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CAMPUS CONNECTION

Keyano's Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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Keyano's annual Career & Summer Job Fair offers much for the community

It's the venue to network - whether you are an employer or a potential employee - Keyano's annual Career & Summer Job Fair is February 5 and 6, 2010.

The event will be held in the Syncrude Sport & Wellness in conjunction with Alberta Employment & Immigration and Wood Buffalo Big Spirit. The Fair, now in its fourth year, has continually grown since its inception and last year showcased over 50 exhibitor booths, with 2,000 participants attending.

Kerry Ferguson, Career Services Coordinator, Trades & Heavy Industrial Division, Keyano College, says a number of organizations will be conducting information sessions on the main stage, which will provide company overviews and information for potential employees.

"Visitors are encouraged to bring copies of their resumes and cover letters and keep in mind, first impressions are lasting, dress for success," Ferguson says.

Debbie O'Halloran agrees. She is overseeing the event this year and says a "Keyano College information booth will be available for visitors interested in continuing with their education or planning on starting a new career. Also, a trip for two to Las Vegas and a flat screen television are draw prizes available to visitors."

The purpose of the Career & Summer Job Fair is to bring employers and future employees together in one location for the benefit of all. Employers have an opportunity to provide information sessions about their organizations, meet potential new hires, accept resumes, and possibly interview candidates for available positions on the spot, or make arrangements for future interviews.

Companies like Syncrude Canada Limited, Suncor Energy, ATCO Electrical, FT Services, Keyano College and the Fort McMurray Catholic Schools, to name a few, will be attending the event.

Even if you are not currently seeking employment opportunities, visiting a career fair is a great way to learn about the variety of organizations that are operating in your community. Come visit Keyano College's 2010 Career & Summer Job Fair Friday, February 5 from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, February 6, 2010 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, call: 780-791-8951.



Career & Summer
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Friday, 2 - 9 pm | Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm

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Keyano mourns loss of beloved employee - Jan Goodridge



Jan Goodridge shaves Debbi Kalinin's during The Relay for Life last year.

"I don't know how to die." When Hildy Hanson shared one of Jan Goodridge's last thoughts with me, I couldn't write anymore.

Keyano College lost one of its beloved team members to breast cancer on January 13, 2010. Jan was 49.

She is survived by her husband of 25 years, Gord, and four children, and had spent the last days of her life in the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton, and then the Northern Lights Regional Health Centre.

A memorial was held on January 25 to celebrate her life in the Balsam Room at the Sawridge Inn & Conference Centre attended by 300 people.

Posters brought us together. I had just joined the College hardly three years ago and Jan wanted to send out Occupational Health & Safety posters for the program she led for Workforce Development at Keyano College.

I can hardly remember seeing Jan not smiling. Friendly, positive, full of life - Jan was a role model for everyone, and I'll always miss her positive outlook on life. She was a sweetheart, there probably isn't a better adjective to describe her.

Hildy Hanson, Workforce Development Coordinator, Keyano College was one of Jan's close friends and had known her for over 10 years.

"I hired her for the CSTS (Construction Safety Training System) lab five years ago" recalls Hildy. They had originally met through a mutual friend when Jan was running her own hair salon, Tiramisu. She had been in the hair dressing business for 18 years before joining the College.

Jan was diagnosed last year in February with HER2-Positive breast cancer, one of the most aggressive forms of the disease. She had received the phone call with the news during a staff meeting.

"When she returned after taking the call, she said 'I've got a great team building activity,' that's how she broke the news to us," said Hildy.

The team building activity would turn out to be the annual Relay for Life event, hosted last May. Thanks to Jan's contacts made over 20 years in the community - the overwhelming support for her cause meant two teams had to be formed for the event - Breast Wishes and Team Jan. The group raised the most amount of money - \$33,000.

Sarah Imran, Jan's coworker remembers the event and her friend.

"Jan was always super positive, and a great team-player. Even when she was diagnosed with cancer, she said that she hoped it would strengthen the Workforce Development team; and it did, we participated in Relay for Life as part of Jan's "Breast Wishes" team, which raised the most money in 2009 - not exactly a team-building activity we had in mind, but we all enjoyed doing it for Jan," Sarah says.

