

The IC Globe

Issue #3

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EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! THE INTERCULTURAL CENTRE HAS MOVED ONLINE!

SPRING/SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS:

It was a memorable Spring/Summer term for many reasons. If anything, the Covid-19 pandemic provided a showcase for the vaunted resilience and agility of Bow Valley College’s faculty and staff. Moving all classroom offerings into the online realm was a remarkable feat.

Similarly, the Intercultural Centre’s activities and events had to be re-imagined in a short period of time – and, moved into a universe in which it had never previously operated.

SPSU ONLINE:

Here is a look back at the IC’s Spring/Summer 2020 term, it’s first ever delivered fully online.

Written by the Intercultural Centre

SGA Blog: Partly as a check-in with our ICan Crew volunteers, but also a volunteer opportunity in itself, this blog entry allowed us to connect with students in the early stages of the pandemic, get them to submit entries on what they’d been up to, and share it with the wider College community. The SGA blog can be found on the [School of Global Access website](#).



Online “Speed Friending”: The IC’s icebreaker event was moved online, creating opportunities for students to interact, meet new friends, and learn about one another.

Online Calgary-themed Scavenger Hunt: A group of students set off on a timed, online quest to learn more about the people and places in their home community.

We hosted Documentary Screenings and talk-back sessions for:

Canadian Multiculturalism Day: More than 130 attendees got to see “Hutterite Harvest” (a documentary about Hutterites adopting a ‘green’ energy), and “Of the Village” (a

documentary about immigration and re-settlement in Red Deer). Filmmaker Rueben Tschetter – a former Hutterite and a Bow Valley College alumnus – engaged the online audience by answering their questions about his films, his community, as well as himself.

Alberta Heritage Day: We screened the short film, “One Mic”, about a young person’s spiritual journey and quest for identity. The filmmaker and subject, Adam Elkestawi, was on-hand to answer questions about the film, his cultural identities – and to sing!

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SPSU ONLINE continued

Food Friday Webinar Series: 50+ attendees over the course of this new series got to learn to make some simple food items. This series was as much about culinary practices – and even traditions – as it was about the recipes.

May 22: S'mores by Megan Hardman

June 12: Tomato Soup and bean-based brownies by Amy Spark

August 14: Local Berry Picking by guest presenter Kenton Neufeld, a local biologist and outdoor enthusiast

Summer Eco-learning Webinar Series: This collaboration between BVC Green (the Office of Sustainability) and the IC brought in some external presenters to teach Bow Valley College

students, faculty and staff about some practical, sustainability-related themes, practices and cultural shifts.

May 22: Ethical Coffee and Tea

June 5: Discover Parks (CPAWS)

July 10: Cut Your Plastic Waste

August 14: City of Calgary's Water System

Volunteerism: Though everything moved online, we were able to continue some of our volunteer engagements.

Our MC in the IC program gave some ICan Crew volunteers the opportunity to develop presentation and speaking skills by introducing guest presenters, delivering land

acknowledgements, and providing closing remarks to IC presentations.

Along with LSS, SABVC, and BVC Green, we delivered “Volunteer 101” sessions for new students, engaging volunteers to help present about what it's like to volunteer at and attend IC events and activities.



Photo credit: photo by Anna Shvets from Pexels

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Bruktawit Loke

signed up for the ICan Crew in June 2020. Since joining, Bruktawit has attended various IC events – and has even done some online volunteering. As one of our growing group of online volunteers, we wanted to put the spotlight on Bruktawit.

If you wouldn't mind, tell us a bit about yourself (what are you studying, what are your interests and passions, anything you'd like to share).

My name is Bruktawit Loke, and I have been in Canada for 2 years and 3 months. I am studying in the English for Academic Purposes (EAP) program at Bow Valley College. I enjoy learning new things and I am interested in social life and helping people.

How did you first find out about the Intercultural Centre (IC)?

I found out about the Intercultural Centre when I was in the Youth in Transition (YiT) 4

program through my instructor, Dara Mackay. Dara taught me about the benefits of volunteering and encouraged me to get involved as a newcomer and Canadian.

