



THE FAN

WINTER 2018



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BART CHUDLEIGH

Fall, if you'll forgive the cliché, is a time of change—both outside and here in our own walls.

One of the biggest changes to the BVCFA has been the addition of the VP Operations and VP Communications positions. **Matt Kriz has stepped up and taken on the uncharted territory of VP Operations and we are a stronger association for it.** Currently, the VP Communications role is vacant.

The VP Communications position is a great opportunity to get involved and make a difference - not only within the executive team itself, but for your fellow members. While it is a new role, the VP Communications will *not* be in it alone! **There is a great community of support within the executive team, and we are here to help you take on this position.**

We are all volunteers in the executive—faculty members who have decided to step in and give it our best go. If you're waiting for "someone" to change things or to help, remember that you are "someone" and we'd love to hear from you! Please get in touch with us to learn more about what's involved.

Another

change is that we've also launched the new FA website. This is an ongoing and evolving project, and we wholeheartedly welcome your requests and feedback, and appreciate your patience as we make changes as they are requested.

Finally, for some schools, Reading Week in the Winter Term is a big change. This was instituted with an emphasis on learners' mental health, and I'm hopeful it will help with our faculty member's health and wellbeing as well.

We plan to be speaking with you soon with an update from our upcoming negotiations with the College on November 2nd.

I would like to thank all of the BVCFA executive: Trevor McIvor, Hana Taleb Imai, Lindsay Bonenfant, Matt Kriz, Luzimar Serviss, and Flora Madhavi for all of your hard work and support this past year!

Sincerely,

Bart Chudleigh

President, BVCFA

We have a new Academic Council Vice Chair! Elections were recently held between the BVCFA members of the Academic Council and we are pleased to welcome Flora Mahdavi to the Executive team!

We want to recognize and thank Nadia M. Khan for her time and contributions to both this position and her ongoing support within



- ▶ Become a better speaker and presenter Communicate with confidence
- ▶ Develop your leadership skills Listen effectively



We're always accepting new members!

LOCATION: S3044

MEETING TIME: 1st Thursday of the month, 12:30pm - 1:30pm

3rd Tuesday of the month, 5:05pm – 6:05pm

Please check with your supervisor for Professional Development reimbursement through the College.

Contact bvtoastmasters@bowvalleycollege.ca or visit N445 to request new membership application form



Open to BVC Learners, Staff, and Alumni



LABOUR RELATIONS

KIM SMITH



October 17, 2018 – Legalization of Cannabis

Legalized recreational cannabis is a reality.

It is important to know the basic information about cannabis, including its makeup, how it is consumed, its effects, how to address recreational and medicinal use, and, more relevant to Labour Relations, its place under human rights legislation.

[Let's take this time to educate ourselves](#) have open discussions, and express our concerns in the coming weeks so that we are all protected under this new chapter of Legislation.

Here's what we know:

1. Cannabis use is banned in the workplace.
2. Cannabis use is banned in public places, schools, playgrounds and restaurants.
3. Cannabis use is banned in vehicles including passengers.
4. 18+ is the Federal and Provincial minimum age for using, purchasing, possessing cannabis
5. It is legal to have 30 grams of dry cannabis on your person.
6. Medicinal Cannabis is legal with a medical authorization certificate.

If you have questions about the terms of your contract or if you have questions about medicinal and recreational cannabis use, please [get in touch at labourrelations@bvcfa.com](mailto:labourrelations@bvcfa.com) for an appointment—let's talk about it.

Kim Smith
Your Independent Labour Relations Officer



ON THE BOARD WITH...

by HANA TALEB IMAI

***On the Board With...* is a newsletter interview series written by the FA's Board of Governors Representative, Hana Taleb Imai to profile public members of the Board of Governors at the College.**

This interview, the sixth in the series, highlights **Jamilah Edwards**

Jamilah Edwards has a professional background in non-profit leadership with over 10 years of experience in Calgary's charitable sector. She is currently the Executive Director of the Calgary Fetal Alcohol Network, a charitable organization that advances how to understand and respond to fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. She is in her first term on the Board of Governors. [You can read more about her here.](#)

What do you enjoy about your role on the Board of Governors?

I love supporting the mandate of the college in our city. I believe BVC plays a pivotal role in the lives of so many Calgarians and it's an honour for me to be a part of that.

What are three traits that are important to your role?

I think it's important to have strong listening skills, strategic thinking skills and be open to learning new things.

