

THIS IS UNBC

Spring 2019



UNBC UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

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**A message from UNBC President
and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Daniel J. Weeks**



UNBC has a proud history of research excellence.

From our first days as an institution, we have been committed to developing, fostering and sharing research that has profound impacts around the world. As a former vice-president of research at another institution, I was all too aware of this fact when I decided to come to UNBC – it was a major draw.

Our faculty are exceptional, contributing ground-breaking knowledge to global discussions covering a wide range of topics. The support team in our research office do tremendous work in supporting our scientists' aspirations.





Perhaps the greatest outcome of research, however, is the process itself of teaching our community of students at the undergraduate and graduate level to pursue their own academic endeavours and make meaningful contributions to the discovery of new knowledge.

UNBC has been forward thinking in empowering undergraduate students to engage in research projects as early as their first year. This opportunity does not exist at many other universities; while many are starting to see that value now, this is something UNBC has been doing for a long time.

Recently, we took the concept of student-empowered research to a new level. We've launched a Research Ambassador program, designed to celebrate and enhance the research culture on campus.

The program features undergraduate and graduate students from across the academy who will promote and engage with University and high school students through public talks, workshops and orientation activities. They'll also work closely with our research community to improve the research experience for students and in particular encourage more undergraduate students to get involved in groundbreaking research.

I've had the great fortune to meet these students. Their UNBC experience will couple a meaningful integration of foundational academic work with original scholarship, helping them further develop critical thinking skills and become tomorrow's leaders.

Respected Nisga'a leader named Chancellor

When Dr. Joseph Arthur Gosnell Sr. was asked if he would accept the role as UNBC's seventh Chancellor, his answer was immediate.

"It's a blessing to have this honour conferred on me," he says. "The best thing I can do is encourage young men and women, no matter who they are, to come out of University with degrees behind their names. Once you've done that, the world is open to you."

Gosnell is a highly respected hereditary chief in the Laxsgiik (Eagle) tribe of the Nisga'a Nation in the Nass Valley, 100 km north of Terrace. He was born in a now-deserted Nass River Arrandale salmon cannery close to his eventual homes Gitwinksihlkw and Gitlaxt'aamiks (also known as New Aiyansh). As a young man he worked as a salmon, herring and halibut fisherman along the entire coast of B.C. and residential and commercial carpenter. He was also a traditional carver taught by his father, Nisga'a Master carver and historian, the late Eli Gosnell. He would eventually become an elected band Councillor and Chief of the Gitlaxt'aamiks Band and the first elected President of the Nisga'a Nation. During his political tenure, he was instrumental in bringing modern medical care, education and resource management to his Nation.

He may be best known, however, for his work as the lead Nisga'a representative in negotiations that led to the Nisga'a Treaty in 1998, the first modern treaty between a B.C. First Nation, British Columbia and Canada. For the Nisga'a, the Treaty followed the landmark Supreme Court of Canada Calder Case that set many precedents in Canadian legal history. On May 11, 2000, the effective date of the Treaty, Dr. Gosnell became the first President of Nisga'a Lisims Government, serving until November 2008.

"What's wrong with dreaming?"

"Before the treaty, all we had was hope," he explains. "We had absolutely nothing, no medical facilities of any kind. The missionaries were dispensers of aspirin. Those were the medical facilities available to our people. If you got seriously hurt, you did one of two things: you got better, or you died."

Clearly things have improved for the people of the Nisga'a Nation during Gosnell's lifetime, which has included being named to the Order of British Columbia, named a Companion and Officer of the Order of Canada, and being a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal.

"Now, look at the world we live in — paved roads, health facilities in each community, and we have control over our school district," he says. "But we have plans. At some point, all the people working in our institutions will be members of our Nation. I see major business opportunities coming here that will completely change our people."

"I'm dreaming," he adds with a chuckle. "What's wrong with dreaming?"



Rio Tinto has a long history of backing UNBC. From their long-standing support of the Northern Medical Programs Trust to various research endeavours over the years, the company's commitment to knowledge development and community building is clearly evident.

