



PEOPLE TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

V3.2 2010

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techlife → contents



45



60

↑ COVER

45 **People Firestarter**

Randy Thompson breathes life into promising early-stage companies as NAIT's first entrepreneur in residence.

By Cheryl Mahaffy



Cover photo
By Amy Bizovie

FEATURES

**24 Enter → Ask an Expert
The Green Car Question**
In the market for a more fuel-efficient car, writer Cheryl Mahaffy asks three auto experts for their top picks.

**33 Innovate → Applied
Research
Animal Attraction**
You can't choose your family - except, of course, for the family dog.
By Ruth Juliebo

**39 People → Alumnus
Holger Petersen: For the Record**
Praised, prized and recently immortalized, this record exec and radio DJ of more than 40 years still gets the Blues.
By Gene Kosowan

**57 CuliNAIT → Q&A
Hanging out with David Adje**
After nearly a decade on TV, this celebrity chef still considers himself a blue-collar guy.
By Sherri Krastel

DEPARTMENTS

UPFRONT

- 6 **Contributors**
- 7 **Editor's Note**
- 7 **Letters**
- 8 **President's Connections**

ENTER

- 9 **Newsbytes**
- 11 **Gadgets**
- 13 **Business
Sassy Campaign Scores**
A student team laps the competition as their designs roll onto the Oil City Derby Girls promotional materials.
- 14 **Simulation
Investor Education**
Two students have \$500,000 and 10 weeks to learn the markets risk-free.



- 16 **3 Questions**
- 19 **Greenscape**
The Dirt on Composting
How to set up a backyard composter.
- 20 **Technique**
Stayin' Alive
If you go out in the woods today, you better be prepared.
- 23 **Reading Room**

TECHNOFILE

- 27 **Robocop**
Introducing a tactical surveillance robot named Woody and a metal mannequin head named Iron Mike. Plus, a pyrotechnics show that puts you in control and a pig tracker that could bring home the bacon.

PEOPLE

- 36 **Staff**
Spellbound
Every kid who encounters Dr. Klay Dyer wants to have the last word, especially during "bee" season - and it's likely to be a mouthful.
- 48 **Entrepreneur**
Music Maverick
A philosophy of giving back underscores Marlon Wilson's work as a record label CEO and rapper intent on creating a thriving urban music scene in Edmonton.

SPACES

- 52 **Gym**
Ready, Set, Lego
Dozens of high-tech robots manoeuvre around table-top playing fields as the NAIT gym plays host to a different kind of sport.

CULINAIT

- 60 **Recipe**
Strip Steak With One-Bite Caesar, Smoky Rub and Clam Vinaigrette

EXIT

- 64 **Click**
What's New at techlifemag.ca
- 64 **5 Ways to Get Involved at NAIT**
- 66 **Rewind**
Vintage Voices
Radio and Television chair Patrick Galenza's old-time radio collection.



PAGE → 57

NAOMI FINLAY

My best moment while photographing David Adjey was hearing stories about his travels up north, specifically about eating seal meat. **My greatest challenge** was trying not to think about what to have for lunch or dinner! **My photographs can also be seen in** *Aeroplan Arrival* magazine, *Designlines* and *green* magazine. **Technology's biggest impact on my profession** has been the change from film to digital. This isn't a new change, but it's still changing the way photographers work, and a lot of us are still ironing out issues. **My favourite gadget** is my iPhone.



PAGE → 36

KATHY FRAZER

My best moment while writing Spellbound was learning that many spelling bee contestants – kids who routinely spell words like autochthonous and succedaneum – are still in elementary school. **When I'm not writing for techlife** I promote NAIT and its programs from the Corporate Communications marketing office. **Technology's biggest impact on my profession** has been the ease of sharing materials. Just over 10 years ago, print ads were full-sized hard copies delivered by courier to the newspaper, and radio commercials were on reel-to-reel tapes. **Words that trip me up when spelling** are colleague, liaison and psychology. **My favourite gadget** is my stapler. Can you imagine office life without staples? Chaos!



PAGE → 20

DEREK LUE

My greatest challenge with the wilderness safety illustration was figuring out how the topographical lines should flow and making them somewhat believable. **My best moment** was finally seeing the headline, contour lines and colour choices take shape. **Art director alter ego:** I'm hanging out with my wife, Jen, and kids, Carson and Zara. **Technology's biggest impact on my profession** is the computer, hands down. I couldn't imagine working with rubylith and waxers to create page layouts. **My favourite gadget** is the Nitecore D10 Tribute Edition LED flashlight. **My favourite discussion forum** is detailingbliss.com.

Earlier this year, techlife's award-winning art director picked up several awards from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education District VIII, including silver for his cutaway illustration of the net zero house (Zero In, p. 33, V2.2, spring 2009).



PAGE → 28

SUSAN RUTTAN

My best moment while writing the TechnoFile features was seeing the Iron Mike mannequin head that Michael Weiss modified for a dentist simulation. **My greatest challenge** was doing justice to the DiViewer, a visual tool, in a limited number of words. **My writing can also be seen in** *Alberta Views*, the Highlands community newsletter and other publications. **Technology's biggest impact on my profession** has been the Internet, which has expanded our research capabilities beyond description. **My favourite gadget** is a small pencil sharpener I bought for \$1.



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AT **TECHLIFE**, we enjoy the luxury of having access to many authorities on many subjects. With hundreds of NAIT programs offering training in everything from finance to nanotechnology, thousands of employees and students, more than 150,000 alumni and dozens of industry partners, access to subject-area experts seems limitless. For this issue, we talked with a few of those experts to bring you stories that we hope will provide you with information you can use in many aspects of your life.

As we prepare to get outdoors this summer and face the elements, three Forest Technology instructors draw on years spent working in the field to offer advice about preparing for a wilderness adventure – and what to do if things don't go as planned (p. 20).

If you, like me, have been contemplating setting up a backyard composter, you won't want to miss the how-to

from Landscape Architectural Technology grad Jennifer Burns-Robinson (p. 19), who promises that it's not as complicated – or messy – as we might think.

And if, like writer Cheryl Mahaffy, you're in the market for a fuel-efficient vehicle, you'll want to read the top car picks of three automotive alumni (p. 24).

Our Gadgets section features the must-have tools of the trades as recommended by faculty (p. 11) while other members of the NAIT community offer their favourite online sources for news and information in Reading Room (p. 23).

Randy Thompson, president and CEO of the angel investment VentureAlberta Forum, has been advising novaNAIT clients as well as staff and students since October as NAIT's inaugural entrepreneur in residence (p. 45). In March, David Adjei, Food Network Canada host and former personal chef to Dan Aykroyd, spent a week challenging our culinary students to look at food differently as the Hokanson Chef in Residence (p. 57).

We think all this expert insight and advice makes for good reading, and hope you do, too.

Let us know what you think of this and past issues of *techlife*. If you'd like to give us your feedback in a more formal way, take our short semi-annual reader survey at techlifemag.ca/survey.htm.

In the meantime, my advice is to enjoy the summer!

Sherri Krastel,
Editor
editor@techlifemag.ca

TECHLIFE AWARDED

International Association of Business Communicators – Gold Quill Award of Merit, Communication Skills and Tactics

Council for the Support and Advancement of Education District VIII – Grand Gold, Periodicals; Silver, Photography (Perfection is Impossible, Excellence is Not, p. 50, V2.2, spring 2009); Silver, Illustration (Zero In, p. 33, V2.2, spring 2009)

Alberta Magazine Publishers Association Annual Showcase Awards – Best Feature Layout (A Promise to a Tree, p. 38, V2.2, spring 2009)

Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education Prix D'Excellence – Gold, Best Photo (Shooting Star, p. 40, V3.1, fall 2009); Silver, Best Magazine

LETTERS

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Email editor@techlifemag.ca, reply via Twitter to @NAIT or mail your comments to Sherri Krastel, Editor, *techlife* magazine, 11762 – 106 St. N.W. Edmonton, AB T5G 2R1

Take the *techlife* readership survey at techlifemag.ca/survey.htm.

Excellent work! Very clear and easy to understand! (Winterize Your Boat, techlifemag.ca/boat.htm, October 2007)

Todd Voogt

I have some comments on the new format. It appears to be geared to younger, more recent grads. I graduated in 1966 and liked the old magazine, including the articles on reunions and the obituaries. Maybe include some

more stories on what some of the grads from the early years are doing now. I know it is hard to please everyone and you need a balance; not sure what the answer is. I do like some of the new articles and the glossy look.

Tony Koopmans

Business Administration '66

EDITOR'S NOTE

We strive to tell stories that will appeal to our diverse community of readers and hope that in this issue we can satisfy the demand for a balance in the alumni we feature. Looking for stories on our early graduates?

In Holger Petersen: For the Record (p. 39), the 1970 Radio and Television Arts grad reflects on a 40-year career that has earned him the title of Canada's ambassador of the blues, while in 3 Questions (p. 16), Alumni Council members, who graduated between 1964 and 1992, share their thoughts on NAIT, then and now.

As well, we invite all alumni to reconnect with their classmates in the new online community at www.nait.ca/alumniconnection.



W.A. SAM SHAW, PhD, PRESIDENT AND CEO

"APPLIED RESEARCH IS THE APPLICATION OF NEW OR EXISTING KNOWLEDGE TO SOLVE REAL-WORLD CHALLENGES – AND IS A KEY ELEMENT IN IMPROVING CANADA'S PRODUCTIVITY AND INNOVATION CAPACITY."

OUR ENTERPRISING SPIRIT

AT NAIT, we are uniquely positioned to leverage our expertise in providing real-world education in business, advanced technologies and skilled trades to bring innovative solutions to our partners in business and industry through applied research.

We are excited to work with the Ledcor Group to establish our first applied research chair – the Ledcor Group Applied Research Chair in Oil Sands Environmental Sustainability. In July, Dr. Preston McEachern will start work out of the Edmonton Research Park, developing a research agenda focused on applying green chemistry and engineering principles to oil sands production (p. 9). We are working with other partners to announce additional applied research chairs in the upcoming months, in the fields of natural gas, corporate social responsibility and productivity.

Our first entrepreneur in residence, Randy Thompson, president and CEO of the angel investment VentureAlberta Forum (p. 45), brings more than two decades of startup experience to his role as a mentor, adviser and teacher to *novaNAIT* clients and NAIT employees and students. Randy loves to be in the centre of the action – and has a knack for making things happen.

This year, students in the Bachelor of Technology in Technology Management program worked with 11 sponsors from industry, government and other sectors to identify technological solutions to real challenges, including a salinity sensor for marine aquariums (p. 29). One of the teams is now forming a consulting company to implement customized asset tracking systems and several other students have attracted attention from prospective employers eager to tap into their enterprising spirit.

That same spirit can be found in our staff. Researchers from the School of Electrical and Electronics Technology have accepted a challenge from the RCMP to develop the Rolls-Royce of tactical surveillance robots for a fraction of the cost of commercially available robots – and the preliminary results are turning heads (p. 27).

At Convocation in May, we celebrated the successes of 7,752 graduates – a new record, bringing our total number of alumni to 156,000. We also bestowed two honorary degrees, recognizing Arlene Dickinson, owner, president and CEO of Venture Communications and a member of the investment panel on CBC TV's *Dragons' Den*, and Kevin Martin (Petroleum Exploration Technology '87), who skipped the Canadian men's curling team to Olympic gold in Vancouver with the guidance of longtime coach and NAIT staffer Jules Owchar (Men With Brooms, p. 30, V3.1, fall 2009).

We could not be prouder of Kevin, Jules and teammates John Morris, Marc Kennedy, Ben Hebert and Adam Enright (Petroleum Engineering Technology '03) for representing the country.

All told, our focus remains on supporting our vision to be globally valued for student success, applied research and innovation. Send me a note and let me know how we're doing.

W.A. Sam Shaw, PhD
President and CEO
sams@nait.ca

ENDOWMENT CREATES GREEN CHAIR



Dr. Preston
McEachern

NAIT and Leducor have partnered to create the first-ever applied research chair at a Canadian college or technical

institute focused on applying green chemistry and engineering principles to oil sands production.

Dr. Preston McEachern, section head of Science, Research and Innovation with the Oil Sands Environmental Management Division of Alberta Environment, will assume the role July 5.

The Leducor Group invested \$1.75 million - \$250,000 for student awards and \$1.5 million to establish the Leducor Group Applied Research Chair in Oil Sands Environmental Sustainability. NAIT matched the research chair funding, creating a \$3-million endowment.

"It is Leducor's expectation that the applied research chair at NAIT and the work they conduct will help identify practices and processes that are of material benefit to the industry and can be applied to enhance and improve our operations in the oil sands," says Don Breen, president, Leducor Industrial Group.

McEachern, who will develop the research agenda in consultation with industry, says, "This is an excellent opportunity to advance the application of green technology to oil sands operations so we can move forward in a sustainable way with what's an amazing opportunity for Alberta and Canada."

— Rayne Kuntz and Kristen Vernon

Deanna Iwanicka talks strategy with the Ooks women's hockey team during playoffs (the team finished second).

COACH OF THE YEAR

Deanna Iwanicka, NAIT Ooks women's hockey coach, has been named Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference 2009-10 Women's Hockey Coach of the Year.

"I was very surprised, but excited at the same time," Iwanicka says. "This is an award that I need to share with my team - our veteran players have

done a fantastic job of creating a foundation for our many rookies. And our rookies have worked hard to excel."

The team, coached for the second year by Iwanicka, finished second in the conference - a feat the team has achieved only once before in its 10-year history.

— Raquel Maurier

SUPER SMALL IS THE NEXT BIG THING

Canada's first diploma program in nanotechnology - the study of materials and systems at the atomic and molecular level - will launch at NAIT in September 2010. Called Nanotechnology Systems, the program will

provide a strong foundation of electronics, material science, instrumentation, chemistry and biochemistry, supported by courses in communications and ethics. Alberta is fast becoming a Canadian hub for the burgeoning nanotech industry.

— Kathy Frazer

NAIT ADDS RESEARCH SPACE

The Edmonton Research Park is home to one of NAIT's two new applied research centres. Here, NAIT's new Leducor Group Applied Research Chair in Oil Sands Environmental Sustainability will lead industry-driven research with a focus on sustainability in the oil sands from a wet lab facility dedicated to green chemistry and engineering. The second site is a business incubation facility in

St. Albert with a focus on robotics and digital simulation. "Our capacity for product development and commercialization has grown dramatically," says Stuart Cullum, executive director of novaNAIT, the institute's centre for applied research and technology transfer. "Bring us your ideas and let's see just how far we can go."

— Ruth Juliebo

EQUIPMENT WINDFALL

Students in 10 NAIT programs, including Cabinetmaker and Electronics Engineering Technology, are training on \$2.7 million in new equipment purchased by the provincial government for an international competition last year.

A legacy of WorldSkills Calgary 2009, the equipment was distributed to school districts and post-secondary institutes across the province.

"The hands-on nature of NAIT programming requires significant investment in equipment - and this donation helps meet that need," says Peter Lawlor, dean of the School of Applied Building Science, president of Skills Canada Alberta and a member of the Skills Canada Board. "In some cases, we acquired equipment that quite possibly would not be available to our programs for several years."

— K.V.



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GADGETS

NAIT EXPERTS SHARE THE MUST-HAVE TOOLS OF THEIR TRADES FOR YOUR HOME, SHOP AND OFFICE.

WEB EXTRA

Find out what the first Canadian woman in space, Dr. Roberta Bondar, says is her favourite technology. techlifemag.ca/bondar.htm

TIRE PRESSURE GAUGE

A good-quality tire pressure gauge, which is inexpensive to purchase, is “a must-have for everyone who owns and operates a vehicle,” says Denis Guenette (Automotive Mechanic '65), chair of the Automotive and Parts Technician programs. Guenette says incorrect tire pressure is the cause of costly premature tire wear and contributes to increased fuel consumption and poor handling. Choose between mechanical gauges, which never go out of calibration, and digital gauges, which require a battery. “Tire pressure should be checked on a monthly basis. All vehicles have a label listing the correct pressure on the inside of the door opening.”



VICTORINOX MEAT-CUTTING KNIVES AND A MESH GLOVE

When it comes to cutting meat, Retail Meatcutting instructor Mark Trick (Retail Meatcutting '84 and Culinary Arts '08) knows his tools. Trick recommends the Swiss-made Victorinox knives available at the NAIT Bookstore for their durable, high-quality steel, which holds an edge well. The steak knife is good for cutting larger items, while the boning knife is good for removing bones and segmenting items. “You can do almost any meat-cutting task with these tools,” he says, adding that a sharpening steel is a must for maintaining the edge of a knife. Good thing they are reasonably priced as a knife will only last a meat cutter about one year. For those looking for professional tools, consider the steel mesh glove to improve your grip on slippery items, such as fish, and to prevent trips to the emergency room. All are available at the NAIT Bookstore.



CANON POWERSHOT DIGITAL ELPH CAMERA

“I carry my PowerShot with me wherever I go,” says Daelan Wood, instructor, Digital Media and IT. “The camera is so small I can pull it out quickly whenever I need it.” It also shoots HD video, which Woods finds very useful for capturing impromptu footage of his kids. “Like they say, the best camera you have is the one that’s always with you.”

Available at the NAIT Tech Store.



WEB EXTRA

Mark Trick demonstrates how to debone a turkey. techlifemag.ca/debone-turkey.htm

BOSCH DIGITAL MULTI-DETECTOR KIT

Advanced Woodworking instructor Daniel Belland (Millwork & Carpentry '96 and Carpenter '98) recommends the Cadillac of studfinders, the Bosch Digital Multi-Detector Kit. Belland says that although the Bosch is more expensive than a basic studfinder, it works with thicker materials and

detects rebar, wood studs, pipes and live wiring. “Some homes built in the '60s and '70s have double drywall and the less expensive stud finders won't work.” Belland says he has had good results with this model and that it will detect steel up to 10 centimetres deep, even in concrete.



