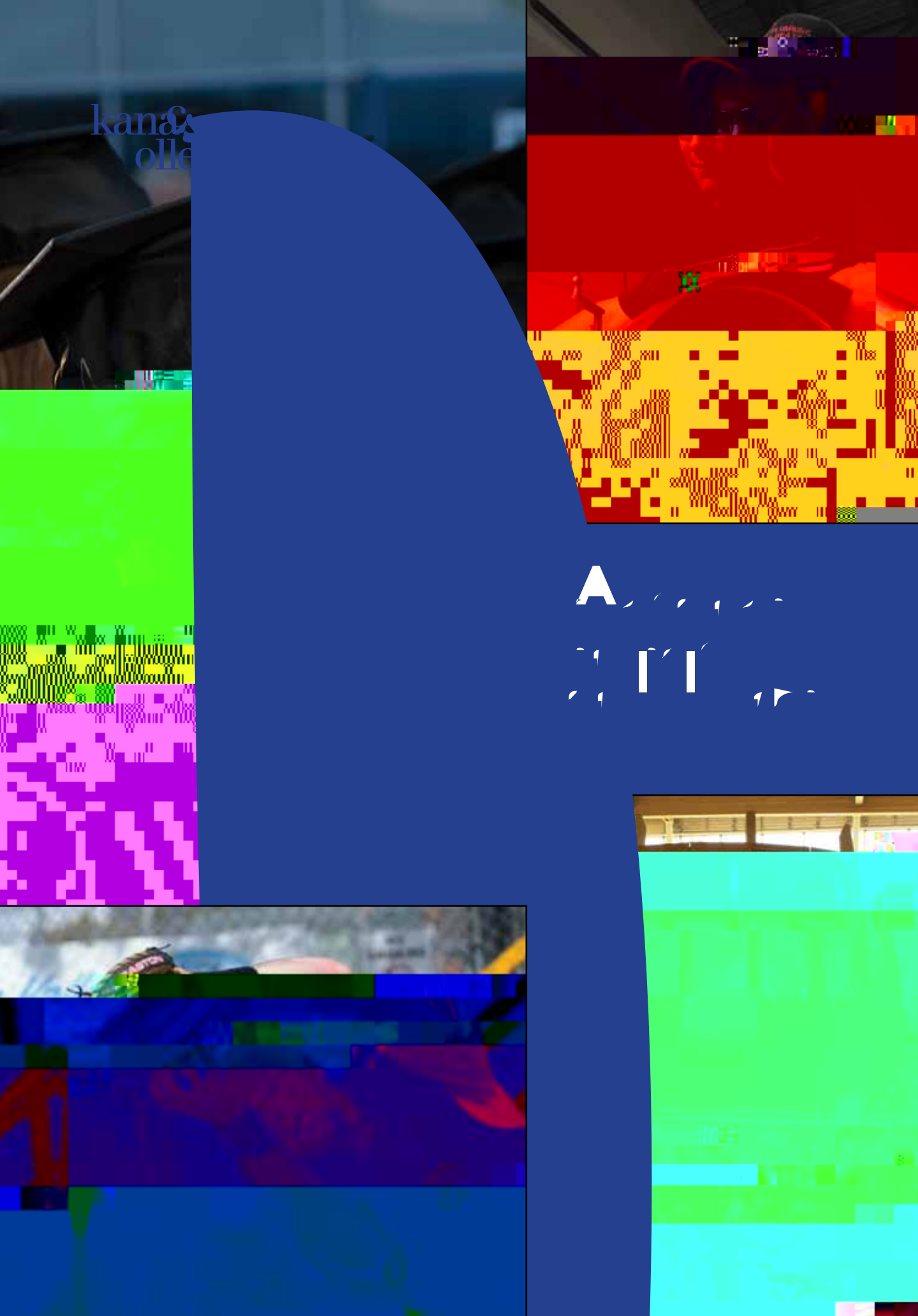


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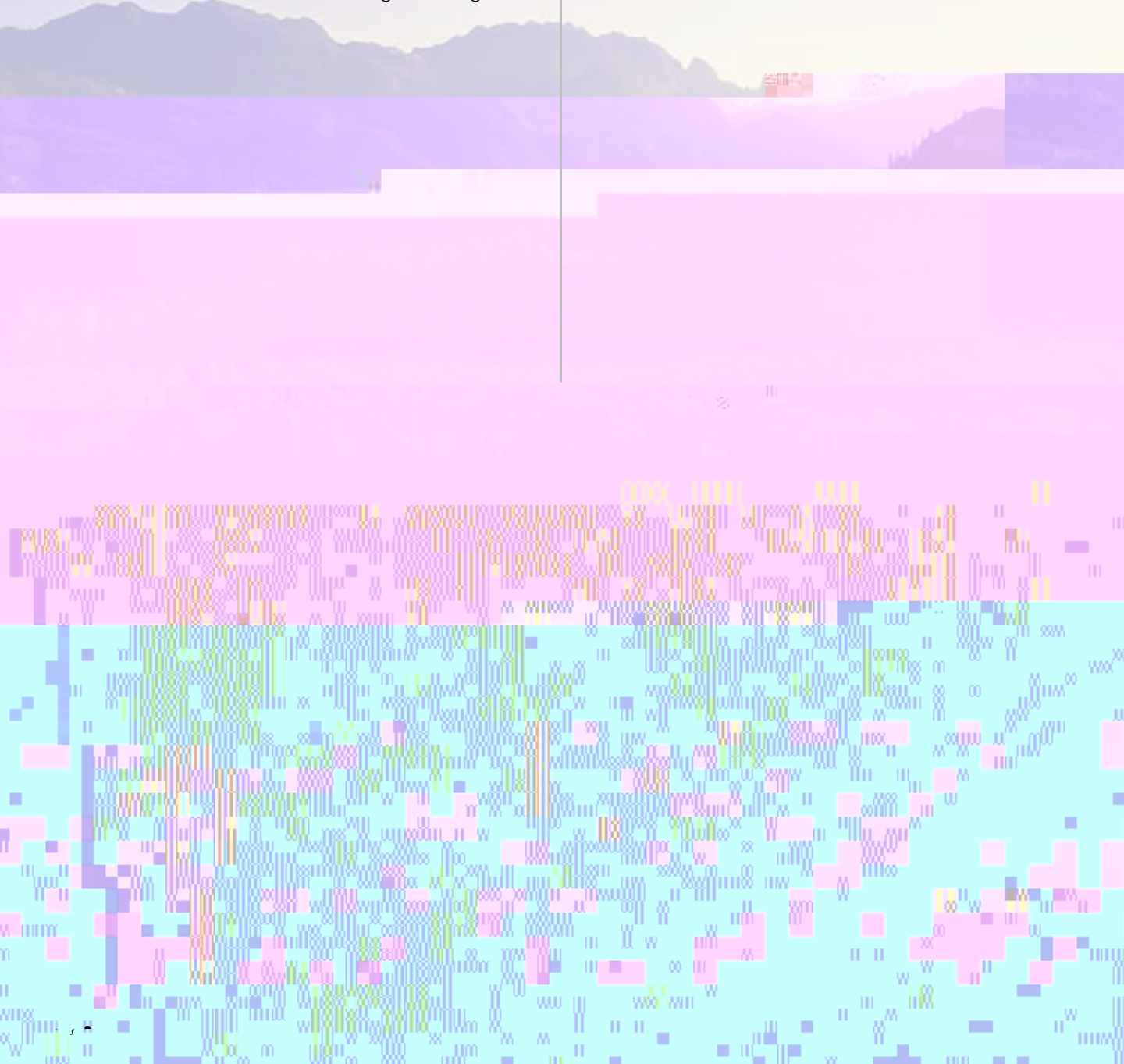
# A II





