

Confederation ALUMNI

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER | FALL 2014
VOL 1 | ISSUE 3

*The Perfect
Holiday
Gift*



New Alumni E-Store!

Fill your closet and start your holiday shopping with our alumni wear.

Order online at www.confederation.on.ca/wearables

Inside:

Alumni Give Power to Thunder Bay Hydro

Our Alumni are appreciated by more than just their alma mater. 91.7 per cent of employers are satisfied with the Confederation College graduates they've hired.

So what is it that gives our alumni an employability edge? We went straight to the source and talked to one of our biggest alumni supporters to find out.

Continued on page 2 | Written by Ashleigh Quarrell | Media & Communications Officer, Advancement & Communications

EMPLOYER
SATISFACTION⁴

91%

89%

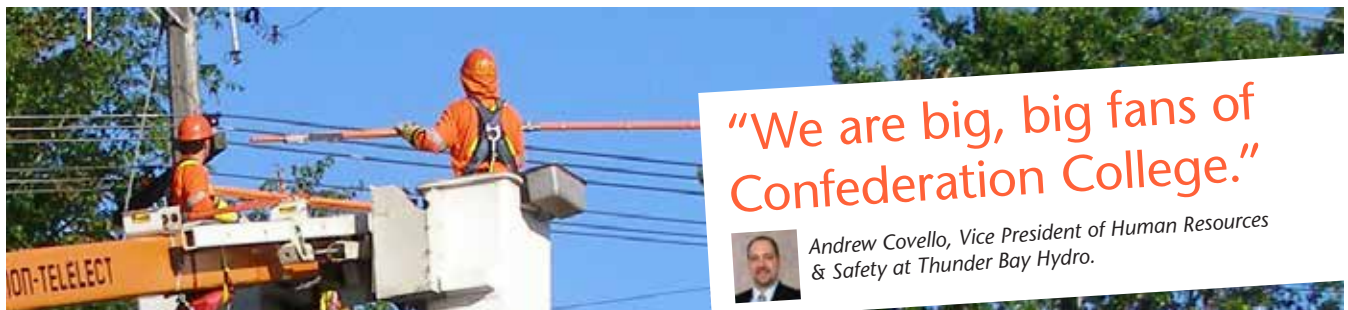
OF STUDENTS
FOUND EMPLOYMENT WITHIN SIX
MONTHS OF GRADUATION¹

Alumni Give Power to Thunder Bay Hydro

Continued from page 1

Thunder Bay Hydro Corporation is a group of companies serving Thunder Bay and area with electricity distribution, generation and utility services. Serving over 49,000 customers via a network of over 1,300 kilometers of overhead and underground power lines, Thunder Bay Hydro relies on its staff of over 130 employees to ensure a quality customer experience. A significant number of those employees is made up of Confederation College graduates from a variety of programs, including Accounting, Human Resources, Marketing and Civil Engineering Technology just to name a few.

"We are big, big fans of Confederation College." This is how the conversation started with Andrew Covello, Vice President of Human Resources & Safety at Thunder Bay Hydro. When asked why, Andrew cited the work ethic, technical and communication skills, and well-rounded qualities of our alumni.



"We are big, big fans of Confederation College."

Andrew Covello, Vice President of Human Resources & Safety at Thunder Bay Hydro.

"Confederation College graduates can do so much right out of the gate. They hit the ground running, are ready to learn, get their hands dirty and aren't afraid to ask questions. They don't need a lot of hand-holding and they transition to full productivity very quickly."

The practicality and hands-on nature of programs at Confederation College, the experience of our faculty and the relevance of our course content all contribute to a graduate who knows what to expect in the workplace.

Dave Erickson remembers all too well his start at Thunder Bay Hydro after graduating, first from the Pre-Technology program, then from the Electrical (Computer/Control) Engineering Technology program at Confederation College. "I knew where I stood when it came to starting my career. I settled right in at Thunder Bay Hydro because of the education and experience I gained while studying at Confederation College."

Starting as a Power Line Electrician/Technician, Dave has moved up the ranks since his start at the company. He is now part of the managerial team in the role of Line Supervisor.

Speaking highly of all college employees, Andrew wrapped up our conversation by noting that "Our college graduate employees become important Thunder Bay Hydro assets right away."

Have Coffee on Us.

We know there are countless alumni supporters that hire our graduates on a regular basis. We've decided to celebrate by offering Workplace Employee Coffee Breaks.

We are hosting Coffee Breaks at organizations in our community that identify themselves as having a robust representation of



Confederation College alumni within their employee roster. To help instill a sense of pride and connection with others in the workplace, we will join you for any of your employee gatherings, bringing coffee, snacks and alumni information.