Nelda Schulte, Workforce Development Coordinator, Keyano College remembers Jan for her big spirit.

"My memories of Jan are that every single time there was any opportunity for her to jump in and help in any way - she did. Jan helped tremendously with a number of events I coordinated with Workforce Development plus, she volunteered her daughter to assemble some of my furniture, and donated a really nice retro hair dryer, which I proudly display in my business. Jan also loved gardening and has a beautiful garden. She was always a positive presence, it really is difficult to believe I won't see her again," Nelda says.

Jan's smiling face will no longer be seen in Keyano's corridors but will be forever etched in our collective memory. Her love of life will live on forever.

We miss you Jan! Rest in peace.

***High School Musical* coming to Keyano Theatre**

It's a pop-culture phenomenon and it's coming to Keyano Theatre. *High School Musical* is all set to open on the Mainstage on February 11.

You'll hear the *Wildcat Cheer*, *We're All in This Together*, *I Can't Take My Eyes Off of You* and all your favourites from Disney's smash hit movie.

Julie Funk is directing and choreographing the show and says the community is in for some high-energy fun. A former Movement Director at Keyano College, Funk recently moved to Edmonton. She directed *13 Hands* for Studio 99 - one of the popular plays from the all-student production venue, and choreographed *Seussical* and *Sound of Music*. She is looking forward to her Mainstage directorial debut.

"*High School Musical* is a contemporary *Grease*. It's about breaking boundaries and stereotypes and to follow one's heart," Funk explained.

The cast consists of about 25 members featuring the local population - made of Keyano Visual & Performing Arts students and community members. The ensemble has been in vocal rehearsals since last October and is now in full rehearsal mode.

Morgan Churla, a second-year Drama student at Keyano College is playing Sharpay Evans, and she says taking on the role was a bit nerve-wrecking.

"She's the villain, so I was a little scared, because she's the girl I hated in high school," Churla shares.

Nevertheless, she says, delving in the role made it easier, thanks to the talented cast and crew.

"We have a very diverse cast, and our director is great. Come see the show and enjoy," Churla added.

Angelique Panther agrees. She's also a second-year Drama student at the College and is playing Mrs. Darbus, the school's home-room and drama teacher.

"Mrs. Darbus is deranged and merciless," explains Panther, who says playing the character has been a lot of fun.

Another cast member having fun with the production is Cecil Barter, Electrical Instructor at the College, who is playing Coach Bolton, the conservative basketball coach. An avid actor, he has over a dozen plays under his belt, performed in his native Creston, British Columbia.

"I moved to Fort McMurray in 2008, and haven't participated in a production for three-and-a-half years, so I'm really looking forward to *High School Musical*," explained Barter.

What is Coach Bolton like? "Hard-nosed," smiles Barter. He says the experience is priceless because he enjoys working with teens immensely.

"I have three teens, so I love the energy; I also coached a Special Olympics basketball team for three years so I have some coaching experience as well," Barter said.

So how do you mount a story, which is a pop-culture phenomenon? "You get as close to the *feel* as possible," answers Jon-Paul Walden, Manager, Keyano Theatre.

The idea is not to emulate the movie, or the television show, says Walden, but to match the energy and the excitement level of the other presentations.

"Theatre goers are savvy. They are not looking for the same thing, but for the feel. The added excitement is to see your favourite characters, songs and dances live," Walden explained.

Walden deems *High School Musical* the highlight of the Theatre's 30th season. He says the colourful set, the talented cast and the sheer energy will make the production memorable.

"The community can look forward to a light-hearted theatre experience filled with songs, dance and laughter. Come on out - bring your family and enjoy the production," Walden added.

High School Musical runs from February 11-13, and 17-20. Matinee performances on February 14 and 20. Rating: General.

For tickets, call the Keyano Box Office today at 780-791-4990, or visit www.keyano.ca/theatre.

