

RRC Heritage Group

Newsletter

February 2016



Cul-Ex hits the Web!

Breakfast



Lunch



Dinner



Weekends



The Culinary Exchange has a brand new Website at <http://blogs.rrc.ca/culex/> (bookmark this site!)

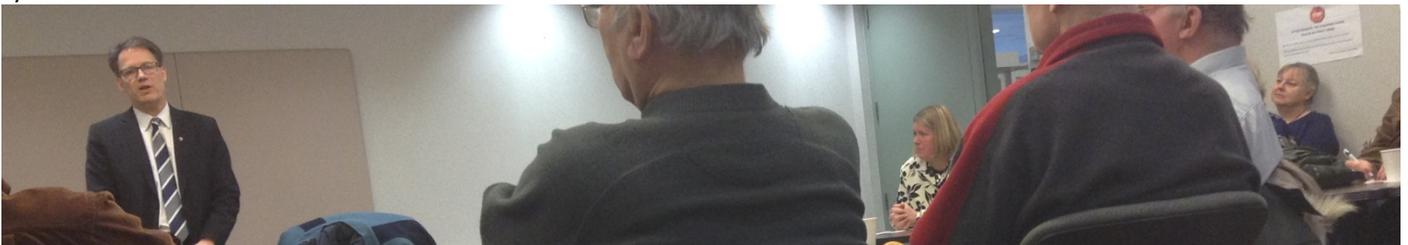
As you explore the site you'll find the menus for the various labs (along with their hours of service) and the weekly Buffet menu.

You can still receive a weekly email, which will let you know about new menus posted, baking production, and other "news" items from the Exchange by adding yourself to the recipient list by following [this link](#) and providing your email address (don't forget to check off Culinary Exchange). If, at any time, you wish to unsubscribe, all you have to do is click the unsubscribe link at the bottom of the weekly email and you will no longer receive updates.

Heritage Group Meeting, January 21, 2016

RRC Vision in Two Acts: Paul Vogt and Christine Crowe

by Leslie Walsh



Act I: Paul Vogt, President RRC

Paul apologized for not being able to stay for the entire meeting as scheduled due to a conflicting Chamber of Commerce meeting where he was to introduce the keynote speaker from Centre Venture. A wonderful "two-for-one deal for us", he was quick to point out, since it both provided us a ready-made presentation of RRC's vision for downtown development, and a follow up with Christine Crowe, Acting VP Academic and Research, who would pick up where he left off. On the job for 4 months now, Paul's association with RRC started long before becoming President. His wife is a graduate

of our Graphic Design program, and he had spent lots of time with her during their courting days in what's now called the Buffalo. "It hasn't changed a whole lot."

Connected to academe for the last 25 years, Paul has been in and out of the classroom teaching a variety of courses all over town, including political science, economics and philosophy.

Act I: Paul Vogt (continued)

But he considers his main career to have been in politics, most recently as Clerk of the Executive Council and Secretary to Cabinet for the province of Manitoba, the formal head of the Civil Service. That included eight to nine months working on the new post secondary strategy for Manitoba, the gist of which was greater integration of post secondary education so that students can move more easily from one institution to another.

Following his arrival at RRC, what struck him most during his many tours to meet people and find out more about their departments was how integrated we are with the community, how responsive we are to community needs (our regional centres are a good example), and how in tune we are with changes taking there and in helping students get jobs.

Paul pointed out that the average age of students at RRC is now 26 and that 95% of graduates get jobs in the area they were trained. "This is our calling card. We provide skilled workers for the Manitoba economy." And there he graciously recognized our (Heritage Group members) life-long commitment and contribution to RRC. "You have more experience in your little finger than I do."

Our core is skills training. But we need to modernize. And the latest major Notre Dame campus (NDC) project, the [Skilled Trades and Technology Centre](#), reflects that and bodes well for the future.

But RRC is also central to downtown revitalization. The [Roblin Centre](#) and the Exchange District Campus (EDC) have injected some 4,000 students and instructors daily into what had previously been a "dead block", becoming a catalyst for Innovation Alley, numerous restaurants, and tremendous business growth in the area. Paul also shared that RRC is taking steps to try and replicate downtown's "town square" atmosphere at NDC.