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SASSY CAMPAIGN SCORES

THE STUDENT TEAM BEHIND THE OIL CITY DERBY GIRLS MARKETING PROPOSAL LAPPED THE COMPETITION AS THEIR DESIGNS ROLLED ONTO THE EDMONTON ROLLER DERBY LEAGUE'S PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS.

DARK, SEXY, TOUGH, edgy and modern - these words aren't often used in sports commentary, but when culture is as important as athleticism, typical sports lingo just won't do.

Guided by these keywords, a student team created a promotional campaign dubbed "Ridin' Derby" for Edmonton's Oil City Derby Girls roller derby league. Not only did the campaign win the biggest award - Best Overall Campaign Proposal - as well as The Big Idea award at the 28th annual NAIT JR Shaw School of Business Advertising Awards last year, the Oil City Derby Girls adopted the creative for the league's website, posters, stickers, temporary tattoos, pins and T-shirts.

"When we looked at the campaign theme, it did a really great job of capturing the right tone and attitude for what they were presenting," says Helene Leggatt, the Edmonton president of advertising agency DDB Canada, who chaired the judging panel for the advertising awards. "That's not always easy for students because they don't do it every day."

Marketing students Trista Elliott, Joel Lamont and Sara McCabe learned that the hard way when they realized their original family-friendly approach wasn't the right direction.

"The creative was the tough part to come up with and three-quarters of the way through, we completely scrapped everything (and set off in a new direction),"



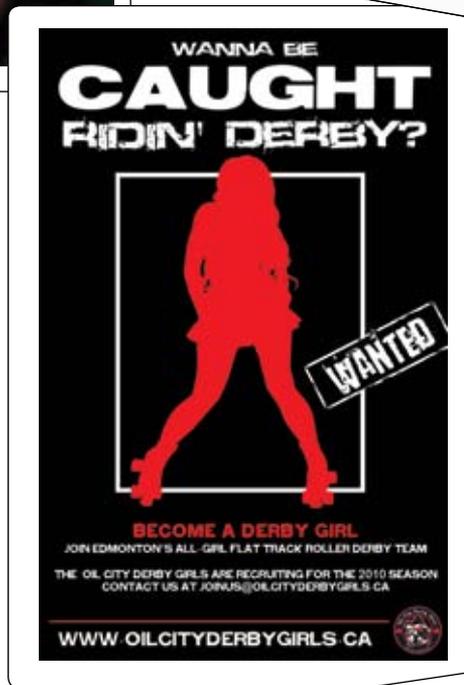
A winning student marketing campaign captures the attitude of the revived sport of roller derby.

McCabe says. The team also realized that ideas can come from anywhere: the Ridin' Derby tagline was inspired by rap song lyrics "ridin' dirty."

The last minute change in direction fell on Graphic Communications student Jenn Richards to conceptualize. The relationship between Marketing and Graphic Communications students was the result of a pilot project where both programs offered credit for the campaign.

"They really took into consideration everything about roller derby," says former player Jen Hamilton - also known in derby as Lily Hammer - who was responsible for promoting the league last year. Hamilton was particularly impressed with the audience research done to come up with the creative. "It's clean; it's classy; it's sassy."

— Diane Bégin



WHAT IS ROLLER DERBY?

The sport evolved from roller-skating races in the 1920s to a full contact sport that died out in the 1970s. A resurgence in the last decade led to the 2009 film *Whip It*, directed by Drew Barrymore and starring Ellen Page. The Oil City Derby Girls started in Edmonton in 2006. Two teams of five players - three blockers (defence), a jammer (scorer) wearing a star helmet, and a pivot (alternate jammer) wearing a striped helmet - race around a flat oval track. In two 30-minute periods, the jammers sprint past opposing team members to score points.

INVESTOR EDUCATION



TWO STUDENTS HAVE \$500,000 AND 10 WEEKS TO LEARN THE MARKETS RISK-FREE. THE MONEY MAY NOT BE REAL, BUT THE STRESS CERTAINLY IS.

COURSE: Stock Market Simulation
ASSIGNMENT: To make a minimum of 50 trades over 10 weeks in a hands-on lab that provides access to markets around the world, virtually in real-time.

VALUE OF THE PORTFOLIO: \$500,000
GOAL: To make more money than their classmates and beat the Standard & Poor's 500 index using theory from previous classes.

TRADERS: Second-year JR Shaw School of Business Finance students Katie Mohr and Joseph Busch.



KATIE MOHR
Strategy: "Since we are in an expansionary phase, the best sectors to invest in are consumer durables, basic materials (such as gold), pharmaceuticals and technology/communication."



JOSEPH BUSCH
Strategy: Busch is interested in day trading, with trades entered and closed within a day, and swing trading, where trades are entered and closed within one to four days. He'll use technical analysis tools to identify investments with short-term price gains.

INVESTMENT CURRICULUM

WEEK OF FEB. 1: MUTUAL FUNDS
 Pooled money that is invested.
EXCHANGE-TRADED FUNDS
 Match a given index.
BONDS A loan to an organization seeking capital.

WEEK OF FEB. 8: STOCKS
 Signify ownership in a company and a claim to a part of a corporation's assets and earnings.

WEEK OF FEB. 15: READING WEEK - NO CLASSES

WEEK OF FEB. 22: OPTIONS
 A contract that gives the buyer the option to buy an asset at an agreed-upon price (strike price) for a fixed period of time.

WEEK OF MARCH 1: FUTURES
 A contract that requires an investor to buy or sell a commodity or financial futures like the Canadian dollar or wheat at a predetermined date and price.

WEEK 2 - After talk on BNN about the strength of the Australian economy, the only major Western economy to avoid the recession, Mohr makes her best moves of the week: on Feb. 12, she buys stock in Westpac Banking Corporation (ASX:WBC), Australia's oldest bank, and WorleyParsons Ltd. (ASX:WOR), a resources and energy company.

WEEK 1 - On Feb. 3, Busch buys the required five ETFs, bonds and treasury notes, including iShares MSCI Brazil Index Fund ETF (NYSE:EWZ). The next day his portfolio dips with the market. "My plan is, come Monday, to sell them," says Busch, adding, "I wouldn't have even bought them."

WEEK 2 - Busch sells iShares MSCI Brazil Index Fund ETF at a loss of \$635. He isn't able to sell the other treasury notes, mutual funds or bonds. On Feb. 11, Busch buys Apple stock (Nasdaq:APPL), which he later sells at a loss of \$545. "I didn't want to stay in position if I couldn't see the chart."

WEEK 3 - With Westpac Banking performing well, Mohr buys 1,000 more shares on Feb. 19.

WEEK 3 - Busch goes to an investing conference in Florida for Reading Week. He makes his best move to date, buying 1,000 shares in Boeing Company (NYSE:BA) at \$62.78 on Feb. 18, selling those shares a day later at \$63.96, for a profit of \$1,180.

WEEK 4 - On Feb. 24, Mohr realizes she accidentally bought 1,000 shares in Wabco Holdings Inc. (NYSE:WBC) last week. The supplier of vehicle safety and control systems has the same ticker symbol as Westpac Banking. She sells the shares at a loss of \$223. Mohr starts the week in the top 10 in her class, but by Wednesday, after purchasing call options in

Google (CBOE:GOP1020C550) and Barrick Gold Corporation (CBOE:ABX1020C39), her portfolio is down six per cent and she plummets to last place. She plans to watch the indicators until next Friday before deciding what to do.

WEEK 4 - Busch makes a "naked call" selling call options on securities he doesn't own - a risky strategy he wouldn't do with his own money. He gets paid now, but if the price hits the strike price and the buyers exercise their options, Busch must buy the shares at market price and deliver them to the buyers at the strike price. Busch

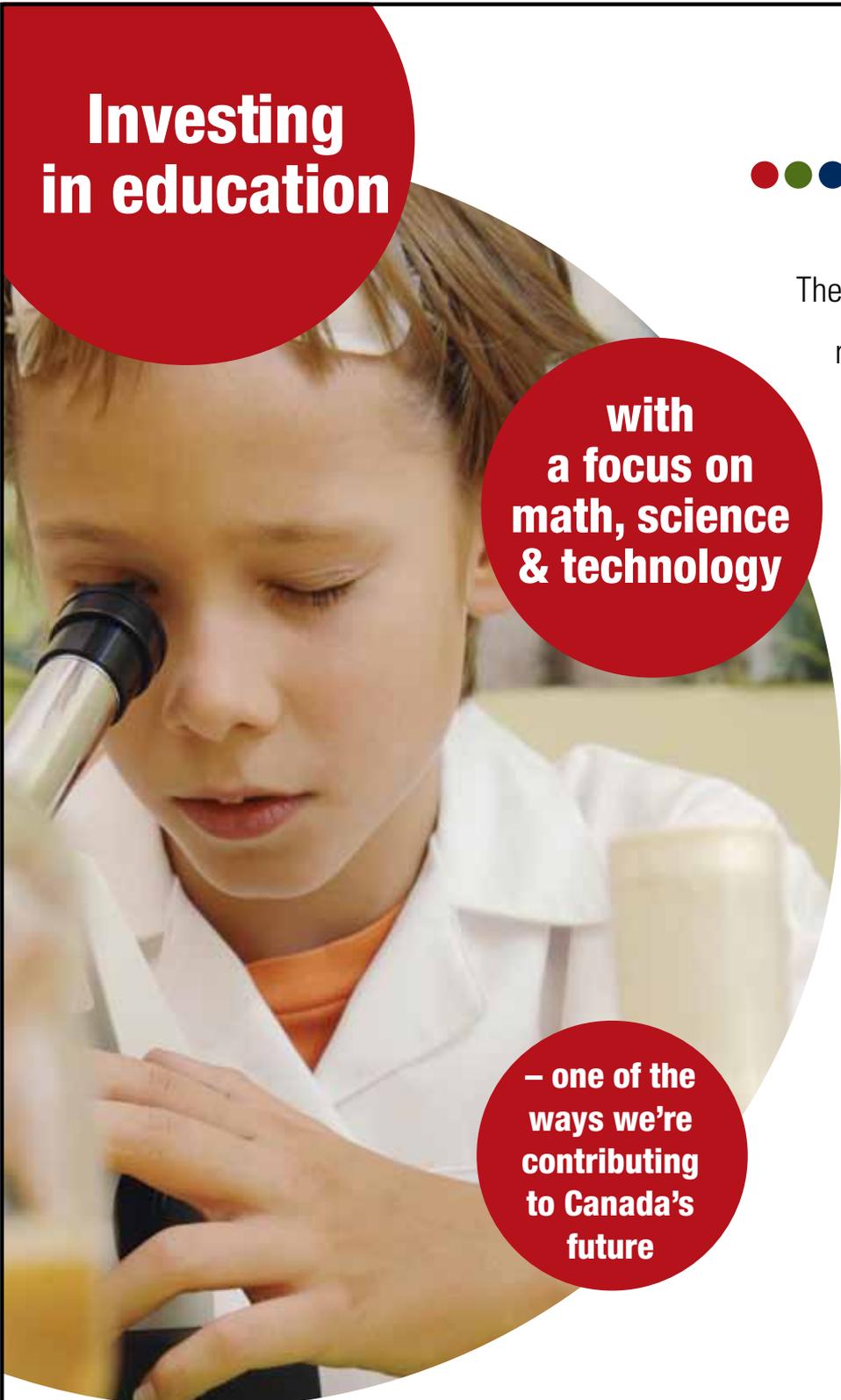
forecasts \$26 for AT&T Inc. (CBOE:T1020C26), \$4 for Sprint Nextel Corp, (CBOE:S1020C4) and \$30 for Verizon Communications (CBOE:VZ1020C30) by the third Friday of March. That gamble nets him \$961.17. Still, his portfolio is down 0.3 per cent.

WEEK 5 - Google and Barrick Gold come through for Mohr. By Friday, she's sitting at the top of her class, with her portfolio up 32 per cent and valued at more than \$664,000. "I was panicking a little bit, but as I said, you've got to have faith. You have to go with the indicators. I kept it, rather than panic and sell out, and it's paid off."

WEEK 5 - March 3, Busch makes his best trade yet. At 11:05 a.m., he buys 10 future contracts of light crude for \$80.03 per barrel; he controls 10,000 barrels. For every one-cent increase in price he makes \$100. He sells 44 minutes later for \$80.93 per barrel and, after commission, makes \$9,251. His portfolio valued at \$538,000, Busch takes fourth place.

CLOSING NUMBERS We check with our traders after week 10: Mohr finished first, with her portfolio up 29.22 per cent to \$646,120.30. Busch finished eighth, with his portfolio up 13.36 per cent to \$566,819.01. Both beat the S&P 500, which grew by 11.42 per cent over the same period.

Mohr, who has two more years in the Bachelor of Business Administration, has a strong interest in a possible trading career. "You can learn about things in textbooks, but until you're actually doing your trades..." Mohr says, emphasizing the value of the hands-on course, which has not only taught her about trading, but about herself as a trader. Adds Busch, who graduates this spring, "This course has given me more of a confirmation that trading is what I want to do." — *Kristen Vernon*



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3 QUESTIONS

Meet NAIT's Alumni Council, an active group of alumni dedicated to enhancing the relationship between the institute and its graduates. Here's what council members had to say about their alma mater and the impact of technology on their chosen professions.

Q1: HOW HAS TECHNOLOGY CHANGED YOUR PROFESSION?



LARRY DOMINIUK

Cooking '74, Management '88, Alumni Council member, former Assistant Program Head, NAIT's School of Hospitality and Culinary Arts

Technology and your profession: Major changes are seen in high-tech kitchen and dining room equipment, and in menu development and costing.

Describe NAIT: Innovative. Leader. Family.

Favourite space: The K-Wing (Kingsway Tavern) was the meeting place after class. The new arena/sports complex, which opened in 1973, was the best!



WAYNE LAND

Management '70, Alumni Council President, Owner, Oakwood Management

Technology and your profession: Technology has changed how I advertise properties; I rely on the Internet instead of newspapers. I also send

monthly statements by email rather than by mail.

Describe NAIT: Global impact.

Favourite space: Tower Lounge.



GARY LESKOW

Accounting '68, Alumni Council member, Financial Consultant, Investors Group

Technology and your profession: More accurate information, sooner.

Describe NAIT: Learning, hockey and parties.

Favourite space: Library.



JOE MARTINEZ

Accounting '92, Alumni Council member, Assistant Corporate Controller for Sterling Crane

Technology and your profession:

Accounting has become computerized (in school we learned on paper ledgers), but you still need people to make decisions.

Describe NAIT: World-class institution.

Favourite space: The Tower Lounge and the NAITrium.



BOB MORGAN

Baker '66, Alumni Council member representing the Association of Retired NAIT Staff, retired NAIT Baking Instructor

Technology and your profession: It has led to equipment and ingredient modifications, as well as changes in customer demands and dietary requests.

Describe NAIT: Vibrant. Forward. Enduring.

Favourite space: K-Wing (Kingsway Tavern).



MYRON POLIS

Plastics Engineering Technology '82, Computer Systems Technology '86, Alumni Council Vice-President, Consulting Services Director, Fujitsu Canada

Technology and your profession: Without technology, I wouldn't have a profession.

Describe NAIT: Funky. Leader. Innovator.

Favourite space: K-Wing (Kingsway Tavern). But seriously, my favourite place was the arena, when I wasn't living in the Tower computer labs.



NANCY RICE

Dental Assisting '64, Alumni Council member, retired Dental Claims Director, Alberta Blue Cross

Technology and your profession: The advancement in dental equipment in the last 45 years is phenomenal. Computers also greatly assist in booking appointments and billing.

Describe NAIT: Absolutely beyond imagination.

Favourite space: The cafeteria was our gathering place.



RUI TEIXEIRA

Computer Systems Technology '91, Alumni Council member, IT Senior Consultant, Technology North Corporation

Technology and your profession: Technology evolution is a constant factor in my profession, and that makes it interesting and challenging. It has shaped and continues to evolve the tools, strategies and methodologies I use on a daily basis.

Describe NAIT: Hard work. Camaraderie. Organization.

Favourite space: Tower Lounge.



SHELLEY TUPPER

Accounting '80, Alumni Council member, Appeals Officer, Canada Revenue Agency

Technology and your profession: When I began working, a typing pool prepared outgoing letters. Today, practically everyone uses a desktop computer to produce working papers, reports and letters.

Describe NAIT: Exciting. Working. Outstanding.

Favourite space: I liked the view from the Business Tower.

K-WING

It might have been named in the fashion of NAIT buildings, but K-Wing didn't refer to an on-campus hangout. Rather, it was code for the Kingsway Tavern, located in the Kingsway Inn, southwest of Kingsway Garden Mall. Mall owners bought the property in 2002 and a year later demolished the hotel and put up a parking lot.