Led by its mission, vision and values, Okanagan College focuses on sustaining the needs of its learners, their unique cultures, community partnerships, innovation in teaching, leadership and creating a vision for the communities it serves. As a learner-centred institution the College acknowledges its responsibility to lead the region in the implementation of new technologies, systems and best practices.

Throughout the course of the 2008-09 year Okanagan College did much to deliver on its commitment to sustainability. Some of those accomplishments are highlighted in this report. Key among them is the increased access Okanagan College has provided for students. Since opening its doors in 2005, enrolment at Okanagan College has





In 2008-09 Okanagan College continued to deliver on our promise to transform lives and communities.

By once again adding more programs and making them more widely available throughout the Okanagan and Shuswap, we have gone a great distance in

addressing student and community demand for education and training. In fact, over the past four years, our enrolments have grown by 48 per cent, making Okanagan College the largest college east of the lower mainland. In 2008-09, we provided education and training to more than 19,000 people at locations from Revelstoke to Oliver.

But success isn't measured only in numbers. It is also measured in the pride of people who have achieved their career and educational goals. When the new Okanagan College opened its doors in 2005, we recognized our growth had to reflect our role of contributing to the economic, social and cultural development of the communities we serve.

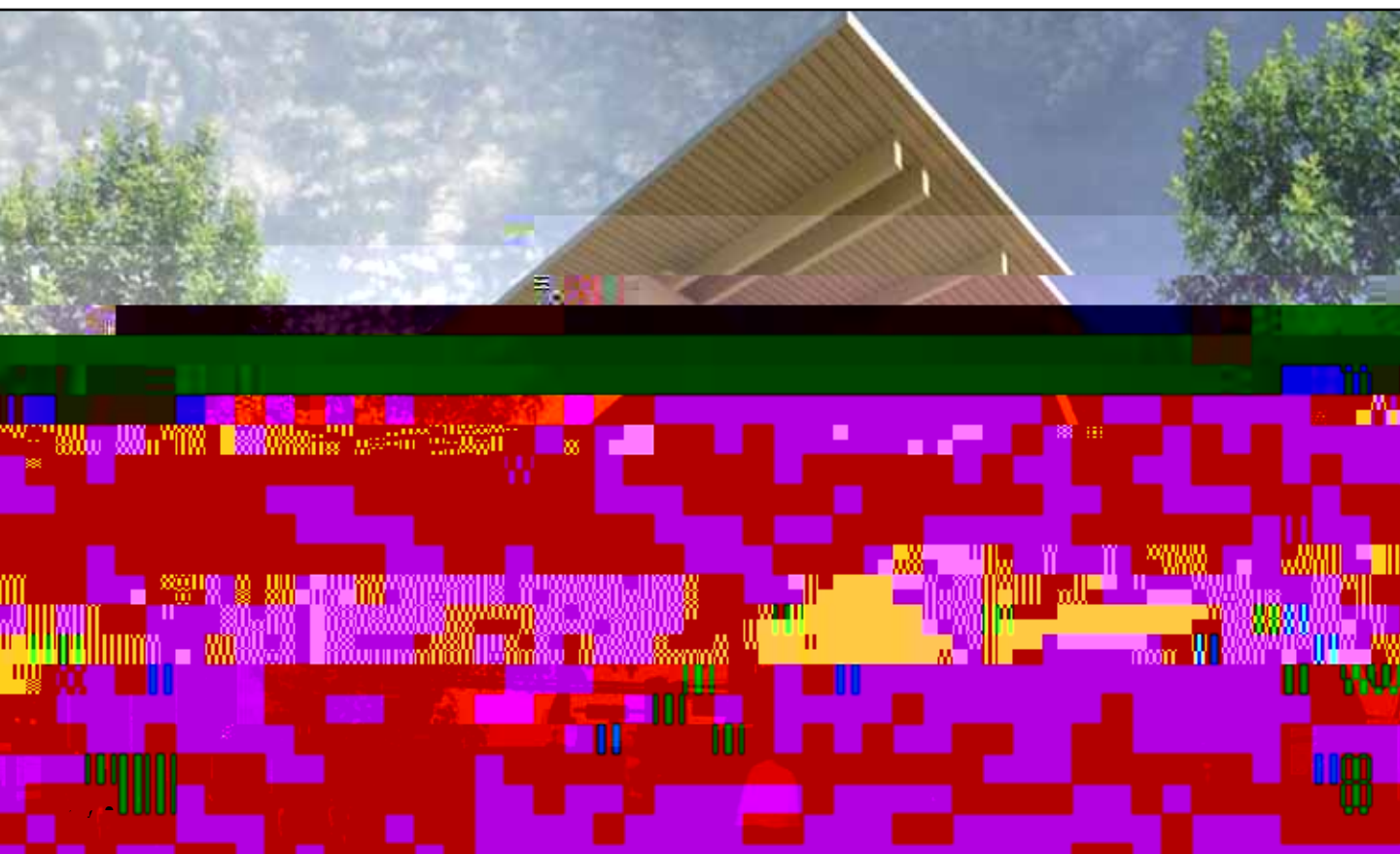
Today, our progress is evident everywhere. You can see it in the practical learning opportunities provided our students by dozens of businesses and organizations. It is evident in the jobs offered by employers who seek our graduates. It is clear in the doubling of our Aboriginal student enrolments, the result of our ever closer relationships with our Aboriginal communities. We see it in the new partnerships with School Districts that open more education opportunities for high school students. It can be seen in the generous support of individuals, corporations and governments for the growth and redevelopment of our campuses, and in the scholarships and bursaries they endow to help support our students.

This September, we opened the new Centre for Learning on the Kelowna campus. It's a remarkable addition to our oldest campus that moves us into a new era of energy conservation and sustainability.