What advice would you offer to new Board members?

Give yourself time to learn, it's very difficult to learn everything quickly. Also it's okay to ask questions and admit what you don't know.

What is one thing that you have learned about Bow Valley College?

The college is supported by extremely strong and talented faculty, staff and executive team.

What do you think Calgarians should know about Bow Valley College?

The college is an amazing institution that has excellent leadership. Calgarians can be proud to have BVC as our local comprehensive community college.

If you have any questions about the Board of Governors, please feel free to connect with me at bogrepresentative@bvcfa.com

Respectfully submitted,

Hana Taleb Imai

DON'T BREAK OUR ARM OR YOURS!

By Steve Perron

So I am not talking about breaking your arm by patting yourself on the back for a job well done [but kudos came from the Calgary Fire Chief to all for the great response to the last set of fire drills!], this is about the sometimes annoying but innocent parking barrier arm in our parkade.



It has been broken a number of times by cars or people resulting in delays to others, putting Security staff in danger trying to help cars out and a repair bill of some \$300 each time. There have also been injuries to cars and people who contest the arm. Please be careful as the results are not worth it.

OH&S members recently completed an Effectiveness and Efficiency Survey and, like the popular TV show, "The survey says..." 92% believe that faculty and staff do make suggestions to us. That is great! But 58% of us are unsure that faculty and staff know who we are. The plan to wear bright lights and use carnival barkers was not met with enthusiasm so you can [go into myCampus](#) and OH&S is under People and you can look at our minutes to see what we do and see a list of who are on the committee. There are some 20 outstanding people because there are only 2 [co]chairs. OK, that was a Dad joke. Then when you see us you can wave Hello or give us a hug [with permission as we are a Respectful Workplace].

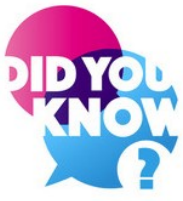
One new thing we do are Safety Inspections. You may have seen one of us with Wil Pulfer, the OH&S Specialist, wandering around looking in every place in all of BVC's campuses to identify possible hazards and suggest corrective actions. My role was to go into the very bowels of BVC South – Shipping and Receiving to meet with Matt. It was very interesting and informative AND they have this really cool, big, electric powered forklift, but I could not take it for a spin, something to do with the need to be certified to drive it. In all of the various inspections a number of, usually low level, risks were identified to be corrected so it was worth doing and great to know that BVC is a pretty safe place to work in.

We are approaching various holiday seasons such as Halloween, Diwali/Deepavali, Mawlid, Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa and others where food may be involved. [Please review the new Potluck Guidelines found on myCampus/Departments/Ancillary Services.](#) Note that all ingredients should be listed to warn those with allergies or specific food concerns. Also notify Facilities about plugging in appliances as it may affect the electrical flow in other areas [one can have 12 plugs on one circuit going into another Department]. Your Slow Cooker may affect my lighting!

If you have any questions please feel free to talk to your OH&H rep or contact me,

Your friendly neighborhood OH&S rep [faculty and LSS]

Steve Perron



DID YOU KNOW?

The City of Calgary is beginning an engagement strategy around single-use items (such as plastic straws, disposable coffee cups, plastic bags, etc.). **Currently, the City has no waste prevention strategy, so this (small) step is one in the right direction.** The more the City hears back from people, the more likely this strategy will actually move forward. So please spread widely!



<https://engage.calgary.ca/single-use>

On Site Mental Health and Wellness Training

Learner Success Services at Bow Valley College is offering **FREE training to Bow Valley College staff, faculty and students** who work with and/ or care for people. These training programs will assist you with recognizing and acting to support mental health and wellness in others.

<https://bowvalleycollege.ca/student-resources/student-life/counselling/mental-health-training>





Please Join Us

for the 2018 BVCFA

General
Meeting
and
Year End Social

Hors d'oeuvres, dessert,
and door prizes!

Room N231

GM 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Social: 4:00-6:30 PM

Friday, December 7



Hosted by the

Bow Valley College Faculty Association



GET
INVOLVED
WITH YOUR
FACULTY
ASSOCIATION!

We are currently in need of a VP Communications and Engagement. No experience necessary. Get in touch and learn how you can make a difference today!