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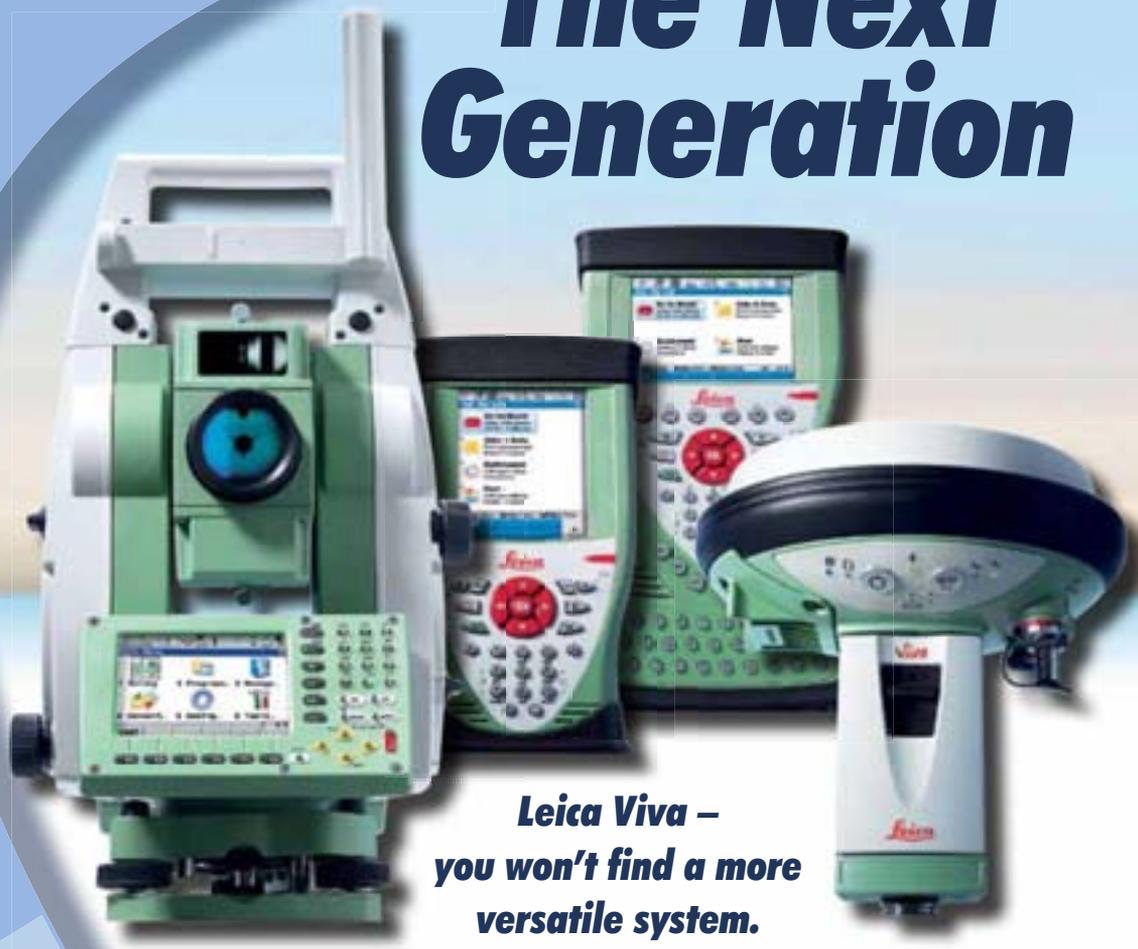
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DIRT
ON COMPOSTING

WEB EXTRA

Joanne Pinches (Biological Sciences Technology '09) on how to compost indoors with worms.

techlifemag.ca/worm-composting.htm

PEOPLE OFTEN THINK composting is more complicated than it actually is, says avid composter Jennifer Burns-Robinson. All you need is organic matter, sun, air and water. Microorganisms do the rest. Learn how to set up your own backyard composter with advice from Burns-Robinson.

A landscape architectural technologist with Stantec, Burns-Robinson graduated from the NAIT program in 2007. She completed Edmonton's master composter program in 2006, has helped set up composters at

two community gardens, and has two composter bins and a pile in her backyard, and a bin with worms indoors. After recycling and composting, Burns-Robinson and her husband throw away one "smallish" kitchen bag of waste each week.

— Kristen Vernon

FOLLOW THESE STEPS

1 Choose a type of composter

A pile: Consider a pile for yard waste. Dig a shallow hole to get started.

A compost bin: Options include wood, plastic or wire mesh bins, which can be made or bought.

2 Decide where you will locate your composter.

Choose a sunny location with good drainage. While most people opt for the furthest end of the yard, consider a location close to the back door, which adds incentive to use the composter.

3 Add organic matter.

Start with a layer of twigs. This allows air flow. Add green materials, which are high in nitrogen, followed by brown materials, which are high in carbon. Adding an equal amount of nitrogen- and carbon-rich matter starts the decomposition process, ensuring your composter won't smell or attract flies.

4 Add water.

Nearly finished compost should be wet enough to stick together,

but not so wet that it drips. Consider adding a bucket of water after adding layers of greens and browns.

5 Add soil or finished compost periodically. This will introduce live microorganisms into the pile.

6 Turn your pile periodically. Black plastic composters are passive and don't require turning.

7 Use your compost. Compost is ready when it looks and smells like dirt. Decomposition takes about one year with a bin, and about one summer season with a pile, if it's being turned. Start with the compost at the bottom of the bin or pile. Pick up your bin to get to the compost at the bottom.

Add compost to your vegetable gardens and flower beds, working it into the soil before planting, top dress your lawn, or add it to the base of plants and trees during the growing season.



WHY COMPOST?

- Composting reduces waste sent to the landfill. The City of Edmonton estimates that composting cuts household waste by one-third to one-half.
- Compost builds healthy, nutrient-rich soil, which enhances your plants, lawn and garden.

WHAT YOU CAN COMPOST

Nitrogen-rich greens

- Fruits and vegetables
- Coffee and tea grinds
- Green garden waste and flowers
- Grass clippings (While it's best to grasscycle, if you do add it to your composter, first mix the grass clippings with dirt to prevent the clippings from clumping, which slows down decomposition.)

Carbon-rich browns

- Dry leaves, dry grass clippings, prunings and cuttings
- Cleanings from the bird cage
- Wood chips or sawdust (though they take longer to breakdown)
- Dryer and vacuum lint
- Shredded paper and cardboard

Oddities

- Cotton fabric (break into smaller pieces), feathers, hair, seaweed

WHAT YOU CAN'T COMPOST

- Meat, fish, bones
- Anything with oil in it
- Dairy products
- Pet litter (This can be composted if you don't intend to use the finished compost on your vegetable garden.)
- Diseased plants (In Edmonton these can be sent to the city compost facility.)
- Dishwater
- Firepit ashes

80

81

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Staying Alive

If you go out in the woods today, you better be prepared. Wilderness experts from NAIT's Forest Technology program tell you how.

FIND YOUR WAY OUT OF THE WOODS USING A GPS, MAP AND COMPASS



"BEING PREPARED FOR YOUR TRIP IS THE BEST WAY TO AVOID HAVING PROBLEMS."

- MARC MAYHEW

OUR EXPERT:
Marc Mayhew, who teaches GPS courses

Before you go

- 🕒 Leave a map of your planned route with a reliable person. Tell that person your estimated time of return.
- 📄 Learn how to use your GPS before you leave. Download relevant maps. Fully charge the batteries. Take extra batteries and the user manual.
- 🗺️ Even if you take a GPS, take a compass and a topographic

map that shows roads, trails, streams and lakes. Store your map in a Ziploc bag to keep it dry.

- 📍 Know the magnetic declination or the difference between true north and magnetic north for your area. Natural Resources Canada has a magnetic declination calculator online.
- 🍷 Ensure you have adequate food, water and clothing in case you get lost.

During your trip

Along the route, mark key waypoints, such as markers and

landmarks, in your GPS and on your map. This will help you retrace your steps. Remain on the marked trail if there is one.

If you get lost

Don't panic. Orient yourself using your GPS and map. Seek higher ground or an open area to get a better view. Once you are sure of your location, you can stay put or retrace your route using your waypoints. If you are unsure of your location, do not attempt to find your way out. Remain in or near a visible location, such as a field or hilltop, for searchers to find you.

WEB EXTRA

Get tips on sharpening an axe and chopping wood.

techlifemag.ca/sharpen-axe.htm

HOW TO START A FIRE

"RULE NO. 1 IS TO ALWAYS HAVE FIRE STARTING MATERIALS WITH YOU."

- CHRIS KLITBO

OUR EXPERT:

Chris Klitbo, who teaches wildland fire suppression and management, and winter survival

What to take with you**FIRE STARTER**

Carry two types of fire starter in a waterproof case and carry two sets of fire starter in different locations – on you and in your backpack. Types of fire starter: waterproof matches, lighters and fire strikers (high-carbon steel used for striking a spark).

TINDER

Tinder is small material that ignites right away. Store with your fire starter. Types of tinder: cotton balls impregnated with candle wax and kerosene. In nature: fine shavings of birch bark (which is great if it's been raining) or the paper-like fibres found inside the bark of a dead poplar. Out of the ordinary: powdered Coffee-mate placed on a plate of bark (the downside – it flares up really fast).

Get started

Gather all the materials you'll need: fire starter, tinder, twigs, sticks and logs.

Clear the ground down to soil or rock. Avoid building a ring of rocks as it can shield embers. If you do build a ring, take it apart when you put out the fire.

Get the tinder burning. Add increasingly larger pieces as your fire burns: itty-bitty twigs, then twigs the size of a match and smaller, then finger-sized twigs, followed by wrist-sized sticks and finally logs the size of your arm and larger.

How to put out the fire

Drown it in water – use enough water to ensure all the coals and embers are cold. Dig through the fire. Mix it with dirt.

HOW TO AVOID A BEAR ENCOUNTER AND WHAT TO DO IF IT HAPPENS

THE BEAR MADE SEVERAL FALSE CHARGES BEFORE IT GOT BORED AND LEFT.

- BRUCE AVERY

OUR EXPERT:

Bruce Avery, who teaches about wildlife

Avery had a close encounter with a young bear during a summer job in the Whitecourt area in the late '70s. A black bear came within 4.5 metres as he and a co-worker were taking a timber inventory. The pair stood their ground, yelled and blew their whistles as the bear made several false charges. Eventually, the bear got bored and left. Avery, who has since spotted several bears before they noticed him and has quietly backed away, says that were he to have the same encounter today, he would make lots of noise and slowly back away while keeping the bear in sight. And he'd have his bear spray ready.

Avery's advice is based on the Alberta Safety Council teachings.

When in bear country

Be aware of your surroundings. Watch for fresh tracks, scat, diggings or claw marks on trees and torn stumps and logs. Travel during daylight hours.

Never travel alone.

Make lots of noise. Shout, talk loudly or use noisemakers, such as bear bells or rocks in a can. "Bear bells may drive you nuts walking for hours, too. It's a preference," Avery says. "I'm just an advocate of making lots of noise."

Store food away from your camp. Hang food about four metres from the ground and 1.3 metres from top and side supports or use a bear-resistant bin if one is available at the campsite.

If you encounter a bear

Stay calm. Assess the situation. If the bear is unaware of you, quietly and quickly back away. Stay downwind if possible. If you still need to head in that direction, wait awhile and detour around the area where you spotted the bear.

If the bear sees you, leave the area by backing away slowly. Keep the bear in sight at all times until you are a safe distance away.

Bear spray should only be used with an aggressive or attacking bear. Remove the safety clip. Aim for the face. Spray a brief one-second shot when the bear is within 15 metres. Never spray into the wind. If the bear stops to clean its face, quietly leave the area.

— Kristen Vernon

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▶ [GREEN.YAHOO.COM](#)

Recommended by **Joanne Pinches**, Biological Sciences Technology '09

The site's blogs, news and tools promote an environmentally friendly lifestyle. It's the how-to features on changes people can make at home - especially the tips found in the Conscious Consumer blog by environmental journalist and author Lori Bongiorno - that Pinches loves to read.



▶ [VENTUREBEAT.COM](#)

Recommended by **Ken Bautista**, novaNAIT St. Albert tenant and CEO & Creative Director, CIE: Seek Your Own Proof

VentureBeat highlights industry news about technology, money and innovation. "It's a great way to keep on top of what's happening in the startup world - who's raising what, who's building what and who's buying what. What's nice too is that the content is organized into areas of focus like interactive entertainment and green technologies."



▶ [FASTCOMPANY.COM](#)

Recommended by **Dr. Klay Dyer**, Associate Chair, NAIT Bachelor of Technology in Technology Management

Part media site, part community platform, Fast Company bills itself as a place where ideas and people meet. "Such words as innovation, imagination and creativity actually mean something to these writers, who are consistently engaging and eclectic. Their common message is clear: business and technology are shaped by people who are willing to create the future, rather than simply wait for it to happen around them."



▶ [COMMUNITY.FOODNETWORK.CA/BLOGS/HOSTSINTERVIEWS/DEFAULT.ASPX](#)

Recommended by chef **David Adjey**, Food Network Canada host and NAIT's 2010 Hokanson Chef in Residence

One of the many blogs available from the foodnetwork.ca, the Hosts & Interviews blog goes behind the scenes with the network's celebrity chefs. "I like to hear what the fans have to say about all the other Food Network stars!"





THE GREEN CAR QUESTION

IN THE MARKET FOR A MORE FUEL-EFFICIENT CAR, WRITER CHERYL MAHAFFY ASKS THREE AUTO EXPERTS FOR THEIR TOP PICKS.

IT'S A MARK of our time that "green car" makes us think "fuel efficient." When I was a kid, the phrase brought to mind the shiny Chevy that bounced us to town for piano lessons, with a stop at the Dairy Queen for ice cream if all went well. Now our family is in the market for a green car, and it has nothing to do with colour. We want to consume less energy.

Going green, we discover, comes in many flavours. Diesel. Hybrid. Electric. Honey-I-shrunk-the-car. What makes the most sense? I put that question to three NAIT alumni with years under the hood in automotive shops.



PHOTOS BY AMY BIZOVIE
ILLUSTRATION BY TRINA KOSCIELNIK

EDITOR'S NOTE

Our experts provided their green car picks prior to the massive Toyota recalls earlier this year, and, as of press date, continue to stand behind their recommendations. Consumers appear to agree; Toyota Prius sales were up 130.4 per cent in March 2010 over the previous March.



ROBERT INGS

Automotive instructor Robert Ings (Automotive '87) has a love-hate relationship with cars. He hates their appetite for fuel yet owns a stable of vehicles. And he wouldn't mind one more to reduce the impact of his hour-a-day commute. Topping his list: the **Prius** and the **Smart Fortwo**.

"The Smart car represents lower carbon emissions during manufacture and a lower sticker price," Ings muses, "but the Prius has lower fuel consumption and greater versatility." With teens needing rides, he adds, "I would have to say the Prius tops out as the best all-round fit for my life."

Ings considers it a plus that the Prius is a hybrid. "Ultimately we have to arrive at electric vehicles, and the electric hybrid is a logical step," he says. "You have the satisfaction of using your buying power to promote change, plus you can expect lower maintenance costs due in part to regenerative braking."

Ings dreams of converting the 1986 **Chrysler Laser** in his stable to an electric plug-in or, failing that, a hybrid. "I would love to see the end of the internal combustion engine," he says. "They should become museum pieces that you need a special licence to operate."

WILSON LAM

With 20 years at the helm of Wilson's Auto Tech, Wilson Lam (Automotive Service Technician '84) has a strong affinity for Honda and Toyota, the brands that roll through his two Edmonton repair shops. Were he living in Europe, you might see him buzzing about in a high-efficiency **Honda** or **Toyota diesel**, his chosen rentals whenever he's there visiting his son.

But Honda and Toyota have not brought their diesels to Canada. Thus stymied, and believing that electric power holds the greatest long-term potential, Lam began researching electric hybrids.

Impressed by **Toyota's Prius** (although concerned about toxicity surrounding battery manufacture and disposal), he was primed to buy when the right used car at the right price came on the market. For \$10,000, he snapped up a low-mileage 2003 **Toyota Matrix** with lots of cargo space and a fuel-efficient 1.8-litre four-cylinder engine.

When clients ask what to buy, Lam focuses first on engine size. "Always choose the smallest engine you can, and if you need more space or power for trips, rent a car," he says.

From left, Robert Ings showcases his top car picks – the Smart Fortwo and the Prius, a recommendation he shares with Wilson Lam, while James Spurr backs the VW Jetta. What will writer Cheryl Mahaffy decide?

JAMES SPURR

"The greenest car any consumer can have is the one they have now, used less," says James Spurr (Automotive '92), an instructor in NAIT's Automotive Service Technician program. The fact that Spurr bikes more often than he drives means that his family's 20-year-old **Volkswagen Jetta diesel**, purchased new with an eye to longevity, is still going strong. "Buy a good quality car that fits your needs (rather than your wants) and keep it for as long as you can," he notes.

Were he to buy, Spurr would stick with the fuel-efficient diesel Volkswagen. He'd choose a four door (perhaps a station wagon) to ensure easy access for seniors as well as skiing and camping gear. The **Toyota Prius** hybrid (rated Canada's most energy-efficient mid-size car) is also a contender, but would cost thousands more, and Spurr doubts it would live up to its fuel ratings.

DECISION TIME

Elmo, our 1991 **Toyota Previa**, fits right in with the cars our experts still drive. Perhaps we're hasty to think it's due for replacement.

Like the *Sesame Street* character of similar hue, Elmo sometimes seems more of a monster than we need at our near-empty-nest stage of life. What's more, its body could stand some Botox, and auto repairs are taking ever-bigger bites out of our budget.

Still, Elmo is remarkably fuel efficient for its size. And with all-wheel drive, it handles ice and snow like a pro. An active family, we're forever reconfiguring the seats to toss in bikes, skis, backpacks and more.

We have our favourites in the green fleet. My husband has a hankering for the **VW diesel**, and the sight of a **Smart Fortwo** pushes my "want" button. But for now, we'll avoid adding to the discard pile. Elmo, you old monster, we'll stick with you yet. — Cheryl Mahaffy

TOYOTA PRIUS

Class: Mid-size	Annual fuel cost: \$760
Year: 2010	Annual fuel use: 760 litres/year
Fuel consumption: City 3.7 litres/100 km	Annual CO ₂ emissions: 1,748 kg/year
Highway 4.0 litres/100 km	

SMART FORTWO

Class: Two-seater	Annual fuel cost: \$1,188
Year: 2010	Annual fuel use: 1,080 litres/year
Fuel consumption: City 5.9 litres/100 km	Annual CO ₂ emissions: 2,484 kg/year
Highway 4.8 litres/100 km	

VOLKSWAGEN JETTA – TDI CLEAN DIESEL (MANUAL)

Class: Compact	Annual fuel cost: \$1,276
Year: 2010	Annual fuel use: 1,160 litres/year
Fuel consumption: City 6.7 litres/100 km	Annual CO ₂ emissions: 3,132 kg/year
Highway 4.7 litres/100 km	



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THIS TACTICAL SURVEILLANCE
ROBOT MAY ONE DAY HELP
POLICE AGENCIES SAVE LIVES.

