



KEYANO COLLEGE

THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENT

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CAMPUS CONNECTION

Keyano's Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Fall Kick-off Edition

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It's all about YOU! Orientation 2010 to feature CFL legend Henry "Gizmo" Williams

As Keyano prepares to greet new and returning students on August 30, the excitement is palpable. This year plenty of inspiration awaits them as the General Assembly will be highlighted with a keynote address from CFL legend Henry "Gizmo" Williams of the Edmonton Eskimos.

Gizmo returned 1,002 punts for 11,134 yards and 26 touchdowns, and 333 kickoffs for 7,291-yards and two touchdowns. Both are CFL records. He has also battled a family history of multiple sclerosis which has claimed the lives of his mother and 7 of 10 siblings.

Williams will be sharing his inspirational story with students during the kick off General Assembly which begins at 9 a.m. in the Canadian Natural Gymnasium at the Syncrude Sport & Wellness Centre.

A Service Expo consisting of Keyano departments dedicated to making the students' first week of class easier, from the Office of the Registrar to Information Technology Services, will be held next door on Shell Field from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"We have extended the hours for the Service Expo so students can have a one-stop shop for everything including getting their schedules and setting up their Keyano e-mail," notes Natasha John-Hurford, who is co-chairing the Orientation Committee along with Paulette Fitzgerald.

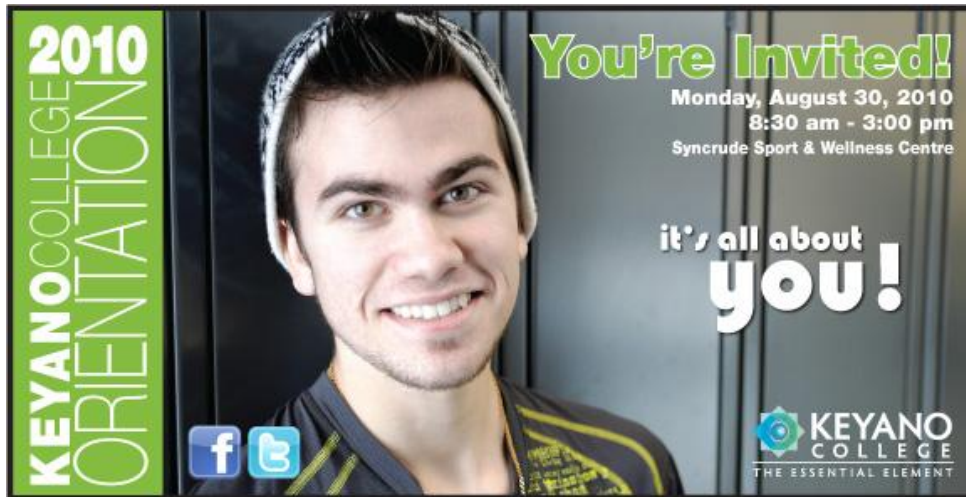
Students who visit all the booths during the Service Expo can enter their stamped cards in a draw for prizes including up to \$2,000 in free tuition, notebook computers, and a 42" big-screen television.

This year Keyano is pleased to offer free child-minding on August 30 from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Contact Thora at 780-792-2694 or thora.bennett@keyano.ca.

A free barbecue lunch at 11 a.m. will follow and Program Sessions from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. will round out the first day. Program Sessions introduce the students to their instructors and provide more specific details to prepare them for the first full day of classes on August 31.

On September 1, students will be treated to *Pizza with the Executives*. Jim Foote, President, Keyano College, and Jade Chausee, President, Keyano College Students' Association (KCSA), will serve the pies from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the tent located adjacent to Syncrude Technology Centre Student Lounge, the temporary location for food services. Both presidents will be joined by their executive teams who will provide assistance with the event.

Kick it up with the KCSA will end the week-long festivities on Friday, September 3 in the King's Lounge from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.



We've Got Everything You Need!