Skilled Trades and Technology Centre ground breaking ceremony

And RRC's international student population now exceeds 1,000 and continues to grow, giving faculty and our other students a valuable global perspective. Not only happy to study here, many international students want to stay in Manitoba and become a part of our workforce. But the majority take language training at the VIA rail station on Main Street, unconnected to our other EDC services. In the works is another heritage restoration project that would allow us to bring them to EDC, further dominating the area and cementing our role as downtown developers.

In closing, Paul again apologized for cutting his stay short and expressed a desire to spend more time with the Heritage Group sometime in the future.

Act II: Christine Crowe, Acting VP Academic and Research



Announcing herself as "the second act", Christine began by asking Heritage Group members to introduce themselves and say a bit about their career at RRC. It was most interesting to hear of the breadth of members' experiences in their various department, positions held, and when they retired. Christine commented we had obviously enjoyed working at RRC and were keen to maintain that connection.

Born in Yorkton Saskatchewan, Christine shared that she's a "prairie girl" who loves living in Winnipeg and appreciates its values of community and generosity. Beginning with an undergraduate degree in English Literature at UBC, she then spent a year in Japan teaching English. After Queens University and a Masters in English Literature, she moved to Australia for a PhD in English Literature and her dissertation,

Act II: Christine Crowe (continued)

Giving Pain a Place in the World: Aboriginal Women's Bodies in Australian Stolen Generation Autobiographical Narratives.

Christine next taught in Regina at the Saskatchewan Federated College and at the University of Regina's Continuing Education before accepting a Dean's position at Quantlan Polytechnical College. At RRC for the last 3 years, Christine started as the VP Community Development before moving into her current role in April 2014 as Acting VP Academic and Research.

Summary of Christine's words about RRC:

- 50% of our grads are apprentices now, 1/3 of RRC activity is with the trades, this has grown exponentially over the years
- One thing that has struck her is the passion of the RRC employees, their real caring and attention to providing students with a great education; their focus is the student
- Working on the academic plan and then will start on the strategic plan. She feels the academic plan being done before the strategic plan is an asset
- More than 50 people from the community (major employers, other institutions, CEO's of business etc.) were invited over the summer to talk about RRC: strengths and weakness. What was discovered was that:
 1. RRC's growth has been noticed
 2. RRC has maintained its reputation despite bad press
 3. RRC stands on firm ground with the employers
 4. RRC has become very bureaucratic since becoming larger, the budget is \$180 million dollars. We are not seen as being responsive anymore due to the bureaucracy, have to figure out how to respond quicker
 5. RRC has to ensure students are well rounded. They hit the ground running once they graduate and are expected to take on leadership and innovation roles earlier. RRC must prepare students to:
 - Work with and lead teams
 - Work in diverse work places (RRC has developed college wide learning outcomes including intercultural competence and leadership.)
 6. RRC is thinking too small: we have a national and international reputation and we are not blowing our own horn on this. We have applied Research and cutting edge programming and we need to promote this and increase it.
 7. RRC can't do this alone: partnerships are a key aspect of our programming
 - Capital equipment and technology is changing so fast and we don't have the money, so how do we leverage partnerships to get it? We must have access to the latest equipment.



Photo of Union Station and language training students

Christine's session was followed by 5 minutes of questions with some discussion.

Are there plans for more applied degrees?

Yes. We have to determine niche areas. The province will not consider further degrees without an academic plan, hence the reason that is a priority right now. Province not interested in "isolated" degrees. They must be connected, (e.g. shared, hybrid and joint degrees with other institutions), and provide a path to further education or research.

The Globe and Mail reports quite a lot on what post-secondary institutions are doing across the country, but nothing on Manitoba.

The college is working on getting national and international attention.

Is there anything on the horizon in regards to a Health Sciences Building which had been in the plans previously?

Province needs to coordinate this and a study is in the works to determine needs. We may be looking at a shared centre for clinical simulation with the U of M and others.

Are we planning to continue growing our international student population, and are we providing adequate supports for the increasing numbers?

Yes, we have identified a number of opportunities in international ed, and part of the discussion around programming includes how we can best support these students. This is a big shift for the institution and being looked at. Our instructors have not felt as prepared as they feel they should be, not only in terms of language, but also with regards to culture and values.

Christine finished by thanking the heritage group members for their energy, support, and contributions to RRC.



