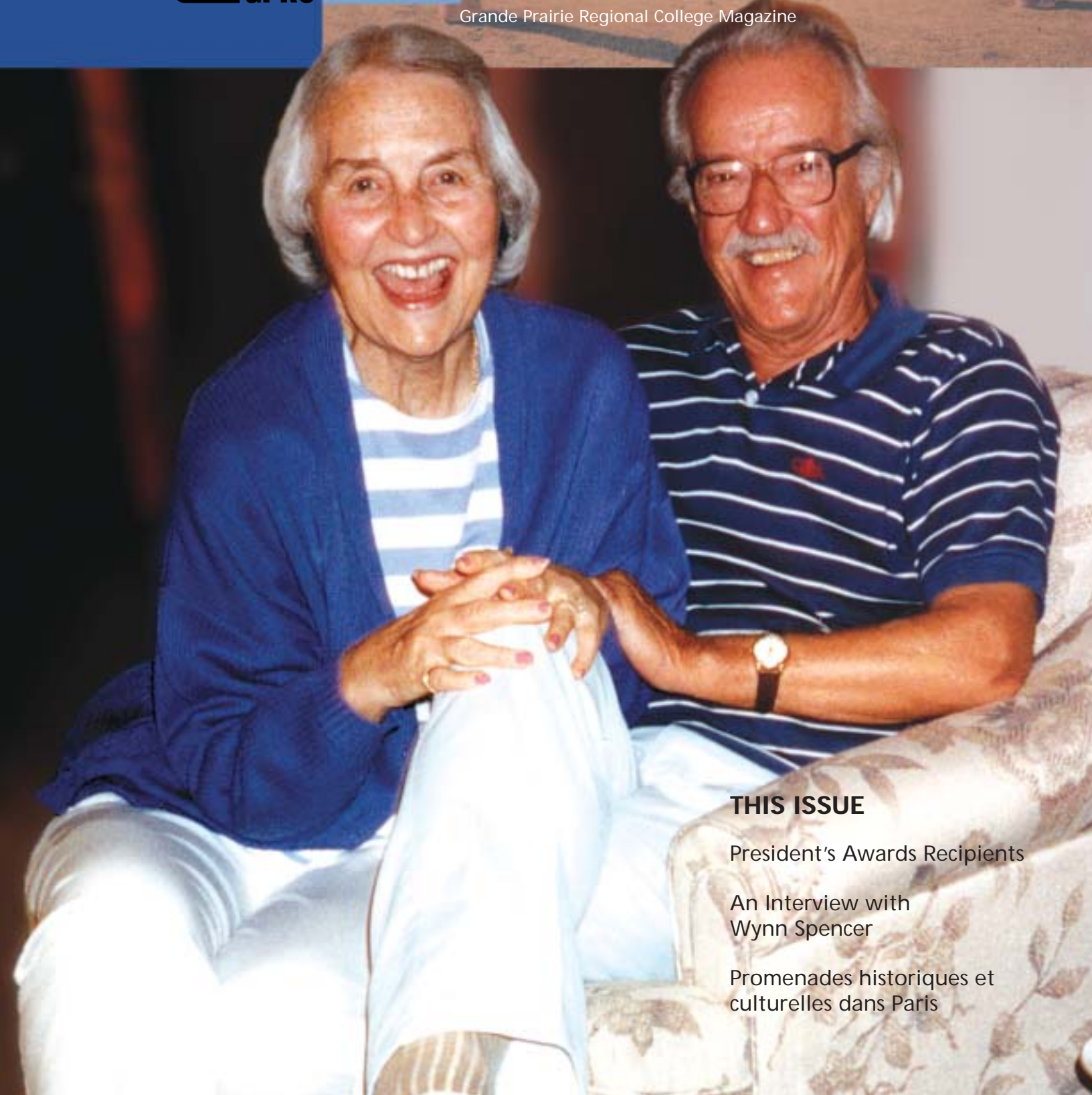


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2004



# Wisdom

Grande Prairie Regional College Magazine



## **THIS ISSUE**

President's Awards Recipients

An Interview with  
Wynn Spencer

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It is my honour to pay tribute to the late Muriel Collins, former Chair of the GPRC Board of Governors and a close family friend. Attesting to the unique legacy Muriel has left with us is the recent recognition of Clem and Muriel Collins for their contributions to the College and community through the presentation of the Award of Distinction.

For those who knew Muriel personally and benefited from her wisdom, her passing brings closure to a remarkable life; however, her positive influence on so many members of our community will live on.