In April 2009, a new \$28 million Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation was announced for the South Okanagan4yaq105ka tionsanag16

One of the key ways  
Okanagan College is





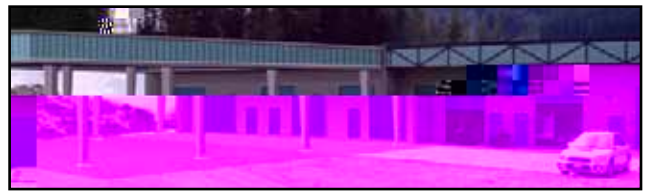




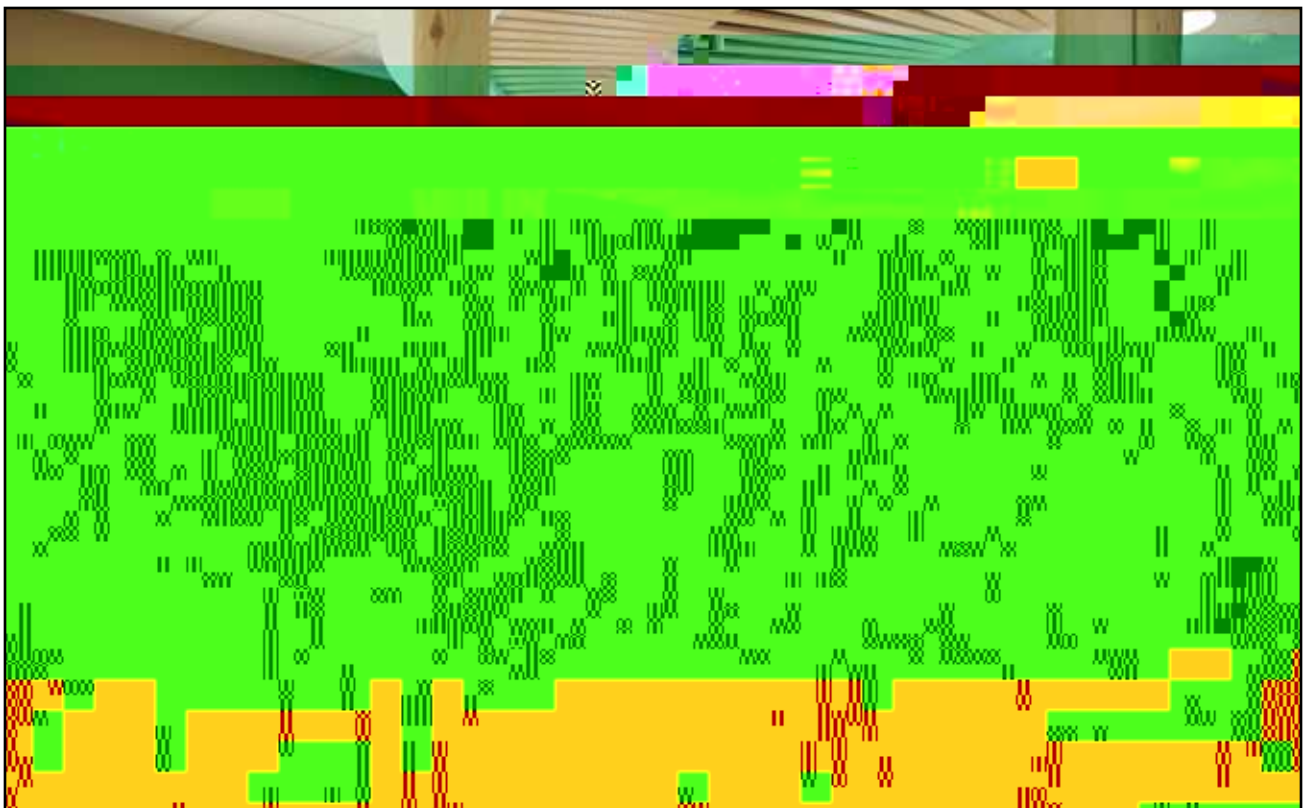
The Shuswap-Revelstoke region cut the ribbon on a significant infrastructure project at the Salmon Arm campus when the new Aboriginal Gathering Place opened its doors to students. The space was made possible due to a \$253,000 grant from the Provincial government. Okanagan College worked closely with representatives from the surrounding First Nations and Métis Nation to ensure the new space would be welcoming for all users.

The Honourable George Abbott, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, was joined by dignitaries and Chiefs from the Splatshin First Nation, Shuswap Nation Tribal Council, Métis Nation, Adams Lake Indian Band, and Neskonlith Indian Band, among others, to cut the ribbon on the new facility. The Gathering Place will offer study, social and cultural space for students at the Salmon Arm campus and marks the completion of the development of dedicated space for Aboriginal students at each of Okanagan College's four major campuses.

The Shuswap-Revelstoke region received more welcome news recently with the announcement of \$1 million of funding to expand Okanagan College's Salmon Arm Trades Training Facility. The announcement was made in August as part of the joint Federal-Provincial Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP), which is aimed at stimulating the economy and developing capacity in post-secondary institutions ■



The expansion of Salmon Arm's Trades Training facility (above) will add 848 square metres of shop and classroom space as well as a 1,968 square-metre covered work area at the site. Once the expansion is complete it will accommodate an additional 144 students at the College location.



The Hon. George Abbott, Minister of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation, joined Board Chair Janet Shaw, Chiefs and Elders from the Four Nations and Métis BC to open the new Gathering Place.

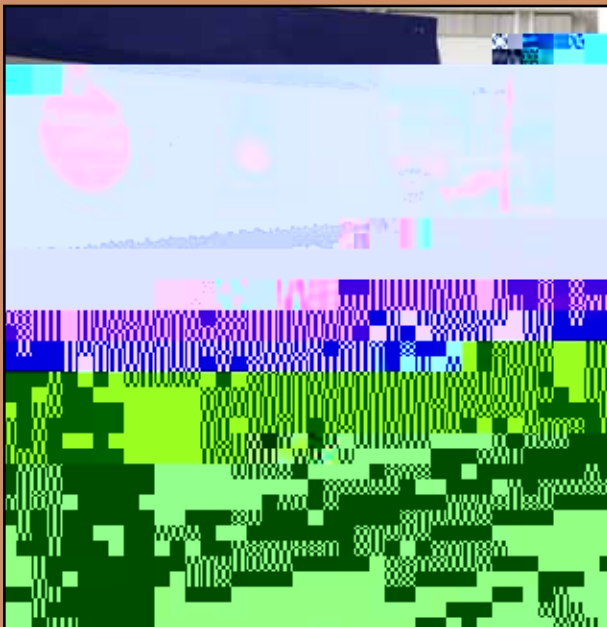


David Peters, Habitat for Humanity Board Member; David Kalaski, School District 67; Brian Hughes, Okanagan College Board of Governors; Donna Lomas, Regional Dean Okanagan College, and Randy Werger, Associate Dean Trades and Apprenticeship break ground in Penticton.