Innovation and Collaboration

Rio Tinto enhances commitment to education and research

That trend continued at this year's British Columbia Natural Resources Forum in Prince George, where Rio Tinto announced it will provide UNBC with \$450,000 over the next three years. The funding's focus is on research and analysis of the socio-economic state within the Nechako Watershed region, initiatives in common-interest areas such as the environment and experiential learning opportunities for UNBC students. This is

expected to include involving students in hands-on research programs, as well as internships and co-operative placements with Rio Tinto across a range of disciplines.

"We share UNBC's commitment to advancing education and research in the region, which plays an important role in ensuring Rio Tinto BC Works stays at the forefront of the aluminum industry with a highly skilled workforce and the latest technologies," said Rio Tinto BC Works operation director for power and services Andrew Czornohalan. "By developing relationships between researchers, educators and businesses like ours, we are encouraging a culture of innovation in our organizations and communities across the region."

Dr. Geoff Payne, UNBC's Vice-President Research and Graduate Programs, says that UNBC, as one of Canada's leading small universities, brings research, teaching and learning expertise to a wide range of issues that communities are grappling with around the world.

"From water security, climate change and health care, to resource management, food security, and ecosystem management, all of these issues can be studied in depth in a unique environment right at our doorstep in northern B.C." he explains. "There's an opportunity for this partnership to create local solutions that will have a global impact."



"All of these issues can be studied in depth in a unique environment right at our doorstep in northern B.C."

Dr. Jacqueline Pettersen wins second international research prize

A Northern Medical Program professor has won a prestigious international research prize, the first North American to do so since the Prize's inception in 2006.

Dr. Jacqueline Pettersen was awarded the Dr. Wolfgang Hevert Prize 2018 for a proposed study on vitamins D and K2 in relation to cognition. The prize, which includes 10,000 Euros, is awarded to the researcher of a planned study that seeks to clarify questions regarding natural medicine and associated therapies. It is provided through the Hevert Foundation, in conjunction with Hevert-Arzneimittel, a German company specializing in natural medicine.

“This will be the first study to directly assess the effects of vitamin K2 supplementation in conjunction with vitamin D on cognition,” said Dr. Pettersen, a cognitive/behavioural neurologist. “Vitamin D and vitamin K2 are known to work in a complementary fashion in terms of bone mineralization and prevention of arterial calcification and related atherosclerosis. There is some suggestion that K2 may also have beneficial effects in the brain and on cognition and these effects may be increased by vitamin D.

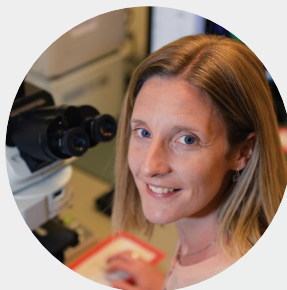
“Thus, vitamin D and K2 together might be even more effective than just vitamin D by itself. Insufficiencies of both vitamins are thought to be common worldwide and associated with cognitive decline and dementia.”

The prize is awarded every two years and is the second international award this year for Dr. Pettersen, who received the Fritz Wörwag research prize in Berlin this past May.



Research flourishing as UNBC welcomes new and renewed Canada Research Chairs

**It's a time for
celebration in
the research
community
at UNBC.**



This year, UNBC celebrated the appointment of a new Canada Research Chair (CRC) as well as the renewal of two CRCs.

Dr. Sarah de Leeuw, an associate professor in Geography and the Northern Medical Program (NMP) has been named as the new Canada Research Chair in Humanities and Health Inequities. Dr. Sarah Gray, an associate professor in the NMP, has been reappointed as CRC of Integrative Physiology of Diabetes, and Dr. Brian Menounos, professor in Geography, will continue his work as CRC in Glacier Change.

“Our Canada Research Chairs bring outstanding talent to UNBC,” says UNBC President Dr. Daniel Weeks. “Not only do they enhance our research community, but they also strengthen our ability to

develop leading-edge solutions to issues experienced in the North, across Canada and around the world.”