In the Collins's residence - more specifically, the kitchen - is a framed print with a philosophical statement by Henry David Thoreau. It is the well-known declaration of "personal" independence from Thoreau's "Walden" that states the need for all of us not to fear "marching to our own drummer".

Muriel was an independent spirit to say the least and for those who sought her advice, self-reliance was the cornerstone of her world-view.

It may be an understatement to say that Muriel was truly conservative in her outlook and actions. She was one who did not respect waste of any sort and her critical advice to those younger was to respect education and learning and to always consider it a privilege.

Fundamentally, Muriel placed less importance on all the things and the trappings of life that we all are in pursuit of than the very basics of life that the majority of us carry with us each day: health,

family, friends and a roof over our heads. This was the bottom-line, the well-spring of common sense and happiness.

When I first attended GPRC in 1975, I was little aware of the enormous efforts of those who had provided the vision and leadership to construct the new college designed by Douglas Cardinal. I enjoyed that year in the new facility with constant awe. Now

some 30 years later with my own experiences working in and for the community, I have sincere and great admiration for the long-time leaders our region like Muriel Collins.

Muriel possessed a keen love of ideas, debate and learning. Her philanthropic actions in the community - whether providing leadership on community boards, financial donations to charities and causes of which there were many over the decades, or "life-changing" advice to many individuals who visited the Collin's home - will have lasting influence.

Muriel's convictions about helping others were always based on the principle of giving those in need a "hand up" not a "hand out". Although, Muriel was not a professional educator, she most definitely was a "community" educator in terms of the values she lived and supported for the progress of the community.

In closing, I believe she would have appreciated giving Thoreau the last word: "If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music he hears, however measured or far away."

- Trenton Perrott





The Alumni/Foundation hosted the inaugural President's Awards Reception in February 2004, honouring the contributions of our community to the growth and strength of Grande Prairie Regional College. Three awards have been established: Alumni/Foundation Volunteer Award, Distinguished Alumni Award, and the Board of Governors Award of Distinction. Each year, the recipients of these awards will be recognized at the President's Awards Reception, and will be featured on the Honour Wall in the main concourse of the College.

**Volunteer Award**  
**Elmer Borstad**

The Alumni/Foundation Board of Directors is a group of volunteers, guiding a vast corps of vol-

unteers in our community who promote and encourage community involvement and secure philanthropic support dedicated to the advancement of Grande Prairie Regional College and its mission. This award recognizes a person who exemplifies the many volunteers upon whose efforts the continued growth of our College depends.

Elmer Borstad is the first recipient of this award, presented by Alumni/Foundation Board Chair Vince Vavrek.

Elmer Borstad has given more than fifty years of service to our Community, and it has been his personal commitment to keep our great citizens here in the north.

Mr. Borstad has been a business owner, President of the Chamber of Commerce, a City Alderman, Mayor for two terms, and served a

term in office as Member of the Legislative Assembly. For close to forty years he has been an active member of Rotary.

Elmer Borstad came to Grande Prairie in 1946 after his discharge from the Navy, and started Borstad Cartage with his father and brother. He started the Sea Cadets in Grande Prairie in 1965, and was Commanding Officer, keeping the Cadets going for 15 years.

In 1985, the Borstads tried retirement – but by 1995 they were back in Grande Prairie, and have been active in the community ever since. Elmer Borstad served as Chair of the QEII Hospital Foundation, and chaired the MRI Committee which raised over \$4 Million to provide the best possible diagnostic facilities here in our region.

Grande Prairie Regional College

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ion



*Top: Fletcher Bootle, Board of Governors Chair with Clem Collins*

*Middle: Vince Varek, Alumni/Foundation Board Chair with Volunteer Elmer Borstad*

*Bottom: President Jim Henderson with Distinguished Alumni Dr. Cora Voyageur*



has a great deal to show for the volunteer efforts of Elmer Borstad. In 2000, he turned his energies to meeting the need for College residence space, and secured funding for the 72 new beds which have been opened on our campus since that time. Now he has volunteered his efforts to raising funds necessary for the restoration of the landmark Theatre.

Mr. Elmer Borstad, recipient of the first ever GPRC Alumni/Foundation Volunteer Award.

**Distinguished Alumni Award  
Dr. Cora Voyageur**

The Alumni of Grande Prairie Regional College may be found in all walks of life, in all corners of the globe. This award is presented to recognize the distinguished achievement of GPRC alumni. The

recipient will be recognized for outstanding accomplishments in his or her profession, and/or in service to the community, to society, or to Grande Prairie Regional College.

