

# WHAT'S UP!



WINTER 2010

SELKIRK COLLEGE  
CASTLEGAR  
B.C., CANADA



# Editor's Page

First of all, we thank **Shana** for all the time she invested in this class. Without her support and all the effort she put in this project this newspaper would never look the way it looks now.

Furthermore, we want to thank every single student from the newspaper class for their contribution and their

effort they put into this project. Thanks for writing all these different articles and sharing your experiences and pictures with everyone else.

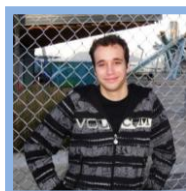


A special thank you goes to **Ray** for designing an amazing cover for this newspaper and **Kenny** for assisting. Additionally, we want to thank **Haruka, Sonia, Gaz** and **Tomona** for collecting the information and taking pictures for the individual pages and putting them together. Moreover, we thank **Kaoru, Saki, Megumi, Yu, Misato** and **Tomoko** for their support and articles they wrote during the five weeks they were at Selkirk College. Then, we thank **Marion, Shota, Edwin**, the **Satomi's, Echo, Maria, Aruélie, Zhang** and the **Nanjing Students in China and Alumni friends** for contributing articles even though they were not in the newspaper class. Next, we thank **Mathieu** for putting together the pictures for the CD. We also want to thank **Sally, Martin** and **Thomas** for writing so many articles. Finally, we want to thank **Bastien** (yes, he did work this time) and **Sho** for helping us with all the work on the work night and helping us finishing editing the newspaper on time.

Even though we really enjoyed working at this project, we are also glad that it is finished now as it was a lot of hard work and sometimes it also needed a lot of patience. However, it was great to be put in a situation where we had to organise students with different cultural backgrounds and very different English levels. We hope that everyone in this class enjoyed it as much as we did and that you are all having fun looking at the end result now.

Enjoy reading!

**Maxime** and **Petra**, General Editors





# Intermediated/Advanced Classes Grammar

## Communication



## Writing



## Reading







# Advanced Classes

## Media Reading



## TREC



## Grammar



## Advanced Skills Level 6



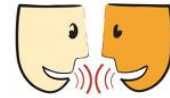




# Enjoy Your Communication Class

Communication class is a great opportunity to practice English and to make friends. This semester we had two main communication classes –

intermediate/ advanced and business communications.



## Business

### Communications—By Sally Sha

Robin was our helpful communication class teacher. Her class always had a thoroughly relaxed and active atmosphere and the students could learn a lot. There were sixteen brilliant and excellent students in this class and they joined every program that Robin designed. The students always gave their best and they liked their communication class very much.

Robin started this class with some yellow hand-outs and we had to choose the answer of each question, so we could find out what kind of personality we are. The class taught us a lot about ourselves. After this personality test, she put us in groups according to our results. The next class all the students got a piece of paper with a description of the kind of person we are, and what kind of job may suit us. We discussed what kind of job would want to have in the future and we ended this topic with a reflection paper. We wrote about what we learned about ourselves, and what we will do in the future to work on our weaknesses. We also had to explain about communicating with people from other cultures and the most common communication style in our own country. Students all did a great job in this class and everyone quite enjoyed it.

Robin started this class with some yellow hand-outs and we had to choose the



Then we started with other business topics. The most impressive activity was that each group created their own unique company. We had "World of Wonder" (Travel Agency), "MKDH Inc." (Shampoo Company), "No Limit Technology" (Selling a special machine to solve conflicts in a peaceful and easy way), and "Goute Laune" (Restaurant and Club). The ideas for these new companies were very creative, and each member had their own job in the company. Each group introduced their companies, their product or service, and their job opening. After the presentation, all the students applied for a job they wanted. Robin taught us the basic rules about interviews in Canada and how to write professional resumes and cover letters for the company you



want to apply to. Although for some students, it was the first time to write a resume and a cover letter, they did a good job. The interviews came next. The students prepared for their interview and thought about questions they might be asked and also about questions to ask. At the interview day, some students dressed up to look more professional so they maybe had better chances to get the job which they applied for. Through the whole progress, one of the most challenging parts was to decide who to hire. The last part was to write an acceptance or a rejection letter for all the applicants to tell them whether they were hired or not, that wasn't easy. Employers had to have enough reasons to reject someone and write these reasons in the letters in a respectful and encouraging way. Everyone was interested in and enjoyed going through a real hiring process.



For the final exam which was an oral presentation, everybody had to create a new imaginary product and sell it with the help of a PowerPoint in front of the class. To prepare for this oral presentation we also had to assist at least 3 business program presentations and take notes.

In Robin's class all the students were happy and cheerful. It was not only a class that taught us how to communicate with people in business, but also a good chance for us to learn about ourselves and present ourselves.

*By Edwin Perez*

For the **intermediate/advanced communication** class we meet two times a week. For some days of the class we invited Canadians to visit the class, so we have conversation together. On some Wednesdays we have two more hours of class in the morning from 10:00 o'clock to 12:00 o'clock. The teacher, Joan, has many ways of teaching communication activities and encouraging us to speak quickly and spontaneously. One of them is that she has a ball and she throws the ball to someone and she asks a question, after that person has to throw the ball to someone and ask different question. There are many fun activities that help us build up our confidence and language skills through listening and speaking activities.



Also we had to do a presentation in the beginning of each new unit. Some of these were short group projects and others were much bigger. One of the fun presentations was that we had to make a TV Show and give good news about something. Joan separated the students in two groups and each group had to decide the programs and new items for their TV Show and also they have to give four different news stories.

In my opinion I think that communication is good class at Selkirk because every student has a chance to talk and improve their English.



# Rotating Seminars



# Volunteer



# Global Cooking



# English 051



# Newspaper



# Leadership



# Volunteer-Internship

By Martin Cloutier

For most of the students, volunteer means to work without salary. But, the fabulous teacher of this volunteer class, (who is not a PC but it was Mac), made us realise that volunteering is much more than working for free. Volunteering for the majority of us was a completely new experience, and an extremely good opportunity to use English in a work place with native speakers. Mac helped all of the 18 Volunteer students write a resume and a profile, and he found a volunteer place for everybody. All this he did with lots of tolerance and patience. Volunteers went to places like hotels, restaurants, kindergartens, elementary schools and flower shops. Members of the volunteer class had to volunteer at least 2 hours a week for 8 weeks for practical job training. Every student has a different level of English, so they were given tasks that reflected their different levels in the companies or institutions.



Students had to prepare for an interview. They had to dress up with appropriate clothes for their interview. They were expected to ask questions and fix a volunteering time with the employer. The biggest challenge for students was to get to their placement on time. For lots of them the transport system did not fit with their schedule of volunteer time, so Tracy or Philomena gave them rides each week.

Martin Cloutier:

I was part of this class, and for me this was an exceptional and incredibly good experience. I volunteered at the Super 8 Hotel. My interview went really well, and the owner of the hotel was very kind. On my first day, I visited all the different rooms in the hotel, and learned how to use the computer system. During the other weeks, I learned how to address and greet customers at the front desk. Each week I had lot of fun talking and getting to know the workers from the front desk girl and the customers to the maintenance guy. It was an experience that I will never forget.



Sara Choi:

I was really excited about the volunteer class because I've never worked in a "real native speaker" work environment. Also, I thought that working in a hotel is good way to meet lots of people. However, during my specific work time it was not that busy, so I couldn't meet lots of customers. At first, I thought that was not good for my work experience; however now I've changed my mind. Volunteering is also a good time to learn about front desk work. I can practice enough before meeting customers, and I have time to think about what I have to do if I meet other customers. Volunteer-Internship is a good class for the students who want to get an experience. I will do my best to learn many things while I'm volunteering.



# Global Cooking

By Petra Ladurner



Global Cooking was a great class because there are no exams, but it offered the opportunity for everyone to learn more about the different cultures and to cook and taste delicious foods from around the globe.

In the 2010 winter semester, people from seven different countries attended this class. Initially we got an introduction in the course and learned some cooking vocabulary so we would share our recipes with each other. After deciding on a country cooking schedule, Robin, our teacher, demonstrated how this class could look like by making some "Canadian" Food. For some people it was the first time to make Calzone themselves and they were really enthusiastic about it. We also made "Whitewater Granola Bars" which also tasted very good.



In the weeks following different countries took their turns teaching others how to cook typical food from their country. First of all, we made **Chinese** food. We baked Shaobing, which is sesame bread, and we also cooked Chinese Fried Mushrooms, which is basically a mixture of mushrooms, eggs, green pepper, onions, ginger and soy sauce. The week after, we learned how to make **Swiss** food. We made a very traditional Swiss dish called Älplermagrone which is a mixture of macaroni, potatoes, cream and cheese. Additionally we made Öpfluwäie which is a little bit different from what is known in Canada as apple pie. Next, we were taught how to cook **Korean and Cuban** food. We made Haemul Paejon (seafood pancakes) and Dak bokkeumtang (chicken breast and vegetable stir-fry) which were examples of Korean food and Croquetas as an example of Cuban food. The following time, the **Japanese** students taught us how to make Ginger Pork, Miso soup and Kakiage (deep-fried vegetables). Once again we could enjoy a great meal. In the last Global Cooking class, we cooked **Mexican and Québécois** food. We made Chilaquiles as an example of Mexican food and Pouding Chômeur and Ragout de Boulette (a kind of meatballs) with mashed potatoes as examples of Québécois food.



Even though for some people it was difficult to find a recipe they could teach others in a short time frame and for which all the ingredients could be bought in Canada, it was very interesting to teach friends from other backgrounds this part of one's culture. Sometimes it was difficult to explain others what they have to do as the cooking vocabulary often is culturally different. For others in the class it was the first time, they actually had to cook something from their country, which made it an even bigger challenge for some students.

However, we could taste many different kinds of food and we always had a delicious meal. But not only were the meals great, it was also a lot of fun to cook and eat together.



# Leadership

By Mathieu Turcotte



The leadership class is basically a class that people chose to develop and use their leadership skills. The teacher of this class was Robin and she inspired great ideas for the students to work around. Her patience helped the group to work efficiently. Even though there was a teacher for the class, the students were the principal planners of the activities.

At the beginning of each class, we were playing a game to get to know each other. It really helped to add energy to the class and give every student confidence because although leadership is a leading skill, the class had to work in teams. By knowing each other more, the students were felt more comfortable talking to their teammates.

Each class, the group selected a Chair, responsible for conducting the meeting; a Time-Keeper, responsible for not losing time; a Recorder responsible for taking notes of the actual class and giving a review for the next class; and a Facilitator, responsible of giving an opportunity to everybody to talk during the class. These people were different from one class to another; which allowed each student to be more involved in the course.



The first activity that we planned was "Hearts for Haiti". The leadership class thought of helping the people in Haiti who suffered from the 2010 earthquake. We were installed at the entrance of the college, collecting money for Haitians. People who gave money had to write their name on a little red heart that they then stuck on a bigger heart on a board. The leadership students, sitting at the table, would then give a heart to a pin on, so that the generous giver could show their charity to all other students and teachers. There were also candies and bookmarks on the table. Bookmarks, handmade by Echo and Bella, had a message to remind people of the tragedy. This volunteer activity lasted for one week, from January 27<sup>th</sup> to February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The final amount of money collected was \$684.62. The money was given to the Red Cross, which helped with the rescue efforts. The president of the school, Marilyn Luscombe, thanked the leadership class for doing this activity by writing a letter.

The leadership class planned three other big activities for all the ESL and UT International students and friends; the Selkirk Olympics, the Spring Sensation Party and the Friendship Celebration Party. The main goal of these activities was to reinforce the links within the International Community. It worked very well and everyone enjoyed the activities a lot. Many moments from these activities will be remembered. You can read the articles of these activities somewhere else in the newspaper.

The leadership class was liked by all the students who attended it. It has helped them to be clearer in their vision and has encouraged them to give and share their ideas.







Ram

What's Up!

[WINTER SEMESTER 2010 ]

# Rotating Seminars with Kansai Students



Ram

Selkirk College, BC, Canada



# Rotating Seminars

By Tomoko and Yu

Rotating seminars are for students to experience many kinds of seminars in a short time. There were seven classes: Global Cooking, Movies and Discussion, Global Discussions, Volunteer Planning, two School Visits and Singing.

## Movies and Discussion

We watched "Hitch". Hitch is a comedy about a man who can create love between two people. This movie was very funny and we laughed a lot. Philomena brought us sandwiches which we could eat while we were watching the movie.

## Global Discussions

We talked about bullying in this class. This topic was very difficult for us because this problem is very complicated. Mio said, "This is very difficult to solve, but we should think about solutions." Another student said "We can't solve this problem."

## Singing Seminar

We decided on a song that we would sing at the Spring Party. The song is "A Whole New World". Some people already knew this song, but other people didn't know this song, so we had to practice it many times.

## Global Cooking

We baked Valentine cookies! It was easy to make and they tasted delicious. Additionally, we baked a lot of cookies and decorate them. As there were so many cookies we couldn't eat them all and therefore gave them to our friends, teachers, families or lover. We had a lot of fun and had a great afternoon.