Dr. de Leeuw, a social scientist whose areas of interest include the medical humanities and determinants of marginalized peoples' health, will investigate how the arts and humanities can help address health inequities and encourage medical professionals to go into different geographies of practice such as rural areas and working with Indigenous people.

“Not only do they enhance our research community, but they also strengthen our ability to develop leading-edge solutions to issues experienced in the North, across Canada and around the world.”

Dr. Sarah Gray, first appointed in 2012 as a CRC, will continue her work to explore links between obesity and diabetes. And, as part of his ongoing work to study climate change on glaciers (see more on page nine), Dr. Brian Menounos, initially appointed in 2013, will use his second term as CRC to focus on the development of useful tools for research in the field.

All three researchers were appointed as Tier 2 CRCs, awarded to exceptional emerging researchers, acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their field. Each award is funded for \$500,000 over five years.

UNBC is home to seven Canada Research Chairs delving into such diverse fields as aboriginal governance, community development and ecosystem science.



On the pitch, the Timberwolves took another massive step forward in the incredibly competitive Canada West Pacific Division.

The Women's team made a second consecutive trip to the Canada West playoffs, after program highs in goals, wins, and points. The TWolves then made more history, earning the first playoff win in their history, topping the Manitoba Bisons in penalty kicks. Paige Payne, who set a team record with eight goals, was named a second-team Canada West all-star at the conclusion of the season.

The Timberwolves Men's soccer team continued to put the conference on notice, breaking program records in wins, goals, and points. Gordon Hall became the first male athlete in UNBC history to be named a Canada West first-team all-star, and senior Francesco Bartolillo earned the National U SPORTS Student-Athlete Community Service Award.



The UNBC Men's and Women's basketball teams took their games to new heights this season, signalling that the TWolves are perennial Canada West playoff contenders.

The Women's team, led by the highest scoring trio in the country in Vasiliki Louka, Maria Mongomo, and Madison Landry, set a new program record for wins, while booking a third consecutive playoff berth. The Timberwolves also recorded the first post-season win in program history, coming from behind to beat the Trinity Western Spartans. Louka became the first UNBC female athlete to be named a first-team conference all-star, while Mongomo earned third-team all-star distinction.

The Men's team, fresh off the first playoff win in program history, made it two consecutive post-season berths after another successful season. The TWolves beat a pair of nationally-ranked opponents, Saskatchewan and Alberta, to ensure the playoff appearance. Vaggelis Loukas broke the all-time rebounding and steals records and James Agyeman broke the assists records, while Austin Chandler became the UNBC all-time leader in blocks. Jovan Leamy was named a third-team CW all-star after breaking the Timberwolves single-season mark for points.



Joined by Olympic & World Champion curler Jennifer Jones, the 5th Annual Timberwolves Legacy Breakfast rocked the house.

With a capacity crowd in the Charles Jago Northern Sport Centre, Jones thrilled those in attendance with stories of her historic career, along with lessons in leadership, teamwork, and perseverance. Recently voted the greatest female curler in Canadian history, Jones detailed her beginnings in the sport, right up to standing on the podium at the 2014 Olympic Games in Sochi. More than 400 guests joined the UNBC student-athletes for a morning they won't soon forget.

With all funds raised going directly to scholarships and bursaries for Timberwolves student-athletes, the morning of March 6, 2019 set a new event-high for total money donated. A record \$75,000 was raised in support of the TWolves, making it the single-greatest fundraiser in UNBC Athletics history.





New research shows significant decline of glaciers in western North America

Imagine yourself in Toronto. The CN Tower reaching skyward, cheers from the crowd at a baseball game and a rich, diverse community enjoying the hustle and bustle of a major metropolitan centre.

Now imagine that city 10 metres underwater.

That's how much water glaciers in western North America (excluding Alaska) have shed during the first two decades of the 21st century, according to new research conducted by an international team of scientists.