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Preston Manning shares insights on Alberta politics - impressed audience gets in on discussion



Preston Manning addresses an enthusiastic crowd - the Question and Answer session went on for about an hour.

The Global Address at Keyano promises to spark dialogue and bring a variety of diverse topics to the Wood Buffalo region; and the thundering applause from over 120 people proved the event had done just that when Preston Manning wrapped up his talk. Mr. Manning had wowed a captivated, and enthusiastic audience, which benefited from his several insights on Alberta politics ranging in topics from accountability to grading Alberta's performance.

Headlining the speaker series at Keyano College on January 21, Mr. Manning spoke eloquently about the past, current and future of Alberta politics. His father, Ernest Manning was the longest serving Premier of the province - with 25 years of service - Preston Manning inherited a love of politics and a passion for democracy.

"There have been peculiar patterns in our provincial politics. We've had only four administrations in 100 years - so there have been long periods of one government. There has been periodical upheaval, and no government has ever been replaced by the traditional opposition - always a new group," explained Mr. Manning.

Factors prevalent in the current political climate as well. Mr. Manning also spoke in length about an upcoming [Conference on Alberta's Future](#) slated for February 5 and 6 in Edmonton, co-hosted by [The Manning Centre for Building Democracy](#). The event will see both Premier Stelmach and Danielle Smith, leader of the Wildrose Alliance, in attendance to answer questions from Albertans who will grade the province on key areas such as fiscal responsibility, balanced economic growth, health, education, and democratic participation, to name a few.

"The Conference is an attempt to showcase Wildrose and Government responses, in the end Albertans decide; and I'll predict many will have by the next provincial election," Mr. Manning continued.

Among other subjects of local interest, Mr. Manning also touched on "full-cost accounting," for all energy sources, not just the oil sands.

"By 2020 the world will need 80 million barrels of oil per day, down from 100 million, and (North America) wants to be less dependent on Middle Eastern oil. How do you reconcile this demand with environmental conservation? We should make all energy sources: hydro, solar, and nuclear accountable not just the oil sands," he said.

Dawn Farrell, Editor, *Saturday Today* and Specials sections from the *Fort McMurray Today* attended the address and said it was inspiring to hear him talk.

"I found Manning's speech to be very influential. It gave me lot of things to think about when considering the future of Fort McMurray, the future of Alberta in general."

"I think the idea of full cost accounting is brilliant. Canada should be paying attention to all aspects of national waste, not just the oilsands."

An enthusiastic audience enjoying a question and answer period that ran for about 45 minutes, testifying to the overwhelming success of the event.

Jim Foote, President, Keyano College attended the talk and said Mr. Manning's address was exactly what the The Global Address is all about.

"We couldn't have found a better speaker. Preston exemplifies the excellence this series was created for. He was very informative, thought-provoking and stimulated conversation from the audience," Foote said.

The face behind Keyano's Facebook and Twitter pages



Keyano's amicable Student Recruitment Coordinator, Natasha Newman is looking forward to graduate school as well.

Meet Natasha Newman - Keyano's Student Recruitment Coordinator and the face behind our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

The amicable young lady is a bona fide Fort McMurryite - born and raised here. She graduated from Westwood Community High School and enrolled in Keyano's Pre-Professional Bachelor of Commerce Program in 2004 securing five scholarships at the College, while playing volleyball for the Huskies Women's team. She says Keyano College was "perfect fit," for her.

"I wanted my post-secondary experience to be a stepping stone. I appreciated the small classes and the financial assistance the College provided thanks to the scholarships," she recalls.

Natasha then went on to complete her Bachelor of Commerce degree at the University of Alberta where she completed two students exchanges in Copenhagen, Denmark and the second in the Netherlands.

A globe-trotter, she has visited a number of countries ranging from Costa Rica, Latvia, and Turkey to Estonia, as well as Poland and Spain, to name a few. She may be "forgetting some" when she made the list.

Natasha, 23, came full circle when she joined the College about six months ago.

"Working at Keyano is great. I know a number of staff and faculty from my time as a student here and the atmosphere is great," she said.

