

THE NUGGET

August 20-22, 2002
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NAIT'S OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

Your Campus Survival Guide



KIMBERLY ASHLEY

So, you're new here and you have no idea what is going on. You have paid your tuition and now you are standing in some never-ending line wondering what to do next. Well, it's great to see that you have picked up a copy of the Nugget student newspaper. The Nugget has been NAIT's official student newspaper since 1963. We cover the news, events, activities and sports that happen at the school, and write feature articles on things that matter to you, the student. We also take a look at things happening around the city. Featured exhibits, newly released movies and music, and we will cover anything else you want us to.

As to why you are here. Did you know that you have picked one of the best schools in the whole wide world? Oh, that's my own opinion and I am entitled to have it. But, your school is definitely one to be proud of. The education that you will receive at NAIT is second to none. You will receive more instruction per dollar than any other institution in Western Canada. You are going to a school where you will receive an education and training for your career. At NAIT you can expect to receive hands on training, yes you still have to buy books and read them, but your learning will take you beyond the classroom. The skills that you learn are very specific to your program and are tailored to suit your needs for the workforce. Enough about that, this is what you really need to know!

Registration:

Make sure you complete all of the forms that anyone gives you. If you just moved here make sure you know your address, and that you use it. If you use your parents' address from out of town, make sure that you will or can eventually get those mailings. Pick up a student handbook. Your student handbook will inform you about a lot of the services that the school

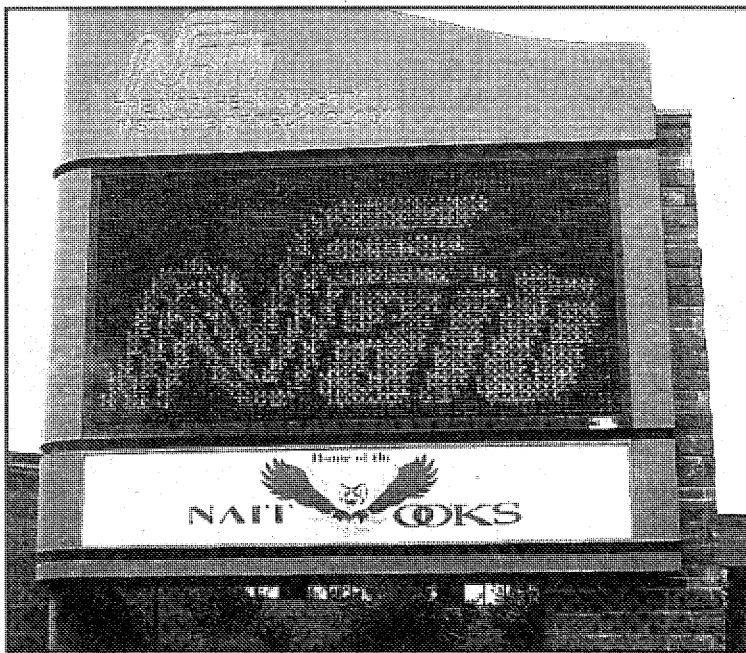
and NAITSA offer and it will have valuable coupons inside. Inside there will also be a ballot to win a \$2,000 towards your tuition. Bring this ballot to Oookfest on September 14th to win. Get your student ID photo and card. Once you have that you can then use the library facilities, buy cheaper bus passes at the bookstore and present proper ID during quizzes and exams. If you have student loan papers, get them signed. If you are unaware of the process, just ask. The staff at the counseling centre can help you through the process. If you need your papers processed right away, the closest post office is at Kingsway Garden Mall. It is located in The Press Gallery dry cleaner just down from the west doors of Sears.

Orientation:

If your program has an orientation session it is very important to attend. You should have received a sheet during registration outlining where and when your orientation will take place. The day, time and location are crucial. This is when you will receive your schedule and any other important program information. If you do not go to the appropriate location at the right time, you will not receive your schedule.