### Rolled Cookies (Joy of Cooking Recipe)

Makes about 40 Cookies

½ Cup	Butter
½ Cup	White Sugar(brown sugar is ok)
2	Eggs
2½ to 2¾ Cup	White Flour(sifted)
2 tsp	Baking Powder
1 tsp	Vanilla

#### Directions

1. Cream butter,
2. Add sugar and mix well
3. Add eggs and vanilla and beat
4. Sift flour and baking soda and add to butter and mix
5. (if possible it is best to Chill the batter 3-4 hours before rolling)
6. Lightly dust the table with flour (or powdered sugar) before rolling
7. Roll gently and cut into shapes
8. Bake at 375F for no more than 7-12 minutes
9. Note: do not over bake....they down quickly... lift of tray and cool before decorating

Note: Icing: Mix a small amount of butter, icing sugar, vanilla and cream until you get the right amount of icing and the right consistency. Add colour in the end.





# Volunteer School Visits

By Tomoko Otani & Yu Funakoshi

A group of 20 international students prepared presentations about Asia to give to some of the elementary schools in Castlegar. In teams of 4 or 5 students, the students introduced different things about Asia to the classes and answered some of the student's questions. Sometimes it was very difficult to explain, and we thought that we need to know more information about our countries. However, it was really good experience for Asian students.

Castlegar Primary School Grade 2 Ms. Cheryl Barlow (Keisuke, Riyu, Bella, Haruka)	Korean Song Jyanken(=rock-scissors-paper)game King of jyanken Jyanken Train
Robson Community School Grade 6 Ms. Tracey Best (Yu, Yuri, Kaoru, Megumi)	Asian Map Puzzle Japanese Greetings True or False Quiz about Japan Hiragana
Castlegar Primary School Grade 4 (Tomoko, Keisuke, Meg, Saki)	Hiragana Name of body in Japanese Origami(fold paper)
Castlegar Primary School Grade 6 (Sally, Doris, Mio, Misato)	Teach Chinese and Japanese Geography about China and Japan Questions



## Grade 2

At Castlegar Primary School, the children were very cute and polite. They enjoyed Janken game and Janken train. Selkirk students also could enjoy. It was very difficult to understand what children said. They spoke very fast, so it was good experience for them.

## Grade 4

When they went to Twin Rivers Elementary School Grade 4, they taught Origami paper folding to the children. They already knew "shuriken" and some Japanese, so Tomoko, Keisuke, Meg, and Saki were very surprised. Children were very excited because they liked making paper "Ninja". As soon as they finished making "shuriken", they went out schoolyard and began to play with it. When Kansai students left, children said "thank you" in Japanese.

## Grade 6

Misato, Mio, Sally and Doris went to the Twin Rivers Elementary School Grade 6. They taught culture about China and Japan such as greetings and geography. When they asked questions, many children answered cheerfully. Moreover, they were asked many questions by the students. It was hard for Selkirk students to answer, but they could overcome. At Robson Community School, Yu, Yuri, Kaoru and Megumi also visited a grade 6 class. The students really got involved in the 'true/ false' game and were very surprised that there were so many McDonald's in Japan. The group was very well prepared and the grade 6 students learned many new things about Japan and Asia.

# English 051

*By Martin Cloutier*

For this winter semester many students decided to take English 051 for different reasons. Some only wanted to fill up their schedule, while others planned to go on business or hotel management programs in the future so they needed the transfer credit.



English 051 is a class offered at Selkirk College as part of the high school equivalency program for British Columbia. All students, without grade 12 English or who want to upgrade their skills, have to complete this class with a C<sup>+</sup> or higher to continue to other college programs. For EASL students it is an alternative way to enter university courses without a TOEFL score.

The first class caused some of the language students a bit of stress to be in a class with Canadian students. But after the third class, these students discovered that they had strong basic and formal grammar skills. In fact, the first test was an easy one and the Canadian students were impressed with the language student's results and felt that all students had something valuable to offer the class. It was a good feeling for language students who were initially worried about participating in a full college class and not ESL lessons.

In the first month, the members of the class went to the cinema as a group, and watched "The Lovely Bones". Not everybody appreciated the movie, but it was a good occasion to get together outside of school. After, the class had to read the book and compare it with the movie. We also had to write a journal describing the plot and the development of all the characters for every five chapters we read.

Our teacher, Sarah, is a good teacher because she is kind to us. She explains expressions and context that we might not understand. The other regular students are also supportive and patient.

In the end, this sometimes long lecture class with its tests and homework was not really as hard for the language students as they had thought it might be. Despite the challenges, overall it was a good experience to take class with Canadian students and have the opportunity to continue to other college programs.





# My UT experience

By Martin Cloutier

During the winter semester of 2010, I had already finished some advanced classes. Therefore I decided to take an extra class outside of the ESL program. I took the fabulous class -- History of Western Civilizations. This class was by far the most interesting I attended during this semester. I really enjoyed the way my teacher taught and lectured in this class. I learned many things that happened in Europe between 1600 and now, from colonialism through Napoleon to World War II. I have a big interest in history in general. I really enjoyed attending this class. As it was a college class in my second language. That experience gave me confidence and esteem. In my language ability as everyone else was an English speaker. That class didn't only contain lectures but also a seminar. During these seminars students were expected to discuss about a specific topic, which varied from time to time. For me this was a real challenge because even though I am pretty good in English, expressing my ideas with specific vocabulary about historical events was not easy.



## Others Experiences



**Marion, Creative writing:** This class was very interesting; it gave me a new challenge. I was the only international student in this class, so I met a lot of native English speakers. It helped my reading and listening skills a lot! The best thing about this class is that I can use what I learned in any language. I really enjoyed this class, even if it made me work hard!

**Shota, Peace Studies:** It was a very interesting class in which we learned about different ways of thinking from all around the world and learn how to solve problems by being a mediator. I recommend this class to every student that wants to have a better overview of peace and its demonstration in the world.



**Petra, Ethnic Relations:** This class was one of the best classes I've ever had. Even though it was a huge challenge and often quite depressing, it gave me the opportunity to look at different cultures in a new way. However, only auditing this course was a great decision because it is a very complex topic.

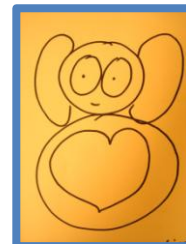
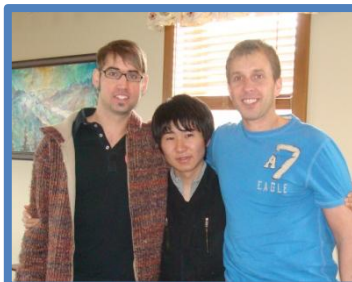




# Peace Studies

By Shota Yamumara

Have you ever thought of how many people there are in this world?? There are about 68 000 million people who come from about 190 countries. It is really obvious that we have different cultures and significant ethnic diversity. Even though we might be the same nationality, each person has their own personality and perspective. Once people begin discuss something, there is sometimes a conflict because of the various perspectives. Conflict is like a problem which has more than two sides. If the conflict doesn't go well, we need a mediator. So this is where Peace Studies comes in.



To be a mediator, we need big eyes to see the whole thing; big ears to hear carefully what everyone is saying' a big heart to receive everything, and small mouth not to say too much. Peace studies runs in the fall and winter semester at Selkirk College, Castlegar campus. This is a University Transfer (UT) course so that it is good for students who want to transfer to another university because students can bring their credits to a different university. In Peace studies 101, some of the students are from Japan, China, Hong Kong, and Switzerland. It is good to have international students in the class because they can bring different perspectives into the class that Canadians don't have. When I heard about the peace studies classes, I just wondered what the peace studies were and didn't know what we were going to learn about. It has been a really interesting course, so if you are interested in creating harmony, you should take it and be a mediator for world peace.

# Health and Wellness

By Maria Romani



Health and Wellness is a course from the Human Services Program at Selkirk College which introduces basic concepts about emotional, intellectual and spiritual wellness, as well as interesting topics such as stress management, relationships, lifestyle and quality of life.

I'm an international student from Mexico and I've been auditing this class for the last three months with Shota from Japan. This course and the students in it have amazed me. The goal of many of the students in this class is to support individuals with disabilities in classrooms and community settings such as teaching assistants or job coaches. I really think the job choice of these students is very humble and altruistic. It has made me realize how important it is to care about others.



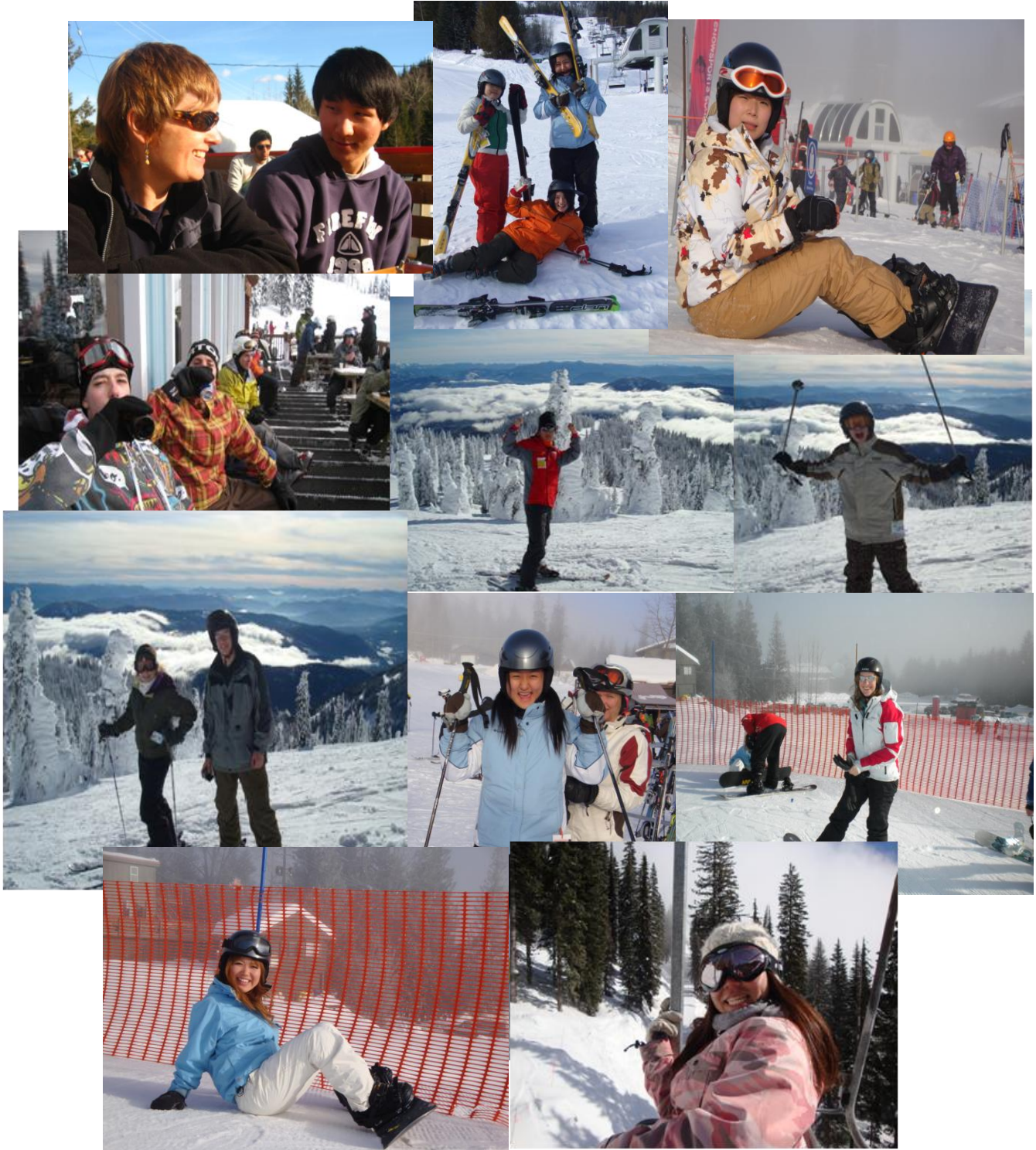
It has been a delightful experience to learn about quality of life and about myself. I think in this class, with the aim of helping others, you get the chance to learn about your strengths and weaknesses. One of my favorite topics in this course was Resilience, which is the way people can successfully adapt in the face of adversity. Bad things happen to everyone, but the most important thing is what we learn from those bad things. This course has been a great experience; I think if students have the chance to take this class, even if they are not in the Human Services Program, they should do it because it is always important to learn about yourself.





# International Skiing Skills

By Thomas Lanz



# "Attempted Murder" on Red Mountain

By Sally Sha



Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> was a special day. Most of the International students in Selkirk College got up early, put on their colorful ski suits, gathered together at the college gate, and waited for the bus, which would drive them to the Red Mountain. Yeah, you are right! It was a ski day!

Everybody was happy and excited on that day, especially students who had never been skiing before. They wanted to learn how to ski and also create a wonderful memory and a nice experience in Canada.

Skiing is a big challenge for beginners; they cannot control their directions when they first try this sport, and it was easy to fall down and get hurt. Beginners were very carefully because moving just one step is a big challenge for them. They didn't want to get hurt. But no one knew what would happen on this beautiful snow covered mountain. Maybe you will ask me, "Did anybody get hurt?" The answer is "no". But "murderers-in-training" were everywhere.



