Now Open TRU Faculty of Law: Canada’s Newest In More Than 33 Years
Seventy-five new students were welcomed to an academic program that pays particular attention to legal issues facing energy, natural resources, and the socio-economic challenges confronting Canada’s First Nation and Aboriginal communities. Government officials and the Honourable Chief Justice S.G. Finch and Chief Judge Thomas Crabtree joined Chris Axworthy Q.C., TRU Founding Dean of Law; The Honourable Wally Oppal, Q.C., TRU Chancellor; Alan Shaver, TRU President and Vice-Chancellor at the official opening on Sept. 6.

Meet the Faculty: http://newsroom.blog.mytru.ca/2011/06/14/inaugural-law-faculty-bring-expertise-from-around-the-world-and-canada/

Transitioning to University life
New students were able to take part in a number of initiatives designed to assist the transition to university life.

Among them:
> Orientation for new students—Day just for new students featuring a New Student Convocation, a souvenir Orientation 2011 coin, a colour-coded t-shirt according to their declared area of study, an information and resource fair, free food, and more. Photos from the day: http://www.flickr.com/photos/thompsonrivers/sets/72157627493521239
Orientation info: http://www.tru.ca/studentservices/orientation.html

> Jump the Line—Extended hours for a range of services, including the Registrar’s Office, Campus Cashier, TRU Bookstore hours, IT Services, Financial Aid & Awards, Counselling, Academic Advising, TRU Students Union office.

> Ask Me—Students were invited to ask questions of TRU staff members wearing a specialized shirt with the message “Ask Me” on it.

> Welcome Back BBQ—A team effort involving TRU and TRU Students’ Union provided a carnival atmosphere for the 24nd annual event, full of free food, pop, relay games, information booths and resources fair, live and recorded music, roving entertainment, and more.

Partnership Enhances Nursing Students’ Understanding Around Aboriginal Peoples’ Health
The School of Nursing will join with the Conayt Friendship Society of Merritt in an innovative partnership that will provide culturally relevant education to nursing students and to address some of the health care needs of the members of Conayt. The nursing students will provide health care and screening for Aboriginal people both on and off-reserves in the region.

Government of Canada Announces Support for Innovation
Innovation and technology development is burgeoning in the Thompson Region, thanks to nearly $890,000 in Western Diversification Program (WDP) funding.
"...we are now able to broaden the opportunities for our students to do applied research that leads to immediate and direct outcomes," said TRU Dean of Science, Dr. Tom Dickinson. “As a result, our grads have gained a national reputation for their skills and competence on some of the most technically sophisticated analytical equipment in the world.”
http://newsroom.blog.mytru.ca/2011/08/10/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-innovation/

How is Climate Change affecting smaller and rural communities in British Columbia?
Principal researcher Dr. Julie Drolet’s proposal, “Community level adaptation to climate risk”, aims to improve the resiliency of small cities and rural communities in BC to the impacts of climate change by sharing knowledge, increasing awareness, and developing a toolkit of strategies. The study is being funded through Canadian Environmental Issues grant of $49,810 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).
News continued

- Students tracking invasive yellow perch
  Student researchers at TRU are tracking the movements and behaviours of yellow perch, an invasive eastern species that poses a threat to salmon and other native species in BC lakes, in hopes of one day eradicating perch without harming other fish stocks. Carmen Tattersfield is completing the study for her Masters of Science in Environmental Sciences degree, supervised by associate professor of limnology and fisheries, Dr. Brian Heise, with main funding from the Fraser Salmon and Watershed Program. http://newsroom.blog.mytru.ca/2011/08/03/msc-researcher-tracks-fishy-invaders/

- Indonesian Education Council
  TRU and the International Islamic Education Council (IIEC) in Indonesia signed an agreement to join together to expand teaching and learning opportunities for their respective students. The signing on July 14 followed the successful three-week visit of 135 IIEC students from Jakarta who called Kamloops and TRU home as they worked on their English and a better understanding of Western culture. http://newsroom.blog.mytru.ca/2011/07/15/more-diversity-for-tru-with-indonesian-agreement/

- Western Canada Summer Games
  From Aug. 5 to 14 TRU played home to nearly 2,300 young athletes at the Western Canada Games. The Residence and Conference Centre was converted to dorms for the athletes while hundreds of athletes ate at the Grand Hall. The Culinary Arts Cafeteria was converted in to Volunteer Centre and box lunch kitchen while A&E held the Chef d’Mission.

- Chinese Consul General
  On June 30, more than 20 Chinese TRU students met their Consul General, Shu Gen Liang, who is stationed out of Vancouver. The students asked questions and then had a photo taken on the balcony of the Panorama Room with Mt. Peter and Mt. Paul as backdrop.

- Minister of Advanced Education tours Williams Lake campus
  Hon. Naomi Yamamoto toured the Williams Lake campus and held a roundtable discussion with faculty, staff and students. Following, a group from TRU joined Yamamoto and key community members for lunch. Also this summer, the Williams Lake campus participated in the Williams Lake Stampede Parade and won the Best Mascot category.