Experts from UNBC included Dr. Brian Menounos, a professor of geography and Canada Research Chair in Glacier

Change; Assistant Geography Professor Dr. Joseph Shea, and two PhD students Ben Pelto and Christina Tennant. They were joined by scientists from the University of Washington, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Ohio State University and the Université de Toulouse in France.

The findings were published in *Geophysical Research Letters* and are the first comprehensive assessment of glacier mass loss for the study's region. They suggest glaciers are in significant decline.

The research team used archives of high-resolution satellite imagery to create more than 15,000 digital elevation

models covering glaciers from California to the Yukon. These elevation models were then used to estimate total glacier mass change over the period of study. Compared to the first decade of the 21st Century, the rate of ice loss increased fourfold over the last 10 years.

"Alpine glaciers are faithful indicators of climate change since they shrink and grow in response to changes in precipitation and temperature," says Menounos, the lead author of the paper. "Our work provides a more detailed picture of the current health of glaciers and ice outside of Alaska than what we've ever had before."

The challenge to retain the world's wilderness

It's easy to step out the front door in northern B.C. and be instantly immersed in the natural wildness of the landscape surrounding us.

But startling new research from a UNBC scientist published in *Nature* suggests the world's last wilderness areas are rapidly disappearing, and that international conservation targets are critically needed.

“In the ocean, the only regions that are free of industrial fishing, pollution and shipping are almost completely confined to the polar regions.”

Ecosystem Science and Management Associate Professor Dr. Oscar Venter is the co-author of a new study that recently mapped intact ocean ecosystems, complementing an earlier 2016 project that charted remaining terrestrial wilderness. The studies provide the first global picture of how little wilderness remains.

Venter is alarmed by the results.

“A century ago, only 15 per cent of the Earth's surface was used by humans to grow crops and raise livestock,” he said. “Today, more than 77 per cent of land – excluding Antarctica – and 87 per cent of the ocean has been modified by the direct effects of human activities.

“It might be hard to believe, but between 1993 and 2009, an area of terrestrial wilderness larger than India – a staggering 3.3 million square kilometres – was lost to human settlement, farming, mining and other pressures.

“And in the ocean, the only regions that are free of industrial fishing, pollution and shipping are almost completely confined to the polar regions.”

The researchers involved in the study insist that global policy needs to be translated into local action.

“Canada has more wilderness remaining than any other country except Russia. One obvious intervention is to establish protected areas to slow the impacts of industrial activity on the larger landscape or seascape in Canada,” Venter adds. “But we must also stop industrial development to protect indigenous livelihoods, create mechanisms that enable the private sector to protect wilderness.

“We have lost so much already. We must grasp this opportunity to secure the last remaining wilderness before it disappears forever.”





Indigeneity in Health Care

UNBC researchers embark on \$1.3M partnership project

UNBC is uniquely situated to conduct research into a range of topics, the findings of which can have an impact around the globe.

One such topic, furthering Indigenous health in northern B.C., is the subject of a new, five-year research project being led by two UNBC researchers working with a host of northern partners.

Dr. Sarah de Leeuw and Dr. Margo Greenwood have received \$1.3 million as part of a Healthy and Productive Work Initiative - Partnership Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

The project focuses on transforming health service delivery in northern B.C. while aiming to inspire Indigenous youth to enter the health-care field.

“It’s an opportunity to develop northern-focused solutions that create a more culturally humble health-care system embracing Indigenous people and knowledge,” said de Leeuw, Northern Medical Program and Geography associate professor, and Canada Research Chair in Humanities and Health Inequities.

It is the first joint federal research partnership grant of its kind to be held at UNBC, and is one of only nine such grants held across Canada. Partners include numerous Indigenous and non-Indigenous stakeholders across the North, Northern Health, Two Rivers Gallery in Prince George, and the National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health.

The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) contributed an additional \$130,00 in funding.

Other project participants include collaborators from the Northern Medical Program, UBC, and McMaster University.

