



College receives \$3 million in ACOA funding

College of the North Atlantic received nearly \$3 million from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) to purchase state-of-the-art equipment and offer new programs to keep pace with emerging demands for skilled labour in the marketplace. The announcement was made by the Honourable Gerry Byrne, Minister of State for ACOA at a news conference at the College's headquarters in Stephenville on March 27.

The funding encompasses the following initiatives:

Technology upgrades to enhance the quality of student services across the province through the Student Services Division (Province-wide);

Equipment upgrades for programs offered in the School of Engineering and Information Technology (St. Anthony, St. John's, Port aux Basques);

Purchase of equipment to allow for new program offerings in Manufacturing Operations Technology, Welding and Millwright (Corner Brook);

Purchase of equipment to modernize and enhance program offerings at the Industrial Training Centre (Placentia);

Purchase of equipment to offer a Mechanized Forest Equipment Program (Happy Valley – Goose Bay);

Equipment upgrades for programs offered in the School of Industrial Trades (Stephenville, Baie Verte);

Equipment upgrades for the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program, School of Health Science (St. John's);

Equipment upgrades that will allow for additional courses and enhanced training at the Graphic Arts Centre of Excellence (St. John's);

Equipment upgrades for the Automotive Service Technician

Program and the Office Administration Program (St. John's).

"Investments in the development of a skilled labour force are key to achieving the goals set out in the Government of Canada's Innovation Strategy," said Minister Byrne. "To be competitive in the global economy, we must be able to develop, attract and retain the brightest and the best. To ensure that Canada has enough highly qualified people with the skills needed for a vibrant economy, we must make these investments today."

"We are very pleased to receive this funding from ACOA," said Pamela Walsh,

ACOA con't 12

High school students visit Carbonear

On February 21 and 22 the Carbonear campus welcomed one hundred Level III high school students from Crescent Collegiate, Carbonear Collegiate, and Ascension Collegiate to its campus for College/ University for a Day. College/University for a Day provides an opportunity for high school students to sit in on classes, attend mini-lectures and discuss career opportunities with instructors.

The students arrived eagerly in the morning, were welcomed to the college and provided with information kits. After being divided into groups, they visited different classes and attended sessions from every program offered at the campus. Sessions included demonstrations in the Physics lab, IT labs, and the Stonemasonry shop. Students also took part in a literary and psychological analysis of Hamlet and a lecture on etymology.

Feedback indicated the students really enjoyed the experience.

"Everyone was nice and kind to me and I got a lot out of the day. I loved the lecture theatre," remarked one student.

"I enjoyed learning about the variety of courses available here. They are very interesting," noted another. "I liked going around to different sessions and experiencing some of the different class activities."

Cooperation and commitment by all faculty and staff ensured the day's success. As a result of the overwhelmingly positive response from the students, the Carbonear campus held a College/University for a Day for students from E.J. Pratt High School, St. Joseph's High School, Holy Trinity High, and North Shore Collegiate on March 22. The Carbonear campus was grateful for the opportunity to show other high school students what it has to offer.

Newfoundland cooking students to compete in Mexico

September 11, 2001 started out just like any other day for Chad Burden.

Well, not just like any other.

That Tuesday was supposed to be the first day of classes for the Culinary Arts student at College of the North Atlantic in Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada.

Burden went to class that morning not expecting to do very much on his first day.

“Before we are allowed to begin classes in the kitchen we need our sanitation course,” says the mild mannered cooking student.

“But as I was walking through the front lobby to go to class, I noticed a small crowd of people had began to gather around the TV. I asked what was going on and they said a plane had crashed in New York.”

Not realizing the full impact of what he had just been told, Burden continued on to class.

An hour passed and by this time the entire college was abuzz with the news of the terrorist attacks and the collapse of the World Trade Towers.

An emergency meeting was called for the students and staff of the college’s Bay St. George campus, located in the small town of Stephenville (pop. 8,000). Burden sat quietly as campus administrator Cyril Organ told them what was happening.

“He told us all the flights were

being cancelled and many of them were heading here,” says Burden.

“He said we were going to try to accommodate these people and asked us to do whatever we could to help.”

Students offered to give up their residence rooms or take people into their homes. They brought blankets and pillows, toothbrushes and toothpaste, soap and towels - whatever items they thought a stranded traveler could use.

“I mentioned that I wouldn’t mind helping out and they assigned me to the kitchen,” says Burden.

con’t next



Chad Burden, Brad Carpenter, and Lana Madore, all first year cooking students at College of the North Atlantic, are representing Canada at the Fouet D’or International Culinary Competition in Mexico on April 19-22. Missing is team captain Eric Hynes and instructor Eric King.

At approximately 2 p.m. Burden began to prepare his first meal as a cooking student - seafood lasagna for 60!

"The most I had ever cooked for was maybe four or five people at home," he says with a shy smile.

"I wasn't sure if I was mixing the ingredients correctly, putting in the right amounts. But when it was done it all looked okay, so I suppose it was good."

The clock had passed 3 a.m. before Burden finally called it a night.

"None of us wanted to leave," he says.