- HP Catalyst Award to Foster Innovative Education Collaborations Globally
  TRU is one of only two Canadian organizations to be awarded a grant to participate in the HP Catalyst Initiative, a global social innovation program designed to develop more effective approaches to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. http://newsroom.blog.mytru.ca/2011/06/28/hp-catalyst-award-to-foster-innovative-education-collaborations-globally/

- James Hoffman
  **Visual and Performing Arts**
  James Hoffman along with Ginny Ratsoy and Heidi Verwey (VPA) collaboratively organized and moderated the seminar "Theatre in Small Cities" May 30, at the Canadian Association for Theatre Research (Congress) Conference, at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton.

- Julie Drolet
  **Social Work**
  Presented "The Impacts of Natural Disasters in Diverse Communities: Lessons from Tamil Nadu, India" at the 11th International Conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities and Nations (I), University of Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa, June 20, 2011.

- Peter Tsigaris
  **Economics**
Publications

Jon Heska
School of Tourism

Naowarat Cheeptham
Biology
Dr. Naowarat (Anne) Cheeptham along with Aubrey Shannon BSc; Ken Wagner MD FRCP; and Gwen Stephens MD MSc FRCP, submitted a letter to the editor titled "A pilot survey of carbapenem-resistant pneumonia mediated by K pneumoniae serotype carbapenemases in a regional referral hospital in British Columbia" in Canadian Journal Infectious Disease & Medical Microbiology, Vol. 22, No. 2, Summer 2011.

Books

Lloyd Bennett
Visual and Performing Arts

Donald Noakes
Research and Graduate Studies

Journal Articles

Laura Lamb
Economics

Karen Ross, Science

Julie Drolet and Grant Larsen,
Social Work


Drolet, J. & Robertson, J. (2011). In the smaller city a settlement worker wears many hats: Understanding settlement experiences in Kamloops, B.C. Our Diverse Cities. 8, 139-144.


Achievements

TRU School of Trades & Technology
Built Green BC announced the finalists for the second annual Built Green BC Awards, with Canadian Home Builders Association Central Interior & Partner TRU School of Trades being named one of five finalists in the Highest Rated Built Green BC Home category for their Green Dream Home entry.

Ashley Morrison, Faculty of Science
Ashley Morrison, a BSc student in biology, was recently awarded an Undergraduate Ecological Project Support Grant from the British Ecological Society in support of the project: Building rural interprofessional discussions and group experiences. Rural and Remote Health, 11(3), online: 1676. Available from: http://www.rnh.org.au
Achievements continued

Bonnie Klohn, a co-op student with Environment and Stainability shared a $4,000 cash prize for designing the winning community energy system using clean technology and green energy sources at a recent Energy Summit at UBC in Vancouver.

Anna Dell, the former VP of Internal Affairs for the TRU Williams Lake Student Council was crowned 2011 Miss Canada International.

Cheryl Zawaduk, a TRU faculty member since 1985, completed a Simon Fraser University doctorate in Educational Leadership in Spring 2011. Her thesis was: It takes a village: Rural nursing preceptorships as cultural mediation.

Practical Nursing Program
Since the Practical Nurse Program started in Williams Lake in 2009, the three cohorts have had a 100% success rate at the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination. Faculty in Practical Nursing Program, Donna Bentham, Rhonda McCreight, Julie Tutte, Sandi Lachapelle and Shelly Cantelo, have done tremendous work ensuring the students get the best instruction.

Upcoming Events

Friday, Sept. 30 & Saturday, Oct. 1
The TRU WolfPack men's basketball team will be in Williams Lake to play the UNBC Timberwolves on Sept. 30 and follow that with a clinic on Oct. 1 for boys and girls in grades 8-10.

Friday, Oct. 7
Fall Convocation, Past Board of Governors Chair, Ron Olynnyk, will be awarded with an honorary degree for his years of outstanding community work to both TRU and the community.

Thursday, Oct. 13
Cultural Events Series, The Abrams Brothers is the second event of the 2011-12 season, 12:30 pm in the Alumni Theatre, in the Clock Tower building.

Friday, Oct. 14
An Evening in Vegas by the TRU Sports Task Force is the 3rd annual fundraising night. Featuring entertainment, poker and a draw for a trip for 2 to Vegas plus silent auction. Tickets $100, register online at www.tru.ca/athletics/community/vegas

Oct. 26 to 29 and Nov. 2 to 5
The TRU Actors Workshop Theatre kicks of the 2011-12 season with a Midsummer Night’s Dream.

Friday, Nov. 4
Music in the Round Classical music by the Kamloops Symphony, Aboriginal Art tour, silent auction, wine and hors d’oeuvres are part of an evening program in the Irving K. Barber British Columbia Centre. This is a fundraiser for TRU Faculty of Arts student scholarships and bursaries. For more information, call 250-852-7195.