Dr. Cora Voyageur began her academic life as a student of GPRC

in 1986, in the University Transfer Bachelor of Arts program. GPRC is also the place where sociology became the profession Cora Voyageur would pursue.

Today, Dr. Cora Voyageur's research explores the Aboriginal experience

in Canada which includes economic development, education, women's issues, and community development.

Dr. Voyageur is the first First Nations woman to earn a doctorate from the University of Alberta. She is a member of the Athabasca





Chipewyan First Nation, Fort Chipewyan Alberta.

Dr. Voyageur is the recipient of numerous awards for her work, including the Reverend Dr. Chief John Show Sr. Award, awarded by the First Nations Student Association and the Native Centre to recognize and honour distinguished academic instruction and support to aboriginal students at the University of Calgary, and the President's Circle of Excellence Award.

The research of Dr. Cora Voyageur is widely published in journals and books, and she is currently working on two books. The work of Dr. Voyageur is adding immeasurably to the awareness of the contributions of First Nations people in Alberta, in Canada, and internationally. The most recent of her many conference presentations was in New York City in January 2004, where she delivered a presentation to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues workshop.



It is with great pride that Grande Prairie Regional College celebrates the achievements of Dr. Cora Voyageur, and recognizes her journey from Fort Chipewyan to the United Nations – by way of Grande Prairie Regional College – by presenting her with the first ever GPRC Distinguished Alumni Award.

**Board of Governors  
Award of Distinction  
Clem and Muriel Collins**

The Award of Distinction is the College's highest tribute to individuals or groups within our community. This award has been established to honour individuals whose actions have made exceptional contributions to our community and to the advancement of higher education.

In particular, the nominee will be known to: Promote goodwill between the College and the community; Further the aims of the College in creating partnerships – social, cultural or economic;



Provide service above self and one's employment, which involves contribution of personal time and effort to benefit others; Demonstrate a willingness to assist the College in advancing education for our region.

Clem and Muriel Collins are the first ever recipients of the Board of Governors Award of Distinction.

The nomination for this award was made by Bridget Hennigar, who has long been a member of the Chartered Accountants in our community, who was once a student of GPRC and who has served as Chair of the GPRC Foundation Board of Directors. The following is an excerpt from Ms. Hennigar's nomination letter:

*The Collins have always been tremendous supporters of Grande Prairie Regional College. Muriel served as Chair of the College Board of Governors and Clem Collins has served as Chair of the Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation. They did this because of a deep commitment to our com-*



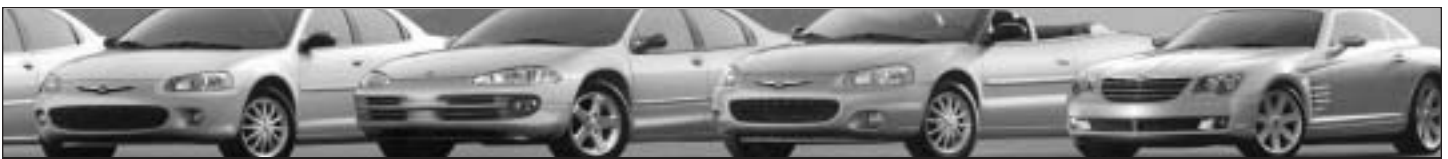
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Clem and Muriel Collins strongly believe in the benefits of post-secondary education, particularly to the people residing in the northern part of this province. Clem has often remarked that he greatly benefited from post secondary education and he wanted others to experience this privilege. Both of them have very strong views that the College should be a central part of our community, not only serving our educational needs, but nurturing the fine arts as well.

Muriel was a strong advocate of this theatre being an integral part of the college. She fiercely fought to ensure that the theatre was constructed. Clem and Muriel have attended and sponsored many fine arts events at the College Theatre.

