

WELCOME TO NICI E-NEWS!



**AUTMUN GREETINGS FROM THE
COMOX VALLEY ON VANCOUVER ISLAND,
BRITISH COLUMBIA**

ON CAMPUS

Although the end of a wonderful summer can be a sad thing, here at North Island College September brings nothing but excitement. On September 2nd, classes started with a bang! The weather has been beautiful and the campus is bustling with students who are familiarizing themselves with their classes and instructors, the campus and their new classmates. This year International Education is proud to have students visiting from England, Germany, Korea, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, United States, Mexico, Grand Cayman Islands and Kenya. Our International Welcome was a huge success and oriented over 50 students on August 27th and it was fantastic to see international students participating in the College Orientation as well.

ALUMNI NEWS

Hey Alumni! We want to hear all about how you are doing! Please take the time to tell us all about yourself and the exciting things happening in your life since graduating from NIC. Are you furthering your education? Should we congratulate you on your recent marriage? Do you have some photos of an exciting trip to share? Did you get a great new job? Email us at international@nic.bc.ca to keep in touch!

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WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING ABOUT NIC

"I studied English at North Island College for two years and I have audited a few university courses. My instructors are friendly, funny and responsible. The advisor gave me lots of great information about how to be a successful student. I watch movies and the news and read books in English because one of my professors told me learning English is a process of accumulation. I really want to do something realistic. I plan to work in a practical field job after I graduate from North Island College, that's way I decided to take the Aircraft Structures Technician program."



ALLAN LI

Aircraft Structures Technician

UPDATES

North Island College is strongly committed to providing lots of support for students studying English as their second language. Recently we added six hours of instruction at both the intermediate and advanced levels, providing 24 hours of instruction each week.

As well, we offer students several excellent opportunities to practice their developing English skills.

- Conversation Circle – a weekly gathering of people interested in meeting others. Membership includes both local and international students, people from the community, members of ElderCollege and NIC staff. It's a great chance to share ideas and enjoy conversation in a relaxed environment.
- Volunteer opportunities – Canadians are proud volunteers. We create many opportunities in our communities because of our volunteer efforts. NIC provides all international students and especially those learning English with a chance to get a volunteer job or internship. This summer, students volunteered at a local daycare, in a therapeutic garden and at a local thrift store. We help each student find a volunteer job interesting to them. It's a great way to make friends, practice English and learn a new skill.
- Activities – NIC hires local students who meet weekly with international students to plan activities. By participating in the planning students have more opportunities to use their English – and of course plan activities of interest to them. In the past, students have gone rock climbing, kayaking, visited Vancouver, enjoyed movie nights and sing-alongs.
- Homestay – an essential component of any good ESL program is a family Homestay. Our new Homestay coordinators Anne Hansen and Jack Grinyer of Comox Valley Homestay (comoxvalleyhomestay.com) are providing excellent service to both students and their families ensuring there is a good match. Families bring students into their homes to add new ideas, new energy and fun to their families and truly enjoy their new “daughter” or “son”.
- Comox Valley – its 97% English speaking so each student has many opportunities every day to practice his or her developing English skills. Store clerks, bus drivers, librarians; everyone in the community is part of our efforts to ensure students make the most of their stay in the Comox Valley.



OUR
Change your woria.

International Bingo at NIC's International Welcome
August 28th 2008