- Take a tour
- Get your student ID
- Pick up your schedules
- Visit the service expo
- Meet your instructors and other students
- Free childcare (pre-registration only)
- Lots of great prizes and a free gift
- Have fun!

Orientation Week Schedule of Events

8:00 am	Doors Open
9:00 am - 10:00 am	General Assembly
10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Service Expo
11:00 am - 12:45 pm	Free BBQ Lunch
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Program Information Sessions

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 01 IN SYNCRUDE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE STUDENT LOUNGE

11:00 am - 1:00 pm **Pizza with the Keyano College and KCSA Executives**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 03 IN KING'S LOUNGE

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm **Kick It Up with KCSA!**

All new & returning students welcome!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

No *Monkey* business here - Keyano VPA alum makes it big in Japan



Blaise Plant, middle, is a rock star in Japan. Supplied Photo.

He's not kidding when Blaise Plant tells you he is a rock star in Japan - he plays in the band Monkey Majik, which often performs for crowds of up to 40,000 screaming fans. The band has hit singles that play on Japanese FM stations continuously.

Plant, 30, is a Keyano Visual & Performing Arts Program graduate and his association with the College goes back to when he was only 15.

"I had moved to Fort McMurray from Ottawa due to a friend's sudden death. Needed to get away from the big city. I attended St Anne's junior high school and was always interested in theatre, and entertainment so I auditioned for A Streetcar Named Desire and got the part of the paperboy," recalls Plant during an interview from Japan.

The play was the beginning of a star-studded career in the world of entertainment and after graduating high school, Plant says "there was no question of what I needed to do. I loved Keyano College so much for their hands-on curriculum, and being in such a small place at the time performing for a community I had never grown up with was definitely a challenge and a blessing. I auditioned for Darold Roles (Drama Instructor) in 1998 for the VPA Program."

An active student on-campus, Plant lived on the top floor of the Purple Palace.

"Too many stories to tell about that place. I was also a stress management instructor, which was pretty cool. Acting took up all my time, but when I had a chance I would teach a few classes." "My favourite professor was Doug Abel. He really encouraged me a lot, and helped me focus on what was important and what wasn't as a performer, he really made me see it. He said it the way it was. I also really respected Darold Roles (Drama Instructor) for his "jazz hands" philosophy on acting. There was a way to perform by over-exaggerating, and keeping it subtle at the same time He is a genius, and belongs on Broadway."

Sharing his favourite Keyano memories, Plant recalls the play Under Milkwood, directed by Doug Abel, and playing John Proctor in The Crucible, his first dramatic role on the mainstage.

"I loved working with other community actors who also had full-time jobs. It was a lot of hard work, and it was amazing to see the dedication from the community with putting in all those hours," Plant continues. Japan came next in September, 2001 after he graduated from the University of Lethbridge. He joined his older brother Maynard, who had been an assistant language teacher for three years there.

"In his final months as a teacher, he and some friends got together and played a few songs as a going away party, even played at a few clubs. The drummer at the time who was also in Japan came up with the name Monkey Majik."

The unique name was inspired by a 70s Japanese band Godiego who had a hit song called "Monkey Magic" which was the theme song to an old and hit television show called "Monkey." Plant had played a few gigs in Canada and this seemed liked a good idea.

"Maynard and I began talking about continuing the band together. We talked about it for a month or so, wrote a few songs together, and made the big move. I thought we would go for about a year or two, see how it went, if nothing was moving, we were going to return home and do something else," explains Plant.

The Plant brothers found a Japanese drummer, and a Japanese bass player, practiced for three months, and then did a few concerts. Soon SONY SE music approached them, but the company wasn't sure on how to promote a bi-lingual band - who sang in both Japanese and English.

Soon, thanks to one individual from SONY SE who stuck with the band, and eventually quit the company, the group started their own label and produced their first full album in 2003-2004 and a few more after that, then got signed on to the biggest label in Asia... AVEX.

Monkey Majik hit the top of the charts as the first Japanese band in history to ever reach number one without a previous release.

Plant notes his career as a musician is very "dream-like."