Clem was also involved in the Friends of the Grande Prairie Regional College that hosted speakers who provided thought-

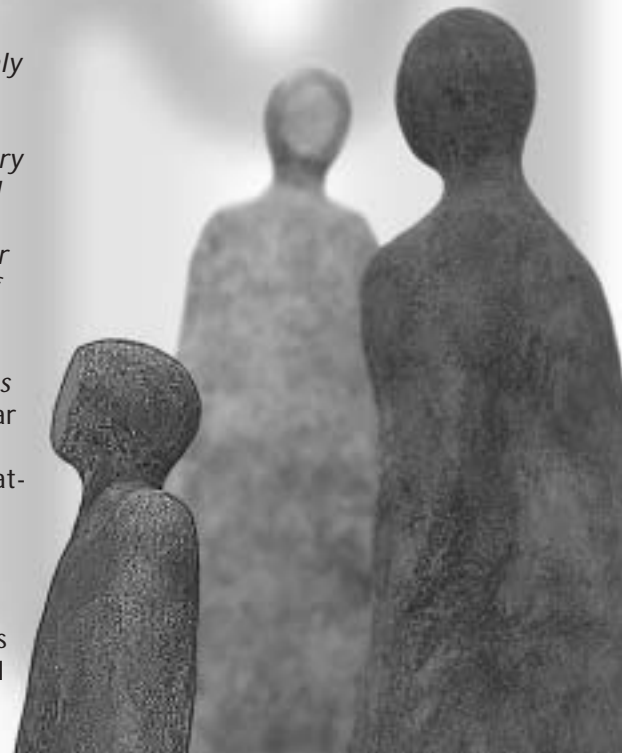
provoking commentaries to our community.

After serving as Chairs, Muriel and Clem always made themselves available to the President on an advisory capacity to share their wisdom. They were frequently called upon to provide their highly respected opinion on matters at the College.

Muriel and Clem Collins are very proud of Grande Prairie Regional College and the community that supports this College. As a former student of GPRC, former Chair of the Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation, I proudly nominate Muriel and Clem Collins for this award! – Bridget Hennigar

With expressions of utmost gratitude for contributions to our College, our Community and our world, GPRC Board of Governors Chair Fletcher Bootle presented the inaugural Board of Governors Award of Distinction to Clem and Muriel Collins.

Just a few weeks after the ceremony, Muriel Collins passed away at QEII Hospital. Her contributions to our community are timeless.



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# In Conversation Wynn Spencer

While Wynn Spencer was a student at GPRC, he once slept through an exam. "I think I was destined for Starbucks!" Spencer jokes. "I need the coffee to stay awake!" Students at the GPRC student business conference this year were amused by the story – especially coming from someone who is now the development manager for Starbucks coffee in Western Canada.

The total graduating class in Business in 1974 was four students – among them Wynn Spencer. The two-Letter GPRC athlete (hockey and football) had plenty of distractions during his student days, including a part-time

job, but they seemed to fuel his competitive nature and his drive to excel. By graduation he had the skills necessary to get him started in management, and had also solidified the principles and values by which his career has flourished.

For three decades Wynn Spencer has worked in real estate development, and has been recognized internationally for his achievements. He joined Starbucks a year ago, with the same promise which has guided his career since day one: "Through the satisfaction of the company's goals and objectives, I will meet my career objectives and goals."

"I have always been careful not to compromise my values," Wynn Spencer explains. "I have excelled in my career because people know I bring honesty and integrity to all

my dealings with them. They know that they cannot challenge my integrity. Real estate development is a competitive business – and the development industry is a small world – you take your reputation with you. Your reputation is everything – it follows you everywhere."

Within that narrow world of development and acquisition, Wynn Spencer's abilities are well recognized. In 1998, while working for Tricon Global Restaurants he was the only person in Canada to receive the SAT rating (Significantly Above Target) – and one of only ten in the world. Among the attributes Spencer brings to his dealings, one that is often remarked upon is the fact that he is from Grande Prairie.

"The people I have worked with in big cities – Vancouver, Toronto,





*“Establish your values and principles early in life – and then live by them,”*

– Wynn Spencer

Seattle, wherever – these people all respect the fact that I am from Grande Prairie, a small town. I think they know that in small communities, you never get away with anything. If you are still respected in your home town, you must have integrity.”

“Establish your values and principles early in life – and then live by them,” Spencer tells business students. “This above all else will be critical to your success.” Spencer says that he has always been careful to work only for companies which hold values he respects. He is

particularly proud of the company he now represents, Starbucks. “Starbucks has based its success on two simple concepts,” he explains, “high quality coffee, and the determination to be the most respected corporate entity possible.” Starbucks is now ninth in the list of America’s most admired companies.

Wynn Spencer, with GPRC business diploma in hand, went directly into a management training program with Westfair Foods in Edmonton at the age of 22. Next, he took a job with Texaco as a district supervisor responsible for 21

service stations, and in short order was promoted to senior district supervisor and transferred back home to Grande Prairie, where he was responsible for all of northern Alberta.