“We are going to get together with stakeholders across the region, have good conversations around the issues, and encourage people to be self-reflective on practice, programs and the system,” added Greenwood, First Nations Studies and Education professor, and Northern Health vice-president of Indigenous Health. “We know that not one community, employer, post-secondary institution or organization is going to fulfill these goals on their own. It’s going to take a partnered effort to fully address health-care needs across the North in a culturally respectful and safe way.”

Field School a life-changing experience

For two weeks last spring, Hannah Magee spent time under the hot African sun in Zambia learning about significant health issues, such as families and youth who live in poverty, are vulnerable to HIV, and who have experienced family violence and loss of a parent.

While the topic was extraordinarily sobering, it was a life-altering experience for Magee, one she'll not soon forget.

Magee took part in a field school focusing on health, social capital, and community sustainability. The experience was organized by UNBC and led by Dr. Sylvia Barton, Chair of the School of Nursing, and Dr. Gene Krupa, Adjunct Professor at the University of Alberta. It involved two UNBC students, Magee and Emily Aase (social work), and three health sciences students from the College of New Caledonia and the University of Alberta.

The work included insightful visits to community agencies, clinics, hospitals, and schools, and saw the students gain greater understanding of women and girls who experience gender-

based violence and how communities are focused on reducing child marriages and teen pregnancies.

The students engaged in group discussions that allowed them to reflect on their experiences and generate new ideas and possibilities to address challenges experienced in Zambia or Canada or both.

"It was so inspiring to be a part of," said Magee, a University of Northern British Columbia fourth-year nursing student. "The knowledge I gained was incredible."

As is often the case at UNBC, the field school was made possible in part to the generosity of UNBC's donors. The practical, hands-on experiential learning opportunity inspired Magee, who grew up in Mackenzie B.C., to pursue opportunities as a travelling nurse, work in international locations and participate in future health-science related research trips.

"It definitely reminded me of why I enrolled in nursing," she explained. "It's been the highlight of my undergraduate degree."

"It's been the highlight of my undergraduate degree."



unbc.ca/newsroom

Connecting to their community and watersheds

That's the goal of the *Koh-Learning in our Watersheds* project focused on helping students in the Nechako watershed region become informed stewards of their local environments.

The School District 91 partnered project is based on students, educators and partners learning together about 'Koh' – a word for waterway in Dakelh, the main Indigenous language of the traditional territories the school district encompasses.

"The purpose is to transform learning in the Nechako region in ways that connects students, communities and waterways, and that fosters understanding of the land, water and living systems we depend on," said Dr. Margot Parkes, a UNBC Health Sciences associate professor and Canada Research Chair in Health, Ecosystems and Society.

Solving difficult problems equals success

UNBC computer science students were up to the task of posting their best performance in school history at the ACM Pacific Northwest Intercollegiate Programming Regional Contest at Simon Fraser University in November.

Teams of three have five hours to solve as many problems as possible from a given set of 12 to 13 problems that test their skills in programming and problem solving.

UNBC sent three teams to the competition and finished 6th, 15th and 32nd among 73 teams in Division II.

UNBC's top team was in first place for more than three hours and only overtaken in the last 90 minutes.

Prior to this year, UNBC's best finish was 11th place.

The Pacific Northwest region includes top Canadian university teams from the UBC and SFU, along with other major universities in the Pacific Northwest region such as Stanford University, University of California-Berkeley and the University of Washington.

UNBC Stories

Our students, faculty, alumni and staff are making headlines for their work on campus and in the community. To learn more about these stories, please visit our website. unbc.ca/newsroom

Turcotte reels in scholarship

For Luc Turcotte, a love of the outdoors led to fly fishing, and his passion for connecting with nature led to a decision to pursue his Masters degree in Natural Resource Science at UNBC.

Turcotte was selected as one of four recipients of a \$1,500 Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C. scholarship that will go a long way in helping him during his final year of research on coho salmon and their habitat in the Coldwater River near Merritt, B.C.

He is studying the effects of different levels of oxygen on incubation development of the coho eggs.

UNBC's JDC West program may be small, but it sure is mighty

The team, comprised of 48 business students, including two co-captains, earned three podiums at the JDC West competition at Simon Fraser University in January.

