

# alumnUS

Selkirk College Alumni Association

UPDATES pg 2 | FEATURES pg 3 | REUNIONS pg 6 | GALA GALLERY pg 7 | PROFILES pg 8

## Greetings from the President

Dear Selkirk College Alumni,

*As this is my last message to you as President of Selkirk College, I want to say thank you for staying in touch with your alma mater and for continuing to support our beloved community college. I also want to say a fond farewell and best wishes as I move on to become the President of New Brunswick Community College.*



*It has been an honour to serve you. I have learned a lot, especially about the value of this college for the learners who have us as part of their journeys and for the communities with whom we work to enhance this region's economic, social and cultural vitality.*

*Thank you once again for your many contributions. And to you and your families and friends, I wish you the best for the coming holiday season and the New Year.*

Sincerely,  
Marilyn



## Announcement

Effective January 1, 2011, Angus Graeme, Vice President Academic and Student Development, will assume the role of Selkirk College's Interim President. Angus will remain in this position until a new president for the college has been selected.

## And I Quote...



### Craig Andrews, 1968-99 History Instructor, Retiree

"I worked at Selkirk from 1968 to 1999, both as an instructor (history) and later Dean (Continuing Education, International Education). They were a wonderful 31 years. The work was always interesting and challenging. Many, many friendships made with students and colleagues endure. And while we now live at the coast, images of life in Castlegar—our growing family, our friends, the outdoor life we lived—sustain us and always will."

### Matt Halstead, 2010, University Arts and Sciences

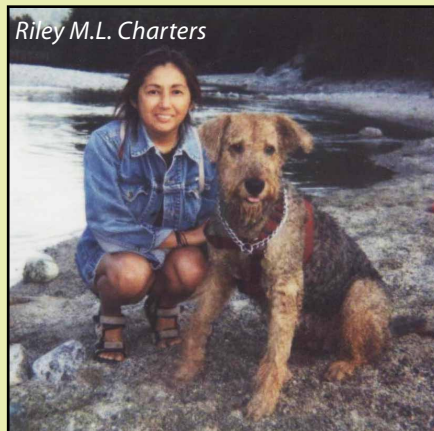
"I especially want to thank you, Ian Dawe (faculty member), for preparing us so well. I've found that after having you as a professor, I've been set for my 3rd year biochemistry courses. At the time, learning all of the material was kind of scary, but I'm really happy that I had such a great teacher to guide me through all of it because it has really payed off for me here at UNBC!"

Matt is currently studying biochemistry and molecular biology at University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC).



# ALUMNI UPDATES

**Riley M.L. Charters, 1975-78, Kootenay School of the Arts:** Riley's unique style of artwork has won awards locally and internationally. For over 30 years Riley has produced wonderful one-of-a-kind oil paintings, hand-pulled lithographic prints, pastels, watercolours and beadwork. Her more recent works are executed in oil paints. The combination of strong colours, style and storytelling reflect throughout all of her work. Riley resides in Mission, BC.



Riley M.L. Charters

**Arleen Gallo, 1990-98, Office Administration program (1990) and then the Legal Assistant program (1998):** As of September 20, 2010, Arleen took on her new position as Assistant Director of Human Resources at Selkirk College.



Arleen Gallo

Arleen has been with Maple Leaf Consumers Foods for the past 10 years. During that time she has been responsible for a wide range of human resources functions including training and development and recruitment and retention. Most recently Arleen held the HR generalist position of Human Resources Manager with Canada Bread Frozen Bakery in Calgary.

Arleen is also a Certified Human Resources Professional (CHRP) and a lifelong learner, currently completing her BBA in Human Resources/Labour Relations from Athabasca University.

**Danielle Cossarini, 2005, Associate of Arts degree:** Danielle started as the new Public Services Librarian at the Library on the Castlegar campus in October 2010.

From Selkirk, Danielle pursued her BA from University of British Columbia and recently completed her Master's in Library and Information Studies at Dalhousie University.