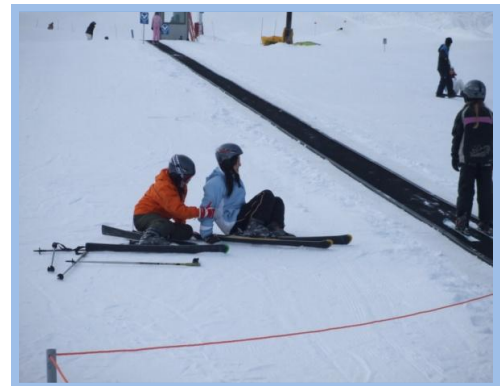


### *Candidates for the “murderers-in –training” program*

**Bella:** Assignment: Assassination attempt on our nice teacher Robin. Bella sped towards Robin and she was out of control, so she crashed into Robin then flung her down on the snow. But Robin is a strong teacher and has very good skiing skills. Therefore, she is still alive. Bella failed in her assassination attempt. What she did was that she broke the red plastic fence on Red Mountain and the bamboo sticks which held the red fence were all broken.



**Doris:** Assignment: Try to murder herself, but she failed every time. The nice lady, Kozue, always helped her when she felt down and taught her how to ski and how to make a “pizza” to stop (Kozue is really good at skiing).



**Sally:** Assignment: Attempted to murder Kozue and Doris with a sneak attack. Simple test failed because she was a beginner and couldn't control her direction. She rushed towards Doris and Kozue and hit the red fence instead and landed in a big pile of snow.

Fortunately, all the “murderers-in-training” have given up their chosen profession for more traditional careers. The hill is now safe. We all found the skiing is an interesting sport and we all liked it. Red Mountain saw how the beginners became remarkable skiers and gave up their murderous training program!



# Fall after fall Snowboarding

By Sonia Lee and John

Every winter, many international students have the opportunity to go snowboarding at Red Mountain. Because many students have never been snowboarding before, their first time is very challenging. After a long day of snowboarding everyone was very tired and sore. Since our second trip to Red Mountain was nearly a month after the first trip, most of the beginners had forgotten what they learned the first time and it was a great challenge for them again. The weather didn't help either, as it was very cold, windy, and foggy. So people couldn't see much farther than a few meters. However, the sky cleared up after a few hours. The clouds were blown towards the mountain peak and I felt as if I was walking on the clouds.

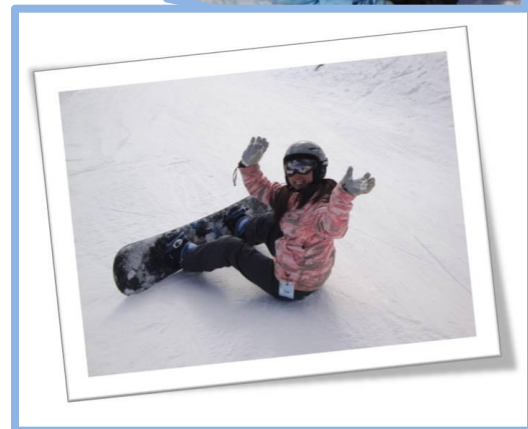


## Girish's experience:

On Girish's first day of snowboarding he took a lesson. However, because Girish has never been snowboarding before, he kept falling on his butt. After he fell several times, Girish decided to try skiing. He said "Two boards are better than one". He was brave enough to go to the top of granite Mountain. However, he didn't know how to stop on a steep slope and when he realised that he took off his skis and took the chairlift down and went home. Since then I have never seen Girish at Red Mountain again.

## Tomona's experience:

"The first day, snowboarding almost killed me. I felt very scared and I was afraid of snowboarding. However, my friends always helped me, so I could go to the top of the mountain at the last snowboarding day. It was very exciting and the view was amazing. The next day I couldn't move though because I was so sore, but I was very happy."











# Rossland Winter Carnival

By Petra Ladurner

Rossland Winter Carnival is Canada's longest running Winter Carnival, this year it took place for the 113<sup>th</sup> time. To include the Olympic Torch relay into the celebrations, the event occurred one week earlier than usually, from January 22 to 24.



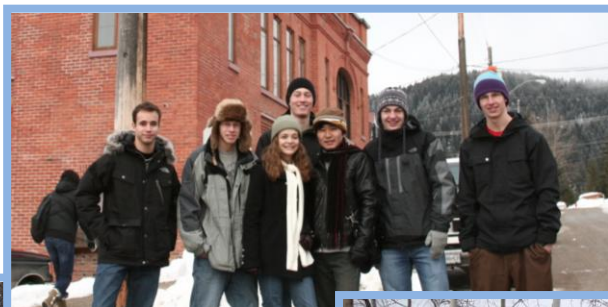
For more than a century the Rossland Winter Carnival has been one of the highlights of winter in Rossland. It was pioneered by Olaus Jeldness who kept it successful for many years. He was also the major reason that skiing was established in this region. Olaus is still honoured every year at the Carnival. This year, his great granddaughter and her family represented him.



Different winter activities like lugging, bob-sledding, snow volleyball, pond hockey and the Canadian Open Free skiing Championship took place. Besides that, there were different shows, live music performances, a Beer Garden and the International Food Fair.

On Sunday afternoon the Olympic Torch arrived in Rossland so there was a big closing ceremony which included entertainment and the introduction of the Olympic medals.

All in all, it was a great event that brought many people and a great atmosphere to Rossland.





# Kansai Students

By Misato Matsushita

On February 8, 2010, 12 students arrived in Castlegar. They were tired from their long trip, but when they saw the beautiful view from the airplane, they were very excited. They are students of the Kansai Gaidai University which is located in Osaka, Japan, and unfortunately they stayed in Castlegar for only 5 weeks. *"I was so excited to meet my home stay family"* said Tomoko. On the other hand, Yu and Megumi said they were a little anxious because they didn't know much about their family or the school.



On the first day of school, all students were very nervous because they didn't know what would happen. However, during the orientation they met friendly and interesting teachers and could relax very easily. After that day, everyone attended classes. In Kansai Gaidai University only few classes have students from different countries so it was a little bit unusual to have classmates from four or more different countries. *"Studying is harder than I had expected,"* said Yuri *"But everyone is very kind to me!"*

The Kansai students participated in a lot of new and exciting events in Canada such as the Lunar New Year Party, the Global Cooking Seminar, the Selkirk Olympics, a trip to Nelson and the Hot Springs and many more. Some of the Kansai students joined the dance party on February 20. They said it was one of the biggest cultural shocks for them. Saki, Riyu, and Megumi said, *"We can't forget the Dance party. It was very exciting, but we couldn't dance very much because we were shy."* Kei and Atsushi also said they were shocked about this dance party because they have never joined such a kind of party in Japan.

Unfortunately the Kansai students had to leave Castlegar on March 13, 2010. *"We hope our new friends will be able to enjoy their school life at Selkirk to the end."* Mio and Kaoru said.



# Selkirk Olympics 2010

By Megumi Yoshimoto



On February 11, 2010 was a Sports Day for the international students organized by the Leadership class. The Selkirk Olympics were held in the gym and many people joined in this event.

The members of the Leadership class organized many cool events and when everyone arrived at the gym it was very exciting to guess what was going to happen. At first, everyone was split into six groups: the purple, orange, blue, yellow, red and green team. One student from the leadership class became the captain of each team. They competed in a variety of simple, but entertaining games. Every team did their best and the gym was full of laughter. The orange team won, the green team got second and other teams got the same amount of points. Of course, like at any Olympics there are bronze, silver and gold medals. However, in the end everyone got a medal.

Before this event, many of the students didn't know each other well. But through this afternoon, everyone got to know each other and we all had a good time.



## Games and rules

Musical chairs	Everyone walks around the circle of chairs while music is playing. When the music stops, they sit down as quickly as possible. But as there is one chair less than there are people, one person is 'out' each time.
Newspaper game	The goal is to get everyone of the team to stand on a newspaper at the same time. If they are successful they fold the newspaper and try it again.
Clothespin game	Everyone pinned five clothespins on their clothes. Then each team competes to get rid of all the clothespins from the other team. The person who keeps a clothespin till the end wins.
Pictionary game	One person draws a picture and both teams guess what it is. The team that guesses right gets a point.
Charades game	One person pantomimes something and both teams guess what it is. The team that guesses right wins a point.
Cops and robbers	The two groups line up on opposite sites and everyone gets a number. When the number is called they have to get the hat in the middle and becomes the robber. Their goal is to bring the hat to their own territory before they are caught by the 'cop'.
Chicken Game	Everyone holds one leg, jumps around and tries to push the other people out of the circle. The last person in the circle is the winner.
Relay Race	Everyone gets their forehead on a stick and turns around it. After that they race with a balloon between their legs. The team that makes it back first wins.



# Lunar New Year

By Echo Wong

Lunar New Year, which is also sometimes called the Spring Festival, is the most important of the traditional Chinese and Korean holidays. It is commonly called Lunar New Year because it is based on the lunar calendar. The festival traditionally begins on the first day of the first month in the lunar calendar and ends on the 15th.



In China, the days before the New Year celebration are known as *chú xī*, which literally means "Year-pass Eve". The first day of the festivities is for the welcoming of the deities from heaven and earth and it officially begins at midnight. The following day of the Lunar New Year is for

married daughters to visit their parents. The third day is known as "red mouth". It is generally regarded as a day on which it is not good to visit your relatives or friends. It is also the birthday of the Chinese god of wealth. Everybody should return to work by the 8th day. On the 13th day people will eat vegetarian food to clean out their stomach after consuming so much food over the previous two weeks. The fifteenth day of the New Year is celebrated as Lantern Festival. Rice dumplings which are called *tangyuan* and are sweet glutinous rice balls brewed in a soup, are eaten on this day and families walk along the streets carrying lighted lanterns. This day often marks the end of the Chinese New Year festivities.



In Korea, the Lunar New Year is traditionally a holiday where people go back to their hometown to meet their family. They exchange gifts and wish each other good fortune. It is a good opportunity for them to spend time with their family and eat traditional food.









# Cultural Experiences: Pizza and Movie Night

*By Petra Ladurner*

Emily is a student at Selkirk College and she also is the Cultural Assistant. Her job is to organize activities and events for the international students on the weekends or after school. This should help the international students to have a great time at Selkirk College and have different experiences in Canada. She made it possible for us to go to places like Rossland, Spokane, Nelson and Ainsworth Hot Springs and she also organized the Pizza and Movie Nights this semester.

After satisfying our hunger with yummy hand-made pizzas and putting together puzzles we watched "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs" at the first Movie Night on January 29. The film was very funny and we all enjoyed it very much. On the second Pizza and Movie Night on February 26 they watched "Wall-E".

While making the pizzas we had the chance to talk together and getting to know each other better. Watching the movie helped us in a fun way to train our listening skills.

For the cultural experience and as a way to improve our language these kind of activities are great and everyone who participates can get a lot out of it and everyone has a great time.

Thanks Emily for organising these events!



# Nelson and Ainsworth Hot Springs

*By Saki Okuda*

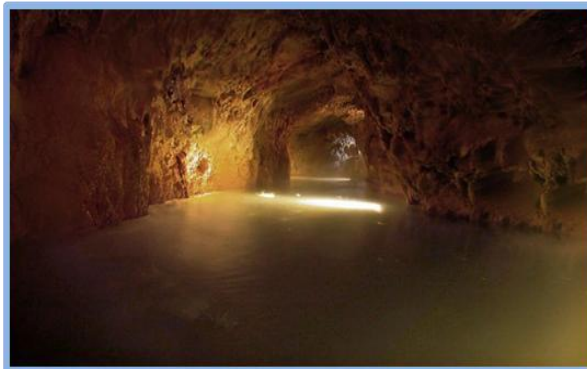
Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> was a cloudy day. However, the students who embarked on the Nelson trip had an unforgettable day. On the way to Nelson, everyone was excited and talked energetically.

First we went shopping at the mall. We just walked around in the mall and saw many beautiful clothes. We really wanted to buy them; however, we were running out of time for shopping in the mall because we had to go to other places.

After that, we went to the fields where people can play many sports such as soccer. Before we went there, we heard this place is good for the sights. But unfortunately, there were many Canadian geese and it was foggy, so we could not see the beautiful view.

Next, we went shopping on Baker Street and walked around to buy something. There are many souvenir shops and other country restaurants. We didn't go to the restaurant, but we bought some souvenirs.

Finally, we went to Ainsworth Hot Spring. This is different from a Japanese hot spring because it doesn't separate men and women, so we were very surprised at first. But there are really beautiful natural caves and a pool. We enjoyed so much!!!!





# Kelowna Trip

By Kaoru



On February 26 to 28, I went to Kelowna with my friends -- Ray, Zhang, Sally, Kozue, Misato, Tomoko and I. We suddenly decided to go there because we had only two more weeks in Canada, and we wanted to see another town. On February 26, we first had dinner at Chopsticks before we got on the bus and went to Kelowna. It took us four hours to get there, so we arrived late in the evening.



The next day, we walked around downtown Kelowna. First, we went to Starbucks and had breakfast. Then we went to the bookstore and bought some books and magazines for my friends in Japan. In the City Park as we walked along the shore there were many ships and together with the fog on the lake it looked 'picture perfect'. In Kelowna there are also many oriental restaurants, so we ate lunch at a Japanese restaurant called Ginza and dinner at a Chinese restaurant.



We also spent much time walking and sightseeing, as many streets were very artistic. We could see many kinds of carvings and monuments and there was a big casino near that street. Around the casino there were big beautiful homes, so I thought maybe the winners of the casino live in these expensive houses.

In the evening we were back at the hotel and played cards. We gave the loser a penalty and laughed together.

