

Ashtonbee Campus

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Issue #12



CENTENNIAL COLLEGE

Volvo, Greensboro Visits Centennial!



Miles Robinson, Pardeep Chalal and Lori Bolton, along with the entire Mack/Volvo class listen attentively to corporate visitors. John Montgomery and Don Coldwell from Mack and Volvo Trucks Canada brought the Director of Customer Satisfaction – U.S., Mark Curri, to chat with the students. Mark found time to have a tour of the classroom, labs and the Mack and Volvo Corporate training labs while here in Toronto for dealer meetings.

Supporting United Way Centennial Style !

Get ready for a whole lot of fun. Joe DiMaria (Ashtonbee bookstore staff) has pledged to transform himself into a Telly Savales look-alike for the United Way campaign. Joe will be one of three members of the Centennial community to shave it all off. Please pitch in so Joe can buy a warm hat.



Staff Profiles



Scott Haight, Professor (Honda) is a graduate of Dunbarton H.S. and Centennial's School of Transportation. Scott has been teaching at Ashtonbee for 15 years. Scott and Posie have three daughters which explains the thinning and graying of the hair. Scott enjoys playing hockey, golf and slo-pitch when he can.



Sue Allen, Cordinator of Women in Skilled Trades. In addition to her driving talents, Sue is a solo musician, writer and singer of original songs. Aldo known as the "Dog Whisperer", Sue has a reiki practice for animals and their people, specializing in providing support, especially for animals in transition.



Mark Sherry, Professor/Coordinator (GM Training Centre). Mark, Denise and their two children (Kristen and Garrett) love camping during the summer in their trailer at local provincial parks. During the fall and winter, Mark is busy escorting his daughter to ballet and coaching his son's Rep Hockey team.

CENTENNIAL COLLEGE—SCHOOL OF TRANSPORTATION

Wheels & Wings...

Professional Development on “Essential Skills”

As indicated in the STOP/START/CONTINUE survey, our faculty and support staff have a strong interest in on-going professional development. With this in mind, Chair Peter Woodall has helped us to schedule a special workshop on Essential Skills through **CARS** (Canadian Automotive Repair and Service). CARS has contracted Donna Palmer, one of the most respected Essential Skills experts in the country to deliver the workshop on Monday, November 12. Staff members may sign up for either the morning (8:00—12:00) or afternoon session (12:30 to 4:30). Coordinators Dave Samalea and David Weatherhead have already audited this workshop at a session held in Durham a couple of weeks ago and have come back with high praise for its content. **Please book your preference by email or phone with Gloria (7002) or Kesie (7310).** The CARS Essential Skills project is aimed at increasing essential skill levels in the Canadian automotive industry. Essential skills refer to skills needed for work, learning and life; providing the foundation for learning all other skills. Essential skills enable people to evolve with their jobs. Essential Skills include: reading text; document use; numeracy; writing; oral communication; working with others; continuous learning; thinking skills; and computer use.



The Mazda Premacy RE Hybrid

Mazda recently unveiled a new hybrid vehicle that uses hydrogen fuel to power an electric motor. The Japanese automaker says the vehicle will be available in Japan next year. The Mazda Premacy RE Hybrid will be launched later this month at the Tokyo Auto Show. It operates on a rotary engines which runs almost silently because it does not have pistons like standard engines. Hydrogen is combined with oxygen in the air to power the vehicle. It emits only water rather than pollutants that have been attributed to global warming. Mazda plans to make the car available for lease only in Japan.

Ashtonbee Campus Survey

The Ashtonbee Campus User Group, which represent the students, Support Staff, Faculty and administrators distributed a short survey in February 2007. The purpose of the survey was to obtain feedback from the Ashtonbee Campus community about levels of satisfaction relating to campus’ facilities and services. Thanks to Bev Shugg-Barbeito, we now have an analysis of the 4,000 survey copies that were distributed. There were 2,380 respondents (88% were students, 7% were employees. An executive summary and the full report are available in the office (please see Rita).

The **areas of highest satisfaction** as rated by respondents were



Specialty 3-Wheeler at maximum capacity.

parts of the Ambiance, Physical Environment and Registrations sections of the survey: (campus provides a welcoming, friendly atmosphere; pleasant, comfortable physical environment; good signage; clean washrooms, washrooms are properly supplied; and knowledgeable registration staff). The **areas of least satisfaction** were part of the Food/Cafeteria section: (keeping overall prices low, lack of special program such as “Tim’s”, menu variety and overall quality of meals. The committee noted that improvements in the quality of meals (particularly soup) have already been implemented.

The Ashtonbee Users Group will continue to monitor the survey results and seek to make further improvements to enhance campus life for the Ashtonbee community.



Jennifer Valentyne of CITY-TV learning to drive our Volvo Truck.

Send comments/ideas for the Wheels and Wings newsletter to: jrandev@centennialcollege.ca or rraper@centennialcollege.ca