Okanagan College students partnered with a variety of community organizations this year to make their campuses and communities better places to be. Students in the Residential Construction program took part in Home for Learning projects in Penticton, Kelowna, Vernon, Salmon Arm and Revelstoke. Each project was unique and involved community engagement. In

Revelstoke and Kelowna students took part in programs that contributed to financial awards for students. They worked with a general contractor and developer to build single-family homes that will be sold with net proceeds going toward scholarships, bursaries and tools for trades students. In Salmon Arm the class partnered with the Adams Lake Indian Band to build a home for a

growing family who were in need of their own space. The Vernon project, Under One Roof, saw students partner with more than seven community organizations to build a multi-family affordable housing project. The Penticton Residential Construction class worked with the South Okanagan chapter of Habitat for Humanity and helped to provide support throughout the building process ■



At the Kelowna campus, Okanagan College's Enviro Club was challenged by UBC Okanagan to initiate a campus-wide trash audit. Members of the Enviro Club braved unfavourable November weather conditions and spent the day in the courtyard separating and analyzing one day's worth of trash at the Kelowna campus. With analytical help from the Regional District, they determined that Okanagan College produced about half the amount of garbage (5,542 litres) per day, as compared to UBC Okanagan. They found that 30 per cent of the trash was actual garbage, 37 per cent was recyclable and 33 per cent was compostable.

Facilities Management implemented a new service which saw paper towels diverted from the waste stream into the compost stream, removing a large percentage of biodegradable materials from the College's garbage ■



Staff at the Penticton campus extended Okanagan College's on-campus housing to include accommodation for two migratory friends of Okanagan College, a pair of young Osprey. After concerned neighbours watched the young pair struggle to build a nest on a nearby power pole, they contacted the Ministry of Environment to find out if there were any means to assist the birds in building a home and ensure their safety.

The Canadian Wildlife Service contacted Biology professor Sharon Mansiere and with help from Regional Dean Donna Lomas and Graham Kershaw of Campus Planning and Facilities Management, the group initiated a plan to erect a nest pole and platform for the couple on the campus grounds.

With help from the City of Penticton and BC Hydro, Okanagan College was able to secure a 50-foot pole that TELUS installed for the Osprey. The pair became well-known members of the Penticton campus and was soon joined by a third young Osprey. Penticton staff watched with interest as the group built and defended their nest on the new platform. Though they did not breed this year, the birds made great use of their new home before migrating to their summer habitat, which may be as far south as Ecuador ■

## News

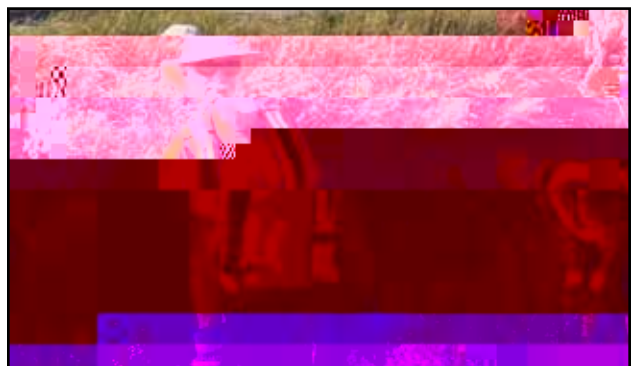
Staff earned a commendation from Kelowna Mayor Sharon Shepherd for their efforts to clean up Fascieux Creek, which runs adjacent to the Kelowna campus. The College adopted the creek in 2007 after noticing an unsightly amount of garbage in the creek and on its banks. The trash, which included items such as shopping carts, pots and pans and pop cans, was preventing the flow of water through the creek.

As a result, Fascieux Creek's water was stagnant and nearly barren of fish and wildlife. Students, staff and neighbours joined forces in quarterly clean-up sessions, pulling out garbage, noxious weeds and clearing the banks of rubbish. Nearly three years later, the water flows swiftly and wildlife have returned in abundance. The clean-up group, which varies throughout the year, now routinely sees birds, snakes, turtles, fish and muskrat.

The City of Kelowna took notice of their efforts and recognized the group with the Mayor's Environmental Award for the most environmentally-dedicated group. Angie March, who organizes the creek clean-up sessions, received the award from Mayor Sharon Shepherd this spring ■



Mayor Sharon Shepherd and Angie March



Okanagan College's Rick Gee and Amanda Warman add to the Fascieux Creek clean-up effort

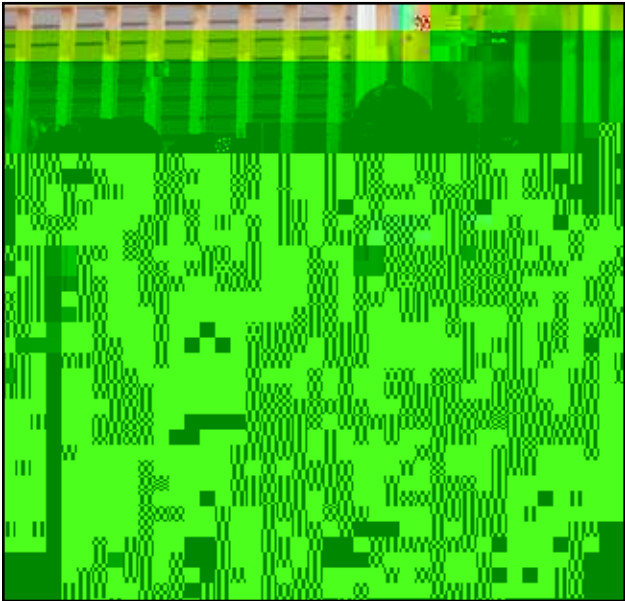


Okanagan College's focus on sustainability was sharpened early in 2009 when a new special-purpose committee undertook development of a Green Plan for the institution. Led by Business Professor and environmental consultant Arnica Rowan, the committee engaged students and staff and looked at everything from transportation, to food services and learning practices, to employee wellness on the College's campuses.

The result was two sets of recommendations – one focused on immediate action, the other for the long-term. Even before classes started in September 2009, evidence of the effect of the plan was to be found:

- the existing recycling program on campuses has been kicked up a notch with new recycling stations (and improved informational signage) that allow staff and students to recycle more material
- reduction of use of non-recyclable materials in food services outlets
- paper towels from washrooms are being redirected from the garbage bin to the composting stream
- changes in bookstore practices (no plastic bags,

A number of advances in providing access and support for Aboriginal learners at Okanagan





Second-year Okanagan College apprentice chef David Colombe earned international acclaim at the Florida Tomato Committee's 20th Annual Best of the Best Recipe Contest when his creation - Fire Roasted Tomato Gumbo – was named grand prize winner. Colombe used Florida tomatoes and infused them with a Louisiana twist, serving up a spicy and savoury approach to a classic soup.

The award-winning recipe draws on flavour derived from fire-roasting the tomatoes to intensify their taste, and then is ramped up with cayenne pepper and andouille sausage and fresh rosemary.