Sunday was our last morning, so we went shopping at Orchard Park Mall. By the afternoon, the girls were satisfied with their shopping, and the boys were exhausted from following them around walking. Then, it was time for the bus home.



# My birds

By Martin Cloutier

One day in the forest,  
 I enjoy the fresh air,  
 Walking on this small path,  
 Observing there I do,  
 I can hear different birds,  
 I look back and I see,  
 People met in the past,  
 I can see them right there,  
 Looking forward there is,  
 People that I will meet,  
 Yes, they are there with me,  
 Myself can talk with them,  
 I am proud to present,  
 Past, present, and future,  
 My important people,





# Love

One day in the forest,  
I saw myself falling,  
There that beautiful bird,  
I look attentively,  
My soul is uncertain,  
Should I approach that bird?  
Does he know I'm here?  
Look to me he does not,  
I wish to talk with him,

He is so beautiful,  
I have to decide now,  
On my way I cross him,  
He says "How are you doing",  
This is the day which I,  
Fall in love...



# Grandfather

One day in the forest,  
Where I am from I ask,  
Back in my tree to see,  
An important person,  
This old birds there for me,  
White hair and long beard,  
This bird talks with wisdom,  
We are always welcome,  
To his house, he gives us,  
Young birds love and candies,  
Play cards they like to,  
At a certain moment,  
This old bird has to go,  
Sad we are to lose him,  
This is my grandfather,





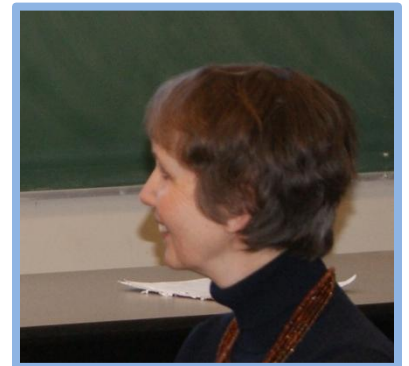
# My Bird

One day in the forest,  
I enjoy the fresh air,  
Walking on this small road,  
Looking back to my birds,  
Friend family and lover,  
I see sharing my life,  
Helping me through this time,  
Sometimes make me happy,  
Other times make me sad,  
Involving my feelings,  
I have to deal with them,  
Listening to my birds,  
They tell me some secrets,  
Later yes no maybe,  
Those are part of my life,



One day in the forest,  
Walking along the path,  
There is someone learning,  
This person it is me,  
A bird is teaching me,  
This bird is so helpful,  
Grammar, writing, reading,  
Give you real confidence,  
Correct our tests and quizzes,  
Give to you some advices,  
Choose if you pass or fail,  
They work hard preparing,  
Class must be interesting,  
Some are fun other not,  
Those birds are my teachers,

# Teachers





# Spring Sensation party

By Sally Sha

On Friday, Mar 12<sup>th</sup>, all the International students got together and held a successful Spring Party at Selkirk College. This Spring Party was special because the students from Kansai University were about to go back to Japan on the next day. So we all wanted to celebrate our new friendships. Students sang, danced, played music, and played some interesting games. We also eat many delicious snacks that had been made by students. We ate Cookies, sushi, chips. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> event organized by the leadership class.



Tomoko(Kansai):

The spring party was one of the most unforgettable memories for me because there were many interesting shows, and games and it had a lot of food. Doris, Tomona and Julia's song and dance was very cute!! When Terry gave a bouquet of roses to Tomona, I was very excited. It was so romantic...But my most favorite performance was Sally and Ray's singing because I love their voice and I like that song so I was moved. I wanted to cry. Kansai students sang "A whole New World". They practiced very hard, because we never sang an English song before. That was difficult to memorize and pronounce the words. My friend Zhang didn't want to play the guitar at spring party, because I asked him to play the guitar, he is kind, so he practiced so hard and he played guitar at show. I was impressed about that. After the party, I took many pictures with friends. That makes good memories also makes me sad because this day was the last day to meet all of my new Selkirk friends.



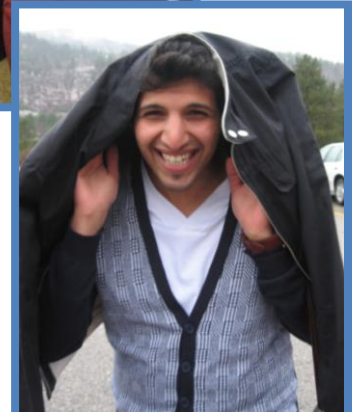
Misato(Kansai):

I sang "A whole New World", as a Kansai student. To tell the truth, I was not happy at first, because I don't like singing in public. However, I could enjoy singing this time. First, I sang it with all Kansai students. It was first and last time for us to do something together. Even practicing is a good memory. Second, every student watched us with a smile. It made me very comfortable and was enjoyable. Therefore, it became good memory for me, and I can't forget about it.



Zhang:

The party we had for kansai students was the most wonderful party that I have ever had. All the students got together to celebrate the happy days that we all have in Canada. Even though we don't know everyone, we showed our friendship to each other in the party. The whole classroom was full of laughter with Mathieu and Martin humoristic show. We sang and danced, and took pictures to honor the wonderful time. Even though we really had a short time, we will always remember the friends that we had at Selkirk. No matter where we are, we will always be friends.









# Life in Residence

*By Marion Lamontagne-Bélisle*

The residence is a place of contradiction. A room can be a shelter to rest during the day and become a party host at night. It is a place where we are free and at the same time have a lot of responsibilities. In our rooms we do whatever we want; play computer games, play the guitar, sleep, study, and a lot more. Living at res is really convenient to do sports because all the facilities are close. There is the gymnasium where some different activities go on all week and the work-out room and there are the trails in the forest. There are also the soccer field and the tennis court where we can play these two sports, but also hockey and rugby. We had a lot of activities that the residents enjoyed during the winter semester. We had Valentine's Day, when we enjoyed cupcakes while watching romantic movies in the lounge and sent valentines to our friends in the res. There was the swimming night when we could go swimming with our friends, for free! Closer to the end of the semester, there was the potluck. All we had to do is bring a dish and we could enjoy the others' meals. We can go in the lounge to play pool or ping-pong, or simply hanging out in someone's room and either way is a lot of fun. All these are good sides of living at res, but I think that the best thing about living in residence is that we are always close to our friends. Some of the events that happened were not planned but we will still keep good memories of them. The fire alarm in the middle of the night that made all of us go outside in "pajamas" is one of those.

Our friends are all really close to us so it is easy to see them at any moment of the day. Living at res is like sharing our home with all our friends so we get to know them better; we cook and do our laundry together. I will keep excellent memories from this place.





# Homestay Family

By Mathieu Turcotte

When coming to Selkirk College many international students can live with homestay families. Homestay families are a place where students can learn about Canadian culture and live almost as if they were at home. They don't have to cook for themselves or only in rare occasions. They experience things they maybe have never experienced before. Living in a homestay family is an incredible life experience. Students learn to trust people they have to live with for a few months. Having fun with the homestay family may sometimes be difficult because the student



Martin and his homestay family

doesn't want to interrupt the routine or the family's spirit. But homestay families will sometimes take their students somewhere for activities such as the hot springs or the events that occur near Castlegar. Being hosted by a family allows the student to have discussions about daily life in a friendly environment. If the student has any kind of problem, their homestay family will be there to support them and that's a good thing.



My homestay brother Kaoru and me

Unfortunately sometimes students can have conflicts with their family. For a student to be obliged to conform themselves to another type of family is not always easy, especially if they have been living on their own for years, but it's a good feeling to know that they can always talk to their family if the student doesn't feel comfortable.

## My Personal Experience with my Homestay Family

I have had the chance to have been hosted in an excellent homestay family. They considered me as one of their own children which has helped me to integrate myself in this new environment and this new lifestyle. I felt very good in this family and I think that every student who was there before me enjoyed it too. My homestay family has been a homestay family for three years. They have only had boys in their family because this is what they were used to with their own children. They both like to have students I guess; otherwise they would stop hosting them. They are a friendly family who really like to have fun



My homestay family and me

and laugh. They were not very strict at home; I was allowed to do almost anything I wanted. However, they were there to give me rides when I needed some or when I was lost somewhere.

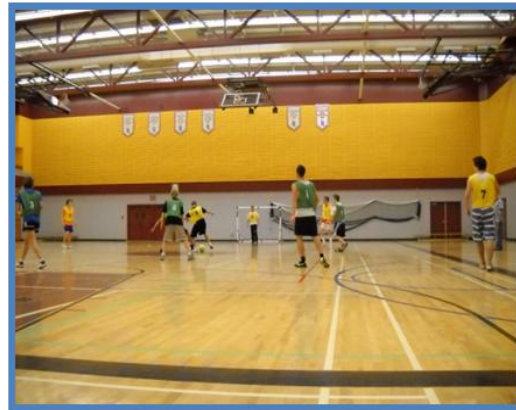
I really liked to be in a homestay family. I enjoyed many funny moments and activities with them. I felt accepted in this family and that really helped me to be part of the Castlegar community. I hope that other people who were in a homestay family also had fun and that they also felt the happiness inside them.



# Sports at Selkirk

By Thomas Lanz

**Soccer:** Every Wednesday lots of people go to the gym to play soccer. We have lots of fun and people playing are from all around the world. There is every semester a soccer tournament, where you can win 450 dollars.



**Ice Hockey:** The most popular sport in Canada is hockey. The Selkirk Saints is the college hockey team. They compete with other college teams across the province. This year, unfortunately, they had a bad season and ended up last in the league. Next year they hope to do better.



**Street Hockey:** Street hockey is always a nice activity to play on the weekends if the weather is nice. It doesn't

need much equipment and the rules are always very flexible so anyone can play. The best place to play is on the tennis court by the residence.

**Badminton:** Every Tuesday and Thursday, a few students and adults from the community play badminton. There are many different levels of players. Some play for the first time, others have been playing for many years. The ambience is very friendly, and people invite you to play with them. It is a really good activity to do at the gym.







**Weight Room:** The weight room is always a busy room where you can see people of all ages working out. People exercise their muscles and build their endurance. The college organizes regular circuit weigh training classes and other fitness classes during the day. Later in the afternoon there are yoga classes as well.



**Basketball:** Undoubtedly, basketball is by far the most popular activity in the gym. Regularly there are group games both formal and informal that are underway in the gym. During the term, the gym organizes intramural team competitions so students can play together.



**Climbing Cave:** While the winter isn't really a good time for climbing outdoors, it is a good time to practice on the indoor climbing cave. At the beginning of the term there are usually opportunities to take classes and then practice throughout the remainder of the semester.



**Volleyball:** Volleyball is the only college team sport which has a female and male team in Selkirk College. These college teams compete throughout the province. They often go on trips to other towns to compete. Each September there are trials to become a member of these teams. Any student can try out, and if selected it is a great way to experience different parts of BC. Often, ESL students have been selected for the teams and they have found it to be a great way to make friends and practice their English.





# Life Around Campus







# Mexico Trip to Guadalajara

By Shota Yamamura

What did you do your last winter vacation?? Please do not say you just stayed in residence because you will have missed a great opportunity. It's a good time to travel somewhere. In my case, I went to Guadalajara in Mexico for 8 days to visit my friend. Well, for many Canadians, I'm sure that it's not that amazing, but for Asian people, it is. I didn't even think about it before I came to Canada, but I thought that if I missed this opportunity, I wouldn't have a chance to go to Mexico again in my life. It was actually the first time for me to go travelling by myself. I was really nervous because I was wondering whether I could go there safely or not by myself.

Let me start by describing my awesome trip from Castlegar. First, I took the greyhound bus from the Castlegar on December 23th, but the bus was delayed for 2 hours. There were about 20 passengers at Castlegar, but it turned out that everybody couldn't get on the bus. That doesn't happen in Japan. So the bus driver called another bus. It was almost 11 pm when I arrived at Vancouver. When I got out of bus station, I was kind of panicking about where I should go. Eventually, I stayed at YMCA HOTEL which is located close to BC Place. This hotel is really nice and safe; you can get your private room for about \$60 per day. I went



to Vancouver airport by sky train and Canadian line which cost only \$5. It was much cheaper than a taxi for sure!! When I got to the airport, it reminded me of the first day I arrived in Canada; I had missed the flight to Castlegar and had had to stay one night at the airport. This time though, there was no problem, and I went to Guadalajara International Airport through Seattle and Los Angeles. Connecting flights through these big airports made me anxious, but I did fine.



It was 5 am on December 26<sup>th</sup> when I finally arrived at Guadalajara airport. I remember that when I went to customer, the clerk said, "Siguiente". That means next in English. So I said, "No hablo Español, Inglés, por favor". I thought in my mind, "Oh, I did speak Spanish and make myself understood!" I had! I got out the gate and saw a lot of Mexicans; it was obvious that I was in a totally different world. No English, No Japanese, only people who speak Spanish!!

For 8 days, I visited so many places including many churches, towns, tequila villages, shopping malls and the Universidad de Guadalajara which is where Erika, my friend, goes to university. It was also the Christmas season at that time so that every church downtown was decorated with lights and Christmas decorations. The downtown area was also so crowded with people.