Social media was added to the Student Recruitment Coordinator's job description for the first time when Natasha joined the College, and she's been taking her responsibility very seriously as evidenced by Keyano's well-maintained Facebook and Twitter pages.

"I spent a lot of time researching what other colleges and universities were doing. It's important to have a social media aspect at the College so our students, staff and faculty have a centralized communication spot," Newman explained.

Under Natasha's keen eye the Facebook Fan page has grown to over 375 fans and Twitter followers have hit the over-30 mark. She promotes College events like the recent Preston Manning event and upcoming events, or courses as well as a wide array of topics.

"We have now de-activated our Keyano Crew profile on Facebook and are encouraging everyone to become a fan of the College on our page," Natasha said.

Join Keyano's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages today and see what Natasha has to be talk about next!

Applied Research & Development Manager's secondment to AACTI brings numerous benefits to Keyano and the community

Roger Nason is a busy man. Make it very busy. He was seconded to the Alberta Association of Colleges & Technical Institutes (AACTI) last summer and the appointment he says has been very beneficial to Keyano College on several levels.



AACTI consists of 17 member institutes across Alberta. According to the official website the group has a mission to "advocate on behalf of member institutions in order that they can provide innovative and effective programs and services to learners through a shared commitment to excellence,"

Nason was offered the position of Development Chair of the Energy & Environment Community of Practice Cluster (CoP) by AACTI. According to their website, CoP's were launched in March of 2006. They facilitate initiatives, which "support the expansion of the applied research and innovation priority within Alberta colleges and technical institutes."

Other CoP's include: health, IT/Media, community development, and, applied research/administrative.

Nason's AACTI portfolio includes promoting the visibility of energy and environment projects among AACTI member institutions and encourage colleges to participate in partnerships that build on the strengths of such activities in these sectors.

"My responsibilities include exploring potential alliances with industry, government and other community organizations that will further our applied research and innovation competencies. Specifically, we will be establishing opportunities to enhance our research and innovation throughout the oil sands network and seek ways to form alliances with industry, business, the private sector and the broader community," explains Nason.

Nason's appointment is for a period of one year and he says the position has already "brought an array of contacts and knowledge about what is happening in the applied research field across the province. The latest research and innovative developments in environmental sciences, technologies and community sustainability will enrich our efforts for faculty-student involvement in applied research projects at Keyano College," explains Nason.

"This will not only enhance the educational experience and scholarship for the College community but help industry, business and the community at large to solve problems and issues facing our economy and society," he added.

Based on a 60/40 split, Nason spends about two days a week on AACTI activities, while juggling his Keyano portfolio. It's a challenge he says that brings about a win-win situation for everyone.

"When I took on the challenge I saw it as an opportunity to interact with the other 17 colleges and technical institutes across Alberta including the Banff Research Centre. From my position as manager of Applied Research & Development, it affords me special access to colleagues who have already paved the way in establishing a research-oriented atmosphere at their institutions. Drawing on that expertise, it has been tremendously helpful in formulating our policies, procedures and funding opportunities for applied research. Without having to re-invent the wheel, I had the generous input of these people to shape our strategic research plan; in other words where we hope to focus our research for the near future," adds Nason.

A good number of Keyano's objectives overlap with AACTI's initiatives, so the experience, continues Nason "has been a real eye-opener for me. In no other way can I think of a better forum to gain

knowledge and experience in applied research that I can bring to bear on my day-to-day work as a Manager at Keyano," he says.

National scholarship winner didn't miss a day of school even after childbirth



Kirsten Dunkley with her daughter Isabella.

"I didn't miss a single day of school even after childbirth," now that's a claim not many women can make, but Kirsten Dunkley can. And, add a bonus to this: she was one of only 20 students across the nation who won the McGraw-Hill Ryerson scholarship last fall.

Dunkley, who is enrolled in Keyano's Education Assistant Certificate Program had her baby girl, Isabella on a weekend and recuperated from the C-section the following week, which luckily was Reading Week - when no formal teaching takes place so students can prepare for exams.