It was during this time that he developed an interest in real estate development, and began work for Mac’s convenience stores as site development and real estate representative.

“I always excelled,” says Spencer. “I am competitive, and want to be the best at whatever I do.” While at Mac’s, he had completed more



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new stores in one year than had ever been completed by a real estate representative in the history of the company.

Not surprisingly, Wynn Spencer's achievements caught the attention of larger players, and he was recruited to do Western Canada development and acquisition for the largest developer of community shopping centers in the country. "As director of development I was selecting, purchasing, developing and leasing shopping centers. One of my deals was the purchase of the Lethbridge Brewery in 1991 and the subsequent resale – it was a phenomenal deal."

And everything he did opened new doors. Within the next years he was PepsiCo Director of Business Development for all of Canada – charged with positioning the company, which includes KFC, Taco Bell and Pizza Hut, as a 100% franchisor. In a two-year period, he sold 180 company-owned stores to franchisees.

"I work in an environment

where there is no prize for number two," says Spencer. "You either get the deal, or you don't. I always get my deal. I want to be the best in my field, not just in my company, but in the whole industry." He takes particular pride in his reputation for being prepared when he comes to the table. "Ninety per cent of my job is acquiring information – and ten per cent is doing the deal. When I make an offer, I am going to close. When I come to the table, I am ready. I am known for that."

When Spencer went to Starbucks, he already knew that it was a phenomenal company, and one that holds the same values as he does. "Starbucks values integrity, entrepreneurial spirit and drive, and respect for our partners. I have made it a point to always treat the person on the other side of the table with respect. Never back someone you are negotiating with into a corner. Always, always treat others as you want to be treated yourself."

He had read the book "Put Your Heart Into It – One Cup At A Time." Wynn Spencer knew that Starbucks has grown astonishingly quickly since it opened its first store in 1971, now with 7600 stores and revenues exceeding \$4.1 Billion.

"My dream always is to be in positions of increased responsibility, to be challenged and to grow. I love to be the first. At Starbucks, I am leading the number one team in the company for most number of new store openings in 2004"

Wynn Spencer is also excited to be involved in the development of the first Starbucks location in Grande Prairie – a special store in Spencer's hometown. "The Grande Prairie store is Starbucks first 'special' store in Canada – it is larger than our normal outlets, has a drive through and a fireplace," explains Spencer, then grins. "I have to be here for the opening of this one!"

Starbucks Grande Prairie will open in June 2004, in Gateway shopping district, Grande Prairie.

– Lynne Ness

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# Promenades historiques et culturelles dans Paris

FR 2330 French Cultural Moments – 3 credits, UT  
Location: Paris, France

Faculty Profile

**Eva Abbas**  
French



Lecture, lab, assignment, lecture, lab, assignment, exam – the rhythm is one familiar to most post-secondary students, including students of languages.

Professor Eva Abbas has taught languages at GPRC since 1983 and has enthused hundreds of students about the language and culture of France. Now she is teaching a course that challenges the expected rhythm of instruction – and exposes students to the rhythms of one of the world's great cities – Paris.

Eva Abbas and her FR 2330 class departed for Paris, France on April 28th this year – the second group to complete the three-credit course now being offered at GPRC. Most students accompanying Eva are seeing Paris for the first time, and many have never before



crossed the Atlantic. This year the class of eight includes four French language students, and four general interest students. Once they have settled into l'Hotel de Roubaix, the "GPRC Hotel" in Paris,

the class begins what Eva terms a "very intense program of study."

"This course explores the city of Paris from its cultural core, through all the different quarters. Each Paris quarter has its own very specific character," explains Abbas. The students are expected to converse in the French language, and the assignment includes a daily journal en français, oral presentations to the group, and perusal of at least the first page of a daily newspaper each day. "The everyday things are very important insights into the culture – the news, the shops, even the food and café life. Nothing is too small. Nothing is insignificant. Every little



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thing contributes to our awareness and understanding."