The Heritage Group did away with membership dues in 2011. Instead, members are now encouraged to make an annual contribution to the Heritage Group Scholarship Endowment Fund.

You can double the impact of your gift by donating before March 31.

Gifts received before March 31 will meet the deadline for the current dollar-for-dollar match through the Province of Manitoba's Scholarships and Bursaries Initiative.

As former staff, Heritage Group members have already played an important role in the achievements of Red River College students. But many of them would not have been able to continue their studies without financial assistance. Now over \$80,000, our Endowment Fund allows us to continue that support to deserving students. Another four \$1,000 scholarships were awarded last year.

Please consider giving today. Donations of \$20.00 or more will automatically be tax receipted (donations of \$10.00 only receipted upon request).

A printable **Annual Donation Form** is posted on our blog at rrc-hg.ca, and also at www.rrc.ca/files/File/development/developmentdonationform.pdf.



Or you can make a secure online donation by going to <https://me.rrc.mb.ca/OnlineDonation/>. Check the box for **Scholarships and Bursaries**, specify **Heritage Group Award Endowment Fund** in the box for **Additional gift information**, and also check the box to be contacted about setting up monthly donations.

If you would rather make your donation by phone, call **Elena Grinshteyn** at (204) 631-3324.

CreComm grad inducted into Manitoba Media Roll of Honour

A former Red River College student with ties to both TSN and CTV Sports was inducted into the Manitoba Media Roll of Honour in January for his dedicated service in sports journalism.

Read how CTV [Winnipeg sports director Shawn Churchill](#), a 1993 graduate of RRC's Creative Communications program, was inducted on Jan. 22 at the 60th annual [Manitoba Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association](#) awards dinner.



On line at: <http://news.rrc.ca/2016/01/crecomm-grad-inducted-into-manitoba-media-roll-of-honour/>



Forever Young

While we may be retired, we don't always have to act our age! Do you still enjoy listening to rock and roll music now and then? Would you like the opportunity to get out and dance to the music of our youth, from the 50s, 60s and 70s? Come out to one of the Forever Young Club (FYC) monthly dances and enjoy an evening with other "Baby Boomers".



"You don't stop playing when you get old...you get old when you stop playing."

The club is in its 19th year of putting on socials – for our age group, listening to our music. Every dance has an excellent music man and three or four times per year there is a live band. Included is a great late evening lunch, as well as 50/50 draws, door prizes, spot dance prizes and a silent auction a couple of times per year. To make it even more fun, many dances are "themed" for those who wish to participate.

Upcoming dances for 2016.

- **February 27** Sweetheart Dance (Shrine Hall at 1155 Wilkes)
- **March 19** Patrick's Dance (ANAF Rockwood 303 at 341 Wilton)
- **April 23** *Annual Fundraiser Dance (ANAVET Unit 283 at 3584 Portage Ave)
- **May 28** Member Appreciation Dance (Shrine Hall at 1155 Wilkes)
- **September 24** Fall Dance & AGM (Shrine Hall at 1155 Wilkes)
- **October 29** Halloween Dance (Shrine Hall at 1155 Wilkes)
- **November 26** Sadie Hawkins Dance (Shrine Hall at 1155 Wilkes)
- **December 31** *New Year's Eve Dance (Shrine Hall at 1155 Wilkes)

* These two special dances are \$25 presale tickets only; not available at the door

Non-member tickets are \$15 at the door, but must be reserved by phone or email.

Reservations: Deanna at 204-793-2892

Information

- Hotline: 204-261-4442 (Information on upcoming dances)
- Email: fyclub@hotmail.ca
- Website: foreveryoungclub.wordpress.com

If you would like to contact me directly to ask specific questions, please feel free to email me at jjohnstone@shaw.ca

Regards,
Jerry Johnstone

Coming Soon

Come to our next meeting in room A-137 at the Notre Dame campus.

A typical meeting begins with coffee/tea and social time at 9:30 am, followed by a speaker at 10, and a business meeting from 11:20 to 11:55.

Below is our tentative 2016 schedule. Please check rrc-hg.ca for updates.

February 18: Alzheimer's Society - *How to care for people with dementia*

March 17: TBA

April 21: Ray Hoemsen, Director, Applied Research & Commercialization, - *Research at the College*

RRC Heritage Group

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