Tips for your first day at school. I do not recommend showing up late on the first day. If you arrive late for that first class, everyone will remember forever. The teacher will be making everyone stand up and say their name, where they're from and an interesting tidbit about themselves. If you're late, all eyes are definitely on you. But once that first class is over it won't seem that bad after all. Until you have a spare. If you live nearby, about a block or two, you can generally make it home to be there for about say half an hour, if you live too far, you're stuck here. Here are some things you can do here on main campus!

- 1) Go to the student lounge on the 8th floor of the tower. Here you will find tables and chairs, vending machines and a few arcade games.
- 2) The Naitrium. Located in the south west part of the school in section E you will find a wonderful place to sit and relax, watch TV,



play an arcade game, or enjoy the scenery.

3) Check out the fitness facilities. For student use there are racquetball courts, table tennis, exercise room, pool, ice arena and a dance studio. These are all located in the Activities Centre. (Almost all at no charge when you show your student ID!) If you have an hour to kill regularly you could even sign up for a class.

4) The Common Market, Fresh Express or Bytes. Go for breakfast, lunch or snack. These three "cafeteria" style areas are great to hang out at. Food is reasonably priced and there is lots of seating available. Check out the fast food such as Tim Hortons, Pizza Hut and Mr. Sub. For even more great food, go to the Nest. The Nest has breakfast each morning until 10:30 and they also have lunch specials. Did I mention that after 3p.m. they serve alcohol. This is another great place to hang.

5) Reads and Needs always has

great seasonal goodies to check out. You can find great school supplies, NAIT merchandise, computer supplies and great gift ideas. Not to mention all of your textbooks, so check it out!

6) Second Cup is the on-campus coffee shop (located in the X Wing). With all of their famous blends why even dirty a coffee pot at home. Grab a cup of Java and relax or take one to class.

7) The McNally Library and The Project Factory are both located in the U building. The library has many reference materials that you are free to look at and sign out, as well as a quiet atmosphere to get your assignments and studying done. The Project Factory is a great place to go for easy Internet access. Once you have a few bucks on your student SMARTCARD, it's as easy as 1,2,3. You can also do all of your printing and project preparation here.

8) 24-hour computer labs. These are located on the 2nd floor of

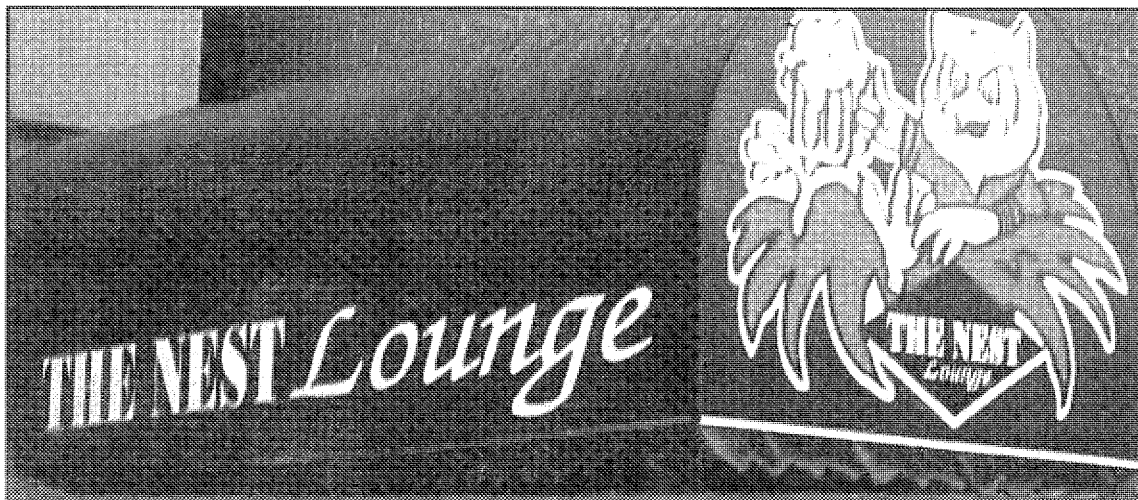
the new HP Centre. Made available to the students by a \$1.5 million donation by the NAIT Students' Association. There are 120 computers in this lab so there should be plenty of room to get those last minute assignments done.