Danielle's favourite things to do outside of work are to camp, bike, ski ... and read. She is very happy to be working at the college and we are very happy to have her on board!



Danielle Cossarini

## Selkirk College 2010-11 Retirees

Corrine Major  
Harvey Batting  
John Rowell  
Judy Deon

Kathy Markin  
Kim Kratky  
Lorill Harding  
Lyle Olsen

Peter Wood  
Sam Oudomsouk  
Wayne Schweitzer

## Selkirk launches revitalization campaign for Studio 80



Selkirk College is counting on the support of the community, foundations and organizations as it launches its campaign to raise \$150,000 for the upgrade of Studio 80—the practice, recital and concert space for faculty, guest artists and students of the Contemporary Music and Technology program.

The college is in the midst of a total renovation of the Tenth Street student residence in Nelson, where Studio 80 is located. The funding provided by the federal and provincial governments, along with Columbia Basin Trust, includes mechanical and structural upgrades to the studio and replacement of interior finishes. But, it does not cover costs associated with equipment, lighting, recording technology or seating.

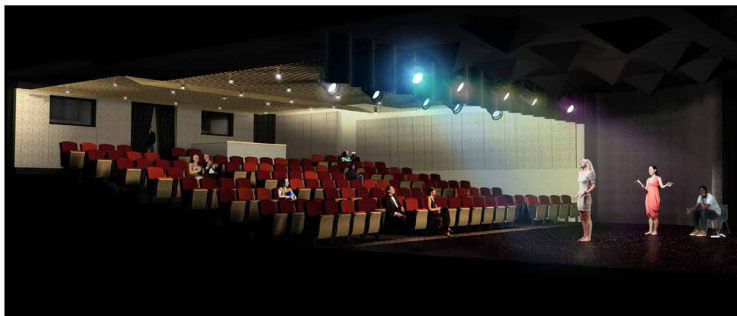
It is the college's intention to cover these associated costs with funds raised through its "Count Me In" revitalization campaign.

"The aim of the 'Count Me In' campaign is to replace the existing 80 well-worn seats with 108 new seats and to buy and install new lighting and sound equipment for the studio," explains Donor Development and Alumni Coordinator Pat Henman. "This will enable us to stay on the cutting edge of recording, composition, vocal and instrument training and truly enhance the student experience."

There are many ways to pitch in and support the studio upgrade. "Individuals have the option of donating a monetary gift, purchasing a seat or naming a room," says Henman. "All donors' names will be engraved on a Studio 80 donor wall and on their actual seat if they decide to go that route. It's a great way to be a part of local history."

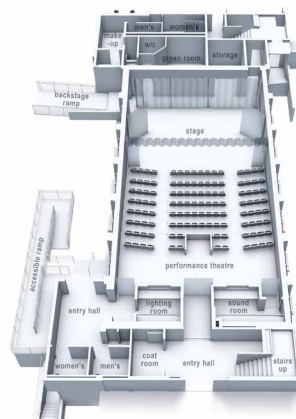
The seats are \$500 each and there are four rooms to name. In addition, donors will be invited to attend the Grand Re-Opening that will host a concert produced by faculty and students of the Contemporary Music and Technology program.

If you or your business would like to support the "Count Me In" revitalization campaign for Studio 80, visit [www.selkirk.ca/s/count-me-in](http://www.selkirk.ca/s/count-me-in) or contact Selkirk College's Development Department at [campaigns@selkirk.ca](mailto:campaigns@selkirk.ca) or 250.505.1324.



The future performance studio at Tenth Street campus.

"The aim of the 'Count Me In' campaign is to replace the existing 80 well-worn seats with 108 new seats and to buy and install new lighting and sound equipment for the studio," explains Donor Development and Alumni Coordinator Pat Henman.



Selkirk College is counting on the support of the community, foundations and organizations as it launches its "Count Me In" campaign to raise \$150,000 for the upgrade of Studio 80. Students of the Contemporary Music and Technology program at Selkirk College are currently practicing in a space in the cafeteria set up for performance at Mary Hall in Nelson. The students will be performing in this space throughout the year while renovations take place at Tenth Street residence and Studio 80.