VP Communications and Engagement

- ⇒ Content planning
- ⇒ Event planning
- ⇒ Communication strategies



V.P OPERATIONS

MATT KRIZ

Talking Shop with Corrine Ferguson (MA, Sociology)

In "Talking Shop" we interview a faculty member to chat about teaching and the joys and struggles therein. For this issue I talked with Corrine Ferguson, (MA in Sociology) about the courses she teaches for the Schools of Community Studies and Health and Wellness.

Corrine has worked at Bow Valley College for over four years now.

Matt Kriz: So, here's a question: Who takes sociology, and why? Because I think a lot of people might not even know that we offer sociology at Bow Valley College.

Corrine Ferguson: Yeah, primarily, those that have to take sociology. It's a required course for Justice Studies, ELCC, and for the Practical Nursing students as well.

MK: So, are there different classes for different programs?

CF: Different? Yes. Intro to Sociology is a mandatory class for Justice Studies, and they would also have to take Sociology of the Family. For the nursing students they are required to take the Sociology of Aging course. I also have a smattering of Open Studies students, which could be from places like Addiction Studies, or those who are waiting to get into their program.

MK: I have a silly question...

CF: There are no silly questions

MK: Well, it's not, exactly. And a more serious one, but the two are related so I'm going to ask them together. The silly one is, why do you love sociology? And the perhaps more serious one is, what drew you to sociology?

CF: [laughs] I'll start with the more serious one. In university I started off in a business program, and I just absolutely did not enjoy it, but I had taken a

sociology class and it's the perspective, I guess, that drew me. It was sort of, maybe not intuitive, but something I could feel at ease with, and it sort of made sense to me. So I really liked the perspective... on the social world. It just really made sense. And, what was the other question, sorry?

MK: Why do you love sociology? [laughter]

CF: I do love it, actually! I really, I like teaching sociology to people that don't know anything about it because once they start grasping what the perspective is – I find that really satisfying as soon as they start clicking in and using the perspective, and for many of them it sort of opens up a new way of looking at the social world that maybe they didn't think about before. So, I like students who have had no exposure to sociology.

MK: So you like getting that "ah ha" moment?

CF: Yeah.

MK: Okay, if I follow on with that, what typically might be something that gives them that "ah ha" moment. Where does that tend to happen?

CF: Well, a lot of the class sort of focuses on fundamentals of sociological concepts and theory and the methods behind it, but when we're doing a classroom discussion where we're bringing in real life examples and applying it, that tends to be more when I see, and feel, the "ah ha" moment for them.



V.P OPERATIONS

MATT KRIZ

MK: Switching gears a bit, you'd mentioned earlier that you'd been asked to develop the Sociology of Aging course, were there parts of this process that you enjoyed, being able to take a course from the beginning?

CF: Yeah, for sure. That's the creative part, I think. It wasn't a completely new subject, because I myself had done some research on aging during my Master's degree, but it was a new topic for me, and definitely newish subject matter. So that was really interesting. Obviously, it's a lot of time, to do a lot of reading into it, but it allowed me to explore sociology of aging, which I just hadn't been exposed to before. And, just trying to be creative in what I included in the class, you know, try to do something that I hadn't done before that maybe the students hadn't experienced before as well, in order to bring a new experience for them. So yeah, it's been actually fun, and definitely a learning process along the way.

MK: Staying with this idea of trying to be fun, if you could make a comparison then – what did you try to implement in this course that wasn't, say, maybe in your previous course? What were you trying to do, and why?

CF: Well, because Sociology of Aging is targeted to LPN students, I wanted them to have the experience on a number of levels. The first would be to really engage with the community, which they will definitely be working with, in order to try and dispel some of the stereotypes of aging and ageism. And also to engage in the interview, doing an actual interview. They do this anyway, in their profession, right? They do life history interviews. So sort of setting them up and developing some skills to help them deal with that as well. I looked at it as experiential learning, so bringing learning by doing into the classroom by bringing in a research project. That's how I wanted them to experience aging and going through that

process of learning about someone's life and applying sociological concepts and theories to that account.

MK: So, while you don't need to go through the gory details of it, I do think it's interesting for people to hear about some of the challenges that one faces in designing a new course.

CF: I can talk about a couple of challenges that immediately come to mind. The first would have to be a resistance to doing something different, on the part of the students. Their experience maybe in a classroom had them doing a number of assessments that they were more used to doing. And so, I think, just sort of being, "oh my gosh, I have to do this, I've never done it before," there was a bit of anxiety surrounding that. And my challenge was... how do I support them and prepare them so that they can feel good going into that experience? So, that was a challenge for sure in that they were just undertaking something that they'd never done before, and I had to make them feel prepared before they did it.