9) Get Outside! Throughout NAIT there are many beautiful courtyards. There are benches, gazebos, wonderful flowers and more. A great escape from the rush of the school day, just try to stay away from the smokers who ruin the beauty of going outside for "fresh" air.

10) NAITSA is a great place to hang out. Meet your student executives, get involved in activities, help plan special events, and volunteer your time around the school.

11) The best place of all to hang out of course would be the NUGGET office. Where else in the school will you find more free movie passes, pre-release CD's, computers with Internet access, a mini-fridge and microwave, where you can sit and relax and get paid! Those are staff benefits of course. All we want from you is a few articles a week on the things important to you. Whether it be sports, entertainment, music, features, it doesn't matter, we want you! Apply today at the NAITSA registration booth or at the NAITSA office (Rm E-131) to work for the NUGGET!

There are still many more things to do around campus, but these are some of the highlights. Be sure to check everything out and have some fun, there is something here for everyone.



NAIT Summer News Roundup

Compiled by NAIT Corporate Communications

Welcome back to NAIT! For those of you who were wondering, here's a brief run down of the news that's happened at NAIT since the

ice Constable Ray Vogan; NAIT's first-ever specially assigned community police officer.



The OOK proudly displays the ETS bus decked out in NAIT colors.

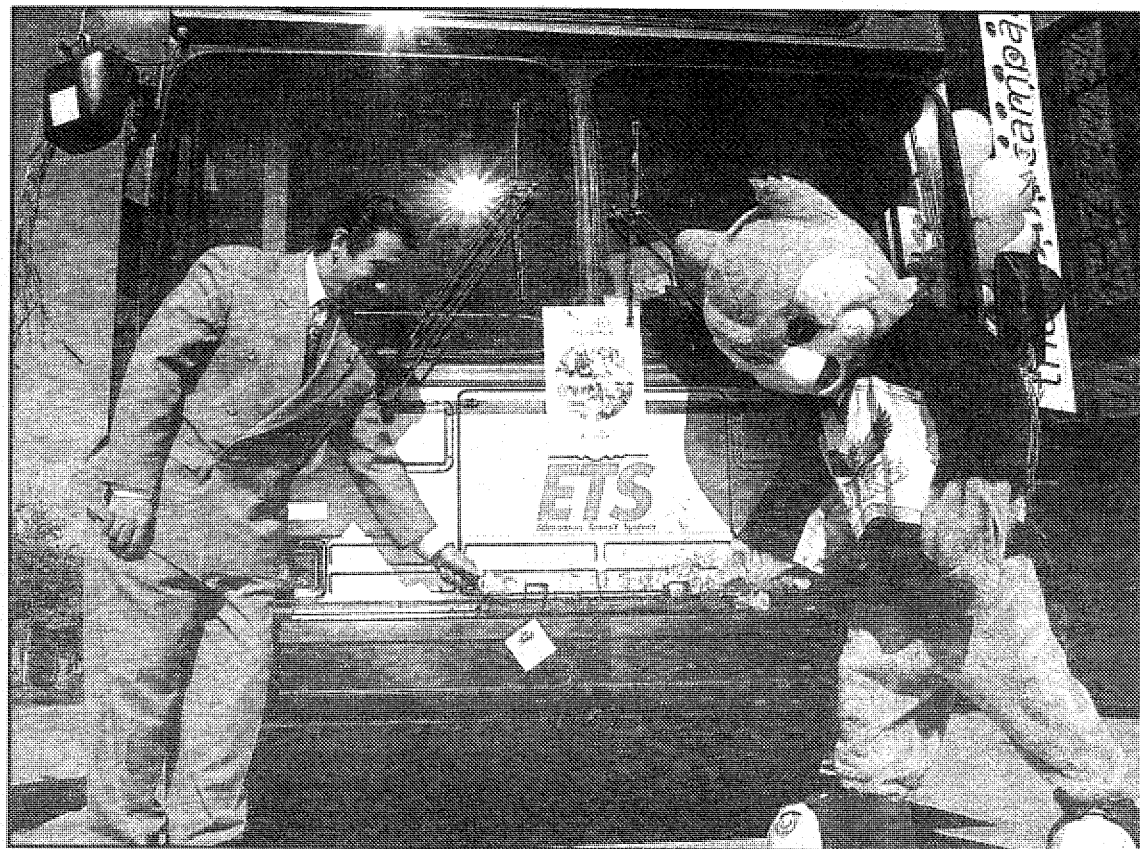
last issue of The Nugget. Have a great year and be sure to watch the pages of The Nugget for news about NAIT events and programs throughout the coming year.