*"We got to know Paris microscopically. We did all the normal things, saw all the usual sights, but because we did it neighbourhood by neighbourhood, I came away really feeling that I understood the cultural significance of it all."*

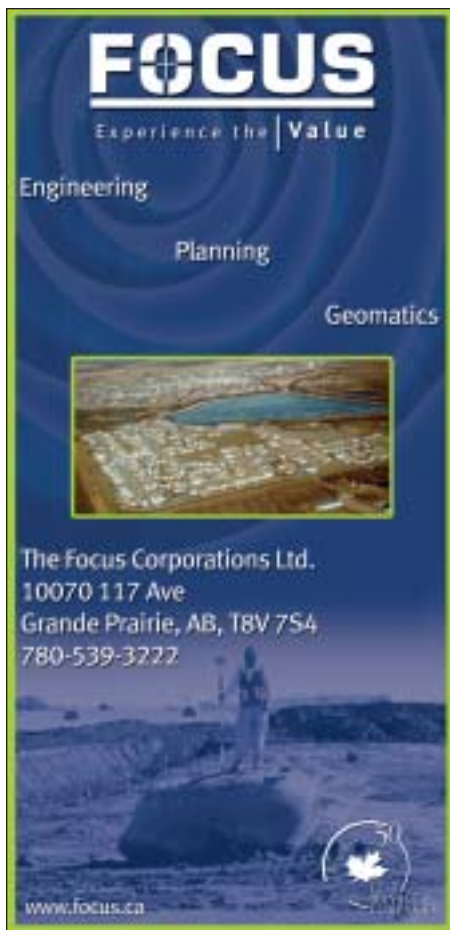
– Jody Farrell, student

The French Cultural Moments course has developed in the wake of the very successful GPRC fine arts courses which have been offered in Europe (Paris, London, Venice) for the past ten years. Five years ago Eva was a participant in an art history course in Paris led by Lane Borstad – who began encouraging her to develop a similar course for students of French language. "I have always been interested in Paris, in France. I familiarized myself with what Lane was doing with his classes there, was introduced to the family-run hotel where the GPRC groups have been staying for ten years, and then started to check out the transfer-


ability of such a course. It is approved for transfer to the U of A, and now it is a reality. The first ever group - last year's French culture class – really, really loved the trip. Not that they all loved it right from the beginning. . some of them were not too sure at first – but they were all won over by the magic of Paris."

Every day students are challenged by the energy and enthusiasm of their instructor. "I love Paris! I just love it. It is so rich, so varied, so friendly in its presentation of itself as a city. Vibrant, interesting, multifaceted! I love the Paris of Amélie. . ." Eva Abbas grew up in Tübingen Germany, and has visited Paris several times – first when she was 18 years old, later when she spent a sabbatical year in France at Strasbourg and made occasional excursions to Paris, and while on family holidays.

"As much as possible we live like Parisians. Our hotel, Hotel de Roubaix is traditional, very central, and well-located – only five minutes from many of the sites we visit. The hotelier, Monsieur Pierre,

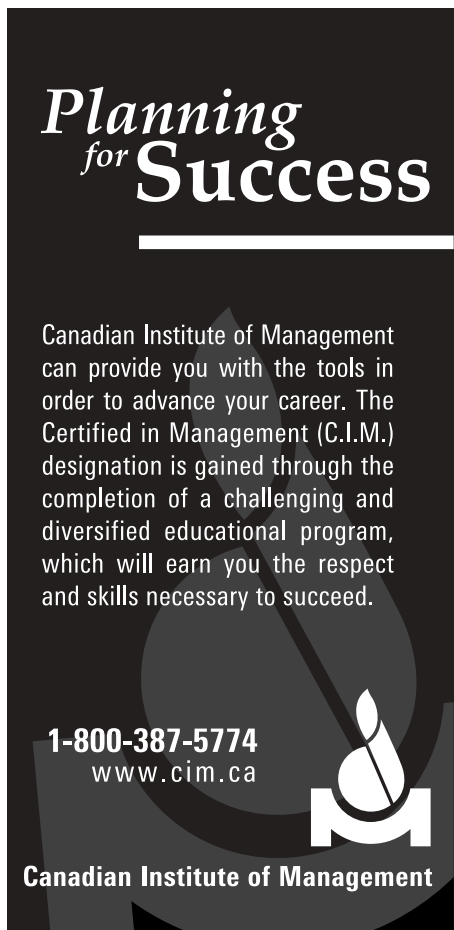


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has been welcoming GPRC for ten years – it is a quaint hotel, family-run, a cultural experience in itself.”