# Mir Centre exceeds endowment target

**Selkirk College's Mir Centre for Peace Speaker Series Endowment has exceeded its target of \$200,000, thanks to the generosity and support of community members, organizations and companies.**

Selkirk President Marilyn Luscombe made the public announcement at the Irving K. Barber Mir lecture featuring David Suzuki on September 22, 2010, and at a private donor reception that occurred prior to the event.

"Generous donors are here tonight that will help us reach our goal and bring us over the finish line," said Luscombe. "It is our privilege to call upon representatives of Kootenay Savings Credit Union and recognize their donation of \$25,000."

Luscombe enthusiastically added "To cross the finish line, it's our pleasure to call upon Mike Martin, General Manager of Teck Trail Operations ... to recognize their \$50,000 contribution."

Representatives of Kootenay Savings Credit Union and Teck were present at the donor recognition reception that took place at the Mir Centre for Peace in Castlegar. On December 7, 2010, the college received an additional gift of \$25,000 from Columbia Basin Trust. The added donations brought the total of the endowment to \$235,000—\$35,000 over the initial goal.

Although the one-year Mir Centre for Peace Lecture Campaign officially closed on International Day of Peace (September 21, 2010), donations are still being accepted. Luscombe is hoping that the endowment continues to grow.

In addition to reaching the endowment target, the Mir

Centre for Peace Lecture Series Campaign received a \$100,000 boost from philanthropist Allan Markin of Alberta earlier this year. The donation is separate from the endowment and will be distributed in \$20,000 increments over the next five years to support the Mir Centre for Peace Lecture Series and the Selkirk College student experience.

Although the one-year Mir Centre for Peace Lecture Campaign officially closed on International Day of Peace (September 21, 2010), donations are still being accepted. Luscombe is hoping that the endowment continues to grow.

"It's not over yet," she said. "Other individuals, organizations and companies have indicated that they would like to donate towards the Series as well. I expect that the endowment will reach the \$250,000 mark in the very near future."

The Mir Centre for Peace Speaker Series Endowment will provide for an annual return which will help make the Lecture Series affordable and accessible to the general public for years to come.

For more information or to make a donation visit [www.selkirk.ca/mir/campaign](http://www.selkirk.ca/mir/campaign).



*Mir Centre for Peace Endowment announcement.*



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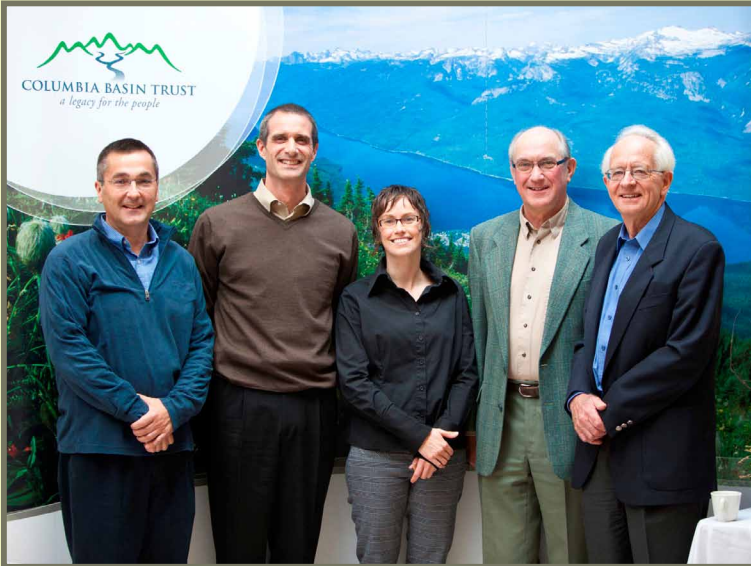
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Home Insurance is available through Johnson Inc., a licensed insurance intermediary. Policies are primarily underwritten by Unifund Assurance Company (Unifund), Unifund and Johnson Inc. share common ownership. Discount may be available if policyholder has MEDOC® Travel Insurance. MEDOC® is a Registered Trademark of Johnson Inc. MEDOC® is underwritten by Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Company of Canada and administered by Johnson Inc. Johnson Inc. and Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Company of Canada share common ownership. Certain conditions may apply. In all instances official policy wording will prevail. LRP03.10

