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## From the Executive

Kelly Pitman, CCFA President

Hello friends. I hope November finds you well and that you have not been so overwhelmed by your duties that you haven't been able to get out and enjoy this glorious autumn.

I was pleased to be asked to attend the long-service dinner for employees who have worked here for 20, 25, 30, or 35 years. These employees, including many CCFA members, have helped to make Camosun College central to the community, and it was gratifying to see them honoured.

The Executive is supporting the United Way Campaign again this year with a \$500 donation from our charitable donations budget line. We hope that many of you will also donate. Like last year, this year's "Agent of Change" campaign will include an auction, so please consider donating something or bidding on something or both. The auction was a great success last year with a wide range of creative donations that showcased the hidden talents of many employees at the college. For details about how you can contribute, please go to the campaign page at <http://camosun.ca/ccr/events/united-way/>.

I continue to serve on the Infosilem Scheduling Committee and the Infosilem Policy Committee, where I am doing my best to represent your interests. If Infosilem is going to work, we must have a clear commitment to respect faculty input into what best serves the needs of our students and programs. I have been told that the first year or two of Infosilem can be chaotic. Let's hope that doesn't happen to us.

I will be involved, I am told, in choosing the survey instrument for the employee survey. I do not know when that survey will take place. All the research says that choosing an instrument carefully, deciding what your goals are, and surveying regularly (every two years, for instance) is key. Now, I need your input. What do you want from an employee survey? What topics do you want covered? What, in your opinion, is the goal? I cannot easily represent your point of view without hearing from you, so please take some time to send me an email, give me a call, or drop by to tell me what you're thinking.

I met with Kathryn Laurin last week for an update. She informed me that the presidents of all the post-secondary institutions in BC have received a letter from the government indicating that these institutions will be required to carry out a core review in line with the general core review of government programs and services. In essence, the colleges are being asked to look for yet more savings by analyzing programs, administrative costs, and unnecessary duplication within and between institutions. The government also wants evidence that all programs lead to jobs. If you take a look at the ministry website service plan ([http://www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2013\\_June\\_Update/sp/pdf/ministry/aved.pdf](http://www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2013_June_Update/sp/pdf/ministry/aved.pdf)), you will see that the government's focus is almost entirely on industry needs. While we surely all agree that it's a good idea to train people to do the jobs we need done in BC, I am uncomfortable with the increasing push to align education only with industry needs. Students have their own needs as well. Of course, they want to be employed when they're

## CCFA Executive

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finished school—we all have to pay the bills. But I believe the government is supporting some students more than others, and that doesn't seem fair. Moreover, society benefits from educated citizens in many ways, not just in dollars and cents.

Once again, I call for interested members to put their names forward for the position of Member at Large on the CCFA Executive as Pasquale Fiore had to resign due to other commitments.

## *FPSE Speakers' Tour 2013 on Water, featuring Paul Manly*

Thursday, Nov 14, 7:00pm, Fisher 100 Camosun College

To honour the UN International Year of Water Cooperation and to promote initiatives that increase awareness around safe and clean water, the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators of BC presents its 2013 Speaker's Tour.

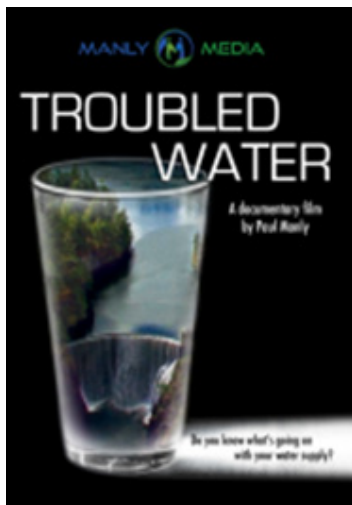
On Thursday, November 14, filmmaker and environmental activist Paul Manly will speak at Camosun. His presentation is made possible by contributions from FPSE and the Camosun College Faculty Association.

Manly will present excerpts from two of his films – You, Me and The SPP and his most recent film, *Troubled Water*, which documents the threats to public water systems on the East Coast of Vancouver Island.

He will connect these films with the issue of access to water and how it relates to trade agreements, resource extraction, and the ability of corporations to sue over new social environmental policies and regulations.

Manly will discuss his films' examination of the threats to our public water systems and watersheds, and inspire a discussion on privatization, public private partnerships (P3s), privately owned community watersheds, vulnerable aquifers, ground water contamination, and the fundamental human right to access clean drinking water.

As a national board member of the Council of Canadians, Manly is familiar with the industrial impact of industry on BC watersheds, and his presentation will encourage audiences to work toward maintaining water as a public trust in their own communities.



His presentation at Camosun College follows earlier speaking engagements at North Island College and the Cowichan and Nanaimo campuses of Vancouver Island University.

The FPSE Speakers' Tour is organized by its Human Rights and International Solidarity Committee.

For more information on the Camosun College events, please contact Larry Hannant at [hannant@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:hannant@camosun.bc.ca) or 250 370 3389

## *Research Ethics Board Announcement*

Conducting a research project involving human subjects?

If you are planning to do research or surveys involving human subjects, your study requires review by and approval from the college's Research Ethics Board (REB). The next REB meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 29. Signed and printed copies of your REB application must be received no later than Friday, November 22. The following REB meeting is scheduled for January 2014. For more information, please go to: <http://camosun.ca/about/research/ethics-approval.html>.

## *Camosun Faculty take ISW to China*

Want to hear about an interesting professional experience had by two of our members? Take a look at this report: [http://www.camosunfaculty.ca/?attachment\\_id=678](http://www.camosunfaculty.ca/?attachment_id=678)

### CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS :

We want you to contribute to the Confluence: tell us about your groovy SD project, or the creative work you are doing with your students, or what you did on your summer holidays! The deadline is ongoing, so no pressure...

Thanks.