"I always knew I would be successful in the entertainment field, but when and how? You never really get used to it, and yet it's all you will ever know. I have been writing music for some of the biggest pop idols in Asia, producing and engineering, I have also started my own label in 2007 daydreamPRODUCTIONS, as well as a solo album. We have toured Asia, played the Olympic Stadium in Seoul Korea, played for 40,000 people in Thailand, did a Canadian tour last year and planning on an American Tour sometime in the near future."

In 2008, the group was invited to Ottawa during the summer to perform for the Emperor and Empress of Japan as a tribute to 80 years of Japanese/Canadian relations. Monkey Majik was also recognized as the Cultural Ambassadors for Canadian/Japanese relations the same year.

"Keyano College helped me find the building blocks to lay down. Here I am 10 years later still building with those same blocks, having fun, and living a life full of new challenges! I hope you all find the same thing as I have," Plant says.

Keyano is proud of Blaise Plant!

Keyano and King announced as new home of interPLAY

We get to host interPLAY starting next year! Fort McMurray's signature festival, interPLAY will be moving to King Street in 2011, and Keyano College will be the hub for the annual arts and cultural festival, as announced by Events Wood Buffalo in a press conference on August 12.

interPLAY has outgrown its current location on Franklin Avenue. In addition, owing to increased traffic in the downtown core, the impending opening of the new bridge, and planned physical changes to Franklin Avenue, an exciting and permanent home for interPLAY has been found on King Street, using existing infrastructure with the potential to connect Keyano College, Composite High School and Heritage Park.

Claude Giroux, Executive Director, Events Wood Buffalo, believes the collaboration between Keyano College and interPLAY will not only mean a larger venue for the festival but also a chance for the College to show-off its facilities.

"The theatre facilities at Keyano are among the best I have ever seen. They are a well-kept secret and they shouldn't be a secret. Once people walk into these facilities, they will return for more," Giroux said.

Cindy Amerongen, Vice President, External Relations, Keyano College, applauded interPLAY's move and looks forward to a strong partnership.

"The history of interPLAY is one of a grass-roots organization. We're absolutely delighted to partner with the group and look forward to working with our neighbours to ensure the festival's continuity and growth," Amerongen said.

Russell Thomas, Director, Marketing & Communications, Keyano College and Events Wood Buffalo President first pitched the idea for the partnership to Keyano College this summer, which was immediately supported by senior leadership.

"It is my experience that we can do so much better by doing things together. This partnership is another great example of this," said Thomas.

Keyano College will be the location for the indoor theatre shows in addition to providing facilities for volunteers and visiting artists. Doug MacRae Park and the Theatre & Arts Centre parking lot will host all the activities and structures historically found on Franklin Avenue during the celebrated event.



Cindy Amerongen, Vice President, External Relations, Keyano College, welcomes interPLAY to Keyano College.

Huskies Soccer and youth programming get a Bolton of inspiration



There's no "cropping the lines" for Claude Bolton, when it comes to team work and fairness. Meet one of the new additions to Huskies Athletics - our new Women's Soccer Coach and Youth Programmer.

Coach Bolton joined Keyano College on July 14 and brings with him over a dozen years of professional coaching experience. He holds the National "A" Goalkeeping and Fitness licenses from the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) - the highest levels in North America, and also holds a National Coaches Certification Program (NCCP) Level III Certificate. In 2006, he took Trent University from being ranked last in the country to seeing its first post-season action in 22 years and its first quarterfinal appearance in history.

He comes to Keyano via Guyana, South America, where he was the Head Coach in the National League that was established by FIFA and The Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF), which according to their official website is the "governing body for soccer (football) in the region, and one of six continental authorities that administer the game along with FIFA, the world governing body."

Originally from Toronto, Coach Bolton has a B.A. in Philosophy. He says Fort McMurray and Keyano College impressed him with their unlimited potential.

"I have travelled a fair bit, compared to other small communities Fort McMurray has everything you need. Keyano College was a wonderful surprise with its many resources and friendly staff who go out of their way to help you," Bolton said.