# CBT and Selkirk College establish Rural Development Institute

Eight-year partnership to promote and support use of local information and applied research

Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) and Selkirk College are pleased to announce the establishment of the Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute (RDI), which will promote and support informed planning and decision-making in the Columbia Basin through region-specific information and applied research.



*Neil Muth, CBT President and CEO joins Angus Graeme, Selkirk College Vice President Academic and Student Development; Sabrina Curtis, CBT Director of Planning and Development; George Penfold, Selkirk College Regional Innovation Chair for Economic Development and Kim Deane, CBT Board Member in celebrating the establishment of the Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute.*

The RDI, housed at Selkirk College, will monitor and report on a wide range of community indicators and trends in the Columbia Basin—including employment levels, environmental conditions, charitable donations, local crime rates and many more—as well as undertake new and relevant research about issues that are impacting the region. The RDI will then ensure this information and research is broadly shared and understood so that communities can apply the knowledge to their particular situation.

“One of our goals is to support local communities in identifying and meeting their priorities, and in particular, to ensure communities have access to meaningful and relevant information,” said Neil Muth, CBT President and CEO. “We are honoured to partner with Selkirk College and build on complementary goals and existing assets in order to generate better understanding of our region and provide support for communities to make informed decisions about their future.”

Seeing an increased demand for and the use of information and applied research by communities, CBT decided to evolve its State of the Basin Initiative which launched in 2008 with the first Basin-wide indicator report and website. Simultaneously, Selkirk College’s Regional Innovation Chair in Rural Economic Development (RIC) has been a hub for data collection and research and analysis related to the regional economy since 2006. The work of the RDI will bring together the assets of these two initiatives to create a sustained resource in the Columbia Basin.

Marilyn Luscombe, President and CEO of Selkirk College, indicated: “Selkirk College is delighted to partner with Columbia Basin Trust to extend the capacity of our Regional Innovation Chair in Rural Economic Development from the West Kootenay Boundary Region to serve the entire Columbia Basin. This partnership and the additional financial resources allocated will enable a more complete and current research and information base for use by communities and regions throughout the Basin.”

Information, indicators and trends for the Columbia Basin are currently available at CBT’s State of the Basin Initiative website [www.cbt.org/stateofthebasin](http://www.cbt.org/stateofthebasin). The work of the Regional Innovation Chair in Rural Economic Development can be reviewed at [www.selkirk.ca/research/ric](http://www.selkirk.ca/research/ric).

**“This partnership and the additional financial resources allocated will enable a more complete and current research and information base for use by communities and regions throughout the Basin.”**

## Aviation alumni fly into 40th year

Alumni, founders, faculty and staff of Selkirk College's Aviation – Professional Pilot program celebrated their 40-year reunion on October 1 and 2, 2010, at the Aviation Training Centre in Castlegar.

Almost 100 people were in attendance for the wine and cheese reception, the golf tournament at the Castlegar Golf Club and the "test flights" on the ALSIM 300 flight simulator.

The reunion provided an opportunity to meet and greet program founder and recipient of the 2008 Honorary Diploma in Aviation, Dr. John Hall. It also gave second year aviation students a chance to take a flight in a Citation executive jet with 2000 alumnus and AirSprint pilot James Elliot.