ROBOCOP

WHAT HAS FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE, can reach speeds of 16 kilometres an hour, turns 360 degrees on its axis, climbs curbs, turns heads, and could save lives? Meet Woody, the result of a challenge from the RCMP to build the Rolls-Royce of tactical surveillance robots for a fraction of the cost of similar units.

Commercially available robots can cost as much as \$400,000. "We looked at robots that the RCMP and Edmonton police are currently using," explains Mark Archibald, chair of applied research and curriculum development with NAIT's School of Electrical and Electronics Technology (SEET), "and asked them about the shortcomings and some of their needs."

With financial support from SEET, the Association of Alberta Colleges and Technical Institutes and novaNAIT, the institute's centre for applied research and technology transfer, a team of NAIT researchers got to work. "We essentially started from scratch and their recommendations drove our design process."

Seven months into the ongoing project, the RCMP and Edmonton police have been invited for a test drive. Taking turns operating the robot's video game remote control, they extend the 2.5-metre zipper mast for a birds' eye view and easily manoeuvre the compact robot through busy NAIT hallways, where it opens heavy doors.

**Meet Woody,
the Rolls-Royce of
tactical surveillance
robots.**

ZIPPER MAST

The zipper mast can extend 2.5 metres to provide a view with the camera and can even lift ceiling tiles if needed.

ANTENNA

This antenna picks up video and control signals, which are sent to and from the robot through a single digital communication channel.

POWER

Three 12-volt lead batteries.

CAMERA

This camera can pan and tilt for navigation and surveillance.

"When we're responding to a situation where there may be a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear threat, using a robot is ideal," says RCMP Cpl. Greg Baird. "And, the surveillance capabilities will give us a better understanding of a tactical situation and help us make critical decisions without compromising human life."

The officers decide to challenge the robot to one last task - climbing a curb. Archibald is a little uneasy, as he hasn't tried this yet. It takes a couple of attempts, but Woody doesn't disappoint. And with the task complete, Archibald beams like a proud papa.

"I'm thoroughly impressed," Baird says. "This is something that we could use right now. I can't wait to see the final product."

— Ruth Juliebo

RANGEFINDER

This laser rangefinder, accurate to the millimetre, can detect objects, from table legs to people, for mapping.

TIRES

These flat-proof solid rubber tires are designed to withstand a bullet.

POWERPLANT

Four two-horsepower motors.

WEB EXTRA

Watch the RCMP and Edmonton police take Woody (named for his wooden chassis) on a test drive.

techlifemag.ca/robot.htm

DENTAL FILL IN

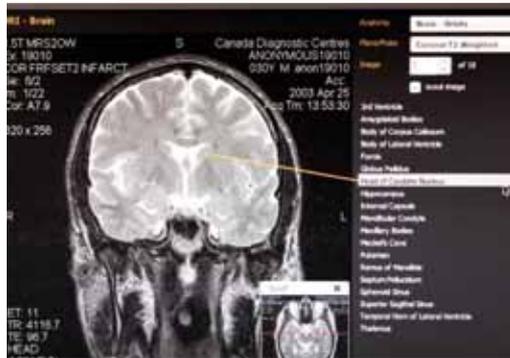
One of the first sets of teeth that NAIT denturist students practise on may soon belong to Iron Mike.

Iron Mike is the nickname given to a metal mannequin head that denturist instructor Michael Weiss borrowed from the Dental Assisting program and converted into a teaching tool for his students. The metal skull has been fitted with a plastic set of upper and lower teeth – with some teeth missing, of course – so students can practise measuring and fitting their “patient” for a partial plate.

The simulator could be incorporated into the formal Denturist Technology curriculum by the fall of 2010. Instead of going from theory to practising on live patients, students will first practise on Iron Mike. NAIT’s 16 health sciences programs are working to integrate more simulation-based scenarios into the curriculum as a way to improve patient safety.

— Susan Ruttan

Ravneet Gill practises on Iron Mike, a mannequin head adapted for denturist students by instructor Michael Weiss (background).



An image of the brain as seen in the DiViewer, a tool that allows students to learn anatomy via magnetic resonance images.

A LOOK INSIDE THE HUMAN BODY

An online tool that allows Magnetic Resonance students to look at 3,500 images of the human body is branching out to new uses.

The DiViewer provides students with images showing slices of the human body, with each image labelled to identify parts of the anatomy. Developed by MRI program associate chair Craig Briggs and multimedia specialist Randy Troppmann, it has now been adapted for use by Medical Radiologic Technology students to view

CT scans. Briggs also plans to adapt the viewer for X-ray images.

A team from novaNAIT, the institute’s centre for applied research and technology transfer, is looking into the feasibility of marketing the DiViewer to other institutes.

As a web application, the viewer is ideal for the MRI program, which draws distance students from as far away as England. It is also used for testing: students scroll through the images and identify parts of the anatomy, then file their answers electronically.

— S.R.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS ON FIRE



Peter (left) and Logan Sherk pose next to propane-fuelled torches that are part of their interactive pyrotechnics show.

PHOTO BY ERIKA SHERK

Two brothers plan to ignite a music festival, inviting festival-goers to control a pyrotechnics show with the beat of an African hand drum.

In June, Peter and Logan Sherk will return to the North Country Fair at Lesser Slave Lake, where last year they debuted Pyrhythmic – five propane-fuelled torches connected to a drum. A light beat sets off one torch, while a heavier beat sends flames from all five torches 1.8 metres into the air.

“We have no input into what the performance looks like – it’s the people participating,” says Logan (Machinist ‘09).

This year the display will have more torches, more drums and technical improvements. And that’s where novaNAIT, the institute’s centre for applied research and technology transfer, comes in. Peter, who is graduating from Electronics Engineering Technology, received a \$5,000 applied research grant from novaNAIT to examine the use of digital music control languages to run the pyrotechnics system.

— Kristen Vernon

WEB EXTRA
Watch Pyrhythmic in action.
techlifemag.ca/fire-art.htm

FISHING FOR A SALTY SOLUTION

A clown fish swims past a sea anemone in Sandy Yakimchuk's marine aquarium.

Sandy Yakimchuk may soon be able to take a vacation without worrying his fish might die while he's gone, thanks to a sensor that will measure the salinity of the water in his aquarium and send that data to his computer.

Bachelor of Technology students Chad Miller, Philippe Mawugbe and Mark Breitreutz worked with the NAIT Shell Manufacturing Centre to make a salinity sensor prototype for their capstone project, which was sponsored by Yakimchuk (Electronics Engineering Technology '85).

Ultimately, Yakimchuk plans to add the sensor to a fail-safe system he's built to automate replenishing aquarium water – a project that melds his work in process controls automation with his marine aquarium hobby. Marine life is very sensitive to changes in the environment, and saltwater aquariums require constant monitoring.

"I'm taking my hobby and applying my professional abilities to it and trying to make something that's commercially viable," says the owner of Control Freaks Automation.
— K.V.

FIND A PIG IN A PIPELINE



Contest winner
Konrad Misiewicz

Konrad Misiewicz's business plan for his father's pig tracker may bring home the bacon for his family. "It is pressure, but I am up for the challenge," says the winner of a student business plan competition.

A pig tracker tracks pigs – not the barnyard variety, but the ones used to clean residue from the inner walls of a pipeline and to look for cracks in the pipe. Pigs, which are often high-tech and valuable, can get stuck or lost. Misiewicz, a second-year JR Shaw School of Business student, says his pig tracker could save the oil industry a lot of money. "Our device is more durable, can be used with any brand of receiver and can be tracked for a longer distance than what is currently on the market."

Misiewicz received \$20,000 from the Alberta government, incubation services from novaNAIT's Duncan McNeill Centre for Innovation and mentorship from NAIT's Students in Free Enterprise club, which held the contest.
— Rayne Kuntz



TURN YOUR TRUCK OFF AND STILL GET THE JOB DONE



Technology Commercialization Challenge winner Darryl Weflen

Darryl Weflen is making a difference in the air we breathe. He has developed eco-friendly mobile air compressors, which allow workers access to compressed air, hydraulics and generators without having to idle their trucks.

Weflen's new product caught the eyes of judges in the 2009 *novaNAIT* Technology Commercialization Challenge, beating out 33 others vying for \$10,000 in services from *novaNAIT*, the institute's centre for applied research and technology transfer.

His new product, the Twister T100 Hybrid, runs off cleaner fuels – compressed natural gas, propane and E85, as well as gasoline. Weflen says a typical service truck in the field burns eight litres of fuel per hour. His Twister Hybrid uses 4.5 litres per hour.

"The real benefits are fuel savings and reduced carbon output," says Weflen, president of Airworks Compressors Corp, which also won the 2010 Alberta Small Business Award of Distinction.
— Rayne Kuntz



Skill Centre students Aidan Anastacio (left) and Jacob Litviak with NAIT Millwright instructor Erich Wohlmut (centre).

CAREER CREDITS FOR TEENS

Edmonton Public Schools and NAIT are offering a new route for students planning their journey from high school to post-secondary. Housed in the old terminal building of the City Centre Airport, the

Skill Centre gives high school students hands-on experience in several career fields, including culinary arts, materials manufacturing and aircraft maintenance. Upon completion of the semester-long program, students may be eligible for advanced placement or credit in several NAIT courses. The goal of this innovative approach is to provide a less turbulent transition into post-secondary studies. To complement the project, NAIT has developed a Skill Centre in the 3-D virtual world of Teen Second Life.
— Ruth Juliebo

PHOTOS BY NAIT STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS



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Great with kids and very affectionate, the Bernese mountain dog is a top pick amongst pet breeds, according to a study supported by novaNAIT.

A photograph of a baby sitting on the back of a large Bernese Mountain Dog. The baby is smiling and looking towards the camera. The dog is lying down on a wooden floor, looking off to the side with its mouth open, showing its teeth and tongue. The background is a dark leather sofa.

Animal ATTRACTION

YOU CAN'T CHOOSE YOUR FAMILY – EXCEPT,
OF COURSE, FOR THE FAMILY DOG.

BIG DOG . . . LITTLE DOG. Furry dog . . . well, not so furry dog. When it comes to picking the best pet, it seems looks do matter. Researchers from NAIT and the University of Alberta teamed up to look at which breed of dog people thought would make the best companion animal and how different breeds impacted interaction between strangers.

"Statistics show that there are more cats and dogs relative to human beings than there's ever been. They're part of our family, and we need to make educated decisions about which ones to choose because it should be a lifelong commitment," explains Dr. Gaylene Fasenko, former associate professor at the University of Alberta, now at New Mexico State University.

In the first phase of the research, which was supported by novaNAIT, the Alberta Association of Colleges and Technical Institutes and the University of Alberta, NAIT Veterinary Administrative Assistant students interviewed 295 people along Edmonton's Whyte Avenue. Armed with photos of four breeds – Doberman pinscher, miniature pinscher, Bernese mountain dog and a cavalier King Charles spaniel – they asked people which breed they thought would make the best pet. Next, they took the dogs out on Whyte Avenue and observed people's reactions. The results surprised everyone:
 → 55 per cent of participants thought the Bernese mountain dog would make the best pet. The spaniel came in second,

with 27 per cent, followed by the Doberman and miniature pinscher, each with nine per cent.

→ 24 per cent of people surveyed could name the Bernese breed, while 77 per cent recognized the Doberman.

→ 82 per cent of people said they would be more likely to talk to a stranger with a dog than without a dog.

→ 66 per cent said they would trust a stranger with a dog more than one without a dog.

"Unfortunately, it seems that many pets are being chosen based on looks – not on the actual characteristics of the breed," says Linda Glasier, associate chair with NAIT's Veterinary Administrative Assistant program. "And, it seems like some breeds are unfairly getting a bad rap.

"What disturbed us was the number of people who would trust a stranger with a dog," adds Glasier. "Trust is a very strong word, and it could, unfortunately, be misplaced."

The answers to this research have generated many new areas for the duo to explore, including the impact of variables such as ear shape and the presence of white and black in a dog's fur, and why people are more likely to trust strangers with dogs.

"Gaylene and I joke that we'll be going down the street with our walkers in Phase 20 of our research. It really is limitless," muses Glasier, whose daughter Alicia, a University of Alberta student, initiated the research and brought the pair together.
 — Ruth Juliebo

PHOTOS BY AMY BIZOVIE

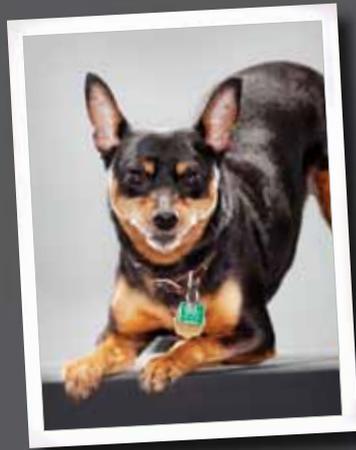
"UNFORTUNATELY, IT SEEMS THAT MANY PETS ARE BEING CHOSEN BASED ON LOOKS – NOT ON THE ACTUAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BREED."

— LINDA GLASIER,
 NAIT RESEARCHER



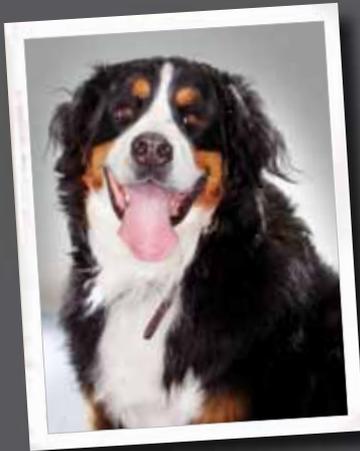
SPLASH

Hi, I'm Splash. I'm a three-year-old **Doberman pinscher**. I wish that you could look beyond my appearance and get to know the real me. I'm not a vicious guard dog. I will protect my owner if I have to, but deep down I wish I could be a lap dog. I'm very obedient and love competing in agility contests. When you see me, please don't cross to the other side of the street or tell your kids to stay away. Just give me a chance to show you how much love I have to give.



TOTO

You lookin' at me? My name's Toto. I'm a 13-year-old **miniature pinscher**. Don't let the word "miniature" deceive you. I'm a big dog in a little body. I don't know you and I probably won't like you. Stay away from my owner or you'll learn how tough I really am! Back in the day, I was a flyball superstar. Now, in my golden years, I'm happy with processed cheese slices and anything that squeaks.



KHYBER

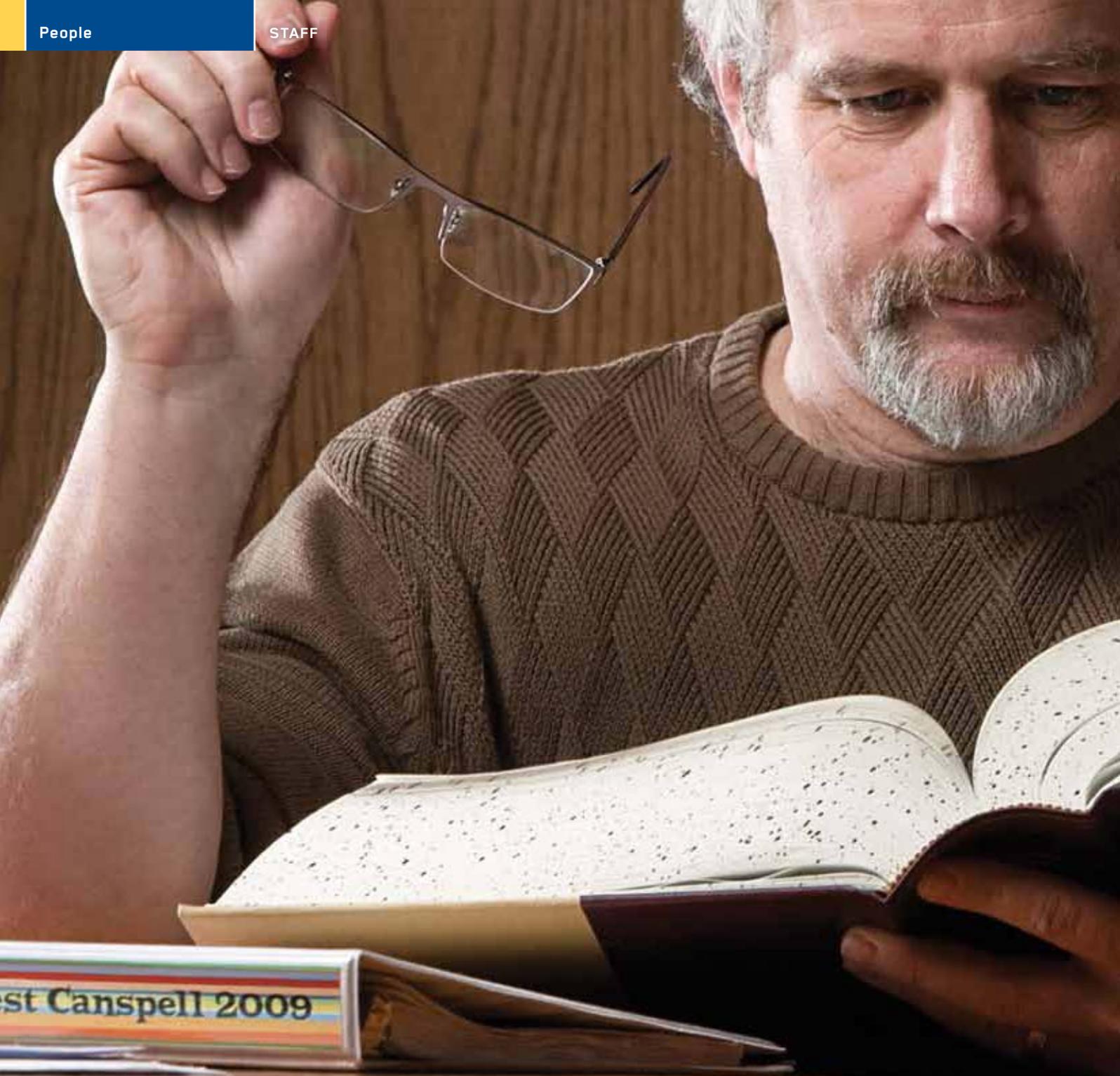
My name is Khyber. I'm a three-year-old **Bernese mountain dog**. I was named after the famous Khyber Pass, which links Pakistan and Afghanistan. Thank you for choosing me as the most popular dog in the study. I don't need many toys or treats. All I need is love. And, I'm not that picky about who's giving it! Just talk to me, hold me, rub my belly, and I'll never leave your side.