In addition to being the top school for the most charity dollars raised with \$166,236, UNBC teams won a pair of second-place finishes in entrepreneurship and marketing.

JDC West is the largest student-run business case competition in Western Canada, featuring 12 business schools.



Study reveals major transition expected for Fraser River Basin

Nearly half of the Fraser River basin, Canada's largest Pacific watershed, is expected to transition from one that is snow-dominated to a primarily rain-dominated regime by the end of this century, according to a new hydrology study based at UNBC.

In response to projected global warming, the research reveals that the Fraser River basin transitions from one where peak annual streamflow results from spring snowmelt to one where the peak streamflow is often caused by extreme rainfall.

Dr. Stephen Déry, a UNBC Environmental Science Professor and Dr. Siraj Ul Islam, a UNBC Environmental Science Research Associate, ran a hydrological model for 150 years, from 1950 to 2099 using future climate projections from 21 global climate models.

The projections show in a future, warmer climate that as the ratio of snow to rain declines, river flows peak earlier in the year with reduced volume. Runoff in the cold season (fall and winter) at the outlets of the Fraser River and its major tributaries increase substantially and its year-to-year variability more than doubles compared to the historical time period.

The research is published in two scientific journals: *Geophysical Research Letters* and the *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences*. Dr. Déry and Dr. Islam are the co-authors of the papers.

UNBC Full STEAM Ahead

UNBC continues to engage and inspire next-generation leaders with programs in science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM), all while getting youth comfortable in a university setting at an early age. These programs are an opportunity for northern youth to have a positive experience with their peers, community leaders, and UNBC students, staff and faculty as they explore post-secondary educational pathways and career trajectories long before they finish high school.

UNBC's first Go Code Girl was a huge success! The one-day event that took place in February allowed for girls in Grades 7 to 11 to visit the Prince George campus, learn about computer science through different hands-on computer programming and design activities, and meet women currently studying and working in the field.

In the fall, UNBC offers Go ENG Girl, another free one-day experience for girls in Grades 7 through 10 to spark interest in engineering. The participants get an opportunity to stretch their minds with hands-on activities and interact with women in engineering; this day is all about introducing young girls to the vast possibilities that lie ahead for them in the many fields of engineering.

And as summer is upon us, registration for UNBC Active Minds 2019 is now open. A wide range of science-based camps are offered including engineering, robotics, computers and general science for ages 6 to 12 to foster curiosity and interest within STEAM. Along with Prince George, camps are offered in Quesnel, Vanderhoof and Fort St John. For more information on any of these programs visit us at unbc.ca/youth.



New facilities engineer a strong future for UNBC students

A modern, new learning and research space furnished with the right equipment for future UNBC engineers is on its way to the Prince George campus.

The provincial government has provided \$3.5 million in new learning facilities that will help the University increase its use of existing classroom space and teaching laboratories, and create a centralized collaboration space for programs starting in September 2019. The investment supports the fact that UNBC students can now complete their full civil and environmental engineering degrees right here in northern B.C.

“UNBC provides a unique learning environment for engineering students. We are fortunate to have passionate, dedicated faculty sharing their knowledge and expertise with us as we develop skills that will have benefits not only in the North but around the world,” said Lucia Dekleer, a UNBC environmental engineering student.

In January 2018, the Province announced funding for new civil and environmental engineering degree programs, which will ramp up to a total of 280 additional spaces by 2022-23 with 70 graduates per year expected by 2023.

“These environmental and civil engineering students are the change-makers, innovators and leaders we need to help create a greener, more sustainable future for the best B.C.,” said Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training. “This investment is all about opening doors for students into B.C.’s tech sector. Our government is thrilled to make UNBC an educational destination of choice so that students in the North can study close to home.”

Class Notes

Be part of Class Notes: [unbc/ca/alumni](http://unbc.ca/alumni)

1997

Christos Vardacostas (BComm Finance & MA Development Economics 2013) is the Executive Director of the Aboriginal Housing Society in Prince George.



