

Great teaching • Great programs • Great future

# Bring out the amazing in you!

At Capilano College our mission is to enable student success



## Working together for an amazing future

This year, Capilano College is celebrating amazing people, amazing places and amazing programs. We are fortunate in the Howe Sound Corridor to live, work, play and learn in one of the most amazing places in the world, and our future has never looked brighter.

Over the past year, we have increased our efforts to help meet the enormous labour and market demand for skilled workers. Our involvement in the communities we serve is diverse and ranges from providing basic literacy programs to university transfer courses to hosting the BC Centre for Tourism Leadership and Innovation. We have continued to develop and expand our offerings in a range of areas, including adult basic education, tourism, outdoor recreation, business and professional studies, health and education, and arts and sciences. Watch for our program guide coming in May that will offer a detailed description of all our courses and programs.

We've been your community college for almost 40 years and we remain firmly committed to ensuring that your training needs are fully met well beyond the next 40. While our communities evolve, the programs we deliver and the way we deliver them is also evolving. We will continue to work hard to make our student experience different, distinctive, innovative and relevant to help bring out the amazing in you.

Casey Dorin  
Dean, Howe Sound and Tourism programs

## Adventure is a way of life for this Squamish couple

**Roslyn Semjanovs** and **Alex Bertolini** moved to Squamish from Yellowknife, N.W.T. four years ago to hone their skills in Capilano College's Wilderness Leadership program. What they didn't expect to do was fall in love with the area's immense natural beauty and settle there permanently.

The recently married couple just purchased a condo in the community that is located about halfway between Vancouver and Whistler. They say the 20-week WLP gave them a real appreciation of local geography and history.

"It exposed us to everything," Roslyn says, "from river rafting to rock climbing."

Since graduating from the College program in 2003, Alex has spent the past two summers working as a deckhand for Charlotte Queen Adventures in the Queen Charlotte Islands. During the winter he works as a member of the grounds crew for Garibaldi Springs Golf Resort. Roslyn teaches snowboarding and works part-time at the Squamish Recreation Centre. She says the best part of her job is the people she meets.

"We're bringing new activities and new experiences to them, and we watch as they overcome issues or change their lifestyle," she explains.

**Casey Dorin**, dean of Howe Sound and Tourism programs, says that Capilano College is hoping to launch an advanced diploma in outdoor recreation in the next 12 months.

"It's a nice complement to the array of courses that we already offer, such as Wilderness Leadership," he says. "Squamish really is the outdoor recreation capital of Canada."

For more information on the Wilderness Leadership program, visit [www.capcollege.bc.ca/programs/wilderness](http://www.capcollege.bc.ca/programs/wilderness), e-mail [wlp@capcollege.bc.ca](mailto:wlp@capcollege.bc.ca), or call **604.892.5322**.



Roslyn Semjanovs and Alex Bertolini show their adventurous spirits on a trip to the Himalayas.



Hamish Stuart, a recent graduate from Capilano College's Tourism Event Management program, loves to snowmobile in the Whistler area.

## Tourism program set the stage for dream job

Immediately upon graduating last December from Capilano College's Tourism Event Management program, **Hamish Stuart** landed his dream job. As the production coordinator for Watermark Communications in Whistler, his very first task out of college was to help plan Whistler's First Night celebration on New Year's Eve.

The avid snowboarder and snowmobiler now works on other outdoor events, such as the Telus World Ski & Snowboard Festival.

Hamish worked as a tour guide before taking the Capilano College program, but he says his goal was always to find employment doing exactly what he does now.

"I really was inspired by the Telus World Ski and Snowboard Festival," he says, "but I never actually thought I would get a job working on it."

Hamish adds that the 11-month part-time TEM certificate program gave him the confidence and experience to keep on top of the myriad of small details that come with each event.

"It offered a great overview of the entire industry," he explains. "I found the instructors to be absolutely top notch and very experienced."

For more information on the Tourism Event Management program, visit [www.capcollege.bc.ca/programs/squamish/tourism-event](http://www.capcollege.bc.ca/programs/squamish/tourism-event), or call **604.892.5322**.



Destination Resort Management instructor, Stephanie Wells, loves working with students who are passionate about the tourism industry.

## Business and education are focal points

**Stephanie Wells** proudly admits that the first students to graduate from Capilano College's Destination Resort Management Co-op program last December can work anywhere.

"They have acquired the skills to work in a fishing resort in the Queen Charlottes or in a luxury destination, such as Dubai," she explains. "As part of the 16-month co-op program, our students have already earned 500 paid hours of experience in the industry."

Stephanie, who is both the program manager and an instructor, says that some students have gone on to finish their degree in tourism while others are choosing to start their own business.

"What I love about my job is that I get to work with students who are passionate about the tourism industry," she says.

Typical of the instructors in the program, Stephanie has a background in resort management, including a stint at Walt Disney World, Tourism Whistler and the Whistler Chamber of Commerce. She recently joined the board of the Squamish Chamber of Commerce and says it was important for her to see that business and education remain a focus for the area.

For more information on the Destination Resort Management Co-op program, visit [www.capcollege.bc.ca/squamish](http://www.capcollege.bc.ca/squamish), e-mail [drmc-co-op@capcollege.bc.ca](mailto:drmc-co-op@capcollege.bc.ca), or call **604.892.5322**.



The Squamish campus office team includes, from left to right: Inge Oord, Carolyn Grass, Gina Jenkins and Tammy MacDonald.