*“Staying in the small (and when I say small...) hotel with all of the*



Roman eras,” Eva explains. “It is there, all layered, one is really faced with the layers of history. I take the class

*students and staff was fun because there were always people around that spoke just enough English to make you feel comfortable.”*

– Amie Nash, student

*“The very best way to become comfortable in a language is to become immersed in it – in restaurants and shops – finding many occasions to meet people and use French!” The class quickly learns that Eva’s idea of immersion is based on walking. “I like to begin in the historic centre – going back to the Celtic and*

*exploring, section by section, every day walking a lot, five or more hours per day. One day’s walk might take us to a classic French square, surrounded by noble houses, around it all sorts of arcades, antiques stores, nice restaurants, parks – and pigeons that come and pick from your baguette. . we visit many places not on the usual tourist trails.”*

*“Even before signing up for the course, I knew Eva really knew how to hike Paris. Within days, she*



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had really built up her reputation! We would walk every where, every day. We discovered a lot of places that are not accessible from the typical tours. Through the day, as everyone else began to be tired, Eva would become more energized and enthusiastic. Eva could outdo us every day – it became a running joke in our group that whenever she said ‘Oh, it is only ten minutes from here’ that we were really facing something more like a ten kilometer hike. It is because we walked everywhere that we have an intimate knowledge of the Paris surrounding each of the “sights.”  
– Jody

“People have given me some good feedback, such as pointing out that I don’t ever stop if they

don’t make me take a break. Students always tease me about my pace. . . and my insistence that “it’s only ten minutes from here. . .” Someone has suggested that there should be a “get fit for Paris” course to prepare for all the walking I expect them to do.

“We visit Le Louvre, which is now synonymous with art gallery, but which was actually built as a palace. When the Louvre was no longer considered big enough, the royals built the palace of Versailles and left it behind – but the cultural and historical ambience remains. The first royal palace in Paris, the Conciergerie, later became a prison during the revolution.

“One exciting discovery is Les Arènes de Lutèce (Lutèce was the Roman name for Paris) – only re-



discovered early this century when some building was being done and the workers came upon the sunken arena. I discovered that through preparation for this course.

*“One minute we were walking down a Paris sidewalk, the next we passed through an inconspicuous gate and there we were, back in Roman times.”* – Jody

“We visit Le Cimetière Père Lachaise, the cemetery which includes the grave of Jim Morrison

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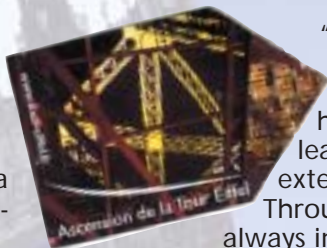
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– also many famous French personalities are buried there. It is interesting to observe a culture through a cemetery, it provides a very different perspective.



“The Canal St.-Martin area, the part of Paris featured in *Amélie*, I consider to reveal the most ‘Parisian’ aspect of Paris – a canal runs partially underground, then above ground – you can observe how the visitor boats emerge from underground. Very pretty, many bridges over the canal, a quaint, ornate part of the city – often there may be musicians playing off to the side. . .” Museums, galleries, architecture, the ballet and opera, the cathedrals, cafes and shops – Eva ensures that her students visit them all. “We visit the Paris of the aristocrats and the Jewish Quarter, the Paris of the artists, the Paris of Hemingway, Picasso, The Paris of haute couture and of jazz musicians - every day is a live cultural experience.”

*“We saw everything from the Bastille to the Champs Elysées, the Louvre and the Tuileries, Sacre Coeur and the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame and Pere Lachaise Cemetery, not to mention every little boulangerie in Paris. I swear I have tasted every flavour of ice cream and eaten every crêpe in Paris thanks to Eva.” – Amie*

“I view this course as definitely an encouraging experience for anyone – I hope it encourages you to learn more! I have read extensively about Paris.

Throughout the year I am always interested in what is happening in Paris, what movies are playing, what concerts are coming up. I like to include the Museum of the Sewers – take the students underground. Not all of them are able to get beyond the smell, but it is very interesting. (Half the group was out as fast as they were in...) The students are free to explore on their own in the evenings – and they do! They have all kinds of adventures.”

*“We got an incredible life lesson... in Paris the style with which you do anything is very important – Eva has enormous style, and demonstrated the effectiveness of her charm in many situations every day. This trip is so worthwhile – I really feel like I know Paris now.” – Jody*

“I hope this program continues – I would love to do it every year – there is always something new, something intriguing going on - in Paris. May is a beautiful month in Paris – we had only one rainy day last year. It is the perfect time of year to sit in sidewalk cafés – it is very Parisian to while away a few afternoons and evenings. . .”