1998

Skye Perry (BSW & MSW 2007) is based in Kelowna with the Ministry of Children and Family Development as the Director of Child & Youth Mental Health Provincial Operations.



1999

Charity Peal (BA First Nations Studies & MEd 2010) is the Co-ordinator of Culture & Language Programs for the Nisga'a - School District #92 in New Aiyansh.

Bryn White (BA Environmental Studies) is the Program Manager of the South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program, a unique partnership between First Nations, NGOs, government and academia to conserve land and wildlife in the endangered South Okanagan Similkameen.



2001

Sandra Merchant (BSc Mathematics & NRM Wildlife) is a Mathematics Instructor at the British Columbia Institute of Technology in Burnaby. She received her PhD from UBC in 2010.

J. Grant Barley (BSc Forestry) is Partner with Strategies North Advisory Inc. in Fort St. John.

Desmond MacMillan (BComm General Business) is Partner at law firm Knight LLP in Calgary.

Derek Iwanaka (BComm Marketing) recently became the Vice-President of Investor Relations and Corporate Development of BeMetals Corp. Derek is a founding member of the BeMetals' executive team which is based in Vancouver.



Kevin Santos (BComm Accounting) is Partner at accounting firm Grant Thornton LLP and **Melody (BComm Accounting 2003)** is a development manager/controller at Copar Consulting Ltd. They moved from Prince George to Kelowna in 2005.

2003

Chris McNelly (BComm General Business) is the Director of Administration at B&A Planning Group in Calgary.



2006

Jeremy Hancyk (BComm Marketing) is the Director of Sales & Support at Rockland Scientific Inc. in Victoria. Rockland Scientific designs, manufactures and services high precision sensors and systems for the measurement of ocean turbulence, with exports to more than 30 countries.

2007

Donny van Dyk (BComm Accounting) has been hired as the City of Penticton's new Chief Administrative Officer.

Stacey Pickering (BA Anthropology) is the Co-ordinator of Specialty Education at Northern Health. Stacey is also working on her MA in Interdisciplinary Studies.

2009

Bharath Reddy (MSc Computer Science) has relocated to Irvine, California. Bharath is a Senior Research & Development Designer for Schneider Electric.

2011

Dawn Sather (MSW) has established her own private practice, Sather Child Counseling & Consulting Inc. in Victoria. She specializes in attachment, trauma, and infant and children's mental health.



2012

Ashish Sachdeva (MSc Computer Science) is the Chief Executive Officer of Hyperlight Systems based in Vancouver. Hyperlight Systems is a tech company focused on improving accessibility for Smart Cities and Smart Transit.



Cory Hackett (BA Anthropology & MA Interdisciplinary Studies 2017) is the Owner and Senior Archaeologist of Ridgeline Archaeology, based in Prince George.



Graham Mack (BA History) is an Associate with the law firm, Fulton & Company LLP in Kamloops.



2013

Blake Rowsell (MA NRES Tourism) is an Instructor in the Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Program at Capilano University in North Vancouver.

Keith Lundquist (BComm Accounting and Finance) just moved to Christchurch, New Zealand. Keith is an accountant with Kathmandu, a national outdoor gear retailer.



2017

Stephen Appiah Takyi (PhD NRES) is a Lecturer in the Department of Planning at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana. His research focus is urban planning and he is engaged in mentoring the next generation of planning scholars and leaders in Ghana.

JC Boutros (MBA) is the National Director of Operations and Marketing of RecycleSmart, based in Vancouver. "Choosing UNBC as my business school was one of the best decisions I ever made," he says. "The cohort and faculty were absolutely wonderful to learn and work with, while the program leadership remain available to this day."

Shannon Williams (BA Public Administration & Community Development) is the Indigenous Relations Co-ordinator at the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure in Prince George.

Working Together for a Greener World

As Canada's Green University, UNBC strives to be a leader in sustainability.

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2 The savings amounts are based on filed and approved discounts and rates. These amounts may vary based on each person's individual insurance profile.

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