Colombe works at the Armstrong Inn, lives in Vernon, and is originally from the United States. He chose to study at Okanagan College because of its location and proximity to a great wine region. Though he considered studying in Napa, California, Okanagan College won out, not just for reasons of cost, but because there are great things happening in both industries here, and in the fusion between the two, said Colombe before his Okanagan College win.



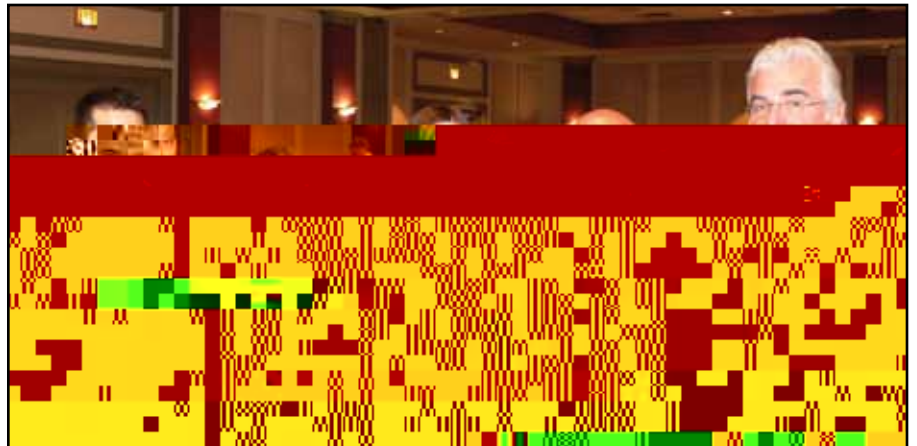
Okanagan College's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Okanagan broke new ground in the 2008-09 year through its participation in new environmental initiatives, select competition categories and by earning a place **among Canada's top three business schools in the national competition.**

In recognition of its rapid start-up success, SIFE Okanagan was invited to take part in the Walmart SIFE For the Greener Good Challenge Pilot Topic competition. Okanagan College was selected as one of only six student teams in the nation to compete and was the only college among competing university teams that included: the University of Toronto, Concordia University, Université Sainte-Anne, University of Calgary and Ryerson University. The team was selected based on its proven record of developing sustainable, effective programs that create impact in the community.

Matt Cosar, SIFE Okanagan; Sharon Shepherd, Mayor of Kelowna; Arnica Rowan, Okanagan School of Business; Weldon LeBlanc, CEO Kelowna Chamber of Commerce; and Norm LeCavalier, President Kelowna Chamber of Commerce at the 2009 Eco-Nomics Awards.

While preparing for the national competition, SIFE Okanagan was instrumental in delivering Kelowna's first Eco-Nomic Awards, which aim to recognize businesses and organizations that successfully operate with environmentally responsible practices. SIFE Okanagan partnered with the Kelowna Chamber of Commerce to organize and deliver the awards, which represented five different categories. The top winner from the inaugural 2009 Eco-Nomics awards was Summerhill Pyramid Winery.

After placing first in three categories at the Western Canada Regional SIFE competition, SIFE Okanagan finished third in three categories at the national competition. The team placed third in Entrepreneurship, Financial Literacy and Sustainability. The students' efforts were commended by judges and resulted in SIFE Okanagan's selection as **one of three post-secondary institutions in Canada invited to attend the International competition in October in Berlin, Germany.** The College team will participate in the Accelerator Training Program after being identified as an up-and-coming leader in entrepreneurialism ■



SIFE Okanagan's Mike Blonde, Brittany Sjoblom, Brant Jackson, Melissa Veregin and Rob Fulthorpe

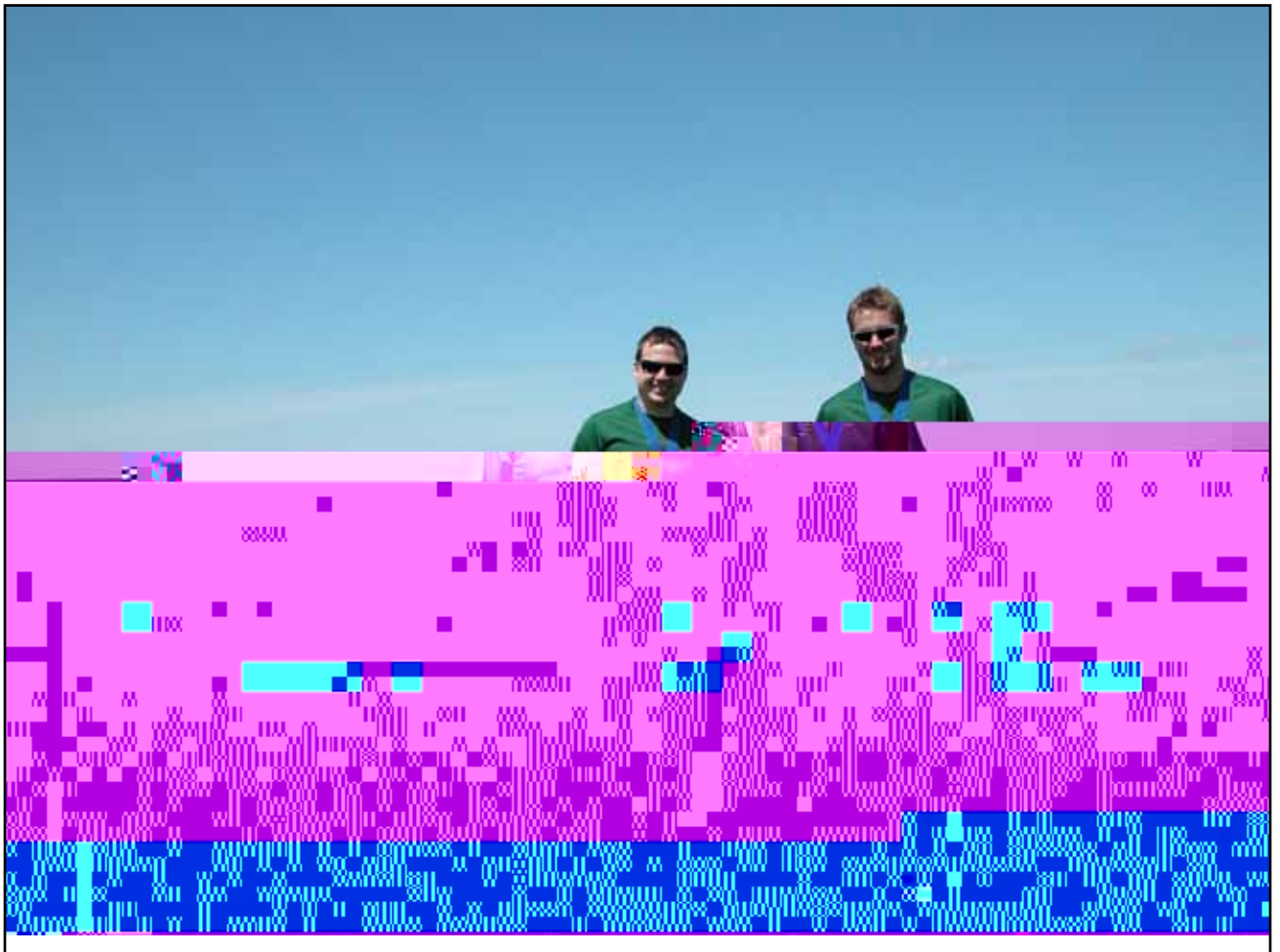
Seven Okanagan College students solidified their reputation as being among the best tradespersons and technologists in the province after putting forth medal-winning performances at the 15th annual BC Skills Canada Competition in April.