*“Going to Paris with Eva was an experience in itself. This fast-paced ‘femme d’un certain age’ kept us moving every second of the day. She did an amazing job of guiding our small group through the cobblestone Paris streets and getting us to mysterious destinations on the Metro. (But a word of advice: question any suggestion to go on the tour des égouts!) – Amie*

“I hope that this trip may encourage more students to consider teaching French as their career – the governments of both Alberta and Canada have recently announced increased emphasis on second language learning, beginning with grade four in the 2006-07 year. My specialty is French – French literature in particular.”

Eva Abbas researched the poetry of André Salmon for her doctoral thesis, completed at the University of Alberta. She also holds degrees from the University of Tübingen (Germany) and the University of Strasbourg (France.) She has taught both German and French languages at GPRC during her tenure here.

*“We are so lucky. I tell my daughters that we are lucky to have a College here, and lucky to have instructors as qualified as Eva Abbas, lucky to have opportunities such as a French Cultural Moments course being hosted in Paris.”*

– Jody

– Lynne Ness



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Dr. Irene Nicolson has been appointed chair of the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation. Her appointment by the Honourable Gene Zwozdesky, Minister of Community Development, is a fitting complement to a distinguished career.

Dr. Irene Nicolson retired from Grande Prairie Regional College in the spring of 2001, and has since been busy following interests she did not have time to indulge while she was teaching full time and involved in College administration as department chair, as a member of the Board of Governors, and as Vice-President of Instruction.

She was first appointed to the board of the AHRF four years ago, having been recruited by MLA Mel Knight. The board meets several times each year in smaller communities around the province where there are main street programs or heritage preservation projects.

"This has been such an educa-

tion!" Irene says. "Until I became involved with the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation I had no real awareness of the rich heritage of our province. The appointment to chair is a real honour, and I am so pleased to be involved in this work. It is a particularly unique time in our history, as we come up to our 100th anniversary. The Alberta Heritage Resources Foundation is a very worthwhile thing to be involved with, and I am grateful for this opportunity."

Dr. Nicolson taught Office Administration at GPRC from 1974 to 2001. While she was chair of that department, she worked toward the establishment of the first classroom lab, and her efforts made GPRC one of the first colleges to set up a classroom of standalone word processors. Prior to moving to GPRC, Irene Nicolson had started the Court Reporters program at NAIT. During her teaching years, Irene continually expand-

ed her own education, earning her doctorate in 1988.

While busy educating the office professionals of our region, Irene had little time to devote to her other interests. Now, in addition to the Historical Resources board she also serves on the Alberta Cancer Board, which she finds incredibly challenging and rewarding.

"Before my retirement and closer involvement with these groups, I had not been aware of the many people in our province who do so much with so few resources," Irene says. "I had not realized quite so clearly just how essential volunteers are to the functioning of our communities!"

Dr. Irene Nicolson and her husband Gordon still reside in Grande Prairie.

For more information about the Alberta Heritage Resources Foundation, visit the website at: <http://www.cd.gov.ab.ca/preserving/heritage/ahrf/index.asp>



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# ANNIE GET YOUR GUN

Feb 24 - Mar 19, 2005



"Three generations of the Hryciuk family have been involved in community theatre in Grande Prairie over the past 35 years," says Rick Hryciuk, who serves on the Alumni/Foundation Board of Directors. "The College theatre is very close to my heart, and the decision to restore and renovate the Theatre got me thinking about the possibility of doing a show to help raise funds."

As part of the fundraising, Hryciuk has decided to present a College/community musical, complete with an orchestra in the pit. Rick Hryciuk will produce Annie Get Your Gun for performance in February-March of 2005.

"We chose Annie Get Your Gun because we were looking for a family show with good quality music and memorable show tunes," Hryciuk

explains. "Annie Get Your Gun has not been done locally since 1966 – we have secured the script and score for the new version which came off Broadway in 1999, and this will be a great show. One of the goals was to put an orchestra back in the pit. I am happy to announce that this production will do that."

The musical will be directed by Derek Bowen, with Kaye Donovan as Vocal Director. Kaye (formerly Kaye Allen) played the lead in Annie Get Your Gun, Grande Prairie Little Theatre production, 1966, so this is a nostalgic opportunity for her. The pit orchestra will be coordinated by Andrea Gaboury, and conducted by Paul Rathke.

Auditions will be held in September 2004 to identify the cast of 44 players and 22 orchestra members.

All proceeds of the production will go towards the restoration of the Grande Prairie Regional College Theatre, which will then be reopened as the Douglas J. Cardinal Performing Arts Theatre.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

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Sunday, June 6

Local Performers Festival to benefit the Theatre Heritage Project

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