I also experienced real Mexican culture including the food, lifestyle and people's relationship. I had a kind of hotel room close to my friend's house. So, it was easy to go to Erika's house, have real Mexican food and talk with her family every day. I ate real Tortillas every day. It was like a kind of homestay, so I was really lucky in terms of a cultural experience. I also learned more Spanish that I couldn't learn in the class. I have studied Spanish for 1 year in Japan which helped me somehow; I could introduce myself, but except for that, it didn't help me.

For New Years, I had a wonderful time at a party with my friend and her family and relatives. Everything that I experienced was totally different from my culture. Of course the food was different, but also the dancing and the big hugs and kisses. I learned how to say Happy New Year in Spanish. It's "Feliz Año Nuevo". I also had 12 grapes that when you eat them, you have to make a wish on each of them. This was really a interesting Mexican experience for me.

In brief, I would like to thank Erika and her family for taking care of me. I definitely had unforgettable time and was able to really experience a different culture. The biggest thing that I was amazed about is that I felt like a foreigner. I was different from everyone. Everybody looked at me when I went outside... much more than in Canada. But, it was a really good time and a good chance to get out of Canada and to try to experience different cultures. Thank you my friend.

Muchas gracias mi amiga, Erika.







# Thomas and Luis in Quebec

## "The discovery of real poutine"

By Thomas Lanz

It was an unforgettable Christmas Vacation in Quebec. Everything began on the December 21st. Luis and I went to the Greyhound station in Castlegar at 6 pm. We took the bus to Vancouver to visit our friend Karl Topping.

After 6 hours on the road, I bought a huge bag of pepperoni and Luis bought some Chips and a cheese dip so we mixed it together and it was just terrible. You can probably imagine that it was way too salty and too messy to eat on the bus. By the end of the trip, I had some cheese dip in my bag and on my gloves. Somehow we had ended up 'wearing' most of our snack and arrived tired, still laughing and sticky.

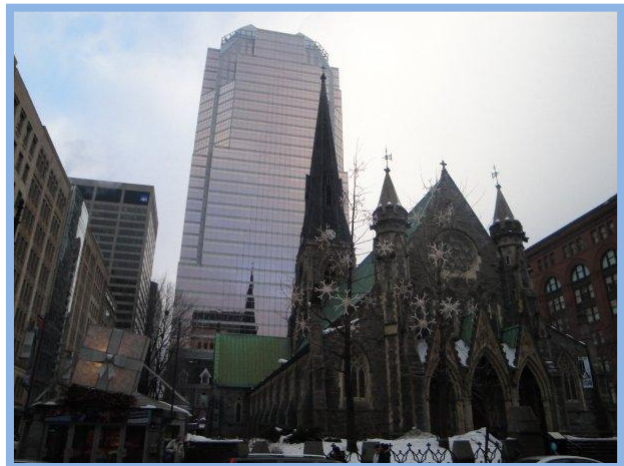


Finally after 13 hours we were in Vancouver and Karl was already waiting for us. Luis just spent only one day in Vancouver because he went to Victoria to visit his brother there and to spend Christmas with him. I stayed at Karl's house and had an awesome Christmas. Luis came back on the 26<sup>th</sup> and we left Vancouver to visit our friends in Amos, Quebec.

We flew to Montreal which took us 5 hours. We were very tired when we arrived in Montreal and we took a hotel to take a nap. We woke up at 7 pm and went to eat some real poutine 😊 because all my friends from Quebec always said that the poutine in Castlegar was not a real one and that I should go to Quebec to try it. It tasted

really different, and it was much better than the one from the cafeteria back in Castlegar. After that, we went out to different bars and had a great time there. After the bar off course we went for more poutine.

The next day we checked out and went to Amos by bus which took 8 hours. Our first week in Amos was awesome. The girls there are so pretty and the alcohol was cheap, so every time we bought 24 beers we left the store with a big smile. We stayed at Frank's house and his father was very kind. He cooked a traditional Swiss meal twice and wasn't mad at all when we were noisy. Every day we would get up late and either play hockey or go snowmobiling in the afternoon. Then our evenings would be filled with dinner with friends and late nights out. We left on January 4<sup>th</sup> and the way back took us two days. Again a long trip, but finally it was a great experience and we had an awesome time there.



# The Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay

By Gaz & Zhang

From October 30<sup>th</sup> to February 12<sup>th</sup>, the Olympic Flame ran through this beautiful white northern country: From Victoria and Tofino on the west coast to the farthest northern point in Nunavut – Canadian Forces Station Alert (CFS Alert); then to St. John's on the east coast in Newfoundland. Finally the torch came back to British Columbia across each province from East to West. The torch travelled for 106 days and went to over a thousand places.



The torch arrived in

Nelson on the evening of January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010. That evening, Shana joined some of the Nelson students (Rick and Kei) and their friends to celebrate the torches arrival. There was a big show, lots of music and lots of flag waving. When the torch arrived in Castlegar it had already gone across more than half of Canada with peace, hope and glory. Nobody will ever forget this exciting day. People got together on the side of the streets and cheered for the torch holder. He slowly went along the street under the protection of police cars. People waved flags and looked forward to witnessing

this legendary event. All Canadians were proud of their country. If a country is holding the Olympics, it wants to show the country's strongest power to all over the world. We are proud to be studying in the beautiful BC and we could be a part in this legendary Vancouver 2010 Olympics torch relay.





# ~~Working at the Vancouver 2010 Olympics~~

*Living the dream*



Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work at a venue during the Olympic Games? I sure have.

So the day one of my friends posted on her wall (oh dear Facebook...) "if interested to work in Whistler during the Olympics, sent me a message", let me tell you that I did not hesitate to jump on the opportunity for one second!

Next thing I knew, I was on my way to Vancouver to get an accreditation Card from VANOC, the Vancouver Olympic Committee. And on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010, I stepped foot for the first time in Whistler, BC, host village of the Vancouver 2010 Olympics.

*By Aurélie Vervaeke*

## Chateau Britco

I moved into accommodations on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Some of us had the luxury to live in mansions with hot tubs and pools; I was not one of the lucky ones. I was sharing a bunk bed in one of the three modular houses put not far from Whistler Village. Three buildings, also called "the containers": A, B, and C. Being in B, and not wanting to feel left out by all the comfort other people had, my neighbours and I kindly renamed Building B, "Chateau Britco".



## The Job

You have probably assumed by now that I was one of the 25,000 volunteers dressed in a Smurf outfit, right? WRONG. I was part of what people called the "Black Ninjas". Indeed, I had the chance to work for Whistler Cooks, the catering company that got chosen to host all the venues in Whistler. I was working at the Whistler Sliding Centre (luge, skeleton, bobsleigh), in a position officially called an "obligatory server". It probably means nothing to you. The 15 people in my team and I can assure you that we had the best job on site. Why? Here is a summary of what our duties were.

## Living the Dream at the Whistler Sliding Centre

We were feeding over 2,000 meals to the workforce every day during two weeks. But most of all, we were given the chance to feed the coaches and athletes, in either the changing rooms



at the start of the track, or at the finish line, in a little tent.

### **An experience of a lifetime**

Words do not do justice to describe the experience I was given to live. I do not think I have quite realized yet that what happened in front of my eyes during two weeks was watched by millions of people over the world. Here are the moments that I got the opportunity to watch live, and that will always be in my memory to remind me that I was part of an unbelievable event: the final Women's luge from the finish tent with all the coaches; the first day of the Women's skeleton from the Start line; the 2-women bobsleigh final from the Start line. But the one event that makes me shiver every time I think about it, the biggest reward of working ten-hour days 14 days straight, will definitely be the Final of the 4-Men bobsleigh. I was in the changing room that day, and it is one of the most intense experiences I was ever given to live. The concentration these men were in was unrealistic. No words could describe the mental state they were in.



### **Back to reality**

I currently am a 2<sup>nd</sup> year student from France in the Resort & Hotel Management Program in Nelson, BC. With the support of my teachers, I was able to "miss" a whole month of school. Do not get me wrong, I spent my Christmas holidays at home (France) reading a 300-page law book, to get ahead of class so I would not be lost when I came back from the Olympics. I have been back for a bit over a month now, and I still find it hard to get back to the routine of the pre-Whistler. Not being able to talk about what you got to live without people thinking you are bragging about your experience is difficult. More than once have I wished I was back at 'Chateau Britco' to talk about the athletes I met, the conversations I had with them, with people who know these Olympic Medalists are people like you and I.



### **Been there; done that**

Would I work for the Olympics again? To be honest, I do not know. What I lived during two weeks is something, I believe, should be lived only once. There were ups and downs, but in the end, I came out of this experience totally changed. I know it sounds crazy to say that something can change you over such a small timeframe. However, I am convinced it did. 420 lucky ones had the opportunity to feed over 500,000 meals in Whistler during the Vancouver 2010 Olympics. And I was one of them.



# The XXI Winter Olympic

## The XXI Winter Olympic

By Maxime Defoy



WITH DES PLUS  
GLOWING BRILLANTS  
HEARTS EXPLOITS

For 17 days in February 2010, Canada was the centre of the world. Not a position Canada is not used to, nor is it one it would normally relish, but The XXI Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver brought out the best this country has to offer and did it ever put on a show. Sure, this world wide event was at the end of a depression, and Canada is the only one of the G8 countries that does not have a plan against the poverty. Also, Vancouver is known for its high homeless rate. However, whether you loved or hated them, the Games were an undeniable success for Canada.

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
UNITED STATES	9	15	13	37
GERMANY	10	13	7	30
CANADA	14	7	5	26
NORWAY	9	8	6	23
AUSTRIA	4	6	6	16
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	3	5	7	15
KOREA	6	6	2	14
CHINA	5	2	4	11
SWEDEN	5	2	4	11
FRANCE	2	3	6	11
SWITZERLAND	6	0	3	9
NETHERLANDS	4	1	3	8
CZECH REPUBLIC	2	0	4	6
POLAND	1	3	2	6
ITALY	1	1	3	5
JAPAN	0	3	2	5
FINLAND	0	1	4	5
AUSTRALIA	2	1	0	3
BELARUS	1	1	1	3
SLOVAKIA	1	1	1	3
CROATIA	0	2	1	3
SLOVENIA	0	2	1	3
LATVIA	0	2	0	2
GREAT BRITAIN	1	0	0	1
ESTONIA	0	1	0	1
KAZAKHSTAN	0	1	0	1

Miga — A mythical sea bear

Quatchi — A sasquatch, who wears boots and earmuffs.

Sumi — An animal guardian spirit

Mukmuk — A Vancouver Island marmot.



1.8 million Tickets were available





The numbers are staggering: 6 ½ years of preparation, \$6 billion spent (\$100 million for the Athletes' Village), \$953 million raised by VANOC (the Official Olympic Committee), 25,000 volunteers (I was one of them), and 2,600 athletes from 82 nations competing in 86 different events. If you didn't make it to Vancouver for the Games, the chances are that you were glued to your TV watching them are high. More than 32 million Canadians (with a population of 33 998 600 citizens in 2010, that makes 94%), basically every single person in the country, tuned in, and so did 175 million Americans. Three point five billion people tuned in to the Games at one point or another. Approximately 50% of the world's population, and this represented about 20% more than for the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy. These were the most watched Winter Olympics ever.

## And the Winners are ...

Well, let's say that the first week of the Olympics didn't go very well. First, the tragic death of Georgian luger, Nodar Kumaritashvili, then one of the crystal arms failed to rise from the floor during the Opening Ceremony. It seemed that Canada was struggling. By chance (or more effort) Alexandre Bilodeau won the first gold medal. And here the turning point began. Using this pretext, Canada hit its stride and really commenced its triumph.



Each country celebrated their athlete's successes. But, for me and likely for many here across the country, it was the goal of Canadian Hockey player, Sidney Crosby, that made the whole Olympics exercise worthwhile. Sure, Canada can keep its generous traditions, yet be extremely competitive. The crowd began bobbing and twisting to the rhythm of Black Eyed Peas, and for a moment (a moment of more than five hours) you could look around at thousands of red maple leaves brought to life simultaneously as if by gust of wind. I was there and believe me, you have never seen so many happy people like that (police men, men, women, old, young) everyone was cheering! Crosby's goal 40 seconds into overtime cut short the improbable comeback by the Americans 24 seconds before the end of the third period.



After losing against the USA and barely winning against the Swiss before they kicked off their triumph by winning against Germany and Russia. The Canadians men's Hockey team grabbed its opportunity against the US and won the final gold medal on the last day of The XXI Olympics; no Canadian could have written a better scenario!







For me, my journey with the Olympics began when I attended the opening ceremony. From the first moment, when a snowboarder jumped through the Rings to when I attended the final Closing Ceremony, I felt that Canada had been laminated by a pulse for 17 days. The Opening Ceremony for me was highlighted by the parade of nations, the appearance of a huge luminous bear from the floor of the BC Place and the lighting of the torch. However, when Wayne Gretzky (Hockey player), Steve Nash (NBA star) Catriona Le May Doan (Speed skater), Nancy Greene stood on the BC Place to light the Olympic cauldron, three giant crystal arms appeared, but the fourth, intended for Le May Doan's torch, failed to rise from the floor.



If you didn't have enough money to attend



some events, or hadn't been lucky to get tickets...no problem, there were numerous free concerts and shows that over took Vancouver. Downtown Vancouver, Life City, Robson Square, Granville Island had been transformed into scenes. You just had to walk anywhere in Vancouver to find entertainment. Party, Party, Party: Thomas, Martin, Mathieu, Bastien, Petra, Maria & my friends joined me!