The College won three gold, two silver and two bronze medals in four different categories.

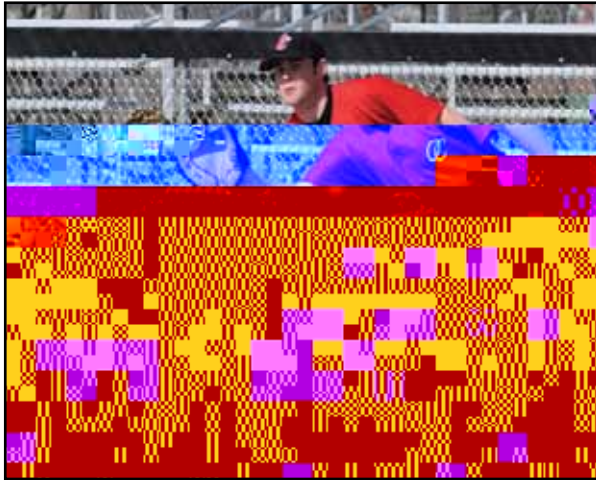
**Okanagan College apprentices swept the Automotive Service category with wins from: Andrew Goll (gold), Ryan Vlooswyk (silver) and Devon Kritsch (bronze).** In Automotive Collision Repair, students finished first and second with medals earned by: James Sawatzky (gold) and Oliver Teal (silver). Devon Hamilton won a bronze medal in the Carpentry division and Christy Hyde took the gold in IT PC Network Support.

Since it began competing in Automotive Collision Repair challenges at Skills competitions in 2000, Okanagan College has dominated the category, winning 13 provincial medals (nine gold, three silver and one bronze) and seven national medals (five gold, a silver and a bronze).

After winning their respective categories at the provincial level, Sawatzky, Goll and Hyde had the opportunity to represent team BC and join other gold medal finishers at the Canada Skills Competition in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, where they vied for national honours. Sawatzky and Goll both earned bronze medals at the Canada-wide competition. They were coached by instructors Jeff Francis and Jamie Bloomfield ■



Skills Canada bronze medal winners James Sawatzky (Automotive Collision Repair) and Andrew Goll (Automotive Service Technician)



Okanagan College students represented the institution on a new platform during the 2008-09 year when they formed the Okanagan College Baseball Team. The team, which plays in the Canadian College Baseball Conference (CCBC), was developed in the fall of 2008 after a partnership was struck between the Kelowna Baseball Society and Okanagan College. Once formed, the team participated in the fall exhibition season to sharpen its skills before competing in the regular spring season of 2009.

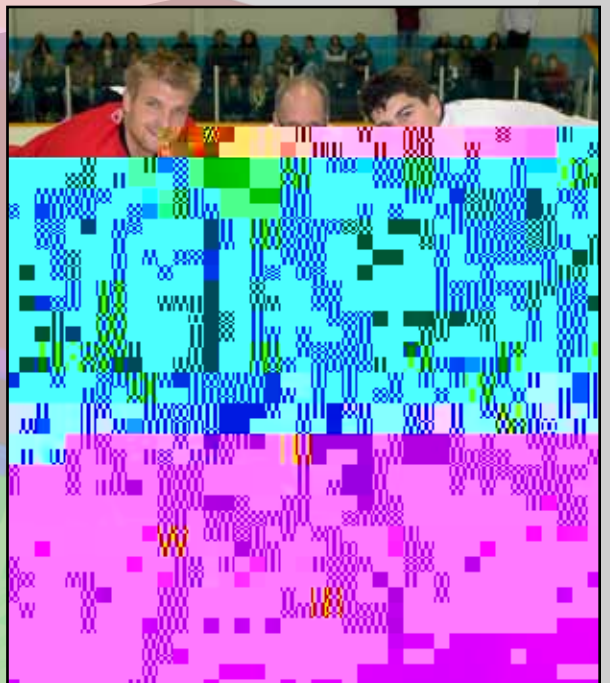
The CCBC is made up of teams from Thompson Rivers University, the University of Calgary, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Vancouver Island University and the Prairie Baseball Academy (which draws from both the University of Lethbridge and Lethbridge Community College).

Led by head coach Geoff White, the team finished first in its division. Coach White will be back for the 2009-10 regular season, which kicks off this fall. The team's schedule can be found online at:  
[www.okanagancollegebaseball.com](http://www.okanagancollegebaseball.com)

A recent development will see one more college sport added to Okanagan College's roster with the addition of the Okanagan College Crusaders hockey team. President Jim Hamilton met with directors of the Okanagan College Crusaders Hockey Association in September to sign an agreement that will include Okanagan College in the British Columbia Intercollegiate Hockey League (BCIHL).

The Crusaders will begin playing regular season games this October against competitors from six other teams in the BCIHL: Selkirk College, Simon Fraser University, Thompson Rivers University, Trinity Western University, the University of the Fraser Valley and the University of Victoria.

The team's directors include Okanagan College business students Kelly Loudoun (President) and Kolby Barnstable (Vice President). The team is coached by Kim Barnstable and Ryan Ryder and will play its home games at the Winfield Arena. To see the team's schedule and results visit:  
[www.okanagancrusaders.ca](http://www.okanagancrusaders.ca)



President Jim Hamilton dropped the puck at the Okanagan College Crusaders' first home game against the University of Victoria.

Quality of learning and teaching is a prime focus for Okanagan College. Amidst a year of tremendous growth and success, the College further distinguished itself as a learning organization with the development of the Institute for Leadership in Learning and Teaching (ILLT).

The ILLT is a peer-driven group of 11 Fellows that represent all departments of the College, and includes several Institute Liaisons, an Institute Coordinator and Director. The ILLT's primary vision is to encourage reflection, dialogue and the exploration of leadership in learning and teaching.

At Okanagan College there are many excellent examples of practices and activities that support learning and teaching. The Institute creates an opportunity to provide formal support to those activities.

The Institute will operate through an innovative peer-led approach devoted to helping new and veteran employees reflect on and enhance their learning and teaching practices.