NAIT welcomes the Man in Blue to Main Campus

NAIT is the first post-secondary institute in Alberta, possibly Canada, to participate in a community policing initiative. In April, NAIT students and staff welcomed Edmonton Police Serv-

You See it Here, You See it There, You See the NAIT Bus Everywhere

June 10th was the official launch of the NAIT ETS bus complete with balloons, a highland piper and a champagne bottle christening by NAIT President Sam Shaw and the mighty OOK. The rolling billboard hit the streets of the Capital Region emblazoned with "NAIT / Bring on the future" and images of NAIT students. Look for the bus on a bus route



Dr. Sam Shaw, NAIT President, and the OOK christen the NAIT ETS bus on June 10th.

near you during the next nine months.

Hip-hip-hooray! NAIT Campaign Wraps Up \$10 Million Over Target

Mid-June saw the completion of the NAIT Campaign with \$24 million raised – \$10 million over target – including \$3.8 million specifically for scholarships and student awards. Launched in

March 2001, the NAIT Campaign had a target of \$14 million and four components:

- The Centre for Information and Communications Technology
- The Centre for Welding Technology
- The Centre for Chemical Studies
- Student Awards

Highlights of the Campaign include NAIT's first million-dollar

gift from an individual, the largest gift ever from a NAIT graduate and three strategic partnerships totaling almost \$7 million. NAITSA also set a record for the largest student gift to an Alberta college or technical institute with its \$2.5 million donation.

For further information on these and other NAIT news items, check out www.nait.ab.ca/news

Wanna Write for The Nugget?

It's that time of year again where we have to advertise for positions at The Nugget for the 2002/03 year.

And why shouldn't you apply? Besides getting paid for a job where you only produce 24 issues during the school year, you also get perks (free concert tickets), perks (free CDs), and more perks (free hoodies). Need I say more?

NAIT News, Events & Entertainment Editor (\$350/month)

The News Editor is responsible for reporting on all NAIT-related news as well as events put on for the students. They are also to help with the overflow of entertainment requests received by the Arts & Entertainment Editor.

Arts & Entertainment Editor (\$350/month)

The Arts & Entertainment Editor is responsible for covering entertainment-related events around the city that would appeal

to the general student body. This includes attending events at such places as the Edmonton Art Gallery, Provincial Museum of Alberta, Citadel Theatre, and Winspear Centre, among others.

Sports Editor (\$350/month)

The Sports Editor is responsible for meeting with the heads of the various NAIT sports teams and coordinating regular coverage on all the teams. They are also responsible for collecting the OOK Of The Week nominations, the ACAC Stats, and reporting on upcoming NAIT sporting events. This also includes fan bus trips for away games.

Features Editor (\$350/month)

The Features Editor is responsible for researching and writing weekly features that would appeal to the general student body.

Photographer (\$350/month)

The photographer is respon-

sible for finding pictures as well as taking pictures for each of the writers' articles each week. They are also responsible for looking after the film and camera equipment and should have a working knowledge of Photoshop. It is important that the person in this position have a very flexible schedule.

Typesetter (\$350/month)

The typesetter is responsible for collecting the articles from the submissions box and E-mail inbox and typing them up and proofing them. They are also responsible for filling out the docket and keeping track of them as well as keeping records of past article submissions. A good grasp of the rules of grammar, punctuation, and great spelling skills are a must, as they are required to proof staff articles as well.

Distribution Manager (\$250/month)

The Distribution Manager is responsible for delivering the

newspaper to the various distribution boxes on Main Campus, the new HP Centre, and the Annex. They are also responsible for putting up and taking down posters on all three campuses throughout the week. A vehicle is a must.