And the second was, something I really struggled with and what they [laughs] told me that they struggled with, is a workload issue. As an instructor you have all these grand ideas, and these really great learning experiences that you want them to have, and so, obviously you have to keep checking in on if your expectations are exceeding the time that they have to work on this one class. And I think this is true for all students, but maybe particularly for LPN students where they're working outside of class as well. So definitely workload was an issue, and a lot of the feedback was workload-related, so I've had to revise a few of the things to sort of dampen that down, but still have them get what I think is a good experience.



V.P. OPERATIONS

MATT KRIZ

MK: So, what I'm thinking the challenge here was that you wanted to take the workload issue into consideration, but also you believed in the benefit of doing a lot of the activities in the course. So, what's the challenge in trying to keep that intensity up but still satisfy the workload pressure?

CF: Well there are pressures exerting on you to try and dampen that down, but I'm still determined that it's a very useful experience, on a number of levels, the learning that they can get from it sort of outweighs any workload issues, within reason, of course. Obviously, it's been a year since I've been doing it, so a couple of different terms that I've run it, and so I've made adjustments along the way to adjust those issues. But also, this experiential learning, both for the interview and the group project that they do, I wouldn't want to get rid of it for the workload issue. I'd much rather revise it to accommodate for that.

MK: Specifically to, not necessarily community college experience, but being in a position where you're always having to teach people for whom this is not their major, and for whom it's just a class that they have to take, what challenge is there in always teaching people who are outside of your field?

CF: It is, actually, a real challenge, because I've had comments like, "why do we have to take this? What's the relevance?" So, they are always looking for the relevance of it, and the value of taking this course, given that it may not be something that is a direct skill that they're learning for their profession. I do know for sure, my first couple times teaching [intro to Sociology] that I knew I had to bring in the relevance to their course. So now, it's a thread that weaves its way through my courses. We're making sure that we're always reflecting back on, how you

are going to use this? What value would it be for you individually and in your professions, and how can you use it? So, I do spend a bit of time throughout the semester just sort of checking in on that point and getting them to explore that and always bringing linkages in for them as well. It's definitely, I find, it is a bit of a sell [laughter], I do

view it as part of my responsibility to show them how they can use it because I think left to them, they may not explore that. They may just question it and not answer that.

MK: Just to follow up to that, in having to do bring in the practical relevance, have you found that, in actually having to sell it, has it in any way improved upon what you have to do?

CF: Oh yeah, for sure. As an instructor and as a person who really enjoys sociology, it's made me look at it in a much more applied way because I was much more academic coming into this experience. It makes you question and really seek out the value and how we can use it in a more applied setting. And actually it provides for a good organizing tool as well, and a theme—certainly not the primary theme—but a theme or a thread that runs through my class. I'll keep returning to that point.



BVC Childrens Holiday Party

ATB Hallway S2009/10/11

Event Starts: 11:00 a.m.

Santa Arrives: 12:30 p.m.

JOIN US FOR...Pictures with Santa, cookie decorating, crafts,
and face painting!

\$15.00/ Children \$5.00/ Adults

Prices include buffet lunch and an age appropriate gift from
Santa!

DECEMBER 1, 2018

CHECK MYCAMPUS FOR MORE DETAILS

Staff Holiday



Party



- * Free Parking
- * Discounted Hotel rooms for BVC Staff
- * Comedian
- * DJ
- * Buffet Dinner
- * Taxi Chits will be available
- * Door Prizes!

\$25.00 per person

Coktail-5:30p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Friday, December 14, 2018
Best Western- Village Park Inn
1804 Crowchild Trail NW

More information on mycampus

YOUR BVCFA EXECUTIVE TEAM



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We Are Here For YOU!

Contact any member of the executive team by emailing directly, sending an email to the Office Manager (Melanie Little) at bvcfa@bvcfa.com, or by calling the office at 403-453-0444.

The BVCFA Office is located in the North Campus, room N306.



HELLO SPRING

See you in March for the next edition of
the FAN



You made it to the end!

**The first 10 people to email bvcfa@bvcfa.com saying “Hi Five Me—I Read the Newsletter!” will receive a voucher for a free coffee, tea, or canned beverage redeemable on BVC campus’
The Riverwalk Café or The Market!**