Learning and teaching is at the heart of Okanagan College. The ILLT will shape and support a primary goal of the College, which is to be learning-centred. Unlike typical centres, the ILLT will be peer-driven, peer-led, and utilize the concept of communities of practice to develop a culture that encourages dialogue, builds trust, and supports collaboration among peers ■

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Okanagan College's dedication to internationalization has deep roots evidenced by anniversaries, new partnerships and opportunities for foreign and Canadian students.

In 2009, under the leadership of director Steve Robinson, Okanagan College celebrated the 20th anniversary of its partnership with Kyoto Tachibana University in Kyoto, Japan. Kyoto Tachibana University is Okanagan College's oldest international associate. Two decades of partnership have resulted in more than 400 students from Japan studying at the College's Vernon campus.

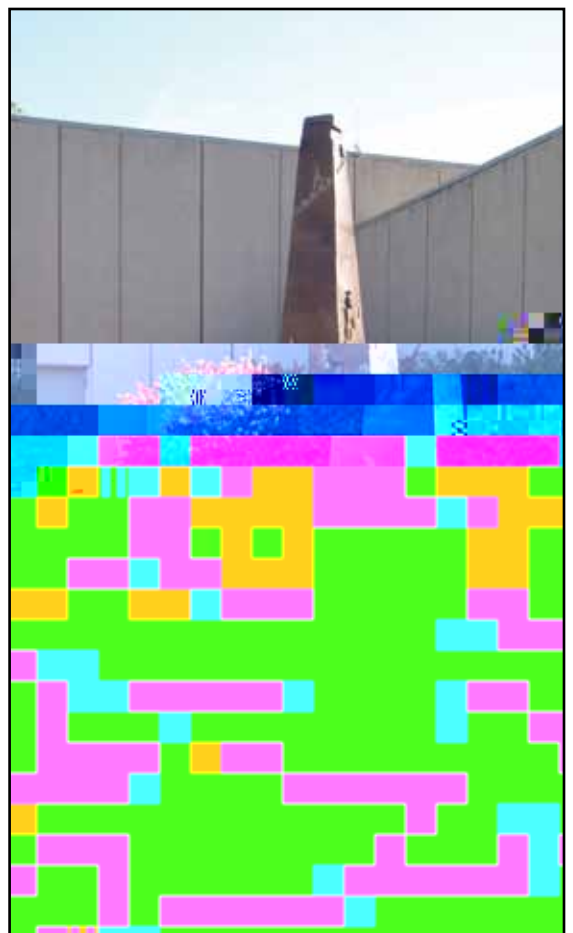
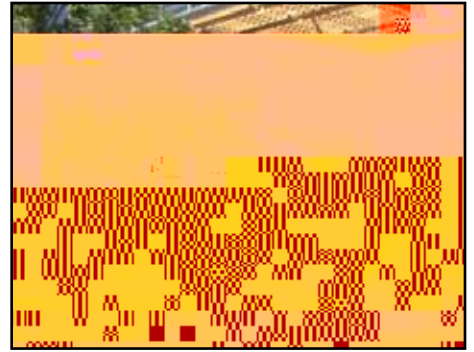
**The 2008-09 year also brought new partner school exchange agreements in Croatia, Korea, New Zealand, Spain, and Switzerland.** This year Okanagan College sent and welcomed more than 75 students who took part in the exchange program. Okanagan College is also a partner in a consortium of Canadian and European institutions that participate in a three-year student exchange program.

Currently, international enrolment includes more than 400 students from almost 40 countries. China continues to be the College's largest single source of international students with a full-time marketing representative now active in the region. This year International Education redesigned its regional marketing team to focus on the following regions: China and Southeast Asia, Japan and Korea, the Americas (including the Caribbean, Central and South America), the Middle East and India.

There has been growing interest in instructor training from institutions in China wishing to increase faculty knowledge of teaching in English as well as learning instructional skills. This year, International Education welcomed three groups of Chinese teachers for four to eight weeks.

With an emphasis on maintaining and building upon existing markets and partnerships and by strategically adding new markets, International Education expects to have continued growth in an ever competitive international marketplace ■

Okanagan College and Kyoto Tachibana University marked their anniversary with a commemorative sculpture, which was commissioned by Geert Maas. The sculpture is on display at the Vernon campus. An identical sculpture will reside at Kyoto Tachibana University; it will be unveiled by President Jim Hamilton and Chairman Yutaka Umemoto in Japan in October.







A unique community partnership was brought to

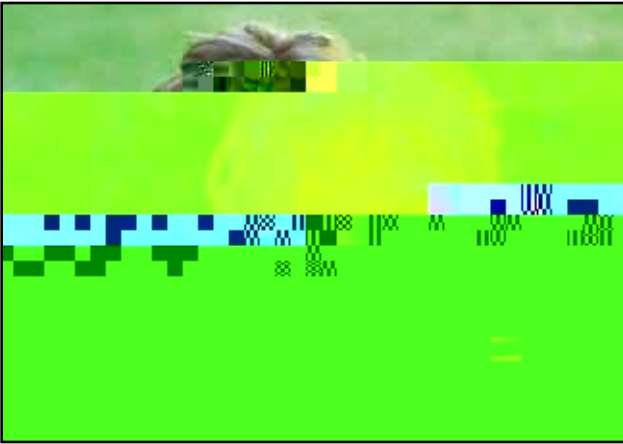
**We need to do everything in our power to help students clarify and achieve their career passions.**



Okanagan School of Business professor Cathy Fitzgerald was recognized by the BC Human Resources Management Association (BC HRMA) as a finalist for the 2009 Award of Excellence as HR Professional of the Year. **Cathy's nomination marked the first time a professor from a post-secondary institution was selected as a finalist.**

In the words of her nominator, business student Jennifer McKenzie, "Cathy Fitzgerald is an HR professional that epitomizes quality HR teaching, leadership, and

guidance. She demonstrates highly effective leadership skills in each of her classrooms, in her interactions with her colleagues and peers, and through her involvement in our community. Many students in our business program regard Cathy as the 'HR guru,' and her willingness to provide guidance and support to each student is unparalleled. Cathy inspires students to reach their potential, and to understand the positive attributes of their particular talents. She helps others see the light in themselves." ■



I love words. Finding the right one is fly-swattingly satisfying.

## Alix Hawley

Okanagan College English professor Alix Hawley was one of several Okanagan College staff who published books during the 2008-09 year. *The Old Familiar* is a collection of Alix's short fiction, and was published by Thistledown Press.