What made you decide to get involved in IC activities, events, and ICan Crew volunteer opportunities?

I got involved in IC events and volunteering opportunities because I learned that volunteering is a part of Canadian culture, and because I believe in helping.

As a newcomer, volunteering is an excellent opportunity to learn English, to blend into Canadian culture, gain work experience, make new friends, and boost health.

What would you say to a fellow student who is thinking about volunteering with the ICan Crew? Would you offer any advice to someone who isn't sure whether to join?

Absolutely, the time is now! This is the moment to get involved in IC volunteering activities and gain plenty of benefits – whether

for our health or future career, while boosting our confidence and helping others.

What are some memorable events you've gone to at the IC as a participant or attendee, and what did you like about them or learn from them?

Honestly, all the volunteer events I have been involved in are memorable because I learned something new, and even improved my speaking skills.

“Volunteering created the opportunity for me to network with people, and I learned that helping one another is priceless.”

Volunteering lit a fire in me because it has shown me a window to a world that is a better place to live in.

Thank you, Bruktawit!



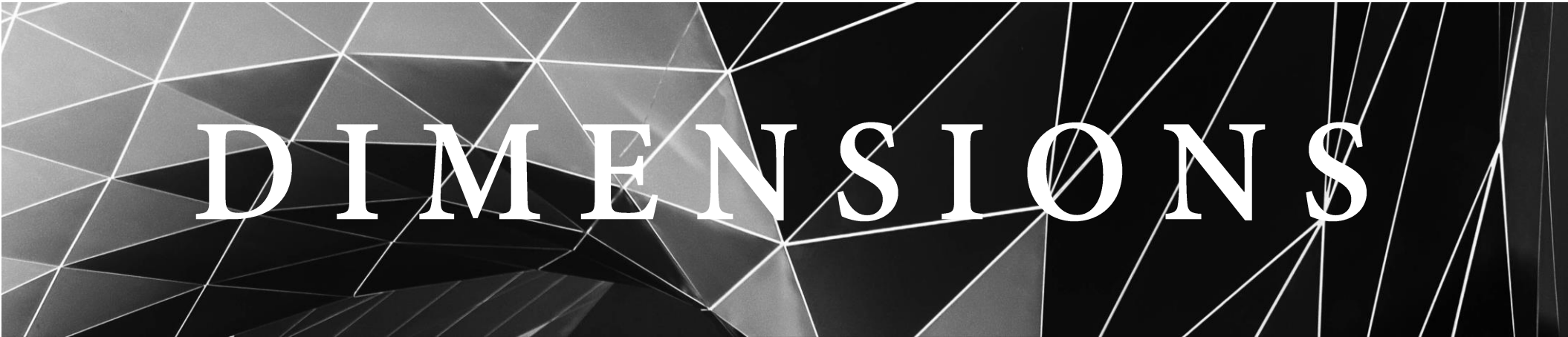


Photo Credit: Photo by Adrien Olichon from Pexels

IC WEEK 2020

This will be the first IC Week to take place entirely online. The theme for this year’s series of presentations is *Dimensions*.

“We are not a flat line or in a box; put together, our identities and practices form the dimensions of our communities.”

We each have distinct backgrounds, cultures, languages, values, personalities and views that form our identities. Where are these dimensions and intersections? Do we know they’re there?

IC Week is the collaborative effort of the Intercultural Centre, BVC Green, Research and Innovation, and LINC Career Services. Join us for IC week from October 26th to October 30th. [Click here](#) for more information and to register to attend any of these sessions.