There are other duties not listed, but expected of each position. Ideal candidates would be people who are open-minded, team players, patient, and have a good grasp of the English language. They must also like to write and have a fairly flexible schedule to attend regular weekly staff meetings and various media events.

For more information on any of the above-listed positions or to fill out an application form, contact Jeremmy Coules, NAITSA Communications VP at 471-7607 (E-mail jeremyc@nait.ab.ca) or Kimberly Ashley, Editor-in-Chief, at 471-7615.

You can apply during registration or drop by the NAITSA office at E-131.

Fall Hours for Library and Project Factory

Hours for NAIT Library and Project Factory beginning September 3, 2002 to December 20, 2002:

Monday to Thursday
7:45 am to 9:00 pm
Friday
7:45 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday/Sunday
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Closed for Statutory holidays:

Monday, October 14, 2002:
Thanksgiving Day
Monday, November 11, 2002:
Remembrance Day

Information about extended hours during midterms and finals will appear in future editions of the NUGGET.

For more information about Library and Project Factory services, please visit our website: <http://www.nait.ab.ca/lr/library/>

Home of the Ooks

NAIT Intercollegiate Athletics are not for those that play around lightly. Here at NAIT we work hard and play hard. Maybe that's why we have some of the best athletic students around. Each year more than 200 athletes step up to the plate to be an Ook. And why not? With a great selection of sports such as curling, swimming, golf and hockey, for both men and women, why not get involved? There is something for everyone. Taking part in the

athletics program at NAIT gives you the opportunity to meet new people, enhance your skills and get out of the classroom for some fun and fresh air. Committing a few days a week to practice and a weekend here and there for competition isn't too hard when you love to play hard.

There are many benefits to students who work and play hard. For students who achieve grades of 65% and greater, there are many scholarship opportunities.

The value of these scholarships can range from \$500 to \$1,800 depending on your sport and your

For students who achieve grades of 65% and greater, there are many scholarship opportunities.

grades. The costs involved for students to play are relatively low. The athletics department receives sponsorships from the community from their "Adopt an Ook" program, and many of the other funds needed for travel and accommodations come from team fundraising and your NAITSA student fees. Try outs for many of the sports are coming up quickly. Fill out an application form today at registration and get on the team!

The Official
Student Newspaper of

NAITSA
Students' Association



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The Nugget encourages
submissions

THE DEADLINE IS
12:00 p.m. on the first
school day of the week.

All submissions must be
accompanied by your name &
student ID number

The opinions contained in *The Nugget*
are the opinions of the individual
writers and do not necessarily reflect
the opinions of the Nugget staff or
NAITSA. The Nugget reserves the
right to edit letters and viewpoints for
brevity.

Health & Dental Goes Digital

This year the health and dental benefits are going digital, well the card is anyways. Starting September 1, 2002, you will be able to download and print off your student benefits card. Watch for the display here at registration to get all the facts on how to get your card online.

The health and dental plans at NAIT are mandatory for all eligible students. To become eligible, students must be a member of the NAIT Student's association, registered in an applicable program, meet the full-time criteria and reside in Canada.

To activate the coverage, students MUST fill out the proper forms providing their full name, date of birth as well as their student ID number. Once this information has been processed, your coverage will be activated with the applicable insurance carriers.

For eligible students starting this fall, coverage begins on September 1st, 2001, and ends August 31st, 2003, providing there has been no change in your eligibility from the fall to winter semester. For eligible students starting in January, the coverage period is from January 1st, 2003, to August 31, 2003.

For students with a spouse and/or dependants, they are given

the opportunity to purchase family coverage from the student benefit plans. To do so, stop by the Student's Benefits office (E-133) and complete the "Family add-on form", and pay the family coverage fee. This must be done before deadline for the semester period of enrollment. For more information or assistance, please speak with your Student Service Coordinator.