PATCHES

Hey there, I'm Patches. I'm a three-year-old **cavalier King Charles spaniel**. Am I not just so-o-o-o cute? I've got lots of energy; I'm gentle and very friendly. Can I give you kisses? I've got a wide variety of interests, including chasing rabbits, bird watching, staring at shadows, rifling through the garbage and chewing up underwear. Did you notice how handsome I am?





EVERY KID WHO ENCOUNTERS DR. KLAY DYER WANTS TO HAVE THE LAST WORD, ESPECIALLY DURING "BEE" SEASON - AND IT'S LIKELY TO BE A MOUTHFUL.

Dr. Klay Dyer reads from "Webster's Third New International Dictionary" - one of the official sources of the Canwest Canspell spelling bees.

| 'spel, baund |

WEB EXTRA
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spelling with the Cool
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[techlifemag.ca/
iphone-apps.htm](http://techlifemag.ca/iphone-apps.htm)

HIGH def

La•od•i•ce•an

| lā,ädə'sēən |

Definition:
adjective lukewarm or indifferent in religion or politics.
noun such a person.

Significance: This is the word that won the 2009 Scripps National Spelling Bee for 13-year-old Kavya Shivashankar of Olathe, Kan. Spelling this word correctly earned the Grade 8 student \$40,000 in cash and prizes.

Par•nas•si•an

| pär'nasēən |

Definition:
adjective 1. of Parnassus, a mountain in central Greece sacred to Apollo and the Muses. 2. poetic.

Significance: Correctly spelling this word won Grade 5 student Drew Kantor of Edmonton \$5,000 and a trip to the 2009 Canwest Canspell National Spelling Bee, the Stanley Cup of spelling competitions in Canada.

Pul•chri•tude

| 'pəlkrə,t(y)oōd |

Definition:
noun beauty.

Significance: In the 2006 hit movie *Akeelah and the Bee*, underdog contestant Akeelah spells this word correctly to become co-champion of the Scripps National Spelling Bee. The movie, starring Laurence Fishburne and Angela Bassett, explores issues of education in the American black community.

comes more from social skills than technical ability. "I'm not driven so much by protocol. It's more important that everyone at the bee is given a chance to feel comfortable," he explains.

Dyer first got the spelling bee buzz in 2005 while teaching at the University of British Columbia's Okanagan campus. Kelowna's regional bee committee put out a call for volunteers. Says Dyer: "I thought, working with kids and promoting literacy – of course I'll do that." Now, in addition to being the pronouncer at a number of regional events, Dyer is the lead judge at the Canadian national bee, a job he claims is far less stressful.

The Canwest Canspell bee system, launched in 2005 by Canwest Global Communications, has seen a rapid rise in popularity and competitors as more teachers get involved. The young spellers are motivated by the swag, cash prizes and expenses-paid trip to Ottawa they can win as a regional finalist. The Canadian champ wins \$15,000 and a free trip to the prestigious Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., the pinnacle of the spelling bee world. Says Dyer: "When I first started, a bee might have had 20 competitors. Now it's not unusual to see 75."

This increased popularity has spawned better spelling among bee contestants, Dyer notices. They train with word lists, read dictionaries and use online study aids. At last year's national bee, so many words were spelled correctly the pronouncer was down to the last two pages in the binder. Dyer, as lead judge, and the pronouncer, nervous they might run out of words, frantically began to thumb through dictionaries; the bee ended with only two words left on the original list.

Who are these super spellers? They're always avid readers, says Dyer. Often, they can speak a second language. And by studying categories and origins of words, they recognize patterns of sounds and letters. For example, scientific terms, even if they appear complicated, are often easier to spell because of familiar letter combinations. It's food category words like cioppino and ratatouille, borrowed from other languages, that more often stump these inexperienced youngsters. And sometimes even flummox pronouncers. "One year, I just couldn't say chipotle into the microphone. It wouldn't come out, no matter how hard I tried," admits Dyer. "It was embarrassing, but it gave everyone a laugh."

— Kathy Frazer

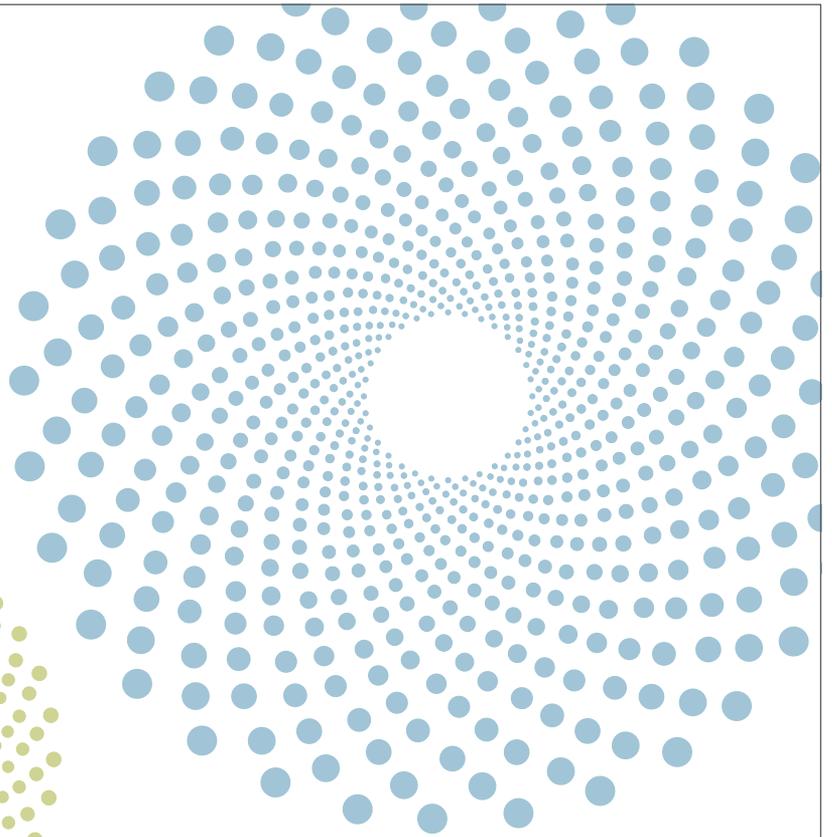
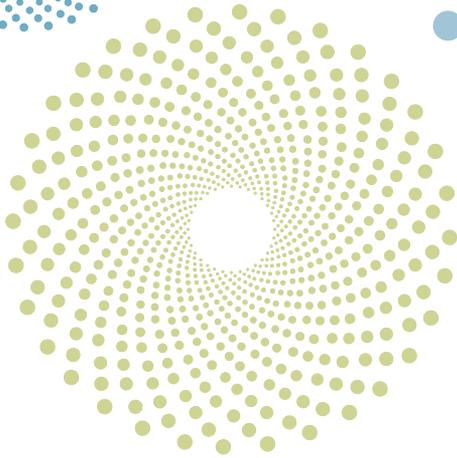
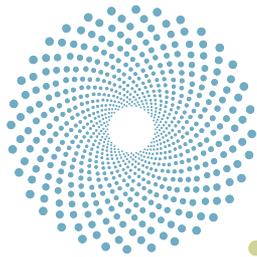
IF YOU, LIKE MANY PEOPLE, struggle to spell common words like occasion and rhythm, get ready to feel intimidated by 10-year-old Drew Kantor, who spelled Parnassian to win the 2009 Canwest Canspell northern Alberta regional spelling bee.

Nearly 250,000 students in Grades 4 to 8 at schools from Victoria to St. John's compete in the Canwest Canspell school, regional and national spelling bees. The 21 regional winners advance to the big show – the national spelling bee finals in Ottawa. Along the way, many top spellers meet Dr. Klay Dyer, who spends Monday to Friday as associate chair of NAIT's Bachelor of Technology program, but has an entirely different job on weekends during "bee" season. From mid-February through March, Dyer takes centre stage as the pronouncer at regional spelling bees from Vancouver to Thunder Bay, some years working two bees in a single weekend.

It's not an easy job. Says Dyer: "I'm part host, part MC, too. I interact with the kids, the parents and the media. The pronouncer sets the tone for the event. I try to keep it upbeat so everyone has fun."

In preparation, he studies two binders of words supplied by the Canspell committee, each containing 500 entries. Shortly before the event he will be told which binder will be used for that day's competition. For each round, he must say the word clearly, and be ready to tell the competitors the word's language of origin and part of speech, and use it in a sentence.

The key to pronunciation is to focus on every sound in the word, being careful not to tip off the competitors to silent letters. And stay relaxed. As hard as that seems, Dyer feels that his success in the role



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Holger Petersen: For the record

PRAISED, PRIZED AND RECENTLY IMMORTALIZED, THIS RECORD EXEC AND RADIO DJ OF MORE THAN 40 YEARS STILL GETS THE BLUES - AND HE WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY.



CKUA
radionebert

WEB EXTRA

Watch CKUA staffers give Holger Petersen this lifelike statuette of himself by friend and Calgary artist Pat Keenan in celebration of 40 years of *Natch' l Blues*.
techlifemag.ca/holger-petersen.htm

SOUNDING MORE, at times, like a kid in a candy store than Canada's ambassador of the blues, Holger Petersen hosts each episode of *Natch'l Blues*, broadcast every Saturday afternoon on Edmonton radio station CKUA, with an endearing enthusiasm heard in every cut he introduces and every artist he profiles.

Petersen's normally animated delivery, however, has a sobering cadence to it during a mid-January episode of the two-hour program, when he pays tribute to an old friend with whom he had produced three records.

"Bobby Charles from Louisiana died on Thursday, Jan. 14 at the age of 71," announces the articulate Petersen, who then proceeds to play an interview he conducted 12 years earlier with the singer and creator of such hits as *Walking To New Orleans* and *See You Later, Alligator*.

Sitting in the same glass-enclosed, sixth-floor studio where Senator Tommy Banks and singer Robert Goulet first dipped their toes into radio, Petersen's deferential words seem to mould sonic monuments to the artists he has spent his career celebrating.

Last November, *Natch'l Blues* surpassed a 40-year broadcasting landmark, making it Canada's longest-running blues program, an impressive milestone. The program has so far survived seven Canadian prime ministers, at least six economic recessions and pretty well every musical trend from psychedelia and punk to electronica and grunge. Petersen was rewarded via a sold-out party at Cook County Saloon where well-wishers like blues legend Joe Louis Walker and guitarist Donnie Walsh (of Toronto's vanguard The Downchild Blues Band) paid tribute to the blues booster. Petersen even received a lifelike statuette of himself from CKUA staffers.

"That was pretty amazing to be part of all that," says Petersen wistfully, who has since put the figure on top of one of his CD cabinets to oversee part of his collection of some 30,000 records. "It was very gratifying, and great to see the attention towards CKUA, which did a wonderful job of setting up the celebration."

When it comes to receiving praise, Petersen's an artful dodger. He can't even recall the first time someone called him "Canada's ambassador of the blues," a moniker that has him laughing in embarrassment when the topic is brought up. He had no problem keeping his ego outside the doors of Rideau

Hall in Ottawa seven years ago, when he received the Member of the Order of Canada, the highest honour a civilian Canuck can receive. He was totally flattered when he was voted Media Person of the Year in 1997 by the national Maple Blues Awards, and when he received a Keeping the Blues Alive Award for public radio from The Blues Foundation in Memphis in 2008 and an Alumni Award of Distinction from NAIT in 2004.

Petersen's achievements extend well beyond manning the mike at CKUA and on CBC Radio One,

STORY BY
GENE KOSOWAN
PHOTOS BY
AMY BIZOVIE

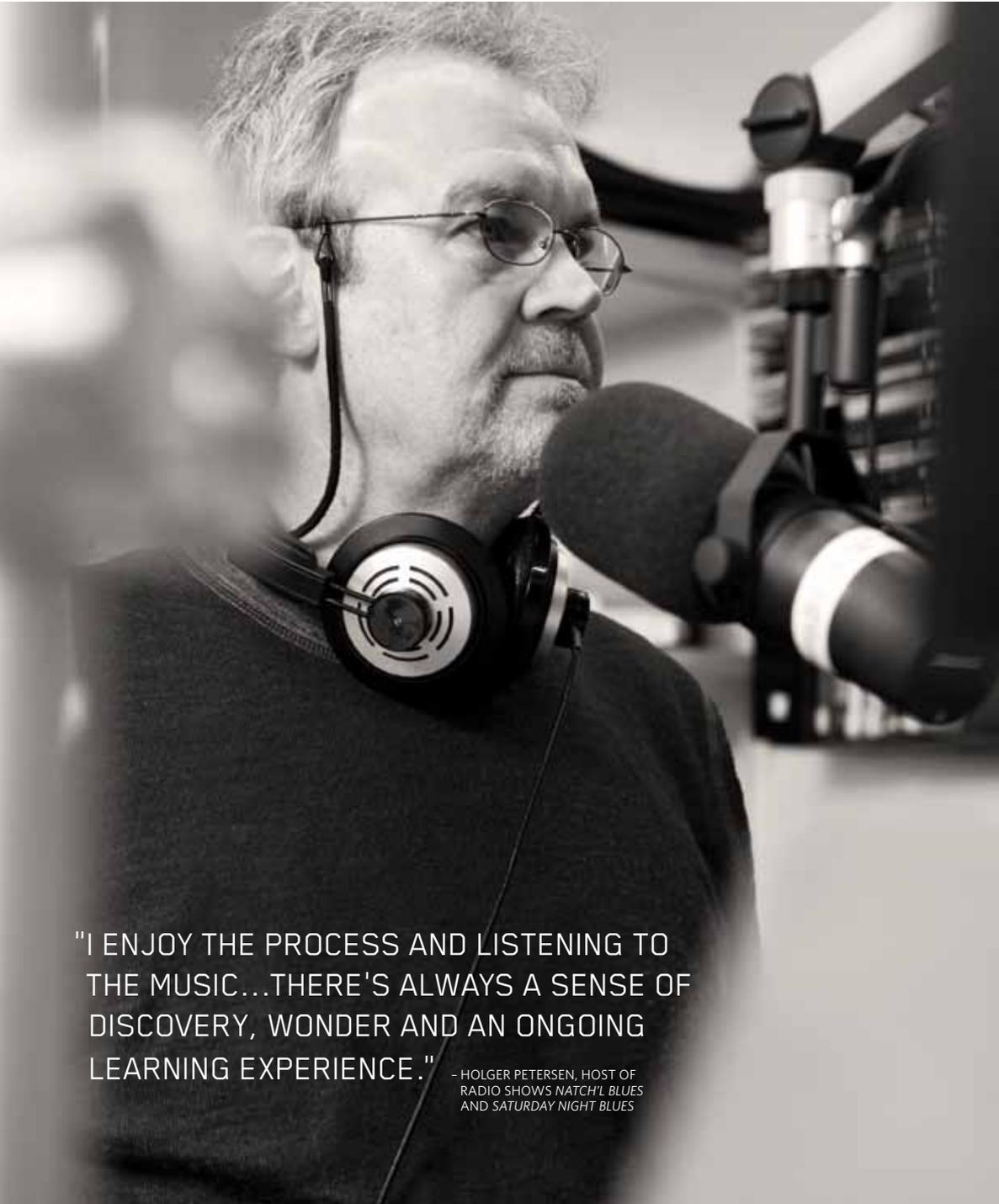


where he has hosted *Saturday Night Blues* since its inception in 1986. He was also artistic director of the Edmonton Folk Music Festival for three years and a founding member of the Alberta Recording Industry Association (now Alberta Music), a resource centre and music lobbying body.

But his biggest accomplishment outside radio is the Stony Plain Recording Company, which he started at his kitchen table in 1975 with partner Alvin Jahns. Now run by five employees, Stony Plain boasts a catalogue

of more than 350 titles, fields orders for product across Canada and around the world, and occupies an entire bungalow in east-end Edmonton, as well as the garage of Petersen's house next door.

At last count, Stony Plain has won scores of Canadian blues and country music awards, 10 Junos and has landed five Grammy nominations. It helped extend the careers of legends like Ian Tyson (whose *Cowboyography* release in 1985 gave Stony Plain its first platinum record), Long John Baldry and Emmylou Harris,



"I ENJOY THE PROCESS AND LISTENING TO THE MUSIC...THERE'S ALWAYS A SENSE OF DISCOVERY, WONDER AND AN ONGOING LEARNING EXPERIENCE."

- HOLGER PETERSEN, HOST OF RADIO SHOWS NATCH'L BLUES AND SATURDAY NIGHT BLUES



Far left, Holger Petersen in the living room of the house that serves as the Stony Plain office.

Left, Petersen in the CKUA studio.

Above, at the Stony Plain office, framed and signed seventy-eights adorn shelves lined with some of the CDs that Petersen uses for his radio shows.

"THAT SMILE IS GENUINE. HE'S ONE OF THE NICEST AND MOST GENEROUS HUMAN BEINGS YOU COULD EVER KNOW."

- PETER NORTH,
CKUA RADIO HOST

and turned upstarts like Corb Lund into bona fide international stars.

At a chance meeting during a social function, pop performer Elvis Costello thanked Petersen for reissuing one of his favourite releases by Jesse Winchester. Radical folkie Steve Earle praised him for putting out a version of the songs on his *Train A Comin'* release in a much more impressive order than on his stateside equivalent. And label mogul Jerry Wexler, one of Petersen's industry heroes, provided the ultimate accolade when he remarked, "Stony Plain, as an independent company, is an endangered species in a dangerous world and a source of wonderful music."

Experience has taught Petersen well, especially during Stony Plain's embryonic years when he experimented with releasing product by the likes of Philadelphia alternative rockers The Reds and The Models. Those attempts failed. And like the unpredictable economy, Stony Plain occasionally wavered on shaky turf, but Petersen has managed to keep his enterprise stable.

