

NEWS RELEASE

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Enrolments Up at NIC

North Island College's Board of Governors met on Wednesday, January 26th, at which time members were presented with the college's stable enrolment report for Fall and Winter 2010/2011. The Board was informed that registrations had increased 5% (or 477 registrations) over the same period last year.

The strongest growth occurred in Business and University Transfer Arts and Sciences with an increase of 702 registrations year-over-year (or 10%). As Lisa Domae, Vice President, Student and Educational Services and Planning explained, "It appears that much of this growth is attributable to an increase in local High School students transitioning directly to North Island College."

There was some decline in demand for trades and apprenticeship programs which typically mirrors current economic conditions. There was also a slight drop in adult upgrading enrolments, while health and human services programming remained essentially the same as in the prior year.

All campuses experienced higher enrolment growth, with the exception of Campbell River. However, Domae noted that this was to be expected as Campbell River houses the majority of the college's trades and apprenticeship offerings.

The Board also heard that construction of the Trades Training Centre on the Comox Valley campus is complete and the college's first Carpentry apprenticeship students were welcomed on January 4th. The current intakes of carpentry apprenticeship, carpentry foundation and plumbing foundation offered in the new facility are full, with wait lists already in place for future offerings.

NIC's President Dr. Jan Lindsay noted that this is extremely positive news and speaks to the pent-up demand for carpentry training within the NIC region. Apprentices no longer have to travel south for their training.

A Grand Opening of the Trades Centre will take place on Friday, February 25th, beginning at 11 am. The public is invited to attend the Opening and tour the facility afterwards.

For further information on North Island College, its programs and services, please visit www.nic.bc.ca.

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Media Contact:

Susan Auchterlonie
Director, College & Community Relations
North Island College
tel 250-334-5271
cel 250-898-4146
susan.auchterlonie@nic.bc.ca