"It was great to get together and see where everyone was at," said Chair of

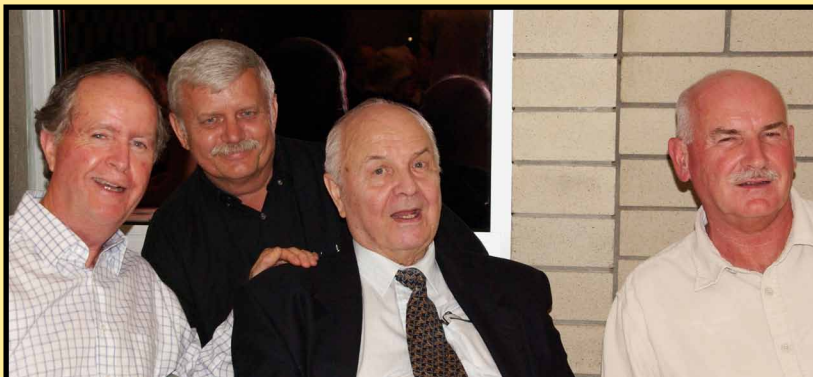
the School of Business and Aviation Henri Bureaud. "Our grads have done some amazing things and taken varied and interesting career paths. It was inspiring not only for me, but for the current students in the program."

Captain Barry Wiszniowski, 1989 alumnus and Chair of Technical and Safety Division, Air Canada Pilots Association, was the emcee for the event. Wiszniowski raised \$1250 for the 2011 class by auctioning off the order in which tables were allowed to the buffet dinner.

"A lot of good can come out of these types of gatherings," explained Bureaud. "The connections with people can prove to be useful, and beneficial, in this industry."

Selkirk College's Aviation – Professional Pilot program trains pilots for entry-level positions in the Canadian Aviation Industry. They host a program that keeps pace with advances in flight technology and has a team of professional, experienced pilots who have flight training, air taxi, commuter, regional, airline, corporate, bush and military experience.

For more information on the Aviation – Professional Pilot program, visit [www.selkirk.ca/aviation](http://www.selkirk.ca/aviation) or call 1.888.953.1133, ext. 205.



Alumni, founders, faculty and staff of Selkirk College's Aviation – Professional Pilot program celebrated their 40-year reunion on October 1 and 2, 2010. From left to right, 1972 alumnus and retired Air Canada Captain Pat Hurlbert, 1972 alumnus and Air Canada Captain Henri Ilg, retired flight instructor Raul Nyroos and 1974 alumnus and retired Air Canada Captain Bruce Bennett.

"Our grads have done some amazing things and taken varied and interesting career paths. It was inspiring not only for me, but for the current students in the program."

## Reunion for SROAM Grads

The Ski Resort Operations and Management program is celebrating its 30th anniversary with an alumni reunion.

**LOOK UP YOUR OLD CLASSMATES AND BRING THEM DOWN!  
THE EVENT TAKES PLACE ON MAY 1, 2011, AT THE DELTA GRAND  
OKANAGAN IN KELOWNA. STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS!**

For further information or to get involved, contact Bob Dodge: [bdodge@selkirk.ca](mailto:bdodge@selkirk.ca).







## School is in at base of Ymir Peak

*Originally Published: November 18, 2010*

*Reprinted with permission: Story by Andrea Klassen, Nelson Star Reporter*

He's worked as a ski instructor at prestigious resorts on three continents, but Whitewater Ski Resort's new snow school director Brent Malysh says heading up a program in Nelson was always his goal.

Malysh got his skiing start in B.C. and Australia before spending three seasons as an instructor for the Swiss Ski and Snowboard School at a small resort outside of Zurich, Switzerland.

After leaving Europe, he made his way to Nelson where he enrolled in Selkirk College's Ski Resort Operations and Management program.

"I always wanted to come back to Nelson, but at the time when I graduated in 2007, Whitewater was still just a really small little hill and there wasn't much going on," he says.

Instead, he headed to Beaver Creek Ski Resort in Colorado, which he says "is probably the premier resort in America."

But when Whitewater announced its plans to expand its ski hill, and a vacancy at its learning centre, Malysh says he jumped at a chance to return to his old stomping ground. And as the resort attempts to become a major skiing destination worldwide, Malysh says the snow school is undergoing its own sweeping changes.