Throughout the games, I was proud of everyone's achievements. At the Closing Ceremony, Canadian's pride was certainly evident and showed our sense of humour. Having proven what the country was able to do, Canada presented a humorous cliché show. From a parody of malfunction of the torch incident to a funny view of all the stereotypes of Canada; Canadians are able to make love in a canoe, to pee their names in the snow, and giant beavers, goofy hockey players and enormous moose. After that, Canadian artists such as Nickelback, Avril Lavigne, Alanis Morissette, Hedley, Simple Plan and other bands inspired the stadium with their performances. To finish there was an introduction made by Russia of Sochi host of the 2014 Winter Games.





I wanted to give a 'grade' to the games, so I looked up the best (10/10) & the worst (0/10) of The Games and made my own score card! I graded everything out of 10 marks.

**11.0**→ Men's Hockey Team

**9.9**→ Super Saturday: In a few hours, Canada has won three gold medals, which propelled them to most gold medals won by any country. The city was crazy!

**9.8**→ The Olympic atmosphere

**9.3**→ The Canadian women's hockey team celebrates: Criticized by some, they, nonetheless, showed how Canadians like to party.

**9.2**→ The Canadian women's hockey team beats the USA and won the gold: That too was cool.

**8.5**→ Canada's Humour: Canada is probably one of a few countries that can laugh about itself (Closing Ceremony)

**8.3**→ Team spirit

**8.1**→ Security: With one billion spent on Security we could only hope that it's worth it.

**8.0**→ The Opening Ceremony

**5.3**→ Bryan Adams & Nelly Furtado performing at the Opening Ceremony: Don't we have celebrities able to sing? Like Celine Dion, well... I guess she is American now.

**5.2**→ Attitude: Canada used to be more humble. Hopefully, it was just for the Games.

**4.5**→ Mother Nature: Actually, I didn't know if I had to put 9.9 or 4.5 for her. Vancouver had been struck by a week of rain, and then 20°C for 8 days, and then another cold time. I agree that should have been pleasant for the people in Vancouver, but 20°C is this a temperature for the *Winter* Olympics?

**3.8**→ Cypress: In the end, VANOC cancelled 20,000 tickets that should have been held to Cypress Mountain. The Competitions occurred anyway, they just decided it was OK to ski, not to stand or sit...

**3.2**→ The Official Olympic Shop: The endless lines of four hours to buy cheap "made-in-China" products that cost \$300.

Without a doubt, I experienced some amazing moments at the games. Of course I will look at many of the positive events. But even though all those medals were nice, and the other glorious moment, there were definitely some downsides.

10,000 Condoms were given to the athletes (which means 14 by athlete). They passed through in one week...



They were 1,350 Paralympics athletes and officials







2.3→ The Olympic Cauldron: It looked pretty bad on the TV when one of the pots didn't get up, and placing it behind a hideous chain-link fence, behind the sea, surrounded by buildings so that no one can see it was not a good idea either.

# Canada Reborn

To conclude, the Games didn't change Vancouver and Canada, they reflected a change that had occurred in it since a long time ago. It gave the opportunity to prove that Canada is not only the "US' North", but also a great a fresh country that has a lot of offer.

## Comments

**Maxime Defoy:** "Wow! Being a Canadian had never been a privilege like that!"

**Mathieu Turcotte:** "My favourite thing: Being with a lot of people that have the same patriotic mind as me was something I haven't really lived before. It was sensational!"

**Martin Cloutier:** "The ambiance on Granville Street was awesome. I liked very much going to free shows & concerts, My favourite: Mister Valaire, Villa la Verdé"

**Marion Lamontagne:** "The ambiance in the streets and the belonging feeling to my country was amazing. It was a life

experience and I feel really lucky for having been there."

**Maria Romani** "My favourite thing about the Olympics was when we got on a bus and everyone was singing the Canadian anthem."

**Petra Ladurner :** " The ambiance in the streets was amazing and I loved to see Vancouver in this very different atmosphere. It was a great experience and it was great that I could be a part of it."

**Thomas Lanz:** "It was my favourite experience I had in Canada."

**Bastien Royer:** "Four things: Free hot chocolate, free public transport, \$1 pizza & the summerlike weather"

**Haruka Yuge** "The People even on the street wore Canadian Official clothes and waved their flags."

**Kevin Learning:** "I've never felt so patriotic"





# WHAT IS SPECIAL BETWEEN CULTURES?

By Tomona

**What do you think is something special or unexpected about your country and other countries?**



- Quebec is very cold ( Ray)
- It has very beautiful architecture and I was surprised that they eat rabbit (Tomona)
- Special food like poutine and maple syrup (Martin)



- Mexican people love music and dancing (Edwin)
- Performances on the road and they like to give hugs (Martin)
- They can often go to the beach often (Tomona)



- They like music and dancing and have a different accent (Woo Cheol)
- It is nice weather every day and always hot (Martin)
- Cuban society is very warm and welcoming like a big family (Shana)



- The beautiful landscape with the best mountains ever and we have four official languages (Petra)
- Famous for their chocolate (Sally)
- Many students who have come here done an apprenticeship(Ray)



- The people in BC are very warm-hearted and friendly and will always try to help you! (Petra)
- They have passion (Tomona)
- It's easy to see wildlife like bears, deer and geese (Ray)



- They have a pure soul (Bella)
- There are a lot of gentlemen (Tomona)
- They are very charming (Petra)







- Japanese people seem to be meticulous (Ray)
- Japanese girls wear very professional make-up (Bella)
- Japanese are punctual (Doris)



- Chinese are talkative and so are Hong Kong people (Ryan)
- Chinese businessmen like to discuss their careers at restaurants (Echo)
- China has many historical sites (Sally)



- Korean guys are very kind (Tomona)
- The food is spicy (Bella)
- Korea has a lot of romantic movies (Doris)
- People know what they want (Martin)



- In Macau you can find Portuguese and Chinese cultures in the streets (Gaz)
- Macau has more than 30 casino hotels (Karl)



- Hong Kong has 3 official languages. (Ryan)
- It is a big city and everyone seems to be running (Gaz)
- "Double-decker" fish burgers at McDonalds (Bastien)



- There are many snacks to buy in the streets (Ryan)
- In Taiwan there are lots of night markets and betel nut girl (Karl)
- Taiwan has many tea houses where you can drink tea and look out on spectacular scenery (Shana)

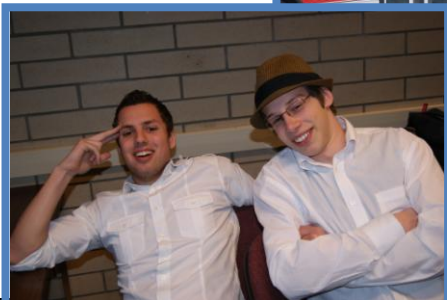
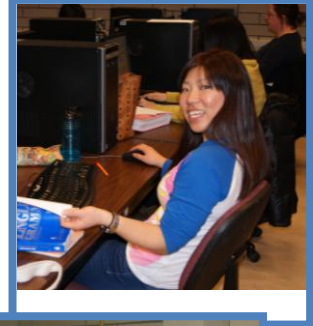
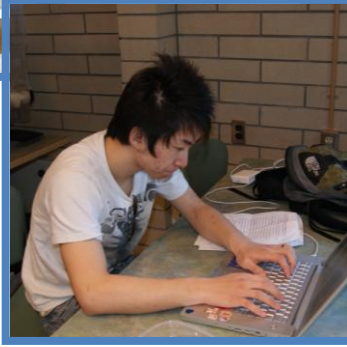


- The Independence Day 1947 and the Tajmahal in New Delhi. India's curry is also very famous. (Girish)
- Wild variety of spicy curries (Haruka)
- On traditional holidays it is often a day of fast (Tomona)



- Saudi Arabia has one language. (Aziz)
- Saudi Arabia has one religion.
- Families are often quite large (5 to 8 children) (Sahal)
- People in Saudi Arabia seem to be very lovely (Tomona)







# Thank you Linda!

By Marion Lamontagne-Bélisle

After having taught EASL and Peace Studies, been the international department head, helped to build the peaceful vision of Selkirk and co-founded the Mir Centre, Linda Wilkinson is retiring. She has been a patient instructor, who would always respectfully let the students give their opinion in class. With a Master degree in Peace Studies, she was the perfect person to teach us Peace Studies; she reflects peace. With her, I learned not only how to live in peace with the people around me, but also with myself and I am now really minded to help people. I am really thankful of her kindness and for all the little pieces of herself that she shared every time she taught.



*"Linda has taught me to look at life differently; how to communicate peacefully and to accept all cultures. The skills I learned in Peace studies will help me in my social work career."*

Wayne Stupnikoff, student in Peace Studies.

*"Linda has been a huge inspiration to me by representing how living with peace in our hearts can change our community and make a difference in the world. I am thankful to her for guiding me how to be present in the midst of conflict and for giving me the tools and understandings needed to establish a healthy relationship with myself and others. Through building these relationships, my life has gained more meaning and a sense of purpose."*

Casey Onyett, student in Peace Studies.

*"Light never remains still. At the confluence of the two rivers reality changes by the moment as sea and sky are transformed. Linda has loved to walk in this landscape; and she has seen things in the land which at first seemed only dreams. But light does not lie; if one looks closely, with the inner eye, history begins to rise up from the earth – people and nature, dreams of perfection, struggle for freedom – nothing is forgotten. Linda has looked closely; she has walked on the land."*

Myler Wilkinson, co-founder Mir Centre for Peace.



*"Linda is an elegant lady. She is knowledgeable. She is a good teacher; she always wants to let us give full play to the initiative and creativity. She gave the opportunity for us to show our countries' culture. I love the literature class."*

Echo Wong, ESL student.

*"I really appreciate Linda to keep Castlegar peaceful. Please stay the way you are forever! Life is beautiful!"*

Sho Takasugi, UT student.



# Individual Pages

Questions we asked the students. The numbers of the questions are beside the answers on the individual pages.

1. What is one of your best memories in Castlegar?
2. How would you like to celebrate your birthday?
3. What is one of your unforgettable *experiences* with your classmates?
4. What is something you want to experience while in Canada?





**Akhil Kodamanchili**



Country: India  
 Birthday: Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: Business and Music

2. On stage, as I did last year
3. All the time and the experiences I've had here

**Arisa Tanaka**



Country: Japan  
 Birthday: Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: UT-Arts

1. To be able to have chocolate every day :p
2. With Azumi san♥?

**Atsushi Imoto**



Country: Japan  
 Birthday: May. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Program: ESL

1. Snowboarding
4. I want to go to the Element

**Aziz (Abdulaziz) Algahtani**



Country: Saudi Arabia  
 Birthday: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: ESL

2. Having a party with friends
4. Being free to travel and see lots of snow

**Bastien Royer**



Country: Québec-Canada  
 Birthday: Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: ESL-UT

1. The time when I got attacked by a bear, and I killed it by biting his eye off!
3. I will never forget grammar class when we studied noun clauses. It was very interesting!

**Bella (Kyeong Hee) Baek**



Country: Korea  
 Birthday: Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: ESL

3. Girish gave me a free ticket for Subway
4. Spend more time talking with Canadians

**Besty Tse**



Country: Hong Kong  
 Birthday: Mar. 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: Business

1. with Bubi.
3. I won a Lottery.

**Carrie (Eun Soo) Jung**



Country: Korea  
 Birthday: Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Program: Business

2. Party with my friends all night long
4. Traveling very where in Canada

**Doris (Xin) Li**



Country: China  
Birthday: Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL-UT

2. Travelling to Victoria or LA
4. Spending more time in Canada

**Duke (Dong Wook) Choi**



Country: Korea  
Birthday: Mar. 25<sup>th</sup>  
Program: Business

2. Making food and inviting friends over to share it
3. Visiting Vancouver

**Echo (Shiman) Wang**



Country: China  
Birthday: Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. Skating and Skiing
3. Working with friends as team

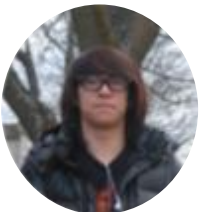
**Edwin Ramos Perez**



Country: Cuba  
Birthday: Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

3. We went camping in Nelson at camp Koolaree during the 2009 spring semester
4. Trying skiing

**Gainax aka. Gaz (Hon Chio) Lai**



Country: Macau  
Birthday: Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. No special memories in Castlegar
2. With Belu, Iris, Suti, Jason, San and Kero.

**Gary (Dong Hyun) Lee**



Country: Korea  
Birthday: Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>  
Program: Business

1. Being with friends and joining in classes
4. Traveling across Canada by bicycle

**Girish Prajapati**



Country: India  
Birthday: July. 12<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

2. Celebrating with my wife and family
3. My classmates shared their textbooks with me

**Haruka Yuge**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Mar. 7<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. I almost broke my ankle because I tried to get on the bus while the door was closing.
3. My one of friends from Cuba practiced writing Japanese characters with me.





**Howard Yeung**



Country: Hong Kong  
Birthday: Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT

2. Celebrating In Madrid
4. Winning a Lottery

**Jan Peters**



Country: Switzerland  
Birthday: Mar. 7<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT-ESL

1. One Tuesday, I was up at Red Mountain with Bastien (Yes!! Of cause we were skipping classes) and we had around 30 cm of powder snow.
4. Seeing a mouse or bear, going to Banff and to Whistler, and surely partying in Vancouver till the sun rises.