"I did learn a few things about working effectively and doing things according to what my level of interest would be," he says. "I'm a great believer that quality will still win out in the end. And the market is a lot smaller and dwindling all the time for physical sales, but when you work with the calibre of artists who are the best at what they do, there's still a market for them."

Colleagues like Peter North, host at CKUA, marvel at how Petersen can stay down-to-earth in an industry that tempts players to elevate their heads into the stratosphere.

"That smile is genuine," says North. "He's one of the nicest and most generous human beings you could ever know. Once you become his friend, it's not a fair-weather situation. He's always reaching out and keeping in touch. He's a man of tradition in a lot of ways."

"He's very cautious, conservative and careful about signing anybody," adds Richard Flohil, one of Petersen's closest friends and Stony Plain's publicist since 1980. "He is modest and quiet. The foundation of the company is the contacts he's made with like-minded people and companies all over the world. His reputation for total transparency and honesty holds him in good stead."

Playing his cards close to his chest has also helped. Petersen balked at the CD bandwagon during the industry's transition from vinyl in the 1980s, preferring

to wait for the technology to improve and the consumer market to catch up before making his move. On the other hand, he quickly saw potential in the digital revolution, hooking up with The Orchard, a United States-based digital music distributor, which handles some of the company's growing revenue stream of Internet downloads.

Petersen remains concerned about the well-being of the industry. In Stony Plain's infancy, home taping was a major culprit. Today, it's the unauthorized use of digital works. In 1999, his label settled out of court with Fatboy Slim when Petersen discovered the British DJ illegally sampled a Stony Plain-released work by Calgary guitarist Ellen McIlwaine.

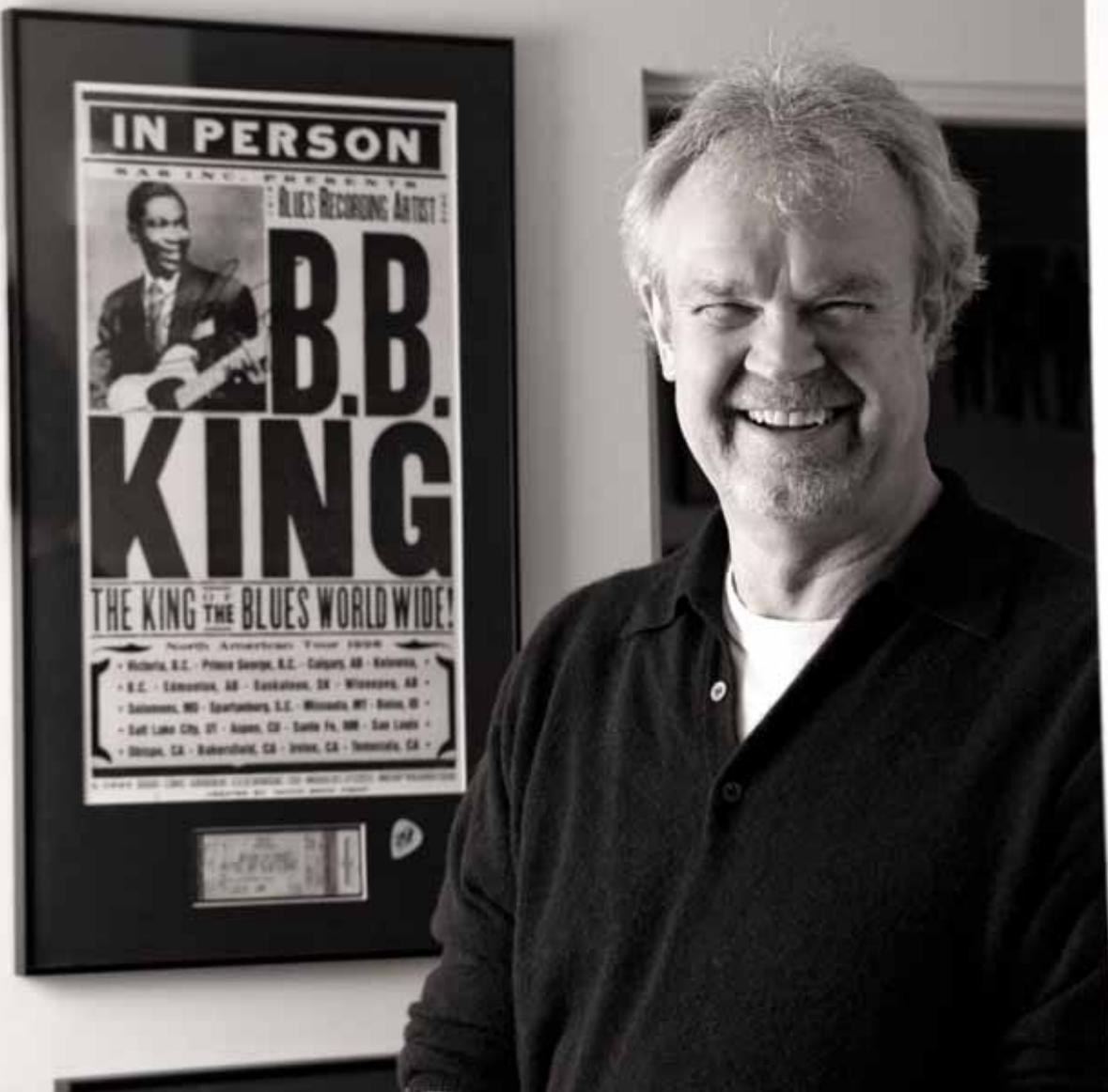
"He owned up to it and she got compensated for it," says Petersen. "But it's an unfortunate situation and a worldwide problem that could spell the end of the music industry in a few years."

It was a much more idyllic time in 1968 when Petersen, a student in NAIT's Radio and Television Arts program, first stumbled onto the eclectic format of CKUA. On a whim, he called evening DJ Tony Dillon Davis, who invited the student to hang out at the station. Meanwhile, Petersen was contributing music interviews to the *Nugget*, NAIT's student newspaper. Davis asked Petersen to bring interview segments to the show, which he did for \$10 a shot. A year later, Petersen was offered a hosting job, which launched *Natch'! Blues*.

In 1972, he branched out by making records for visiting blues acts like Big Walter (Shakey) Horton, Johnny Shines and Spiney Norman's Whoopee Band – even drumming for local act Hot Cottage before starting Stony Plain.

For all the success and glory in his pursuits, Petersen has no qualms about keeping one foot at square one – the radio show that marked his start in the business in a station loaded with musical culture.

"To me, it's the joy of doing it. I enjoy the process and listening to the music where one thing leads to another. There's always a sense of discovery, wonder and an ongoing learning experience. It's never-ending. That's something I still want to do." ■



Holger Petersen with a framed signed B.B. King poster, ticket and guitar pick from King's May 26, 1988 concert at the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium.

HOLGER PETERSEN IN CONVERSATION WITH...

B.B. KING BLUES GUITARIST AND SINGER

I interviewed him about six or seven times and that's always been an absolute highlight for me. He's so special. After you spend time with B.B. King, you leave with a smile on your face and on a high for a couple of weeks. I've been so lucky to have spent time with him. I've run into him in different parts of the world and he's always been so kind, gracious and positive.

BILL WYMAN FORMER BASSIST, THE ROLLING STONES

I did that interview in London at his restaurant, Sticky Fingers Cafe, a year ago and he was incredibly cool and generous. He went into detail about leaving the band and the frustrations within the band. For example, he said that when you were a member of the Rolling Stones you were at Mick and Keith's beck and call. One weekend, Bill was recording in Miami and was told to be in Switzerland for a meeting on Monday. At the meeting, he was surprised that Keith Richards, who just lived down the road, never even bothered to show up.

MICK FLEETWOOD DRUMMER, FLEETWOOD MAC

That was a memorable experience. All we did was talk about blues and that's why I got the interview, because he didn't want to cover the pop side of Fleetwood Mac. I asked him about Long John Baldry because they were old friends and I had worked with him for so many years. He showed a lot of warmth and respect for Baldry and related the last time he was in Canada, he was walking down the street and this maitre'd said, "You look like Long John Baldry! We love Long John Baldry!" Here's one of the most famous drummers in the world getting mistaken for Long John Baldry, which he thought was cool that people in Canada would have fantastic memories about him.

MAVIS STAPLES SINGER, THE STAPLE SINGERS

She would tell you incredible stories about the Civil Rights era, gospel music in the 1950s, her father, Pops Staples, and growing up on a plantation in Mississippi. When you hear about the fact that Pops Staples wrote songs for different marches like *I'll Take You There*, there's a whole body of songs you can connect with these Civil Rights marches. Put them all together, they were all huge hits that people know, but they came out of such an important time and event. They were very close to Martin Luther King. Mavis is a great example of somebody you can get totally locked into the interview and at the end of the day you only asked a few questions.

NAIT + SPARTAN PARTNERS IN INNOVATION

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SPARTAN CONTROLS

STORY BY
CHERYL MAHAFFY

PHOTOS BY
AMY BIZOVIE

Once an unlikely entrepreneur, VentureAlberta Forum president and CEO Randy Thompson loves the drama of the "startup storm."

AS A HANDFUL of angels with money to invest kibitz over coffee and pastries in anticipation of Edmonton's monthly VentureAlberta Forum meeting, Randy Thompson stands at the centre of the action. One minute he's engrossed in conversation with two women who, if suitably impressed, might inject money and/or expertise into a startup being featured today; the next, he's opening the forum with a confession that his car "drove itself" to the Royal Mayfair Golf Club while he was double-tasking on the cellphone, despite three reminders that today's venue was switched to the Hotel Macdonald.

Attention to such details may not be a strong suit for this slightly rumpled serial entrepreneur. But those who work with him cut him some slack, not only because he's a genuinely nice guy, but because he excels at pulling people together to get enterprises off the ground.

Thompson has invented, invested in, crashed and championed so many startups he can hardly track them himself. He's a "firestarter," says Tim Howard, a Calgary-based strategy analyst with VentureAlberta, adding that Thompson has the ability to bring others on board "to keep feeding the fire."

FIRESTARTER

RANDY THOMPSON BREATHES LIFE INTO PROMISING EARLY-STAGE COMPANIES AS NAIT'S FIRST ENTREPRENEUR IN RESIDENCE.



Tech entrepreneur Davis McGregor works with Randy Thompson to hone his pitch at novaNAIT before delivering it to prospective investors at a monthly meeting of Edmonton's VentureAlberta Forum (far right).

Guilty as charged, Thompson admits. "I just love building things." That's why he's an angel investor, breathing life into promising early-stage businesses. That's why he launched VentureAlberta and takes pride in the four dozen entrepreneurs it has helped finance under his watch. That's why he jumped at the offer to become NAIT's first entrepreneur in residence, where he's been coaching incubator tenants at the Duncan McNeill Centre for Innovation and novaNAIT St. Albert since October 2009 - and in return gets to preview what's bubbling to the top.

Today, Thompson is acting the part of nervous parent as one of those tenants, Davis McGregor of Mobile Data Technologies, makes a pitch for cash and expertise to ramp up production on his team's next-generation pressure-testing system. "I'm taking it personally how we react," Thompson says with candor that matches his boyish smile. "I'm half responsible for the data he's pitching."

That's an understatement; Thompson has spent hours helping McGregor hone his pitch, first at an intense two-day boot camp and then one-on-one. Whether in a coffee shop or heading home from an over-35 soccer game, he's fully engaged, McGregor says. "He's always got a smile from ear to ear, and he seems so happy he got a chance to meet with you, when really, it's the other way around."

McGregor does his mentor proud (despite a deer-in-the-headlights look when asked how he'd handle a thousand simultaneous orders). Without Thompson's prodding, McGregor says, he would never have stepped into that room. His team of four engineers was intent on self-financing production until Thompson challenged them to consider what they could do with a cash injection. "We really needed that kick in the butt."

The very fact that Alberta startups have an obvious place to connect with angels owes a lot to Thompson's own journey, battle scars included. As the last investor leaves the room, he sits down to recollect.

"I was looking at being a tech entrepreneur through the '90s, and it was really painful," he says. "There was not a pool of people that would invest in young guys with good ideas."

With a university degree in political science and English, being an entrepreneur never crossed his mind until a 1989-1992 stint as ministerial chief of staff during the privatization of Alberta's telephone service gave him a taste of the wheeling-dealing technology world. "I carried coffee and doughnuts," he says. But he also soaked up the process.

Shuffled out of the tech portfolio as the Klein era dawned, Thompson quit politics and was fielding consulting offers when Lonny McLean, a buddy from university, planted the idea of partnering in a business. As Thompson procrastinated, McLean made the decision for him by subleasing space in Edmonton's TD Tower for about \$2,400 a month. A whirlwind of market research prompted the launch of the province's first Internet service provider, Alberta SuperNet (no relation to the broadband network of the same name).

In 1996, the partners sold SuperNet, and Thompson went on to launch three other startups, including Khyber Pass Entertainment, which quite decidedly bombed. "We had the rights to sell (music from Peter Gabriel's Real World label) over the Internet, but the pipes weren't big enough," Thompson says. "We were just too early."

That failure taught him many things, including the importance of timing and respect for other people's cash. But he still regrets leaving investors in the lurch. "I took that money, and now the next guy who asks that investor is going to be told no."

A quick learner, Thompson was soon in the thick of numerous deals, from a west coast ferry to an online investment matching service. Sent by the province to Silicon Valley to learn angel investing from the pros, he returned to help create what is known today as Alberta Deal Generator.



With other Edmontonians taking the lead on that investment forum, Thompson headed to Calgary and started what has become VentureAlberta. Launched in 2003, it now has 52 members and monthly pitch sessions in Edmonton and Calgary. While the tone is deliberately relaxed to put entrepreneurs at ease, Thompson says, "This is deadly serious for the people around the table. That's what keeps me up at night."

It's not as if he's making a bundle from VentureAlberta. With investors paying \$1,000 a year and presenters charged \$2,000 to pitch, it's running "pretty much break even, to be honest," he says.

So what's in it for him?

"I guess you can tell I love this," he says, waving at the U-shaped table. "I'm really jazzed to be right in the middle of the startup storm. And it has generated a lot of other work."

Splitting his time between Calgary and Edmonton, Thompson keeps a jet-setting schedule that's tough for staff and family alike. He's a

hands-on board member of four early-stage companies, spends huge chunks of time in the United Kingdom as vice-president of corporate development for up-and-comer Genesis Technical Systems and sits on the board of the National Angel Capital Organization.

"It's a crazy lifestyle," says Thompson, who has put his own money into three of the 47 ventures backed by VentureAlberta investors. He has also consulted for the province and spent a couple of years as a pre-screener for CBC TV's *Dragons' Den*. Good thing for incubator tenants he thrives on intensity.

Mobile Data Technologies graduated from the Duncan McNeill Centre for Innovation in January, opening space for a new tenant. Four VentureAlberta angels and novaNAIT have expressed interest in helping it grow.

"That's a tick in the box," Thompson says with glee. And if he has his way, it won't be the last. "I would love to ferret out more stuff at NAIT. How many kids in these labs are sitting on the next big Google?" ■

Job Description: ENTREPRENEUR IN RESIDENCE

Early-stage technology companies at novaNAIT's two business incubators have a new coach in their corner. Randy Thompson, president and CEO of the angel investment VentureAlberta Forum, brings nearly two decades of entrepreneurial expertise to his role as the

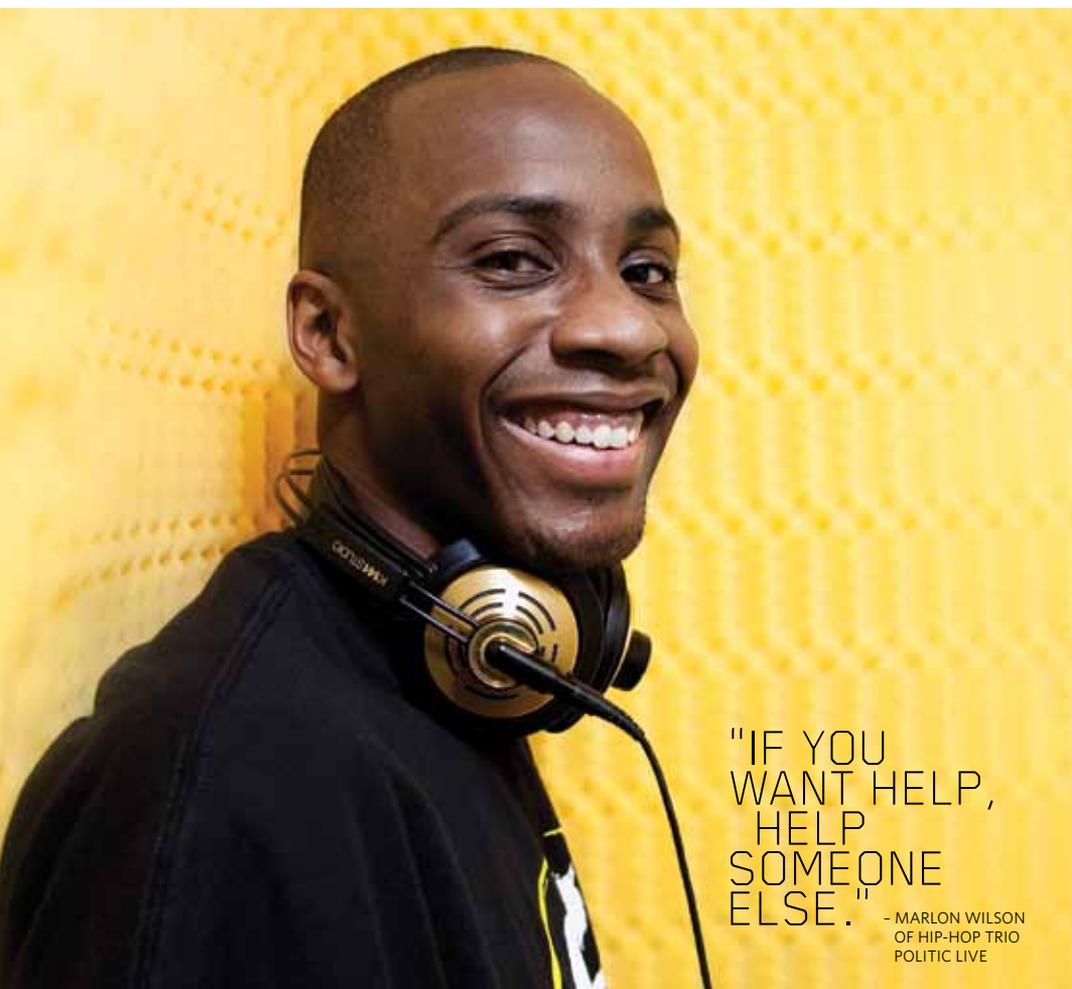
inaugural novaNAIT entrepreneur in residence.