While updated youth programs and cat and heli-skiing lessons are in the works for the 2010-11 season, it's the new Whitewater Freeride Team that has him most excited.

"Freeriding is a competition that isn't based on time," he explains. "There's a start gate at the top of a run and a finish gate at the bottom, and skiers are let down the hill and able to shoot any path they want down through the terrain."

Malysh says most freeride runs are double black diamond rated or higher and make use of cliffs and interesting natural features.

"The skiers will be judged on how aggressive they are, how smooth and controlled they are, how creative they are with the terrain they're coming through," he says. "It's not as structured and rigid as racing... it lets the kids express themselves.

"It's more of a fun environment."

Malysh says there's already a junior freeriding circuit in southern B.C. that includes Red Mountain and Fernie, and local kids who follow skiing are likely already aware of freeriding's growing popularity.

"It's the kind of stuff you see in the magazines and the movies and all their favourite action heroes for skiing are participating in these kind of events," he says.

New cat and heli programs, meanwhile, will introduce skiers to different styles of terrain and provide opportunities to ski those areas with instructors. Malysh says both new programs are about making the exciting more accessible to the average skier.

"I want to position it so if you want to get beyond cruising on the groomers, Whitewater is going to be your choice," he adds.



*Brent Malysh, 2007 graduate of the Ski Resort Operations and Management program.*

**“Freeriding is a competition that isn’t based on time,” he explains. “There’s a start gate at the top of a run and a finish gate at the bottom, and skiers are let down the hill and able to shoot any path they want down through the terrain.”**



## Jody Pomeroy

Classroom and Community Support Worker 2010 graduate and author of "Kaleb Could Bounce"

I was born in the land down under, growing up on the East Coast of Australia in many places north and south of Sydney. Since 2008 I've been a permanent resident of Canada, living in Castlegar, BC, and loving the Kootenay lifestyle with my husband.

I studied in the Classroom and Community Support Worker (CCSW) program at Selkirk College and graduated in 2010. It is a full-time, nine-month program I would recommend to anyone; it's a certificate that promotes self discovery, develops life skills and offers training for how to work with people with disabilities (I'm not fond of the label disability and prefer to emphasize the "ability" aspect of the word).

As a final assignment for a life-changing course named "Foundations of Practice", I wrote a children's book for adults and kids called "Kaleb Could Bounce". It's a story about a kangaroo who uses his tail instead of his legs, looking at his disability through a positive lens. Inspired by a "Credo for Support" by Norman Kunc and Emma Van Der Klift—pioneers in disability awareness and inclusion—I wrote the story as a childlike way to express my philosophy of support. I've learnt that people with disabilities want to live with respect, love, choices, inclusion and acceptance, as we all do.

Writing and publishing this book has been a fantastic learning curve for me. The hundreds of hours invested into the writing, illustrating, planning, publishing, and promoting of the book was worth every minute. Kaleb the Kangaroo has touched the lives of many friends, family and peers, and my hope for the book is that its message continues to be shared. My hope on a larger scale is that we continue to accept and embrace different abilities, celebrate diversity, and that people with disabilities have equal opportunity, dignity and accessibility.

I'm currently in Australia visiting a surfboard, the waves, my family and friends, and I look forward to working in our Kootenay community in the New Year. The CCSW program has afforded me the opportunity to work in the classroom as an Education Assistant, or in the community as a Support Worker. My options are extensive and I'm extremely grateful to Selkirk College. My CCSW instructors were phenomenal mentors, and their influence has changed my life and future in wonderful ways. Selkirk College has inspired me on a journey of learning and growth.

*Jody Pomeroy, 2010, Classroom and Community Support Worker*



## Selkirk student hits perfect note

Selkirk College Contemporary Music and Technology 2010 alumna Nicole Byblow was selected among 12 other music students across Canada for the MusiCounts Fred Sherratt Award.

Thousands of individuals were nominated for the award that honours the achievements of recent graduates from post-secondary music programs in Canada. As an award winner, Byblow was treated to a 2-day trip to Toronto, an educational tour of the MuchMusic and CHUM radio studios and a cash prize of \$3,500.

