

## A Message from the President



This coming Fall marks the tenth anniversary of UNBC's full opening. In August 1994, The Queen opened the Prince George campus and, a month later, 1400 students began courses in Prince George and at teaching centres around

northern BC. Over the past decade, thousands of students have taken courses, graduated with degrees, and are now living and working in northern BC.

This Spring, I joined with the presidents of all three northern BC community colleges to author a report on the link between northern development and post-secondary education. The evidence is compelling and illustrates how further investment in education is key to job creation and enhancing the quality of life in our communities. A prime example is the new Northern Medical Program, which will start this fall and train physicians for practice in northern and rural communities. Being an integral part of the North goes beyond training, however. It also includes research dissemination and other forms of community service. You can read our report online at [www.unbc.ca/reports](http://www.unbc.ca/reports), or contact one of UNBC's campuses to request a copy.

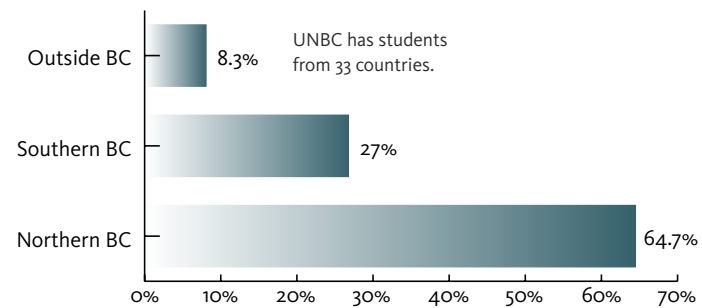
I encourage you to congratulate the students from your area who have graduated or received scholarships or bursaries. They're each an important part of making UNBC relevant to individuals and communities throughout the North.

Dr Charles Jago,  
President, UNBC

## In the North, for the North: 1994-2004

Since the late 1980s, when the concept for UNBC was first taking shape, the number of northern BC high school grads going to university has nearly tripled. Today, about 15% of them go to university, with the majority choosing to attend UNBC. In fact, the University's location and the fact that it's close to home is the biggest single reason students choose to attend UNBC. Other important factors are UNBC's small classes and quality programs. They're all attributes that contributed to UNBC's best-ever showing in the Maclean's magazine ranking of Canadian universities in 2003, placing 7th in its category.

### Where do UNBC students come from?



- UNBC awarded nearly \$1.4 million in scholarships and bursaries in 2003/04
- Nearly 700 of UNBC's graduates are from northern BC communities outside of Prince George. About two-thirds of UNBC alumni live and work in the North after graduation.

For more information about UNBC's successes over the last 10 years, check out the spring 2004 version of UPDATE magazine, at:

[www.unbc.ca/update](http://www.unbc.ca/update)

### Prince George Campus

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Canada V2N 4Z9  
Phone: (250) 960-5555

[www.unbc.ca](http://www.unbc.ca)

### Northwest Campus

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Terrace, BC V8G 1W2  
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Toll free: (800) 697-7388  
Email: [nw-info@unbc.ca](mailto:nw-info@unbc.ca)

[www.unbc.ca/regops/nw](http://www.unbc.ca/regops/nw)

### South-Central Campus

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### Peace River-Liard Campus

9820 - 120th Avenue  
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[www.unbc.ca/regops/prl](http://www.unbc.ca/regops/prl)