As soccer posters line his office featuring Maradona and The Art of Football, you can tell Coach Bolton pretty much lives soccer. We asked what does the avid soccer coach does in his free time?

"Well, believe it or not, more soccer," he smiles.

Reading also occupies his time. He is finishing up Life of Pi by Yann Martel.

Coach Bolton is also looking forward to joining local leagues to help develop youth soccer.

"I love children. Anytime I can volunteer to help them with soccer or anything else, I do so, and I'm making contacts here," Coach Bolton added.

Discussing his short and long-term goals, Bolton says the ultimate goal is to cultivate excellence in athletes both on and off-court.

"I want to start by setting standards, which allow athletes to gain the understanding and self-respect needed to succeed. Establishing standards for long-term athlete development will help us as a team to decide what it means to be a Huskies Women's Soccer player. Recruitment and community outreach are also some of my priorities," explained Bolton.

Wade Kolmel, Director, Sport & Wellness, Keyano College has high expectations of Coach Bolton.

"We are very excited to have added Coach Bolton to our Huskies coaching staff," he said.

"Claude has a number of professional coaching experiences alongside his tenure at Trent University where he was part of a women's soccer program that went through a successful rebuilding period as they competed in the Ontario University Athletics Association (OUAA). Claude's sport development background will further enhance the youth sport programming at Keyano College as the Sport & Wellness staff continue to offer the initial stages of athlete development programming in Fort McMurray," Kolmel added.

A commitment to the community that's come full circle for Bouchier Contracting Ltd.

Having to hitchhike back and forth from Fort McKay to Keyano's Suncor Energy Industrial Campus every day didn't deter David Bouchier from pursuing his dream to get his heavy equipment training. Now 27 years later, David and his wife Nicole are the proud owners of a successful company with a fleet of over 70 pieces of equipment and 300 employees.

As the need for a trained workforce continues in our region, the commitment from local companies and industry to address this need is substantial. Bouchier Contracting Ltd., of the Bouchier group, recognizes this fact and has recently made an outright donation of a 2001 Cat D6M Crawler Tractor to Keyano Foundation's *Equipped for the Future* initiative.

For Nicole Bouchier, CEO, Bouchier Contracting Ltd. the donation means completing the cycle. She is a Keyano alum, who completed the Computer Information System Program over a decade ago and her husband, David Bouchier, who runs the company with her, completed his Heavy Equipment training at the College in 1983. Dave also gives of his time as a Band Councillor for the Fort McKay First Nation.

"Keyano College means a lot to us. We are long-time residents of the Wood Buffalo region and we believe in giving back to the community that has supported us. Training our workforce is really important and we hire trained mechanics and operators from Keyano all the time, so this donation made sense to us," explained Bouchier, who sits on the Keyano Foundation Board and is also the President of the Northeastern Alberta Aboriginal Business Association (NAABA).

"Keyano's training," adds Bouchier, "ranging from the Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program to Health & Safety is designed for both industry and the community."

"The programming is connected to the region. Keyano is really important to us," she added.

Dale Unruh, Chair of the Keyano Foundation, appreciates the Bouchier donation immensely.

"Nicole and David Bouchier's donation reflects their incredible community spirit. They are true community builders and their support to the College will help build a strong regional workforce," noted Unruh.

The *Equipped for the Future* initiative was launched last fall by the Keyano College Foundation in response to the Trades & Heavy Industrial Division's need to cut lease and purchase costs of equipment for use in training offered at the Suncor Energy Industrial Campus.

Some of the equipment required includes: bobcats, skid steer loaders, rough terrain forklifts, wheel loaders, and excavators to name a few.



L-R: David Bouchier, President, Bouchier Contracting, Dale Unruh, Chair, Keyano Foundation Board of Directors, and Brendan Clarke, Former Associate Dean, Trades & Heavy Industrial Division, Keyano College.

Graphic Designer graduates from Leadership Wood Buffalo

Robyn Shilling is a certified leader - from Leadership Wood Buffalo. She completed the program this May and strongly recommends it to everyone.