Career & Job Fair

We're continuing the celebration by bringing back our Career & Job Fair.

Join us for our Career & Job Fair to meet our students, talk careers and showcase your organization. Take it one step further by highlighting the alumni you already work with!

**February 4, 2015 | 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Shuniah Student Lounge and REACH Atrium,
Confederation College**

Contact us at alumni@confederationc.on.ca

OF STUDENTS WERE
VERY SATISFIED / SATISFIED
WITH CONFEDERATION
COLLEGE³

79% **GRADUATE SATISFACTION¹** **84%**

¹ Survey of 2012/13 graduates six months after graduation

³ Student Satisfaction Survey, June 2013, November 2013 & February 2014.

*Average of four capstone questions.

Where Are They Now?

“Where Are They Now” is a regular feature of our alumni newsletter that highlights the success of our Alumni members. If you would like to recommend an alumnus for this feature please contact Cheryl-Lyn Lamers, Alumni Relations Officer.

Alumnus Lori Hygaard

Practical Nursing Program 2003

Primary Registered Nurse, Regional Cancer Care Northwest, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre

Awards & Certificates:

2014 Human Touch Award (Cancer Care Ontario)

2014 President’s Award Winner – Confederation College

2014 Premier’s Award Nominee – Health Sciences



Sitting at Cancer Care Ontario’s Human Touch Awards ceremony in Toronto this past March reaffirmed Lori Hygaard’s choice 11 years ago to become a cancer care nurse. That might seem a little unusual considering that when you talk to Lori it soon becomes apparent that it’s about her patients, first and foremost.

After graduating from Confederation College, Lori started working in cancer care almost immediately, first as an in-patient nurse then as a nurse in the chemotherapy out-patient clinic. Lori will tell you part of the reason she loves working at the Cancer Centre is because of the team environment. But you look at her career, and it’s obvious Lori is special.

Her greatest achievements aren’t recorded anywhere though, except perhaps in the minds of her patients. Lori consistently receives positive feedback on the quality cancer care she provides her patients every day.

Lori’s education at Confederation College is key to her success today. Lori went to two universities before choosing the college program because of the specialized, hands-on learning it offered. “There was something about the college that really enticed me. It’s a comfortable learning environment. The professors were nurses themselves, so it makes it so much more real rather learning textbook answers,” Lori said.

Lori is also passionate about helping others in her own profession, especially when it comes to avoiding burnout. Lori takes it upon herself to keep the rest of the team upbeat. She is the “ringleader” when it comes to dressing up for special occasions and she maintains an email list called “Lori’s Thoughts of the Day” – little snippets, jokes, links, videos, etc. that are meant to be uplifting and inspirational.

Lori believes in helping staff so much that she became a certified Compassion Fatigue Trainer. She is currently putting together a funding proposal for a facility-wide program for all care providers and staff experiencing compassion fatigue.

When you meet Lori Hygaard, it is hard to imagine she could be anything but a nurse. She is kind, compassionate, and truly cares about people.

Events

Premier's Award Gala

Monday, November 24, 2014 at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Toronto

Gathering for GTA Alumni

Tuesday, November 25, 2014. 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm at The Loose Moose, 146 Front Street, Toronto. **All invited!**
To RSVP contact Cheryl-Lyn Lamers at (807) 475-6509 or clamers@confederationnc.on.ca

Career and Job Fair

Wednesday, February 4, 2015 in the Shuniah Building, Confederation College. **Please Join, for more information call: (807) 475-6509.**

Alumni Benefits

As a member of Confederation's Alumni, you are eligible for a number of benefits and services.

- **NEW! Alumni Wearables**
Go to www.confederationnc.on.ca/wearables
- Preferred CAA membership rates
- Manulife Financial - life, health and dental insurance
- TD Insurance Meloche Monnex - group rates on home & auto insurance
- Career & Employment Services
- Fitness Centre | Paterson Library
- Special Events

Visit: www.confederationnc.on.ca/alumni/benefits

19TH ANNUAL CONFEDERATION COLLEGE Community Partners' Evening PRESENTED BY tbaytel

Over 300 business leaders, community partners, supporters and students attended the 19th annual Community Partners' Evening on Thursday, September 25th. The evening featured a wide variety of appetizers, gourmet food stations and desserts prepared by our own culinary faculty and 2nd year students in partnership with Sodexo.

The presence and participation of over 50 students helped to remind guests that this celebration is all about raising funds to support student success through Entrance Awards.



19th annual Community Partners' Evening | Thursday, September 25th, 2014