**Jessie (Jessica) McQuarrie**



Country: Belize  
Birthday: July. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Program: UT-Business

1. Ice skating for the first time.
2. Partying in Nelson with friends

**Julia (Ji Ae) Park**



Country: Korea  
Birthday: Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. Hanging out with friends at the Element Club
3. Collecting donations for Haiti with the leadership class

**Julien Veron**



Country: France  
Birthday: Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

**Carl (Kubo) Kaoru**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Program: ESL

2. To have a surprise birthday with a big cake and a song
4. Being in a band with foreign students and performing with them

**Karl (Chi Teng) Wu**



Country: Macau  
Birthday: Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Program: ESL

2. Friends get together to have dinner
3. Travelling in Canada

**Kei (Keisuke) Ota**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Jul. 18<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

3. I went to the Element with my friends
4. Shopping in Vancouver



**Kenny (Seng Un) Mok**



Country: Macau  
Birthday: Apr. 18<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT-KSA

**Kento Hoshino**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT-Business

3. One of my Canadian friends always finishes their exam within 30 minutes while I can spend 3 hours on it!
4. To see the northern lights in Yellowknife

**Kozue Aiso**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Jun. 5<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. I rode an ambulance in Kelowna which was exciting
4. I would love to see a bear while I'm in Canada.

**Luis Valcarcel - Jervis**



Country: Colombia  
Birthday: May. 16<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT-Business

3. With lots of friends... probably at home by the pool with lots of music
4. Champignons on poutine

**Mai Gokijo**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

2. I want to get 1000 roses from my boy friend ♥
4. Traveling to Montreal, Ottawa and Prince Edward

**Crane (Marc Antonie) Gendreau**



Country: Québec-Canada  
Birthday: Jun. 21<sup>st</sup>  
Program: UT-Business

2. Not being able to remember it
4. Travelling across Canada by train

**María Romani Mendez**



Country: Mexico  
Birthday: May. 4<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT-ESL

1. Skiing for the first time
3. I went to Vancouver for the Olympic Games

**Marion Lamontagne-Bélisle**



Country: Québec -Canada  
Birthday: Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL-UT

1. Puzzles
4. I want to see a bear, like everybody else did.





**Martin Cloutier**



Country: Québec -Canada  
Birthday: Apr. 28<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL-UT

1. The great trip to Banff
2. Having a party with my friends

**Mat (Mathieu) Turcotte**



Country: Québec -Canada  
Birthday: Jun. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Program: ESL-UT

1. All the moments skiing with my friends in Castlegar
2. Having a big cake with a girl coming out of it

**Max (Maxime) Defoy**



Country: Québec -Canada  
Birthday: Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Program: ESL-UT

1. My best memories in Castlegar are the people I have met and the experiences I have had.
3. On the trip to Banff Martin, Mathieu and I were half-naked at the top of the mountain – it was -20°C.

**Meg (Megumi) Yamashita**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: May. 18<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. Selkirk Olympics
4. I want to see the northern lights, but it maybe it is impossible this time ... maybe next visit

**Megumi Yoshimoto**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: May. 29<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. My host family's birthday party
4. Snowboarding

**Nanana (Mio) Yamada**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. Castlegar has a seven-eleven convenience store!
3. My classmate's English level is very, very high

**Misato Matsushita**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. Meeting my host family at the airport
2. Having a party with my favorite food!

**Nakes (Naoki) Umeda**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Jul. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Program: UT-Business

1. Playing volleyball with the Selkirk team
3. Business competition



**Shakaka (Pearce) Watson**



Country: USA-India  
Birthday: Jun. 30<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT

1. I love everything.
4. Snowboarding.

**Petra Ladurner**



Country: Switzerland  
Birthday: Apr. 10<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL-UT

3. Being in Vancouver during the Olympics!
4. Travelling through the Rockies in summer and seeing more of Canada's beautiful nature.

**Rachel (Ming Yan) Li**



Country: China  
Birthday: Sep. 21<sup>st</sup>  
Program: UT-Business

1. Going travelling
4. Becoming an accountant

**Ray (Yue) Yin**



Country: China  
Birthday: Sep. 16<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. Snowboarding on Red Mountain
2. Having a nice meal with my friends

**Renee (Chou) I-Pan**



Country: Taiwan  
Birthday: Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. I had a chance to get to know a lot of interesting people.
3. Having a Halloween party

**Riyu Bamba**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

1. Selkirk Olympics
3. I met many friends

**Ryan Chu**



Country: Hong Kong  
Birthday: Sep. 14<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT

1. Cherry Blossom in the summer
2. Anything is OK, but better with Cherry Blossom

**Saki Okuda**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

2. Receiving presents except food!!
4. I want to see a lot of snow.



**Sally (Wei) Sha**



Country: China

Birthday: Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>

Program: ESL

2. Celebrating with my homestay family and friends.
  3. Celebrating Lunar New Year with teachers and classmates.
- Kozue and I made the Lucky Cards together and we gave these cards to everybody who came to Chopsticks.

**Sara Choi**



Country: Korea

Birthday: Apr. 8<sup>th</sup>

Program: ESL-UT

2. If my parents have time, I want to meet them in Castlegar on my birthday.
4. Crossing Canada by train.

**Satomi Oba**



Country: Japan

Birthday: Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>

Program: ESL

1. When I went for a walk with my friends at night, I could see many beautiful stars in the sky.
2. Surprise Party

**Satomi Yamamoto**



Country: Japan

Birthday: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>

Program: ESL

1. I spent my 20<sup>th</sup> birthday in Castlegar
3. One of my classmates is Japanese, from the same school and has the same name as me.

**Sekai Yamamoto**



Country: Japan

Birthday: Mar. 27<sup>th</sup>

Program: UT-Business

1. Once when I missed the bus I had to wait for more than an hour for the next one.
3. I hope I can work as an accountant this summer.

**Shandi Lai**



Country: China

Birthday: Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>

Program: UT-Psychology

1. Meeting many nice people here
4. Travelling throughout Canada

**Sahal Hussein**



Country: Saudi Arabia

Birthday: May. 23<sup>rd</sup>

Program: ESL

3. Practice and learn English
4. I want to learn about different cultures

**Sho (Shotaro) Suzuki**



Country: Japan

Birthday: Jun. 7<sup>th</sup>

Program: ESL-UT

1. Selkirk Olympics (There were many unique games, and I was able to have fun!!)
4. To speak English as much as I can.

**Sho Takasugi**



Country: Japan  
 Birthday: May. 14<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: UT-Associate of Arts

1. Tequila party
2. I'd like to get drowned in a pool of champagne and strawberries.

**Shota Yamamura**



Country: Japan  
 Birthday: Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Program: ESL-UT

1. Skiing at Red Mountain. That's awesome!!
3. I've hiked to the top of the hill. It took 3 hours to get there and come back.

**Sonia (Seon Young) Lee**



Country: Korea  
 Birthday: Jul. 30<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: ESL

1. Hanging out with my friends at the Element club.
2. Dancing at Selkirk Idol

**Taka (Munetaka) Iino**



Country: Japan  
 Birthday: Sep. 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: UT-RFW

3. Back country skiing field trip to Baldface
4. Cat or Heli skiing

**Terry (Kuang Yu) Cheng**



Country: Taiwan  
 Birthday: Sep. 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: UT

1. Driving 13 hours to Edmonton.
4. Travelling across Canada.

**Thomas Lanz**



Country: Switzerland  
 Birthday: Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: ESL

2. Private party at the Element.
3. I went to see the Olympics.

**Tomo (Tomoko) Otani**



Country: Japan  
 Birthday: Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: ESL

3. Trip to the Hot Springs in Ainsworth
4. Seeing aurora!

**Tomona Seki**



Country: Japan  
 Birthday: May. 30<sup>th</sup>  
 Program: ESL

1. I had a nice host mother and met nice friends.
4. I want to be a strong woman while I'm in Canada.





**Vincent (Yexwan) Luo**



Country: China  
Birthday: May. 18<sup>th</sup>  
Program: "The Under world"

- 2. Party in Vancouver
- 4. Having a working experience

**William (Yun Ming) Chang**



Country: Taiwan  
Birthday: Jul. 16<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT-Accounting

- 1. Making a girlfriend
- 3. Having a party with friends

**Woo Cheol Kim**



Country: Korea  
Birthday: Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

- 1. Learning how to ski
- 4. Seeing bears and deer

**Yang Yamei (Masami)**



Country: China / Japan  
Birthday: Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT-Business

- 1. My studying was getting so hard
- 4. Going to Ontario

**Young (Hyun Young) Yang**



Country: Korea  
Birthday: Apr. 29<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

- 1. I met many international friends, professional teachers and lovely homestay family
- 4. Traveling (Vancouver, Nelson, Quebec)

**Yu Funakoshi**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Mar. 17<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

- 1. My birthday party
- 4. I want to see the Olympics.

**Yuri Ota**



Country: Japan  
Birthday: Apr. 18<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

- 2. Making favorite dishes and buying a cake
- 3. We got lost because we took the wrong bus and ended up in Trail

**Zigong (Zion) Zhang**



Country: China  
Birthday: Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>  
Program: ESL

- 3. Camp Koolaree
- 4. Getting a job and going whatever I want to go.



# Teachers'

1. Why did you want to teach English to International Students?
2. What did you do for fun when you were a kid?
3. What is one unforgettable memory with your students?
4. Have you ever 'played hookey' from



## Darcy Falkenhagen



Country: Norwalk, USA  
 Birthday: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Position: Instructor

1. I love meeting people from all over the world and sharing my love of language with them!

2. When I was a kid, I loved to ski and play outside in the snow. (This is still what I do for fun!)

## Joan Silvey



Country: California, USA  
 Birthday: Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Position: Instructor

1. Together we all can share our different customs and ways of thinking using one language. The more we all understand each other, the more peace in the world.

2. I grew up in California, so I played outside all the time. We built forts and tree houses, played "kick the can" and rode our bikes – even on Christmas day.



### Linda Wilkinson



Country: Canada  
Birthday: Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>  
Position: Instructor

3. Several years ago, we had an international concert for UNICEF at the college. There are always many talented students and it was great to have the international students perform for the whole college.

4. When I was a high school student I played hokey a couple of times. Mostly we just went for walks by one of the rivers and talked about life and what we wanted to do finished school.

### Mac McHenry



Country: Saskatoon, Canada  
Birthday: Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>  
Position: Instructor

1. Teaching ESL has it's challenges, but I find working with such a diversity of people every day very rewarding and it has led to many other opportunities as well. Never Look Back.

2. I was involved in many sports growing up. In the small prairie town where I lived hockey and curling were part of the local culture. The hockey, figure skating and curling rinks are the focal point of our lives.



Country: Ireland  
Birthday: Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>  
Position: Student Coordinator

3. Seeing students arrive at the airport looking so scared and after a few weeks at Selkirk they look so relaxed and happy

4. Yes!! I spend the day the shopping mall



Country: Edmonton  
Birthday: May 24<sup>th</sup>  
Position: Instructor

1. I wanted to help students who were brave and adventurous enough to try living in a new culture and language. Language is one of the keys to their new world.

4. Of course! When I was in high school, my friends and I would go drink coffee and talk about our 'important' problems. However, I never skipped math class because I would have failed. PS. Please don't tell anyone this secret!!!!

### Sarah Fawcett



Country: Canada  
Birthday: July. 9<sup>th</sup>  
Program: UT-English Instructor

1. Because they have so much to teach me.

3. When we went to see the Lovely Bones and no one left the theater. (I thought that as soon as the lights went down, everyone would go to Avatar .....Or bar).

### Shana Rablah



Country: England  
Birthday: Jul. 25<sup>th</sup>  
Position: Department Head

1. I admire the courage, the determination and the vision each student has when they choose to study internationally. I think it is such an honor to share a little of this dream they have.

4. Absolutely! Some days in England when my mother would drive us to school, she would suddenly say – "Let's not go to school today, let's go on an adventure!" And we would skip school and go exploring.

### Tracy King



Country: Scotland  
Birthday: Jun. 21<sup>st</sup>  
Position: Admissions Officer

2. I like to collect rocks when I was a child. I thought they were pretty special. I also loved to roller skate. I had the old roller skates that were white with red wheels. They were awesome!

4. Yes, I played hokey. I would just hang out with friends. I would not recommend playing hokey as you will always miss something important. If I could turn back time.....

### Vi Kalesnikoff



Country: Nelson, BC, Canada  
Birthday: Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>  
Program: Dean

3. Every time I see a group of students I have had contact with graduate is an unforgettable memory for me. I am always so excited and happy for them.

4. Yes. I went to a friend's house, and we had a party for the whole day.



# Students always write -- Alumni Pages

By Shana

Every semester I take pleasure in hearing from past students and catching up on their news and their celebrations. This section of the 'What's Up?' is a time to share some of those memories and moments. I hope that one day, I will be writing your story in these pages.

**Rie Sawada – summer 2009.** Towards the end of the spring term, Rie set off to Toronto. She had her heart set on a big city and a specialized business course. Despite the sometimes lonely days in Toronto, she made the most of her time. She hired extra tutors, explored the city and visited New York and Quebec. She loved the lights of Broadway and went to see shows like 'Billy Elliot', "Phantom of the Opera", "Chicago" and "Westside Story". For someone who wants to make a career in the entertainment industry... it was definitely the experience she was looking for.



**Advice:** Set a clear purpose and remind yourself of it often... and to improve your language, use English as much as possible.