Byblow's second EP, *Nicole Byblow Plays All the White Keys*, was released in September, 2010. Her first EP, *Unabashed*, was released in 2007. She has performed at the Winnipeg Folk Festival, Dauphin Countryfest and at the Red River Exhibition. The award was presented to Byblow by Canadian MusiCounts, an educational music charity that is affiliated with both the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences and CTVglobemedia Inc. It was named after Canadian broadcasting pioneer Fred Sherratt, who was instrumental in building CHUM limited (acquired by CTVglobemedia Inc. in 2007) into one of Canada's leading media companies.

For more information on Nicole Byblow and to listen to samples of her music visit her Myspace page at [www.myspace.com/nicolebyblow](http://www.myspace.com/nicolebyblow).



*Selkirk College Contemporary Music and Technology alumna Nicole Byblow was recently selected for the MusiCounts Fred Sherratt Award. Canadian broadcasting pioneer Fred Sherratt (left) and the Executive Director of MusiCounts Steve Cranwell (right) are shown presenting the award to Nicole (centre).*

# Paul Lambert

Contemporary Music and Technology 2004 alumnus

## **What year/s did you attend Selkirk College in the Contemporary Music and Technology program? What was your major?**

I attended Selkirk right after I graduated high school. That would have been 2002-2004. I majored in the Filmmaking and Composition program while Josh Wilson and Tyler Thompson majored in performance.

## **How would you describe your time at Selkirk College?**

One of the best experiences, both musically and non-musically, of my life. I was able to polish my skills as a musician and song writer in an environment that encouraged creativity.

## **Who are the members of your band, *Louder Than Love*, and how did this group come together?**

*Louder Than Love* was assembled after the first album was recorded. I spent a year of my life sitting at home writing songs and doing pre-production for the first album called "Dark Days". Once everything was ready to be recorded, I tracked the album at Bryan Adam's Warehouse Studio. Afterwards, I started to assemble a band to perform the material live and of course asked my friends to join. All of whom happened to be living in Vancouver and were old childhood friends. The band is Tyler Thompson on drums, Nathan Parsons on guitar, Dan Okano on keys and Josh Wilson and Tony Lambert share the duties on bass guitar.

## **You were in Nelson during the week of November 15, 2010, what was the occasion?**

We did a clinic for the music students at Selkirk College. We played for about an hour and opened up the floor for questions afterwards. It was an incredibly positive atmosphere and I think the students were genuinely interested in hearing about our band experiences thus far. I think it was easy for people to relate to us as we are all young and come from similar musical backgrounds as most of the current students.

After the clinic we had to rush over to 103.5 Bridge FM for an radio interview and did a gig at Finley's with two great bands, "My Pet Lion" and "Sound Splash" (all current members of the Selkirk College Contemporary Music and Technology program).



*Louder Than Love* from left to right: Dan Okano, Tony Lambert, Paul Lambert, Tyler Thompson, Nathan Parsons. Missing is Josh Wilson.

## **Selkirk College is currently revitalizing Studio 80, how important is it to have a state-of-the-art rehearsal and performance space to work in?**

I think it is incredibly important. It is very difficult to sharpen your performance skills on a field not suited for play. It would be much the same scenario if a soccer team were to practice on concrete instead of a nice grassy field.

## **Now that you are successfully out there playing music, what advice do you have for other young musicians just starting out?**

As cliché as it sounds, my biggest advice is persevere. There is always an incredible fear after one graduates and the cozy bubble of the education system has been popped. For the first six months after I graduated I was incredibly lost and had no idea what I was going to do in life. Eventually I took a chance and realized there is nothing in life that will make me whole other than writing and performing music. It felt right and I am starting to reap the benefits of taking a chance and sticking with it.

## **Please share your latest project and your website!**

If you want more info on the band please visit <http://louderthanlovemusic.com> or join our Facebook page at <http://facebook.com/louderthanlovemusic>.

*Interviewed by Pat Henman*