# Nechako Valley & Lakes District

## Grad 2004

Celebrating UNBC Students  
from BC's Northern  
Communities



## 2004 Grads

### Vanderhoof

**Jennifer Embree**  
BSN Nursing

**Vera Lindsay**  
BSc Geography

**Alissha O'Leary**  
BSc Biology

**Jacqueline Reed**  
BA English

### Fort St James

**Brandi Stainton**  
BSc Psychology

**Deborah Iwasiw**  
BSc Psychology

### Fraser Lake

**Crystal Franks**  
BComm Accounting

**Lisa Ketlo**  
MEd Educational  
Counselling

### Burns Lake

**Kami Griffin**  
BSN Nursing

**Judy Lundy**  
BSc Biology

**Leona Prince**  
BSc Biology

**Daniel Rollert**  
BSc Natural Resources  
Management - Forestry

**Airi Schroff**  
BSc Natural Resources  
Management - Forestry

**Elisa Shane**  
BSW Child Welfare

**Tyler Shane**  
BSc Psychology

**Julie White**  
BSN Nursing

### Francois Lake

**Shirley Wilson**  
Certificate in First Nations  
Public Administration

## Award Recipients

### Vanderhoof

**Carolynne Burkholder**  
UNBC Bursary

**Laura Burkholder**  
Dr. Alvin and Mrs. Janie  
Mooney Scholarship

**Toni Carlton**  
Doug Floyd Memorial  
Scholarship for Graduates  
and UNBC Graduate  
Scholarship

**Jennifer Embree**  
Jane Layhew Nursing  
Bursary

**Shelley Funk**  
UNBC Bursary

**Kami Griffin**  
Auxiliary to the PGRH  
Scholarship

**Brendan Irvine**  
UNBC Bursary

**Kristen Klassen**  
Auxiliary to the PGRH  
Bursary and Nancy Anne  
Tarrant Memorial Bursary

**Nicholas Plett**  
Raven Bursary

**Erin Randle**  
Vanderhoof Community  
Scholarship

**Jaclyn Silver**  
UNBC Merit Award

**Ken Silver**  
Shaw Cablesystems G.P.  
Bursary

**Raymond Thibeault**  
Heather Sadler Jenkins  
Annual Scholarship and  
UNBC Scholars Award

**Alayna van Leeuwen**  
William Dow Ferry  
Scholarship - renewed

**Timothy Woolnough**  
UNBC Scholars Award

### Fraser Lake

**Crystal Franks**  
UNBC Bursary

**Amanda Starnes**  
UNBC Scholars Award

### Fort St James

**Kelly MacGillivray**  
Fort St. James Scholarship

**Erin Short**  
UNBC Scholars Award

**Marci Thomas**  
Simons Foundation Bursary

**Rebecca Walsh**  
UNBC Scholars Award

## Research Looks at the Spread of the Pine Beetle

Our warmer winters appear to be the biggest culprit in the spread of the mountain pine beetle, but other factors are contributing to the rapid spread of the pest. UNBC atmospheric science specialist Peter Jackson and a number of students are using the University's million-dollar high-performance computing system to build three-dimensional atmospheric models that will predict the winds that transport mountain pine beetles across the landscape. The research is focusing on BC's central interior and is being funded by the Federal Mountain Pine Beetle Initiative.



Aboriginal Health Sciences field trip near Nautley

## New Program Starts Locally ▲

A new UNBC program in Aboriginal Health Sciences – the first program of its kind in Canada – has been offered in the Nechako Valley for the first time anywhere. The courses cover aboriginal medicines and First Nations' perspectives on health and wellness, and are taught by UNBC professors and local healers/elders. 12 students have been part of the first cohort and courses have included in-class lectures and field trips on the harvesting and preservation of medicinal plants. The Aboriginal Health Sciences Program includes both a certificate and a diploma and is designed to train students in culturally sensitive health and wellness strategies, while opening the door to future education in other health professions, such as nursing or medicine.

Interested in studying at UNBC?  
Browse courses online at:  
[www.unbc.ca/courses](http://www.unbc.ca/courses)



Jacqueline Reed

Crystal Franks and Lisa Ketlo

Jennifer Embree

# CONGRATULATIONS GRADS!

This year's grads are a big part of UNBC history. 2004 marks UNBC's 10th Anniversary – one decade since Queen Elizabeth II officially opened the university.



UNBC student David Nordstokke

## Face the Facts ▲

Grad student David Nordstokke of Vanderhoof is part of a unique research project at UNBC that is determining how facial expressions are an indicator of pain. As faces can say a lot about how people are feeling, David's research will be valuable to doctors and nurses in clinical settings. David, who is pursuing a Master of Psychology degree, has received funding for his project from the prestigious Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research.

## Picking Northern Doctors

Growing up in Fort St James, Don Voaklander couldn't have predicted that, one day, he would help design a new system for selecting medical students that would factor in their suitability for rural practice. Don, a Director of UNBC's Rural and Remote Health Research Institute, is a member of the admissions team for BC's expanded medical school, which includes the new Northern Medical Program. This year, the application process for medical students includes written and verbal questions that are designed to rate how well applicants would be suited for medical practice in rural communities – unique among Canadian medical schools. For example, the questions probe their experience in small towns, recreational interests, and their self-reliance.

## Forest Field Tour

Burns Lake will host the annual Silviculture Summer Field Tour, which is coordinated by UNBC Continuing Studies in a different northern BC community each year. The Burns Lake session, held June 15-16, will attract about 100 participants who will learn about mountain pine beetle management, forest health, seed supply and genetics, and wildlife issues. UNBC faculty and students will present the course content with support from the Lakes District Forest Service, Babine Forest Products, and Fraser Lake Sawmills.

## The Future of Forest Management ▶

UNBC is working with the Tl'azt'en Nation on a major 5-year study that will provide information on how First Nations can be more involved in resource management decision-making. Based at the John Prince Research Forest, the study will explore how co-management partnerships can work, how traditional knowledge can inform resource management, how tourism opportunities can be developed, and how educational programs for youth can more effectively link western science with traditional knowledge. The John Prince Research Forest is one of North America's biggest research forests and the only one jointly managed by a university and a First Nation.



Researchers Gail Fondahl (left) and Sue Grainger (right) with Tl'azt'en Chief Thomas Alexis