

# College of New Caledonia



## NEWS RELEASE

*For release on March 30, 2011*

### **Advanced Education Minister visits CNC**

Advanced Education Minister Naomi Yamamoto met with CNC president John Bowman, members of the Students Union, College Board of Governors and others during a visit to the Prince George campus Tuesday morning, where she was given an overview of the College's future plans and priorities.

"The students are really lucky to have this investment in their education," Yamamoto said after touring the construction site of the \$19.7-million Technical Education Centre. "I love the college system because it's responsive and relevant to the community. CNC has seen what the community needs and fulfilled its needs for education and job training."

Yamamoto was appointed Advanced Education Minister on March 14 as part of Premier Christy Clark's first cabinet. Yamamoto was elected as MLA for North Vancouver-Lonsdale in 2009. She previously served as Minister of State for Building Code Renewal and Minister of State for Intergovernmental Relations.

Prior to visiting CNC Tuesday, she also toured Northern Lights College in northeastern B.C. and Northwest Community College in northwestern B.C.

CNC president John Bowman said he was impressed that Minister Yamamoto showed such a keen interest in the northern community colleges. "The fact she visited our campuses during her first two weeks in office signals how important post-secondary education is in northern B.C.," he said. "I'm impressed by her interest and enthusiasm."

Prior to becoming a member of the B.C. Liberal government, Yamamoto was the president and owner of Tora Design Group in North Vancouver for 21 years. Working with the business community, she served as president and general manager of the North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce. Yamamoto served on the board of the North Shore Credit Union, Capilano College and Vancouver Coastal Health Authority.

#### ***More information:***

Randall Heidt  
CNC Director of Communications  
and Development  
250-561-5869, Cell: 250-640-6161

John Bowman  
CNC President  
250-561-5825