**Sho Takasugi – On and off...from 2004** Sho will be graduating this year from Selkirk College with his Associate of Arts Diploma. Over the years, Sho has travelled back and forth between Canada and Japan. This year when he returned to finish his diploma, he was awarded 2 bursaries. He was given the bursaries at an awards ceremony in Nelson where he is pictured here with Joleen Kinakin.



**Selkirk... has always been a family affair!!!**... look closely. Don't you recognize the young fellow... second from the right? And we thought it was Martin's first time here.



**Nelson Resort and Hotel Management Students** get a visit from The Swiss Hotel Management Program. The Resort students were lucky to get a visit from Selkirk's partnership college in Switzerland. On completion of their diploma, students can transfer to Switzerland to get their degree in business and hospitality.



## PARTNERSHIPS

Over the past few years, Selkirk College has had a partnership with Nanjing Institute of Industry and Technology. Students (including Taylor, Helen, Amy, Echo, Doris and Sally) have come to study at Selkirk and instructors (Jean Jones) and TESOL graduates (Tim Inkster) have gone to China to work. Jean Jones came to

this year's Lunar New Year's party in Castlegar and when she returned to China her students were full of questions and comments for the Canadian students at Selkirk. They decided to send an article to the What's Up?







# Nanjing Institute of Industry Technology

The students were asked, "What do I want to say to students at Selkirk College in Canada"? The following comments are written by the second year students in current International Business courses being taught by Canadian teacher, Jean Jones, in response to this question:



**Jiang Yuling** - "At the beginning I wish everyone will enjoy themselves every day. Then, if it is possible, I will go there to study this year."

**Amy** - "I hope you can try to learn in China. I want to be a friend with you. And, I think you are very lucky to study with Canadian teachers."

**Mark** - "Hello. We will get well together and we will study hard. China has many interesting things, and culture. Welcome to China."

**Karen** - "I want to become friends."

**Sandy** - "Enjoy your school time in Canada; it will be a precious memory."

**Gaylina** - "I hope we can be good friends, and we can talk and go shopping together."

**John** - "Your teachers are very good, and very responsible. Canada is a very beautiful country."

**Crystal** - "China is a beautiful country in the world. We have many interesting cities. Chinese people are very friendly."

**Michelle** - "China has a lot of delicious food. There are a lot of good places. China has a long history and deep culture. Chinese people are very enthusiastic."

**Shirley** - "Make a greater effort, make an extra effort."

**Angel** - "I want to make friends with people in Canada, and then I will introduce our country. I'll not only tell my favourite food or places, but ask them about their favourite things. Of course I will say welcome to China."

**Park** - "Don't be shy, be brave."

**Evans** - "China is an old country. There are many famous places of interest. Welcome to China."

**Kathyda** - "I'm coming!!"

**Susan** - "First, I want to say that I want to be your friend, so we can communicate with each other by e-mail".

**Coco** - "First, I think the students in Canada are very lucky. I believe they are very outstanding. We feel proud of our partnership college. They work hard."

**Kobe** - "I want to say that I am very happy that you can study in such a beautiful country. So I hope you all can study well, and also I want to be your good friend".

**Jing Jing** - "Live a brilliant life...Happy every day."

**Lee** - "You should study hard. You should value time in university. You should do some sports while you study for a long time."

**Easy** - "Work hard and have a wonderful time in Canada. If you have time, you can travel around Canada and enjoy more beautiful things."

**King** - "I want to teach you Chinese, and help you know about Chinese culture."

**Henry** - "Please share the life there with us. Wear more in the winter."

**Neo** - "Don't be shy! Try to just speak English!"



# Why we love Selkirk College

*By Mayu Goto*

On March 23rd, as soon as I finished working, I headed for Nagoya station to catch the night bus bound for Tokyo because the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo held a study fair on 24th and 25th. There were so many Colleges and Universities. Akane, a friend of mine, and I went there to help John Armstrong and his wife Shoko, promote Selkirk College. I had a lot of fun with Akane in Canada. Everytime I see her, I feel as if we are back in Canada.

At the study fair, Akane and I talked about our experiences to study abroad agents, future students, and their parents, and also translated for the students and John. Many people came to our booth. I was glad that they were interested in Selkirk College.

At the fair I met a girl who is going to Castlegar in May. Her eyes were full of hopes and energy, and she was excited about what will happen in her life while she is in Canada. She reminded me of what felt when I first came to Canada.

I'm sure Selkirk College is a great place to study English and to meet nice people. Through Selkirk College, I got to know so many people, and I am still in touch with them. The friends I made in Selkirk, like Akane, are really precious and irreplaceable. We spent a very precious time. That's why I know Selkirk is a great place, and I hope it is for everyone too.



After the second day of the fair, John, Akane and I met 2 friends from Selkirk College, Ai, who graduated from the Resort & Hotel Management Program in Nelson, and Yasu, who took UT in Castlegar. Mihoko, who graduated from the Hotel Management program as well, was not able to come, but she gave us a phone call and had a good talk with John. She misses John so much.

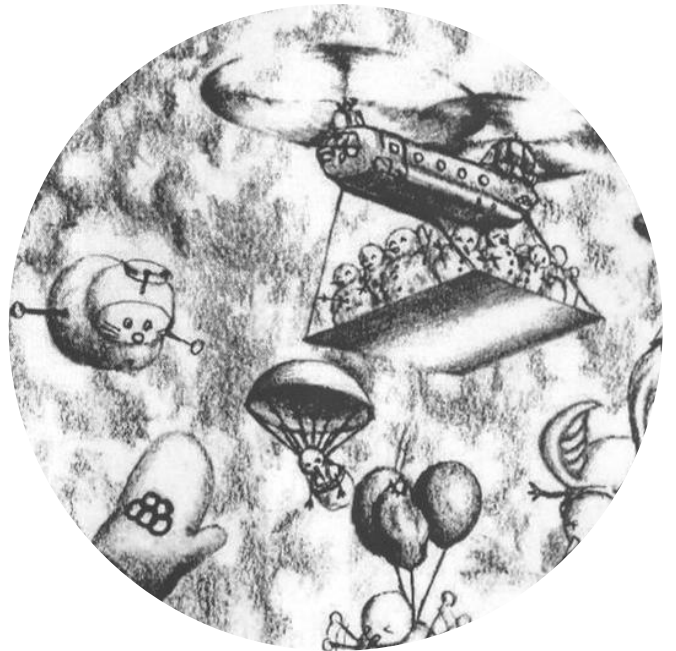


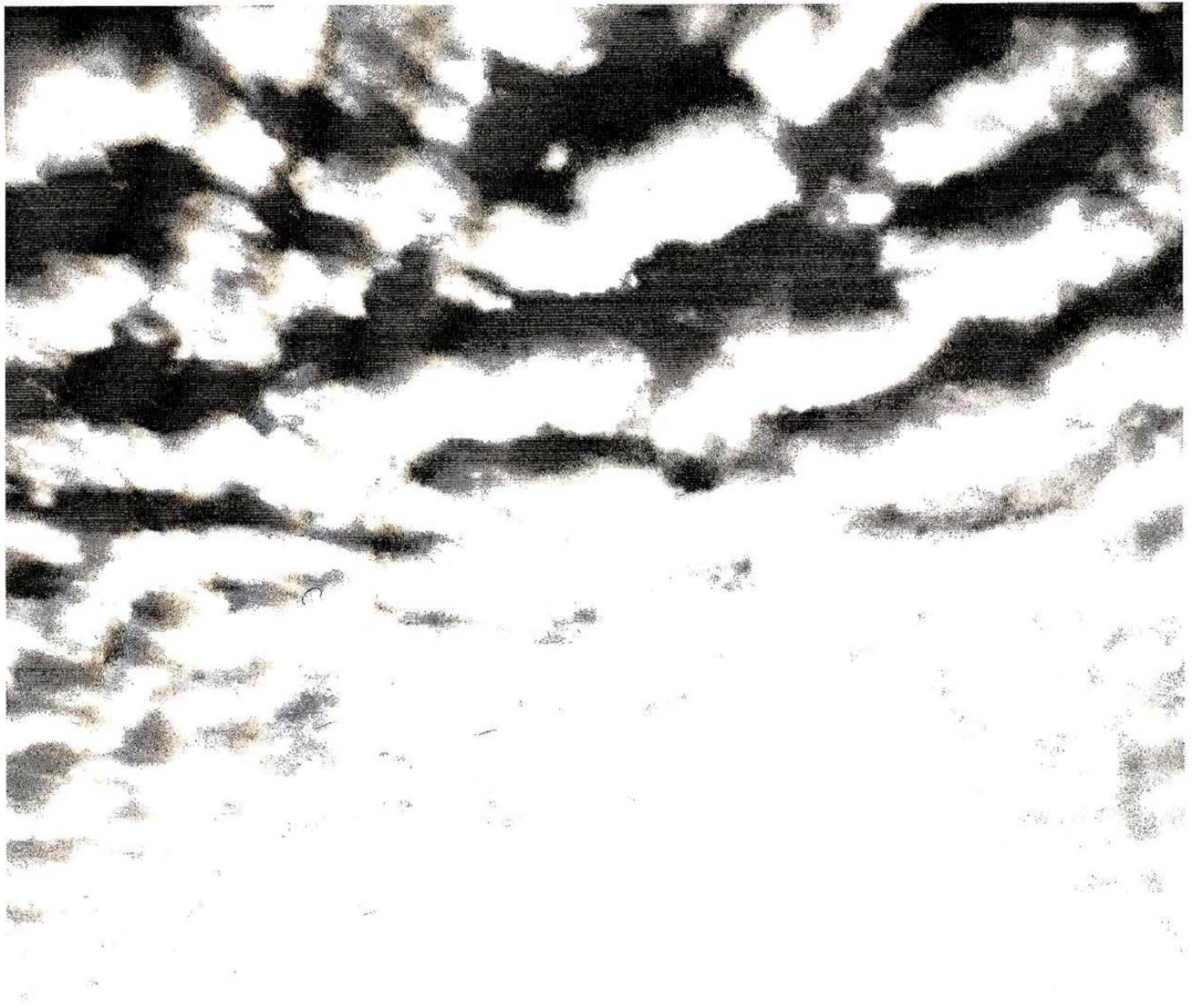
Through the fair, I really felt the great connection with friends, teachers and Selkirk College. We love Selkirk College. I appreciate what I got from Selkirk College, not only English skills but also great relationships with friends, teachers and my homestay family. I'll cherish them my whole life.



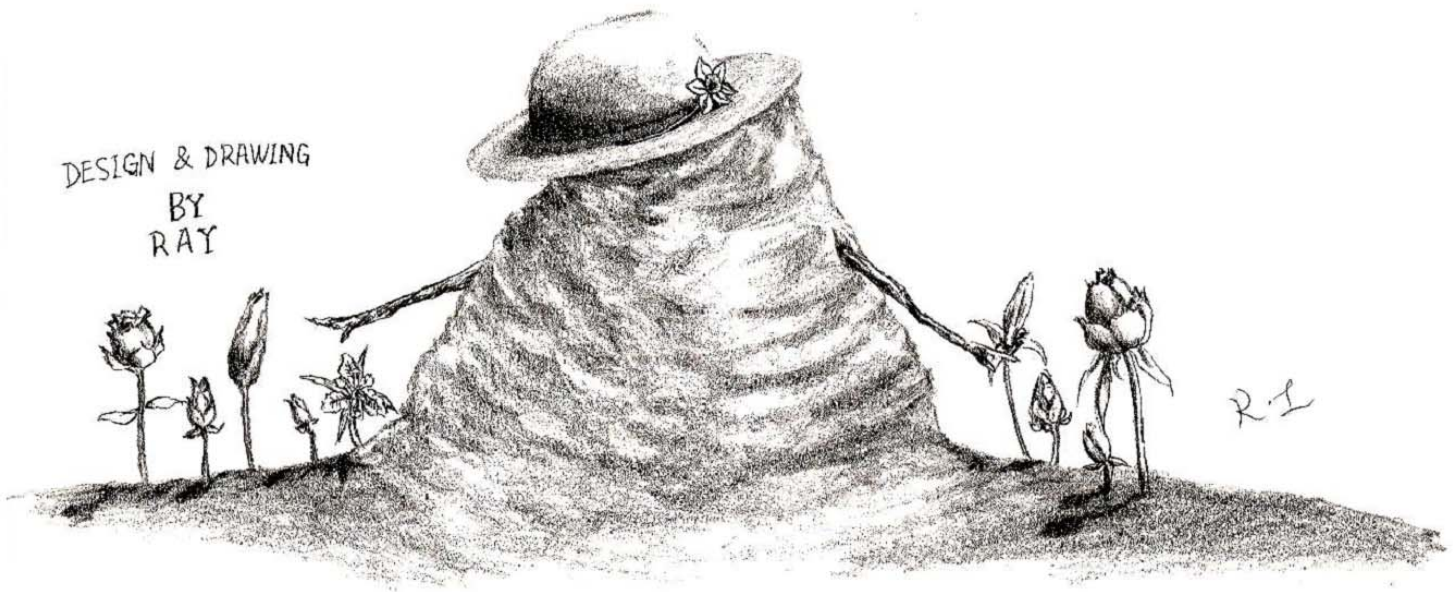


# Signatures





DESIGN & DRAWING  
BY  
RAY



R.I