## Keep on learning

When **Inge Oord** recently celebrated a milestone birthday, she was both surprised and delighted when her students arrived at school with presents and a cake. After 16 years working as both a faculty member and administrator at Capilano College's Squamish campus, it's obvious that Inge has become more than just a popular figure.

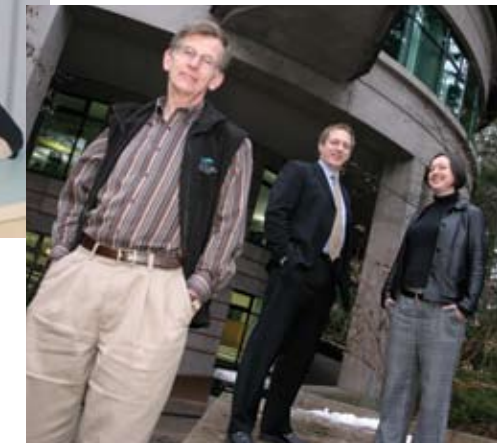
"Inge is the face of the College," says Capilano College dean, **Casey Dorin**. "She really puts her heart and soul into making each and every student encounter an amazing experience."

Originally from Germany, Inge graduated in the late 1980s from Capilano College with a certificate in Advanced Business Administration. She has taught a variety of technology-related courses at the College and is currently the campus supervisor, overseeing day-to-day operations. However, she still loves to teach Adult Basic Education courses.

"You know what moment I find really rewarding?" she asks. "It's at the end of term when the students come up to me and say that their experience here made a difference to them and that they are no longer afraid of computers."

That interaction with the students, Inge says, is the best part of her job.

When asked what is the best advice she can offer them, Inge says confidently: "Keep on learning!"



Terry Hood (left), Tim Schoahs and Morgan Geisler work with post-secondary institutions across the province to help create innovative tourism programs.

## Making great connections

"British Columbia is working to double tourism revenues by 2015," says **Terry Hood**, general manager for the BC Centre for Tourism Leadership and Innovation (BCTLI). Terry, along with his two colleagues at the Centre, **Tim Schoahs** and **Morgan Geisler**, are helping to make this goal a reality through their work with the 18 educational institutions that offer tourism programs in B.C. and the Yukon.

"We encourage collaboration amongst these education partners on innovative tourism programming that varies from provincial post-secondary schools may not otherwise be able to accomplish on their own," Terry explains.

One such example is the recent partnership between Capilano College and Selkirk College in Nelson, B.C. The two have signed an agreement that will see the sharing of expertise and new program development in such areas as ski and golf operations, heritage interpretation and Aboriginal tourism. Capilano College also serves as the Centre's provincial host institution.

Another innovative initiative fostered by the BCTLI is a student consulting pilot project that will place tourism management grads with local employers to work on real-world business challenges.

"This will offer a great kick start for very capable graduates wanting to take the next step in their tourism careers," Terry says.

For more information on the BCTLI, or to view its new Tourism Online Resource Centre, visit [www.bctli.ca](http://www.bctli.ca), e-mail [info@bctli.ca](mailto:info@bctli.ca), or call **604.815.4997**.



Learning destination committee members are, standing from left to right: Catherine Rockandel, Rockandel Consultants; Nicole Carothers, Community Futures Development Corp.; Casey Dorin, Capilano College; Cathy Jenkins, North Vancouver Outdoor School; Dan McRae, Squamish Sustainability Corp.; Toran Savjord, Quest University; Sonja Lebas; Tim Schoahs, BCTLI; Lesley Weeks, Squamish Sustainability Corp. Kneeling in front (left), Larry Murray, Oceanfront Development Corp. and Terry Hood, BCTLI.

## Sea-to-sky route to learning

Capilano College and Community Futures Development Corporation are working closely with a number of regional partners to develop a vibrant and dynamic learning destination strategy.

"Squamish is a community in transition and destination learning is a great economic generator," says **Casey Dorin**, Capilano College dean of Howe Sound and Tourism programs. "It's friendly to the environment, it's sustainable, it will bring people to the region, and it's based on all the positive elements that a knowledge economy can bring."

Western Economic Diversification is funding the Sea-to-Sky Route to Learning project, which is bringing together stakeholders from local learning institutions, as well as from the business, arts, cultural, First Nations and tourism sectors.

"Our long-term goal is to position the Corridor as *the* place to learn," Casey says, "whether it's through a rock-climbing course, a professional development opportunity, arts and cultural getaway, or a full-time academic program, to name just a few."



Realtor and Capilano College business grad, Natalie Pereman, likes to stay involved in the Squamish community.

## From publishing to real estate

Ten years after graduating from Capilano College with a diploma in Business Administration, Squamish resident, **Natalie Pereman**, is thriving in her career as a real estate agent.

"Being a realtor fits in perfectly with my love of meeting new people," she says.

Immediately after graduating from college, the then-19-year-old started a regional visitor magazine in the Howe Sound Corridor called *99 North*. Natalie ran her publication for eight years before selling it to Canada Wide Media.

"I was pretty young and naive," she laughs. "If I had known more about the magazine publishing industry, I probably wouldn't have started the venture in the first place."

Born and raised in Squamish, Natalie stays involved in her community. A former ski racer, the natural entrepreneur volunteers for a variety of ski events. In 2000, the Squamish Chamber of Commerce named her Business Person of the Year. She credits her instructors at Capilano College for much of her success.

"I had really great teachers," says the new mom, "and they played a big role in what I decided to do after school."

For more information on the Capilano College School of Business, visit [www.capcollege.bc.ca/business](http://www.capcollege.bc.ca/business), or call **604.984.4960**.