Monday, October 26 th 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	<p>Climate Game Changers (part of the Eco-learning series)</p> <p>The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) will present on how climate change impacts our ecosystems, plants and animals – and even to us. Our small, everyday actions constitute parts of our culture – and hold the power to make positive changes for Alberta’s landscape.</p>
Wednesday, October 28 th 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Indigenous Connections to the Land (also part of the Eco-learning series)</p> <p>What can landscapes teach us? How does worldview influence our relationship with the land? This presentation will feature a screening of the film “Stories of Decolonization: Land Dispossession and Settlement” followed by thoughts from Crystal Manyfingers, the Teaching and Learning Consultant for Curriculum Indigenization/Decolonization at Bow Valley College.</p>
Thursday, October 29 th 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Kujo’s Kid Zone presents ‘Halloween’</p> <p>Kujo’s Kid Zone is a web-based episodic, video learning series aimed at children. Now Kujo is bringing the learning to Bow Valley College! Kujo (Randy Quansah, a Bow Valley College instructor) will be teaching about the history of Halloween, how it is celebrated today – and even how to safely participate during a pandemic. Bring your children! Bring the whole family!</p>
Friday, October 30 th 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p>Cheryl Foggo presents: The History of Black Settlers and Black Cowboys in Alberta</p> <p>How much do you know about Black settlers and cowboys in Alberta? Cheryl Foggo will present on this history. Cheryl Foggo is an author, filmmaker, playwright, and historian.</p>

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, ICAN CREW?

A peak at the SGA blog!

The Intercultural Centre’s “ICan Crew” volunteer corps is made up of students from just about every program at Bow Valley College. They are instrumental in so many of the events, presentations, and activities the Intercultural Centre offers, and many of them volunteer across other areas of the College as well.

Take a look at what our ICan Crew members have been doing to be active, help others, and stay motivated.

Article continues on the next page.



We can't interact with our ICan Crew members in person right now, so we wanted to reach out to them and find out what they've been doing in this period of distancing and isolation, away from campus.



Wai Yu, Business Administration Program

I have been doing painting, making my own handmade hand sanitizer, and taking some pictures. I also do yoga every morning what I wake up.

Check out some more blog posts from our volunteers on the [School of Global Access website](#).

Kaylee, Disability Studies Program

My work is an essential service, so I have been working very hard to make sure the people that I support are not going stir crazy. Some of those activities include in-home dance parties, in-home karaoke, games of "I-spy", movie days with popcorn, and making videos with them! I'm a support worker for the Calgary SCOPE Society, and I am a student at Bow Valley College.

Sumaiya, Legal Assistant program

I dance! I have always been fond of dancing, no particular dance form, just learning the signature step of a famous song makes me happy. Dancing lifts up my mood; music does its healing and makes me feel alive. I like to call it cheap thrills!



READING
WEEK
with the
IC Intercultural Centre

Photo Credit: Photo by cottonbro from Pexels

If you are interested in any of the workshops for your team, please contact globalaccess@bowvalleycollege.ca and copy your request to vzarour@bowvalleycollege.ca.

When sending in your request, include the following in the email:

- The name of the workshop(s)
- Your preferred dates (We will do our best to accommodate your preferred dates. Please allow us a minimum of two weeks for preparation and scheduling.)

All workshops will be conducted on MS Teams.

READING WEEK:
PD OPPORTUNITIES FOR STAFF
AND FACULTY

Here are some exciting PD opportunities for staff and faculty offered by the Intercultural Centre during Reading Week*.

Microaggressions	Staff & Faculty
Builds awareness of microaggressions and their impact on marginalized groups.	
Intersectionality	Faculty
Gives a quick overview of the importance of considering intersectionality for effective inclusion in the classroom.	
Multicultural to Intercultural: Leveraging Diversity in Teams	Staff & Faculty
Builds strategies for working effectively in intercultural teams in the workplace.	
An Introduction to Intercultural Communication	Staff & Faculty
Builds an awareness of the complexities of intercultural communication and provides a foundation for further discussion and growth.	
Reaching across Differences	Faculty
Builds an awareness of how cultural differences may impact the classroom and helps build strategies for working with diversity and encouraging inter-group contact.	
Note: This is a four-house PD session.	