**The Old Familiar received critical acclaim in the *Globe and Mail*** when reviewer Shelley A. Leedhal wrote "I love the fact that it's a debut book. I love that the acknowledgements page does not pretentiously list literary journals these stories have appeared in. And I especially love the words within. 'Genius' is a word I hesitate to use in a review: Hawley's work requires it...Great fiction changes us. Read Alix Hawley. Lighting, or something like it, strikes." ■



## Marc Arellano

The 2008-09 year was a good one for Communications professor Marc Arellano, whose eight-minute documentary **kə nā dē ən** was recognized at international and local film competitions. The film, which is an exploration of identity and how it plays out for a man from Bolivia (Marc's father) and a woman from Quebec (his mother), was a top-10 finalist in CBC/RCI's international competition, Migrations.

**kə nā dē ən** was also nominated for the Best Home Grown Film in the Okanagan Film Festival and was screened at the Paramount Theatre in Kelowna in April. The film went on to screen at many cinemas around the country in 2009.

Marc blended digital video interviews with his parents with material taken from old home movies to create the story that charts the family from his parents' honeymoon in the Laurentians to now. He explained that while the film focuses on his family, it addresses the larger issue of identity construction; his story is a metaphor for our larger Canadian family ■

Storytelling is at the heart of being human, so film and video are expressions of how we are and who we are in the world.



After leading a team of Okanagan School of Business students to the final round of the National Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) competition, Dr. Kyleen Myrah was honoured by the SIFE organization with **a national award recognizing her contribution to her students, Okanagan College and the advancement of entrepreneurship in Canada.** Kyleen was named the 2009 John Dobson ACE Fellow of the Year, which recognizes the top Faculty Advisor, as nominated by the students.

Earlier in the year Kyleen also received the Executive Certified Management Accountant (CMA) Top Talent Award. She earned her CMA designation and received the award after being awarded the highest total aggregate mark in year two of the executive program. The award recognizes academic success and demonstrated leadership. Kyleen is one of 11 colleagues with doctorate degrees in the Okanagan School of Business ■

During the winter break, while many were on vacation, Mike Craig, Okanagan College's Recreation and Student Life Coordinator, joined his father Dan to help make history in Chicago. The Craigs were responsible for building the ice surface for the 2009 NHL Classic, which took place on Jan. 1 at Wrigley Field in Chicago in front of 41,000 people and millions who tuned in to watch on television.

Mike, a former college hockey player, grew up watching his dad build the ice for the Edmonton Oilers. Known in the industry as the ice gurus, Mike and Dan have built surfaces for NHL teams, Stanley Cup Finals and even the 2006 Olympic Games in Torino, Italy.

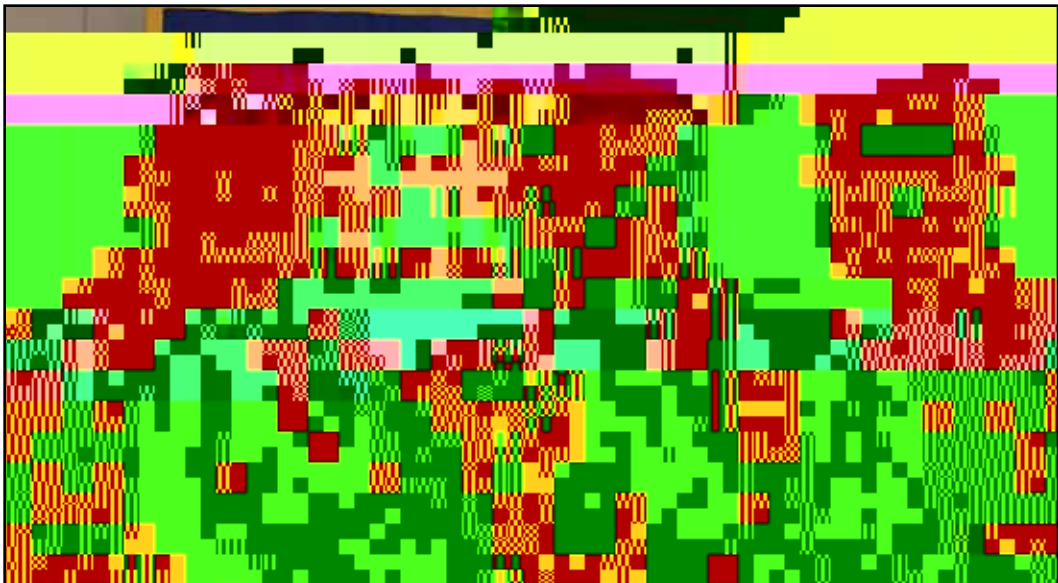
Mike and his father worked long hours in the late days of December with a 10-person team to lay the ice for the outdoor classic game. According to Mike it was time well spent. Not only was the surface perfect, the experience of working with his dad made it all the more memorable.





The Okanagan College Foundation did much to further its mission of supporting student learning through the raising of funds for programs and capital projects during the course of the 2008-09 year. While other institutions were cutting their grants and scholarships as a result of economic woes, the Okanagan College Foundation was growing its commitment to student support.

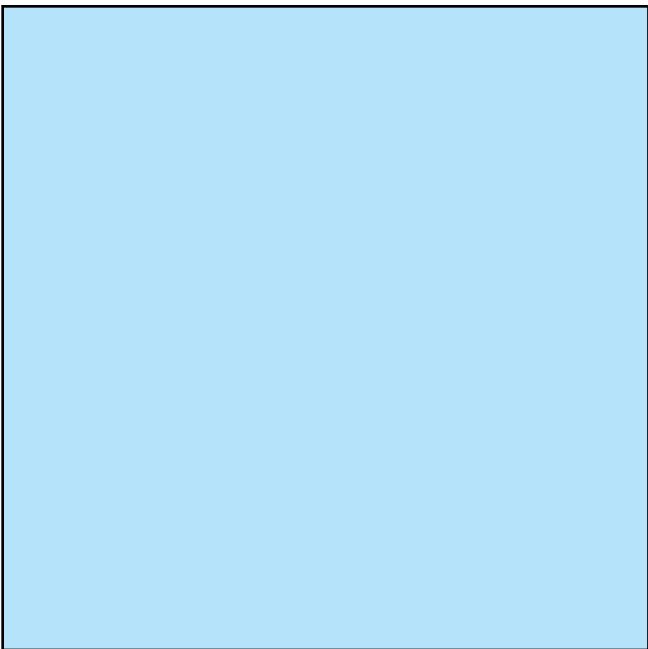
Among the Foundation's highlights was



Ron and Priscilla Russell are building their legacy as Okanagan College Foundation donors. "We are motivated to support Okanagan College because we realize that Canada is going to have a desperate shortage of skilled workers, especially in the trades and an equal need for well-trained nurses and entrepreneurs in business."



| Category   | Value | Percentage |
|------------|-------|------------|
| Other      | 50.2  | 59.8%      |
| Accounting | 17.8  | 21.1%      |
| Marketing  | 7.6   | 9.1%       |
| Finance    | 5.5   | 6.6%       |
| Operations | 2.8   | 3.4%       |
| Total      | 83.9  | 100%       |



**Okanagan College  
Board of Governors**

Janet Shaw, Chair