"When she discovered that she was pregnant with her second child, we feared that she would quit at the end of the first semester. But, Kirsten was determined to continue attending classes and did so until the day before the baby was born," recalls Sherry Duncan, Chair, Childhood Studies, Keyano College and Dunkley's instructor.

"With the support of her mother, instructors, classmates, and Guy Harmer, Dean of Academic & Career Division at Keyano College, Kirsten never missed a single class or handed in an assignment late. She maintained a full work-load with a GPA of 3.41 over the two semesters," Duncan explained. It was during the annual instructor evaluation of Duncan where the Dean observed, perhaps for the first time, an instructor rocking a baby while supporting the students in their group work. "Isabella was sleeping, but every time Kirsten tried to put her down, she stirred. I offered to walk with her as I assisted groups and never even gave a second thought to the fact that this was my formal evaluation. It just needed to be done, so I did it."

"With special permission, I brought in my newborn baby girl to class every day. My instructors were so supportive. Sherry Duncan would teach while rocking the baby sometimes. No other college besides Keyano would have done this for me. Childhood Studies at Keyano live what they teach," said Dunkley, 21.

"We always have the best interest of our students, and children at heart. Isabelle was such a good baby, and not a distraction at all to other students, or to me. From Guy Harmer to the Counseling Services - we enveloped Kirsten like a hug," Duncan explained.

This beautiful hug was also apparent on the day Dunkley's class-mates and instructors threw her a baby-shower.

"It was so touching to have my baby-shower here," said Dunkley, who is an Educational Assistant at Dr. Clark School.

A single mother of two, Dunkley, 21, won the McGraw-Hill Ryerson Scholarship last November. McGraw-Hill Ryerson, is a leading Canadian publisher of educational resources and information products and services, and awards 20 scholarships of \$1,000 each recognizing undergraduate

students for their "integrity, engagement and initiative in the classroom," according to the official press release.

"Kirsten has become the compass by which I now set my own course having learned from her initiative and engagement the true meaning of living a life with integrity," added Duncan.

Dunkley is currently completing the second practicum this semester at Keyano College and will officially join the graduating class of 2010 as an Educational Assistant.

Edmonton television crew pleasantly surprised by Keyano and Fort McMurray

If Angelika Gawronski had to describe Fort McMurray and Keyano College in one word, she would probably say impressive.

Reporter and Weekend Anchor for Edmonton Shaw Cable, Gawronski was in town with videographer, Jason House to do segments about Fort McMurray, Keyano's growing apprenticeship numbers and the Syncrude Sport & Wellness Centre.

The duo shot Keyano stories on January 12, and met with Trades staff and faculty touring classes, labs and speaking to students.

"Keyano College is quite a gem. Very appealing architecturally, the institute reminded me of my NAIT days. The campus was easy to navigate and staff were very accommodating. I was extremely impressed with the apprenticeship numbers as well as the Syncrude Sports & Wellness Centre," Gawronski said.

Amanda Cardinal, a third-year Electrical student at Keyano College spoke to the television crew and did a marvelous job of sharing her thoughts about the College.

"Our teachers are great at Keyano College. The small class size helps - we have only 16 students per class. I highly recommend the College because of its top-notch program," Cardinal said.

"Amanda blew me away. I can't believe how articulate she was, chatting with me in front of her entire class," enthused Gawronski.

For the afternoon taping the crew headed to the Syncrude Sport & Wellness Centre where Michelle Toner, Marketing & Events Manager, Keyano College gave them a tour of the facility.

"The sports centre is truly state of the art. There is so much there for residents, I'm a little jealous that my gym doesn't offer such a variety of activities," Gawronski added.

"It was great to have the Shaw crew in our building, they were very surprised at how large the facility was and how many different types of facilities we had and to have someone come into our building and to share the stories of the wonderful classes, programs and other initiatives we host here at the Syncrude Sport & Wellness Centre. I really hope Edmontonians get to see this footage as well and see that we too have great facilities here in our community," Toner said.

Broadcast date for the stories is still to be announced.



Angelika Gawronksi (left) speaks to Amanda Cardinal, Electrical Student, Keyano College.



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For additional story ideas or to submit a story
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