*Note: We are happy to conduct these workshops at any other time in the term

UPCOMING FALL EVENTS

INTERCULTURAL CENTRE



Find out what's happening at the Intercultural Centre this Fall term. Join us for new experiences and learning opportunities about topics you may or may not know about while meeting others and having fun – even online! *While we are not on-campus, we're still about creating meaningful connections.*

For registration information on any of the events below, send an email to intercultural@bowvalleycollege.ca.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Research into anti-racism and anti-discrimination resources

The School of Global Access research team along with the IC will be doing an environmental scan of Bow Valley College (including students, faculty and staff) to determine what types of resources in the areas of anti-racism, anti-oppression and anti-discrimination may be needed. Project with wrap up in early spring 2021.

Development of ICan Crew long-term volunteering program

While our individual events and activities expose our student-volunteers to new learning opportunities and work to foster inclusion, we're looking into developing a longer-term, more involved program of engagement. The broader goals are to engage student-volunteers in learning that is *competency-based*, leading to gaining specific skills and outcomes.

Whether you want to learn about other cultures, develop intercultural competency skills, become a leader or volunteer, the IC has something for you!



Speed Friending – Online!

Thursday, September 17th at 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

While we're all studying and working remotely, we can still make new friends – or at least meet new people – online!

Permaculture and Growing Food (part of the Fall Eco-learning Series collaboration between the Intercultural Centre and BVC Green)

Wednesday, September 16th at 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Are you interested in growing your own food? Not sure what grows in Calgary? Learn about permaculture from Carmen Lamoureux from Urban Farm School. Permaculture provides “a new lens through which we can gain a greater understanding of how we can provide for our needs while respecting the natural environment, using nature as our guide.” Carmen will explain how permaculture differs from other forms of gardening and explore the topic of food security. This is a co-presentation by BVC Green and Intercultural Centre.

Meet in the IC!

Thursday, September 24th between 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (drop in event)

An opportunity for new learners to find out about what the Intercultural Centre (IC) has to offer. During this drop-in session, we will answer more specific questions and get a sense of what students might like to see.

International Education Week presentation on IC's Discovery Hub

Tuesday, November 17th – 11:0 a.m. to 12:0 p.m.

Bow Valley College alumnus Izu Igwe along with Justin Hardjowirogo from the IC will be presenting on this past winter's event, “Discovery Hub: A Pan-African Experience”, which took place during Black History Month. How did we choose the theme? How were the exhibits and stations chosen? What were we trying to achieve? Can something like this be replicated online?

Talking Trash with Waste & Recycling (part of the Fall Eco-learning Series collaboration between the Intercultural Centre and BVC Green)

Friday, November 20th – 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Ever wonder what happens to the material in your carts? Join us for the virtual tour through Calgary's composting facility and have all your recycling questions answered! Our community is moving towards zero waste through our innovative recycling, composting, and diversion programs. Reducing our waste helps our environment thrive – we can show you how!

UPCOMING FALL COURSES

INTERCULTURAL CENTRE

GLCM 9201 Leveling the Learning Field

The course provides *learners* an understanding of cultural influences on expectations in an academic environment and helps develop strategies to navigate and adapt to a new academic culture.

Time commitment: 14 hours total (8 hours asynchronous + 6 hours synchronous)
Synchronous sessions: 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. (October 30, November 6, 13, 20); MS Teams
Start and end dates: October 16, 2020 – November 27, 2020
Registration details: Email globalaccess@bowvalleycollege.ca by October 12, 2020.

GLCM9202 Supporting Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CLD) Learners in College Career Programs

The course provides *instructors* insights into cultural differences in academic cultures and equips them with strategies helpful in supporting CLD learners. The course also helps develop cultural self-awareness and intercultural competence, which are essential components for developing a global and inclusive perspective.

Time commitment: 10 hours over five weeks
Learning mode: Online - Facilitated; asynchronous
Start and end dates: October 26, 2020 – November 27, 2020
Registration details: Register at [GLCM9202](#) by October 21, 2020.

SPECIAL MENTION

A special shout-out to Nursing Arts instructor,

Jennifer Ko

for your support of the Intercultural Centre!

Thank you for inviting us to give four separate sessions to your learners.
We look forward to working with you in the fall term.