Thompson will mentor, advise and teach select novaNAIT clients and NAIT employees through one-on-one sessions, presentations and workshops. As well, Thompson, who has relocated the VentureAlberta office to the NAIT Duncan McNeill Centre for

Innovation, can provide access to a broad network of financiers and management capacity. "He can provide true insights that will allow companies to become stronger investment targets and accelerate development," says Stuart Cullum, executive director of novaNAIT, the institute's centre for applied research and technology transfer.

The entrepreneur in residence position, which is relatively unique among technical institutes, is funded by the National Research Council Canada - Industrial Research Assistance Program and novaNAIT. — Kristen Vernon

MUSIC MAVERICK



"IF YOU WANT HELP, HELP SOMEONE ELSE."
 - MARLON WILSON OF HIP-HOP TRIO POLITIC LIVE



A PHILOSOPHY OF GIVING BACK
UNDERScores MARLON WILSON'S WORK
AS A RECORD LABEL CEO AND RAPPER
INTENT ON CREATING A THRIVING URBAN
MUSIC SCENE IN EDMONTON.



Top, from left, Marlon Wilson in the recording booth; with friends before a Haiti benefit concert; black and white proof of the cover for Politic Live's upcoming album.

Middle, from left, Wilson in the studio; performing during Black History Month.

Bottom, from left, poster for the food bank fundraiser hanging in Politic Live's west-end studio; sampler from the studio; Wilson at Keshotu Leadership Academy where he volunteers with youth.

STORY BY
LISA RICCIOTTI

PHOTOS BY
AMY BIZOVIE
AND LEIGH FREY

HOURS AFTER LEGENDARY rap mogul Jay-Z performed in Edmonton last October, a luxury car parked at a nightclub adjacent to the concert venue was sprayed with bullets fired from a passing car, wounding two.

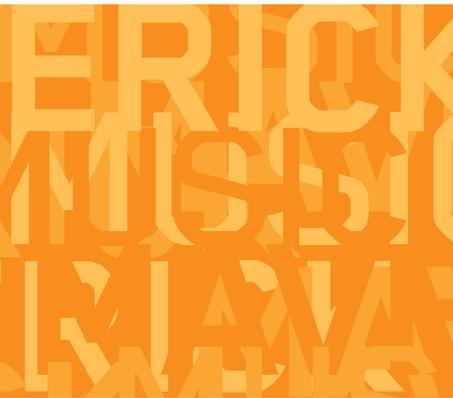
Two months later, a pre-Christmas showcase of local rappers drew a much different crowd response: 276 kilograms of food for Edmonton's Food Bank.

That quantum contrast is top of mind as I head to Edmonton's west end to meet Marlon Wilson, the driving force behind the unusual Hip Hop for Hunger food drive. Better known as Arlo Maverick of the award-winning hip-hop trio Politic Live, Wilson is also co-founder and CEO of the Music for Mavericks record label. He's built solid cred for E-Town's urban music scene. Along the way, Wilson is shattering stereotypes of rappers as gang-style druglords obsessed with wealth and violence. Instead, Wilson is using his musical talent, backed by business savvy, to benefit local causes, support fellow artists and inspire Afro-heritage youth. He's hip hop – with heart.

The 29-year-old who greets me definitely doesn't fit the rapper mould. No baggy pants, no bling around his neck or diamonds on his fingers, the offstage bespectacled Wilson is a study in understatement. We bypass a living room crammed with boxes of canned goods awaiting pickup and head for the basement – the studio where Wilson and his cousins Cordell (Bigga Nolte) and Bert (Dirt Gritie) Richards will soon lay down tracks for their third album, *Ellipsis*. It's a humble space: a tiny closet lined with eggshell-foam soundproofing at one end, an Ikea desk with a computer and a keyboard at the other and Bert's son's kick-boxing equipment in between, all under the watchful eye of Bob Marley posters. The setting is a reminder that although Politic Live has opened for big names like Snoop Dogg and Nas, appeared on MuchMusic and garnered rave reviews throughout Canada and the United States, they're down-to-earth independents making it on their own terms.

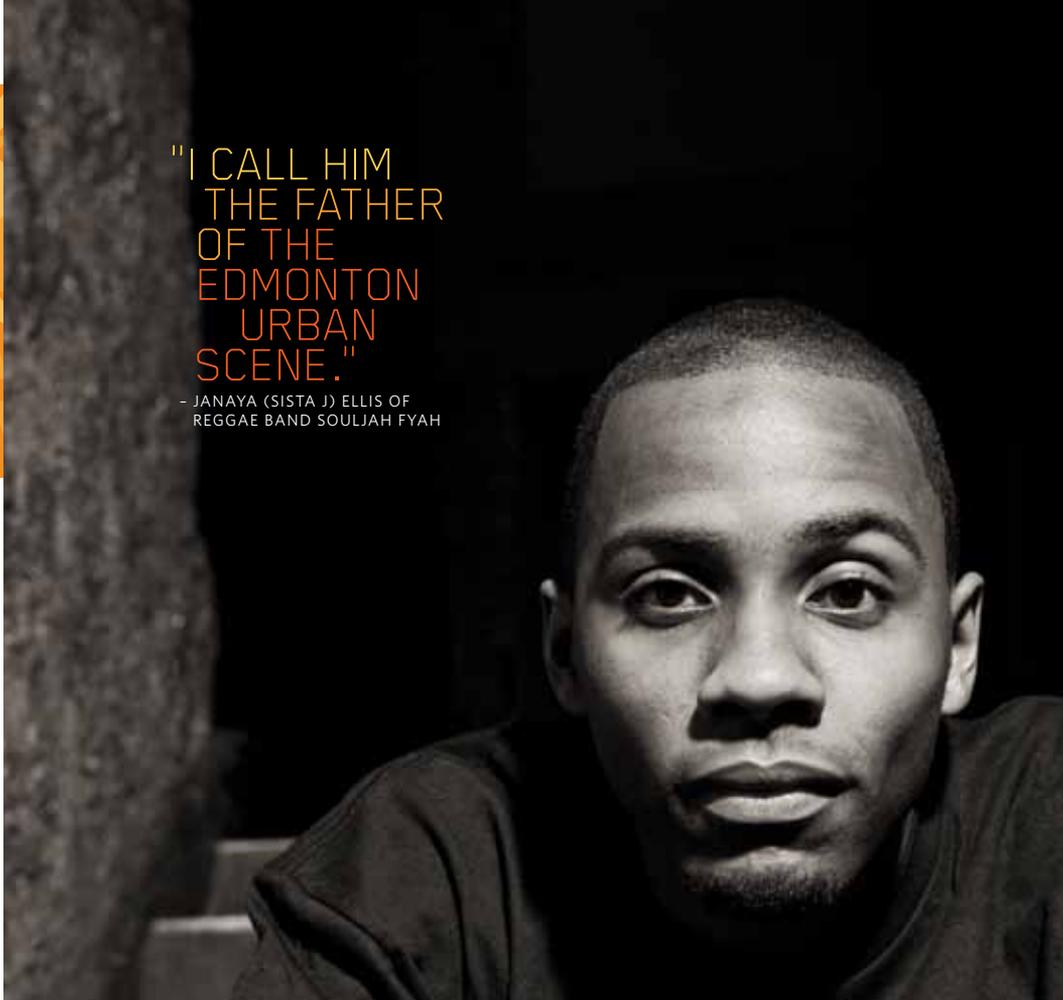
The cousins have performed together since elementary school, playing teen dances and basketball tournaments before Wilson decided to kick things up a notch by forming their own music label in 2001. That was a year after Wilson enrolled in NAIT's two-year Business Administration – Marketing program with one objective: to gain what he needed to advance their fledgling venture.

Today, Wilson and Bert co-manage all promotion for Politic Live and the record label. As Omar Mouallem, Edmonton's *Avenue* magazine associate editor and rapper A.O.K. (Assault of Knowledge), puts it: "Marlon Wilson is a businessman first and an artist second. Making good music doesn't guarantee acclaim. You have to promote yourself, and Marlon does a great job of that."



"I CALL HIM
THE FATHER
OF THE
EDMONTON
URBAN
SCENE."

— JANAYA (SISTA J) ELLIS OF
REGGAE BAND SOULJAH FYAH



Marlon Wilson.

Politic Live released its first album, *Notoriety*, in 2003, a year after Wilson graduated. The recording opened some doors, but fame was a long way off. As the group planned its second album, Wilson decided to apply for support from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA). "I'd been sitting on the fence about trying for a grant," Wilson says. "It was a two-year process before I put it forward. It was nerve-racking, doing so much work not knowing whether AFA would fund a hip-hop group."

Wilson's perseverance paid off in not one grant but three – for production of a new album called *Adaptation* and an accompanying music video, plus dollars to promote both. He credits his grant-writing success to lessons he learned in the NAIT Marketing program. "The same principles apply. You have to consider demographics, who you're selling to. And you have to have a plan, not just a great idea."

The video resulting from that 2005 grant featured a single called *The Matinee*, a sunny reggae-vibe pool-party splash, filmed in Los Angeles. It made history as the first Edmonton-based hip-hop music video produced on 35-mm film, an expensive medium previously out of reach for local videographers. It catapulted Politic Live to MTV Canada heights, reaching No. 7 on the charts. Unfortunately, Wilson learned a tough business lesson along with *Matinee's* success. Although the group

had a hit video, Politic Live was struggling to complete the album.

"We were working with friends to produce *Adaptation* and the work ethic just wasn't there," Wilson explains. "We discovered friendships and business don't necessarily mix. We missed deadline after deadline."

Eventually, Wilson took production elsewhere and *Adaptation* was released in December 2006, a year-and-a-half late. But while Politic Live stalled, another Edmonton rapper, Cadence Weapon (Roland Pemberton, now the city's poet laureate) exploded onto the scene, winning instantaneous fame and multiple award nominations. "That lost time hurt us," says Wilson. "No other Alberta hip-hop group had a video getting the rotation *Matinee* was, and we thought it was our moment to put Edmonton hip hop on the map. Then out of nowhere came Cadence Weapon."

Instead of resenting the missed opportunity, Wilson celebrates his fellow rapper's success. "The monsoon Cadence Weapon created was good for the entire local hip-hop scene," Wilson says. "He opened doors that maybe we weren't ready to open on our own. We don't see others' success as competition. It's about building community, expanding opportunities for everyone."

Co-operation, not competition is consistent with Wilson's philosophy of giving back. Wilson credits his Jamaican-born grandmother and single-parent mother for instilling solid values that "still resonate in my head. They taught me if you want help, help someone else."

Now, Wilson is using his grant-writing success to help other artists with their applications, including Juno nominee Janaya (Sista J) Ellis of Souljah Fyah. As Ellis notes, "Without Marlon's constant reminders about

deadlines, I would have missed applying for grants and even the Western Canadian Music Awards. I call him the father of the Edmonton urban scene. He's a gift to our burgeoning music community, a visionary leader who's set a precedent in helping others."

He's helping the larger community as well, hosting Hip Hop for Hunger and supporting Edmonton's Youth Emergency Shelter and Red Cross relief efforts in Haiti.

Even with all of the attention, Wilson remains a home boy. "Edmonton's not an obstacle," Wilson explains. "I want to create pride here. In 20 years, we'll hopefully look back and say we were among the first to create a thriving urban music scene in Edmonton." For this maverick music maker who pays it forward, that would be sweetest payback of all. ■



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READY, SET, LEGO



DOZENS OF HIGH-TECH ROBOTS MANOEUVRE AROUND TABLE-TOP PLAYING FIELDS AS THE NAIT GYM PLAYS HOST TO A DIFFERENT KIND OF SPORT.



Left, two teams with their Lego robots have two minutes and 30 seconds to score points by completing missions during the round.

Below, Alberta's FIRST Lego League winners, the Panthers from Joseph-Moreau School.

Bottom, a robot in play.



Far left, students tweak their robot at a practice table in the cafeteria.

Left, Team Westbrook members select a program from the "robot brain" during the official competition in the gym; developed by the students, a program is designed to carry out one or more of the table-top missions.

Robots belonging to 34 teams from Alberta and one team from Northwest Territories went head-to-head during a provincial Lego robotics competition held at NAIT in January. Children aged 10 to 14 used sensors, motors, gears and software to build and program Lego-engineered robots capable of carrying out various missions, including gaining access to certain areas of the table-top playing field and surviving impacts, as part of the annual FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Lego League challenge. The winning team, the Panthers from Joseph-Moreau School (above in yellow), went on to the World Festival in Atlanta, Ga. in April.

— Kristen Vernon



THE DEGREES
WITH A DIFFE

BBA AND BTECH STAND OUT

INTRODUCING BACCALAUREATE DEGREES WAS A BOLD STEP FOR NAIT IN 2007. THE INSTITUTE ALREADY HAD A SOLID REPUTATION FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION BASED ON REAL-WORLD SKILLS - TRAINING THAT PREPARED STUDENTS TO ENTER THE WORKPLACE AFTER ONE OR TWO YEARS OF STUDY. WHY MESS WITH SUCCESS?

But workplaces were changing. Employers told us that especially for management and supervisory roles, they needed technical expertise paired with skills in communication, critical thinking, project management, leadership and more.

And so NAIT's Bachelor of Technology in Technology Management (BTech) was introduced, followed shortly by the Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA).

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The only program of its kind in Alberta, the Bachelor of Technology provides in-demand leadership skills to those who already have a background of advanced technical knowledge. This degree builds research, problem-solving and communications abilities, with a focus on teamwork and planning. Students gain a global perspective on the social, economic, ethical and environmental issues key to success in today's economy.

The Bachelor of Business Administration provides both in-depth business knowledge and the practical skills to put that knowledge to use on the job. Students learn to utilize and manage leading software applications and processes that enhance business productivity.

FOCUSED

BTech is a classic "2 + 2" program - that is, students enter after having first completed a two-year diploma, and earn the BTech degree after two additional years of study. Elective courses span a range of technology fields, allowing students to customize the program to suit their particular area of focus.

The BBA provides a solid background in current business practices, focused on the student's choice of five emphasis areas: Accounting, Finance, Management, Human Resource Management or Marketing.

FLEXIBLE

Both degrees offer maximum flexibility in access and learning options.

Nearly 30 NAIT diploma programs in engineering technologies, health and applied sciences act as the first two years of the BTech degree. Similarly, anyone who has already earned a business diploma can enter the BBA degree at the half-way point, and other business qualifications can be assessed for advanced standing.

A key advantage of both degrees is that they can be studied full-time, part-time or through online courses. These options add much-needed convenience for the busy professional - someone just like you!

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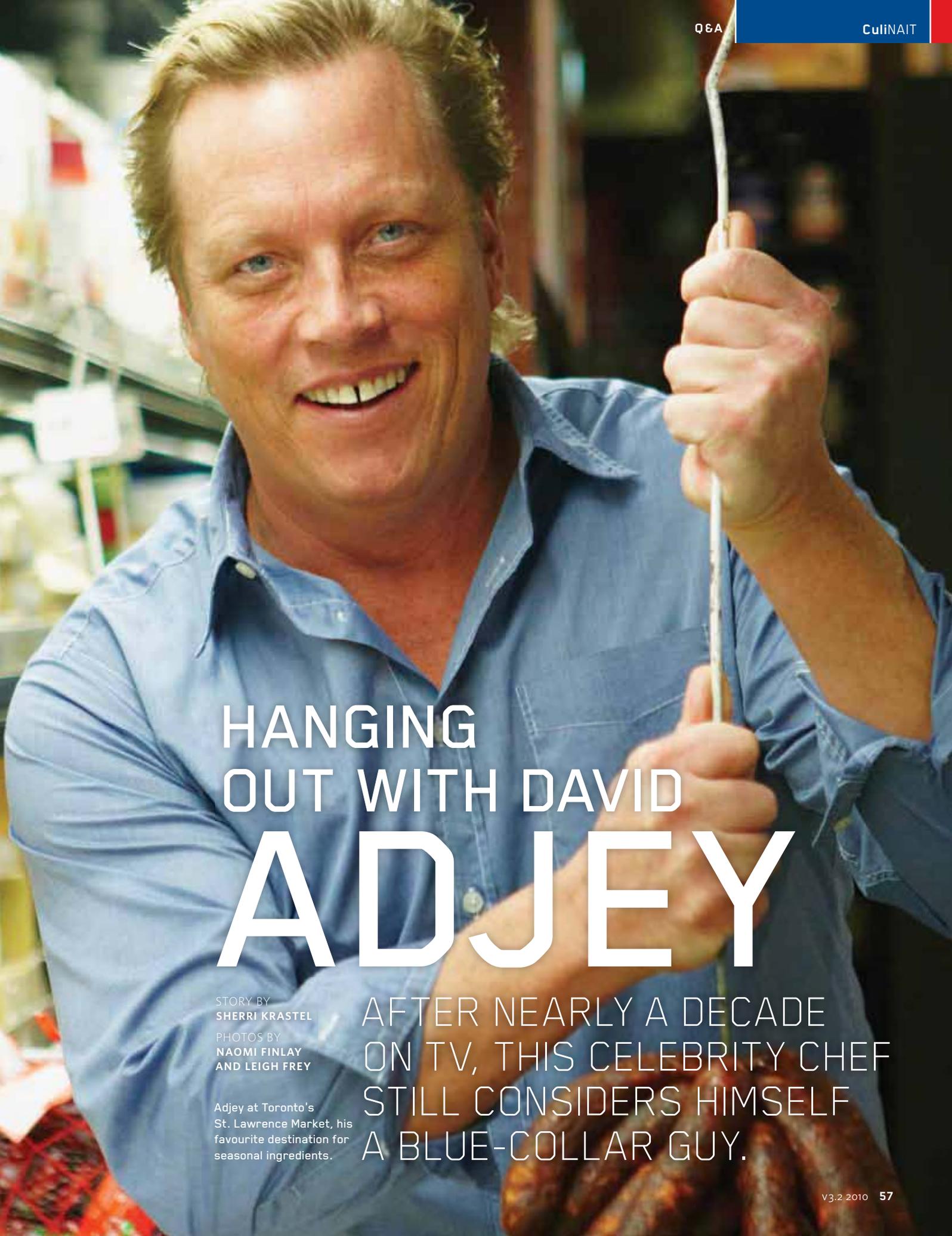
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HANGING OUT WITH DAVID ADJEY

STORY BY
SHERRI KRASTEL

PHOTOS BY
NAOMI FINLAY
AND LEIGH FREY

Adjey at Toronto's
St. Lawrence Market, his
favourite destination for
seasonal ingredients.