If you meet the eligibility requirements but already have comparable health and/or dental coverage, excluding Alberta Health Care, you may apply to waive the benefits. All eligible students are given the opportunity to waive the benefits offered. To do so you MUST complete the "Student Benefits Waiver Form". Once your waiver forms have been approved, the plan will be credited or refunded. To waive the benefits, documentation of existing coverage is needed. This can be in the form of the original certificate of coverage, statement of claim, verification letter from a current plan administrator/sponsor, benefit card, pay direct drug card, treaty status card or even a letter from your employer. It is very important that your documentation provide your policy number and the name of your insurance

provider.

The coverage that students receive is changing this year, but more information will be available September 1st, 2002 from the Student's Benefit office. Coverage in the past has been 80% on prescriptions, mostly generic drugs, and 100% on annual regular dental visits. The coverage is extended health care and includes ambulance services, chiropractic visits and massage therapy. For a comprehensive list please see the staff at the Student's Benefit office.

Before you make your appointment to see a dentist, stop by the Student's Benefit office for a list. To keep the plan at low cost to you, the student, there is only a small handful of dentists around the city that accept the Managed dental plan. If you have ANY questions about your coverage and the services available to you, stop by room E-133 on Main Campus, call them at 471-7730, or e-mail them at studentplans@nait.ab.ca. The friendly staff will be able to assist you. Reminder, the deadline to waive your benefits is September 27, 2002 at 4:00 p.m. There will be no exceptions or extensions.

Nuggets of Wisdom

Back to School Blues?

We are all sad that soon it will be time to head back to class. There won't be anymore late nights, weekends out and sleeping in anymore. Wait, what am I talking about, you're at college now. All these things can still happen. What we want to do to liven things up a little is have a few feature recipes each week, something easy and cheap, as well as a great alcoholic beverage to wash it down. This week's feature will be something blue to start you off, considering you're feeling blue, the school color is blue, and yellow, but yellow doesn't really matter right now. This week is blue, and here is the drink for you. We are going to go a little tropical this week seeing how it is the end of summer. Give it a try and enjoy!

**BLUE
HAWAIIAN**
1 OZ. BLUE CURACO
1 OZ. MALIBU RUM
PINEAPPLE JUICE

I know that it's fairly simple, but we will start you off slowly. If you have any great drink recipes, please submit them to the Nugget. We will try to feature a new drink each week, and maybe by the end of the year we will have a great Nugget potion. This call goes out to all amateur "bartenders" or to anyone who thinks they know something about drinks. Drop your drink ideas in the black submission box outside of the Nugget office at E-128. Please ensure to include your name, student ID number and your technology, and give your drink a great name. It better not be offensive, or I will change it, but be creative. The deadline for articles is 12:00 noon on Mondays, and 12:00 noon Tuesdays after a long weekend. Please drink responsibly, and if you or someone you know has a problem with alcohol abuse NAIT can help, don't suffer in silence. Please visit either the Health Services office, or the Counseling Centre.

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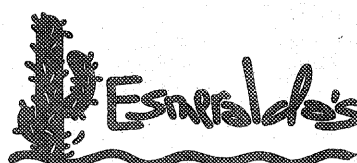


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OOK FEST

NAIT's Official Welcome Week Party



WITH DEFAULT

AND SPECIAL GUESTS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2002 - DOORS 5 PM

NAIT SOCCER FIELD - NO MINORS

TICKETS \$20 ADVANCE \$25 DAY OF SHOW

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE NAITSA OFFICE (RM E131), THE NEST, ALL TICKETMASTER LOCATIONS.
CHARGE BY PHONE 780-451-8000, OR ONLINE AT www.ticketmaster.ca (Ticket agency fee in effect)
PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS THE NAIT SHINERAMA CYSTIC FIBROSIS CAMPAIGN

The NAIT Students' Association & Labatt Alberta Breweries are proud to present

The
Blue

TUITION GIVEAWAY

at



OOK FEST

NAIT's Official Welcome Week Party

Some lucky
OOKFEST goer
will WIN their
TUITION for a year.

Rules:

1. You must be in a Full-time program at NAIT.
2. You must have a valid NAIT I.D. which expires in April 2003 with you at the event.
3. You must be 18 years of age to enter.
4. You must fill out an entry from the NAITSA Handbook and bring your entry to the Bud Big Rig on September 14th.
5. You must be there to win.