"But by that time all the passengers were fed and we decided we had better get some sleep because we had to be back to prepare breakfast by 8 a.m."

Burden and other volunteers continued to work upwards of 20 hours a day for the next three days to make sure the 1,100 stranded passengers who touched down in Stephenville were well fed and comfortable.

A total of 27 aircraft had landed at Stephenville's international airport. The tarmac hadn't played host to so many large planes since the late 60s when the U.S. Air Force operated one of its bases there.

Two of those aircraft were Aero Mexico flights, and despite only a short stay in Stephenville, the Mexican passengers had developed many friendships with students and staff at the college.

By month's end, as if it was fated, the college received an invitation to send a team to compete in the Fouet D'or International Culinary Competition being held at the Centro Cultural Mexiquense in Toluca, Mexico from April 19-22.

"When we received this invitation, not only did we think it was a great opportunity to have our students exposed to a new culture and the pressures and excitement of international competition, but we thought it would be a good chance to hold a reception in Mexico for the passengers aboard the Aero Mexico flights which landed here," says Organ.

"The last time we were together it was a very trying time for everyone, and we wanted to do something for them under circumstances that were much more pleasant."

There are 15 teams from six countries taking part in the competition. The College of the North Atlantic team is the only one from Canada.

Team Canada consists of captain Eric Hynes, an apprenticeship student, and three first year students including Burden, Brad Carpenter, and Lana Madore. Accompanying the students will be one of their instructors, Eric King.

"This is a golden opportunity for them," says King, who is no stranger to the competitive cooking scene, winning a silver medal at the Canadian National Culinary Competition and being a member of the only team from Newfoundland to ever win gold at the Atlantic Canadian competition.

"I have been cooking and competing for 28 years and this is the first time I've been to an international competition."

While King will not be competing this time around, he will get a chance to show off his abundant culinary skill, holding a two-hour seafood demonstration for the competitors and delegates at the event.

"We certainly have a full slate while we're there, but preparing for this has been made much easier because of the tremendous support at home," he says.

In terms of support, the college donated \$5,000 towards the team's expenses and also presented them with college jackets and backpacks. Grohmann, a Nova Scotia company famous for its high quality knives, donated a complete knife set to each competitor. Canada Pork Company even donated pork products, not just for Team Canada, but for all the teams at the competition.

"We also had great support from companies such as Nestle Canada, Janes Family Foods, Atlantic Grocery Distributors, Comeau Seafoods, Druken Brokerage, the Western Newfoundland and Labrador Chefs Association, Lamb Weston, the provincial government... the list goes on," says King.

With a team consisting of three first year cooking students, King is not putting too much pressure on his budding chefs, saying he just wants them to have a good time and experience the high level of competition.

However, the team has other ideas.

"It's going to be a lot of fun, but we're going over to give our best," says Burden.

"We're going for a good time, but we're also going to win."

ACOA con't from 9

President of College of the North Atlantic. "It will allow us to upgrade and modernize equipment used in our training programs, keeping College of the North Atlantic on the leading edge in post-secondary education in Canada, and giving our graduates a competitive edge when seeking employment with industry."

"I am pleased to see the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency make such significant investments in our college system," said MP Bill Matthews. "The college is looked to as a source of training for current and emerging labour market needs and today's investment allows the college to further develop its infrastructure and training capacity to provide that essential service."

College of the North Atlantic is investing \$1.15 million towards these initiatives.



ACOA Minister Gerry Byrne announces the nearly \$3 million in funding for College of the North Atlantic. Seated are, from left, Michael J. Tobin, vice-chair for the college's Board of Governors, MP Bill Matthews, and Pamela Walsh, President of College of the North Atlantic.

ACOA's funding comes from the Business Development Program. Non-commercial investments through this program support the development and promotion of entrepreneurship, trade, tourism, marketing and education through industry, community, youth, educational institutions and business associations.

Corner Brook campus to host science fair

By Bridget Morris

For about a year and a half the Marketing Committee at College of the North Atlantic's Corner Brook campus had been pushing hard to host the 2002 Western Newfoundland and Southern Labrador Regional Science Fair.

In June of 2001 their hard work paid off and on April 12 and 13 the Corner Brook campus will be turned into the home of some of the most amazing science fair projects in the province.

But the hard work didn't end there with June's announcement. Now the science fair committee meets on a regular basis to plan the event, which is now less than a month away.

Wilf Riego is the Chair of the Western Newfoundland and Labrador Regional Science Fair. He says they are expecting approximately 300 students to take part and that could be partly due to the event being held in the second largest city

in the province. The competing students represent 63 schools located in districts throughout Western Newfoundland and Labrador.

The cost for the organization and delivery of this event, as well as sending the top six students and two chaperones to the Canada-Wide Science Fair 2002 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan is approximately \$12,000. College of the North Atlantic will chip in \$1,000 to help cover those costs.

Riego says hosting this event will benefit College of the North Atlantic in many ways. During the event there will be many contestants and their families attending, giving the college a chance to promote its programs and facilities and establish a relationship with the schools. Also, the college's technology students will be given a chance to display their term projects.

Bridget Morris is a second year journalism student at College of the North Atlantic.