AFTER NEARLY A DECADE
ON TV, THIS CELEBRITY CHEF
STILL CONSIDERS HIMSELF
A BLUE-COLLAR GUY.

Below, soufflés prepared by students in the first-year Desserts class. Right, prepping for lunch with the second-year Contemporary Cuisine class.



WEB EXTRA

David Adje goes face-to-face with Edmonton food bloggers. techlifemag.ca/adje.htm

A LONG WITH HIS entertaining style and cooking philosophy, chef David Adje gave some unorthodox advice to 250 culinary students as NAIT's Hokanson Chef in Residence.

Working elbow to elbow with students for a week in March, the Culinary Institute of America graduate and *Iron Chef America* competitor challenged them to look at food differently, take risks and be prepared "to make a mistake every day."

Adje also reminded the students – eager to soak up his knowledge and experience – of the importance of learning the basics of cooking, saying "the foundation I learned in school has made me the success I am today."

After years spent running top hotel and restaurant kitchens in Canada and the United States and a stint working as Dan Aykroyd's personal chef, Adje has established himself as one of the most colourful chefs on television. He was one of the hosts of Food Network Canada's *Restaurant Makeover* for seven seasons and is launching a new show, *The Opener*, this fall.

Adje cautioned students with aspirations of following in his footsteps that, with only a handful of Canadian chefs on television today, they have a better chance of picking up a hockey stick and making it in the NHL than making a career as a celebrity chef. "And," he added, "I'm not leaving anytime soon."

Once the domain of the weather channel, Adje believes food television has become the background noise in many of our lives, bringing the comfort of someone cooking into our homes and changing people's perceptions of chefs. He says he still considers himself a blue-collar guy, while admitting television has turned chefs like him into well-paid public figures.

Right, second-year culinary students.

Centre, David Adje connects with friends, sharing photos and stories about his time as the Hokanson Chef in Residence.

Far right, preparing Duck Twofer – roasted duck breast and duck leg confit – during the second-year Evening Dining course. Adje's recipe for Duck Twofer is available at techlifemag.ca/adje.htm.

NAIT's newest Hokanson Chef in Residence talked to *techlife* about all things Adje.

When did you know you wanted to be a chef?

I was around five.

If you weren't a chef?

I'd be a florist.

Describe a great day in the kitchen.

The two years that I had my restaurant (Nectar, in Toronto) was pretty much fun every day. I had a menu that had no words on it to describe any of the food. The menu read, "Tuna: cool, warm, hot; duck: pot, pan, hook; lobster: tail, body, claw." I would go to the market every day and create this very small menu of seven appetizers and seven entrees. I would come into the kitchen at two in the afternoon when all my cooks were in. I would say, "OK guys, we're going to make this, this and this," and we came up with a lot of amazing stuff . . . and a couple of things that were just terrifying!

Mentors?

Dante Rota. He was the godfather of Italian cuisine in Toronto. He was the one who got me to go to the Culinary Institute of America. New York chef Richard Krause, one of the creators of Californian cuisine. Also, New York chef David Burke. People describe David Burke as the only person they know wilder than me.

Pet peeve?

Dirty kitchens.

What do you cook for yourself?

My loft is like a mad scientist lab – I'm constantly puttering with something and I end up eating my experiments. I'll go to the Chinese supermarket and get a ling cod and play around with it a couple of different ways. I cook a lot of lobster. I made chicken-fried duck recently – duck confit fried in a buttermilk batter.

Favourite childhood food?

I tried a lot of weird things. My dad was a salesman, on the road all the time, so we ate in restaurants a lot. I remember the first time I ate periwinkles (snail), rabbit, turtle, snake.



If you could invite any three people to dinner?

Anthony Bourdain (American chef and author of several books, including *Kitchen Confidential: Adventures in the Culinary Underbelly*), Georges Auguste Escoffier (pioneering French chef who died in 1935) and my cleaning lady – because after eating with those two guys I wouldn't want to clean up.

What would you serve?

It would be a celebration of one ingredient depending on what was available that day.

What separates the best culinary schools from the rest?

The students. If you can get a bunch of charged individuals together, that's 75 per cent of the battle.

Best advice for someone considering a culinary career?

Think about what else you can bring to the table. If you like photography, get into photography; if you are a great writer, be a food blogger. I tell my cooks that I want them to have a life outside the kitchen so they bring their experiences back into the kitchen and they're fresh. That makes happy cooks, which makes great conversation in the kitchen, which creates new dishes.

Biggest mistake made by novice chefs?

Not taking the time to read the recipe and understand the instructions fully.

Your philosophy on feeding children?

We talk about our kids being picky eaters, but it's not the kids at all, it's what we put in front of them. My kids are terrified of fast food. There's nothing in my fridge or pantry that's processed. If they want cookies, we make cookies. We cheat our children with our busy lives. Taking the time to sit down for dinner is a priority at my house.

Plans to get back into the restaurant business?

Yes. I've been out of it for a couple of years now and I'm going crazy. I want to do something that's fun and tie it in to my new show (*The Opener*) and to my philosophy that food has to have integrity, be ingredient-driven and doesn't have to have a lot of pretention.

Favourite food?

I'm absolutely bonkers for Indian food.

Wild versus farmed salmon?

Consumers are being led to believe all aquaculture is bad, and that's just not the case. There are fish farmers in this country who are doing it well, whether it's trout farms in Quebec and Ontario or salmon farms in Atlantic Canada. Just like cattle, there are good and bad farmers. Without sustainable aquaculture, we're going to go hungry.

Julia Child?

Julia Child is a demigod of American cooking. Julia Child, James Beard (American chef, author and cooking school founder) and Craig Claiborne (former *New York Times* food editor and cookbook author) – these are the people who started the American food revolution.

You were a personal chef for Dan Aykroyd – tell us what that was like?

It was the most fun you can imagine. I cooked in his log cabin north of Kingston, Ont. I got tipped a car from Dan when I moved to California. Dan has a huge car collection, and one of my favourites was a '66 Impala. He made someone drive it from Kingston to the front driveway of the hotel I was working at in Santa Barbara, Calif., which is about 4,500 kilometres. It was cool because I got tipped a car, but even better because here's this kid from Canada running this top hotel kitchen in America, and I instantly got the street cred from everyone else at the hotel.

Food TV's influence?

Made the consumer smarter. People are so empowered by information. You can't pull the wool over people's eyes anymore.

What is the most common error you saw on *Restaurant Makeover* before you stepped in?

Lack of cleanliness, and clutter. It takes away focus, and if you take away a cook's focus, food can be wildly inconsistent. ■

"I GRAVITATED TOWARDS FOOD BECAUSE I LIKED THE IDEA THAT IT'S THE ONLY ART FORM WITH ALL FIVE SENSES."

- DAVID ADJEY



STRIPSTEAK ONE-BITE CAESAR SMOKY RUB & CLAM VINAIGRETTE

AS FEATURED IN DAVID ADJEY'S
"DECONSTRUCTING THE DISH: INSPIRATIONS
FOR MODERN-DAY CUISINE"

SERVES 4



CLAM VINAIGRETTE

INGREDIENTS

15 ml (1 tbsp) VEGETABLE OIL
1 kg (2.2 lb) MANILA CLAMS
125 ml (½ cup) WHITE WINE
1 BAY LEAF
2 SPRIGS THYME
4 CLOVES GARLIC
4-5 SPRIGS PARSLEY
1 SMALL YELLOW PEPPER,
ROASTED, PEELED AND SEEDS
REMOVED
2 SCALLIONS, WASHED AND ROOTS
DISCARDED

1 LEMON, ZEST ONLY
30 ml (2 tbsp) SHERRY VINEGAR
125 ml (½ cup) EXTRA VIRGIN
OLIVE OIL
FRESHLY GROUND BLACK PEPPER

METHOD

Line a sheet pan with parchment paper. In a large saucepan, heat the olive oil over high heat. Add the clams and sauté for 45 seconds. Carefully deglaze with the white wine and add the bay leaf, thyme, garlic and parsley. Cover and cook until most of the clams have opened. Remove from the heat and

discard any unopened clams. Pour out onto the prepared sheet pan. Remove the meat and reserve, discarding the shells. Place the clam meat in a large non-reactive bowl. Cut the yellow pepper into strips about a ½-cm (¼-inch) wide; turn and cut into a ½-cm x ½-cm (¼-inch x ¼-inch) dice, then add to the clams. Cut the scallions into ½-cm (¼-inch) segments and add to the mixture. Add the lemon zest, sherry vinegar and olive oil and gently mix until evenly distributed. Season to taste with pepper. Refrigerate covered until needed.

CAESAR SALAD

INGREDIENTS

2 EGG YOLKS
2 FILLETS WHITE ANCHOVIES
2 CLOVES GARLIC, PEELED AND
MINCED
5 ml (1 tsp) CAPERS
60 ml (¼ cup) RED WINE VINEGAR
1 LEMON, JUICE ONLY

250 ml (1 cup) CANOLA OIL,
VERY COLD
2 ml (½ tsp) FRESHLY GROUND
WHITE PEPPER
5-6 HEADS BABY ROMAINE
LETTUCE

METHOD

In a food processor fitted with a metal blade, pulse the yolks, anchovies,

garlic, capers, vinegar and lemon juice until evenly incorporated. With the food processor running very slowly, add the chilled canola oil in a thin but steady stream. The dressing should be the consistency of thick mayonnaise. Remove from the food processor, season with white pepper and transfer to a non-reactive container. Refrigerate until needed.

PARMESAN TUILE

INGREDIENTS

250 ml (1 cup) FRESHLY GROUND
PARMESAN
5 ml (1 tsp) ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR

METHOD

Preheat oven to 180 C (350 F). Line a sheet pan with a non-stick silicone liner. In a large bowl, gently toss the Parmesan cheese with the flour just enough to coat the cheese. Sprinkle the cheese mixture in 4 circles about 15 cm (6 inches) in diameter, leaving

enough space for the cheese to spread. Bake on the middle rack in the oven until the cheese is light golden brown, about 4 to 5 minutes. Remove from the oven. Using an offset spatula, carefully and quickly drape the hot cheese over a rolling pin. Allow the cheese to cool and harden into the shape from the rolling pin. Remove and store uncovered until needed.

STRIP STEAK

INGREDIENTS

4 - 340 g (12 oz) NEW YORK STRIP
STEAKS
30 ml (2 tbsp) SMOKY RUB
(SEE RECIPE BELOW)
5 ml (1 tsp) COARSE SALT
5 ml (1 tsp) OLIVE OIL

METHOD

Preheat oven to 180 C (350 F). Place a wire rack on a sheet pan. Place the steaks on a clean, flat work surface and sprinkle with the smoky rub and coarse salt. Drizzle with the olive oil and then use your hands to evenly coat the steaks. In a large cast

iron frying pan over medium heat, sear the steaks for 3 minutes on each side. Transfer to the prepared sheet pan and roast for 5 to 7 minutes for medium rare. Remove from the heat and rest in a warm place until needed.

SMOKY RUB

INGREDIENTS

30 ml (2 tbsp) SMOKED PAPRIKA
5 ml (1 tsp) CHILI POWDER
5 ml (1 tsp) FRESHLY GROUND
BLACK PEPPER
2 ml (½ tsp) DRIED MUSTARD
2 ml (½ tsp) BROWN SUGAR
2 ml (½ tsp) CAYENNE PEPPER

METHOD

Mix together all the ingredients and store in a covered container in a cool, dry place.

WHEN READY TO SERVE

On a clean work surface, carve the strip steaks into 1-cm (½-inch) slices and place in the centre of 4 warm dinner plates. In a large non-reactive bowl, toss the baby romaine leaves with the creamy garlic dressing, divide into the Parmesan tuiles and rest against the sliced strip steak. Garnish with clam vinaigrette.



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VINTAGE VOICES

RADIO AND TELEVISION CHAIR PATRICK GALENZA'S OLD-TIME COLLECTION TUNES IN TO A TIME WHEN THE MEDIUM WAS KING.

"The vision is everybody sitting around, listening to the old plays on the radio," says Patrick Galenza, chair of NAIT's Radio and Television programs, of the idea invoked by the wood veneer cabinet radios he started collecting not long after his 1984 graduation from the radio program he now heads. Symbols of the Golden Age of Radio, for Galenza, the radios invoke an image of a family gathered in a living room on a Saturday night, a crackling fire to keep them warm, as they tune in to a radio drama or comedy or perhaps *Hockey Night in Canada* on CBC for the evening's entertainment.

Go back in time with a look at some of the old radios in Galenza's collection.

— Kristen Vernon

1938

Wood table radio →
RCA Victor
Model number 94BT

The first radio in Galenza's collection.

1941 - 42 series

Wood table radio →
Northern Electric
Model number 1556

This radio still works.

1988

← Remake of a 1932 wood cathedral radio (model number J100)
GE model number 7-4100J

"In '88, when I left CISN (radio station), they gave me a replica because they knew I was collecting old radios," Galenza says.

Energy consumption:
1932 - 100 watts
1988 - five watts

Antenna:
1932 - 15 metre outside aerial required
1988 - built in

Broadcast bands:
1932 - AM
1988 - AM and FM

1941 - 42 series

← Wood table radio
Arcadia
Model number 426





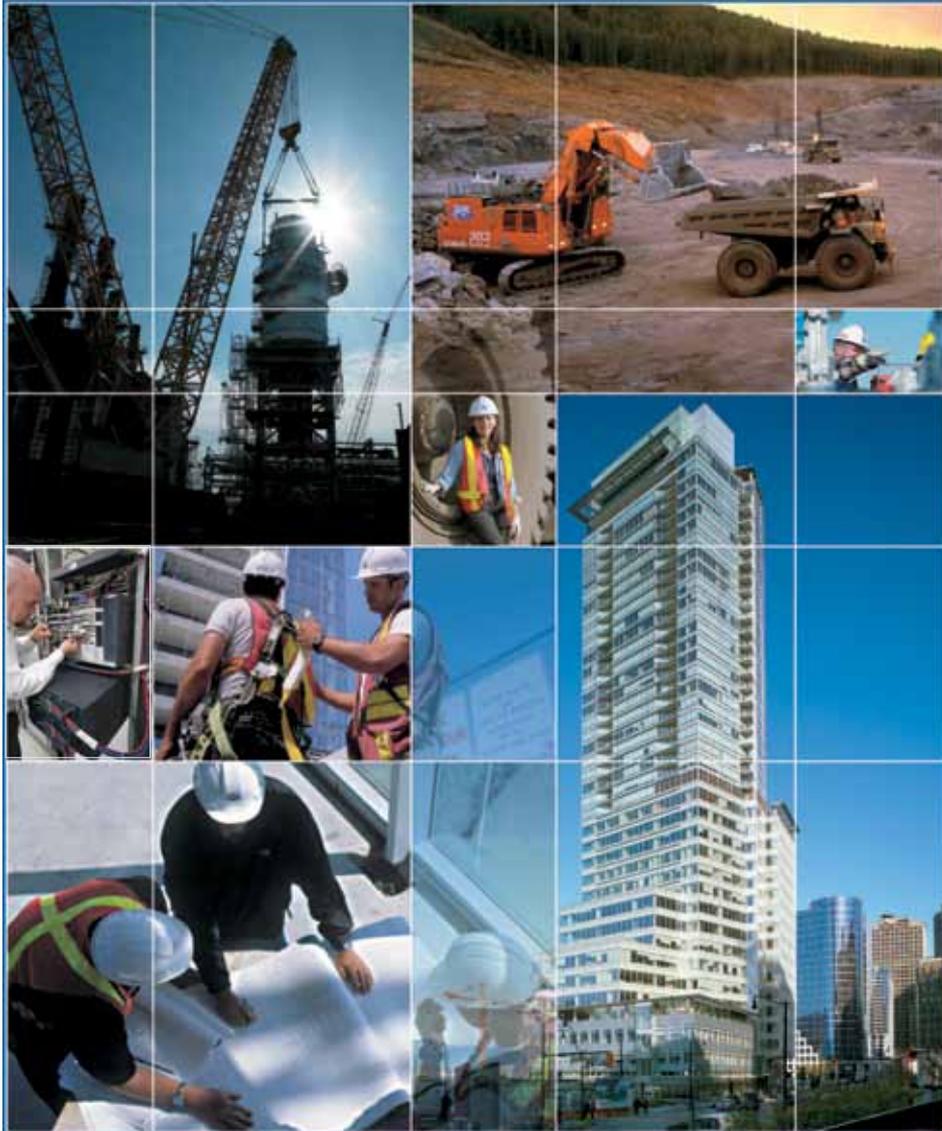
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