

Star photo by VINCE FEDOROFF

OPENING THIS EVENING - Anthony DeLorenzo opens Water's Edge in the Focus Gallery this evening. Also opening in the Edge Gallery is Yukon or the Yukon: A matter of perception by Goran Sreckovic. The shows run until June 29. Also in the Hougen Heritage Gallery is Personalities Unidentified, featuring photos from the MacBride Museum collection, until June 29.

Roadshow promotes healthcare careers

With a focus on inspiring the next generation of health care professionals, the Healthcare Travelling Roadshow visited the Yukon last week.

Each spring, the roadshow brings together a multidisciplinary group of healthcare students from post-secondary institutions from across B.C. to showcase careers to rural high school students.

Led by UBC medical students with the Island, Southern, and Northern

Medical Programs, the roadshow visited various regions in May.

Last week, the Yukon Roadshow made stops at high schools in Whitehorse, Dawson City and Atlin, B.C.

At each high school, students rep-

resenting cardiology technology, dental hygiene, kinesiology, med laboratory science technology, medicine, nursing, pharmacy and physical therapy presented hands-on demonstrations and answered questions about their chosen careers.

The roadshow is a provincial initiative, with trips taking place annually across B.C.

This year marked an addition to the itinerary with the introduction of a Vancouver Island-based trip, as well as a first-time visit to the Yukon.

"The Healthcare Travelling Roadshow was born at University of Northern BC a decade ago," said Dr. Sean Maurice, senior lab instructor, Northern Medical Program based at the UNBC.

"It has grown from a small pilot project into a significant provincial initiative to address the rural healthcare workforce.

"The Roadshow team collaborates broadly with many different provincial partners, to run this innovative project."

In 2019, the four different weeklong trips, involve 50 healthcare students visiting over 2,000 youth in numerous rural communities.

"We strive to put healthcare careers into the minds of rural youth. and put rural practice into the minds of healthcare students," Maurice said.

The Healthcare Travelling Roadshow was conceived at UNBC as a grass roots initiative to address rural healthcare workforce shortages. The provincial initiative has grown to include four regional trips. Since its inception in 2010, the roadshow has connected with more than 8,500 high school students in 43 communities throughout BC.

The roadshow is delivered in partnership with the University of Northern BC, UBC Faculty of Medicine, Northern Medical Programs Trust, Rural Education Action Plan, Interior Health, and Vancouver Island Health.



Photo by SEAN MAURICE

HANDS-ON DEMONSTRATION - Carmela de Gracia (right), a kinesiology student from the University of Victoria, is seen with students May 28 at Porter Creek Secondary School in Whitehorse.