Shilling is a Graphic Designer in the Marketing & Communications Department and has been with the College for over two years.

Leadership Wood Buffalo (LWB) as defined by their official website is an "eight month program for individuals who are passionate about making a difference in the Wood Buffalo community. Designed to help participants acquire both a broader understanding of the critical issues affecting our community and the leadership skills necessary to resolve them, this program helps prepare participants for the challenges of their own life-long leadership journeys, build their network of diverse community leaders and develop their awareness for the opportunities and challenges in the Wood Buffalo Region."

Shilling was asked to fill in a project position to oversee the Graphics Department and that is when she decided to seek resources to become a better leader. She was also free-lancing for LWB at the time.

"I spoke to Russell (Thomas) and he recommended joining Leadership Wood Buffalo," recalls Shilling. Thomas is also an alum and a member of the board of LWB.

A letter of intent followed and Shilling was accepted into the class of 18. The initiative includes an opening retreat, eight learning days, closing retreat and banquet. She says the experience was enlightening.

"I'm an introvert, so it was all a bit intimidating at first. But, the program encouraged me to push myself forward and speak my mind. It was a eureka moment," explains Shilling.

Additionally, the best part about the program for her was the monthly sessions where she began developing friendships as they worked on assigned projects.

Her group of five worked on a Safe Community project featuring different safety organizations and aspects about the region.

"I was surprised to learn how strongly people feel about their community. If you change your focus from looking at Wood Buffalo as just a workplace then it makes it your home. Get involved," she encourages.

She plans to pursue volunteer work with some local non-profit organizations.

The day-time sessions make it easy for residents to participate. Shilling believes LWB is the portal to not only become a community leader but to recognize the potential of Wood Buffalo as well.

"You have to give it your personal commitment. Your employer is already on board. We had a lady who was pregnant with twins and delivered them as she went through the program. If she can do it, anyone can do it," Shilling said.

Keyano College sponsors at least one qualifying employee every year to experience LWB.



Class2010: Robyn Shilling can be seen in the last row, third from left. Supplied Photo.

50/50 anyone? Foundation launches new payroll deduction program

We all work hard for our students and the Keyano Foundation has made it easier to give back for their benefit. The Keyano College 50/50 Staff Draw is a new initiative being launched for this purpose. This is an ongoing payroll deduction program and all net proceeds will go directly to student awards and scholarships.

Nickie Power, Event Coordinator, Keyano Foundation, encourages all staff to participate in the initiative, which she dubs a "win-win for staff, students and the Foundation."

"This is a good way to participate in something as a team and potentially, put some extra cash in your pocket. All net proceeds go directly to student scholarships and awards, so this is your chance to directly help students" notes Power.

"We wanted staff to keep Foundation in their minds as they think about giving back," she added.

When you sign up for the program the donated money is automatically deducted from your payroll each pay period. Payroll deduction forms were made available at the launch breakfast as well as from Power. They have also been dropped off in staff mailboxes.

Tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. The first draw will take place on September 15. Forms are also available at www.keyano.ca.

JOIN THE
KEYANO COLLEGE STAFF
50/50
DRAW

First draw
takes place on
Septemehr 15th!
GET YOUR 50/50
DRAW FORMS
NOW!



TICKETS
\$5.00 EACH OR
3 FOR \$10.00

DRAWS WILL TAKE PLACE EACH PAYDAY.
All proceeds will be used for scholarships
and awards within Keyano College.

Tickets can be purchased through payroll deduction.

Forms are available at www.keyano.ca or by contacting
Nickie Power at Nickie.Power@keyano.ca or 780-791-8922.





Editorial Board:

Publisher - Russell Thomas

Editor - Heather Rice

Writer - Kiran Malik-Khan

Photographer - Sean McLennan

For additional story ideas or to submit a story
please contact Kiran at kiran.malik-khan@keyano.ca.

Campus Connection reserves the right to edit submissions.