FOR ALL EVENT INFORMATION GOTO

www.ookfest.com

PRE OOKFEST PARTIES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

BEER GARDENS

at The Annex (The Dock)
Doors open at 3:00 pm
Come Party & Play on the
BUDWEISER BIG RIG!
No Minors.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

WELCOME BACK PARTY

at The Nest & Nest Parking Lot.
Doors open at 3:00 pm
Live Entertainment • Bud Big Rig •
Great Times. Get there early! Pub Crawl
afterwards to Nashville's at 9:00 pm.
Female Oil Wrestling & Ladies Night.
No Minors.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

OOKFEST TAILGATE PARTY before the
BATTLE OF ALBERTA— ESKS VS. STAMPS
at the NAIT Soccer Field.

Gates 3:00 pm. Buses to game 6:30 pm
Tickets: \$15 (incl. Pre-party, ticket to football game, bus ride to
and from game, after game pub crawl. NOTE: You don't need a ticket to
attend the Tailgate Party. (Tickets at NAITSA Office (E-131))

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Canada Student Loans Program

INFORMATION UPDATE

Changes to Procedures for Maintaining Interest-Free Status

Effective August 1, 2002, the Government of Canada will simplify and further harmonize the procedures for full-time students to maintain interest-free status on their Canada Student Loan(s) while they continue full-time study.

The Canada Student Loans Program will continue to offer the six-month interest-free period between periods of study during which time the Government of Canada pays the interest on behalf of the borrower. Student borrowers will be required to provide Confirmation of Enrolment to their previous lender (financial institution) and/or the National

The Canada Student Loans Program will continue to offer the six-month interest-free period between periods of study during which time the Government of Canada pays the interest on behalf of the borrower.

Student Loans Service Centre within this six-month period in order to maintain their interest-free status.

The four-month period provided to Canada Student Loans borrowers to confirm their in-study status from the date of their return-to-study will be eliminated. Most provincial programs did not offer this four-month period and it became a potential source of confusion for some borrowers and program administrators. This change supports the Government of Canada's effort to harmonize the Canada Student Loans Program with provincial programming.

Procedures to Maintain Interest-free Status

For students continuing studies and receiving a new loan

- If the student returns to full-time studies within six months of the previous period of study end date and receives a new loan, a Certificate of Eligibility and Confirmation of Enrolment form will be sent to the student by the province for signature by their institution. It is the student's responsibility to send back this completed form to their previous lender and/or to the National Student Loans Service Centre.

For students continuing studies and not receiving a new loan

- If the student returns to full-time studies within six months of the previous period of studies end date, the student must provide a Confirmation of Enrolment within six months of the previous period of study end date to maintain interest-free status. It is the student's responsibility to send back this completed form to their previous lender and/or to the National Student Loans Service Centre.
- Confirmation of Enrolment forms can be obtained from post-secondary educational institutions.

For students not returning to studies

- Borrowers are required to consolidate their loans and begin repayment six months following the end of their most recent period of study.
- Upon completion of study, interest begins to accrue on the outstanding balance of the loan. The borrower, however, is not required to make payments on the principal or interest until at least 6 months following the end of study.

Students failing to submit their Confirmation of Enrolment

- Where more than six months have elapsed after the last post-secondary study end date:
 - If the student has a full-time Canada Student Loan(s) issued prior to August 1, 2000, the student is required to pay the financial institution any interest accrued on the loan(s) to the day before the first day of the confirmed period;
 - If the student has a full-time Canada Student Loan(s) issued after August 1, 2000, the student is required to pay the Government of Canada any interest accrued on the loan(s) to the day before the first day of the confirmed period; or,
 - The student may enter into a consolidated loan agreement in which the unpaid accrued interest is added to the principal amount.

For more information, students are encouraged to visit the National Student Loans Service Centre Web site at www.canlearn.ca or to contact 1-800-OCANADA or the appropriate division of the National Student Loans Service Centre.

OPERATIONAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP) Changes to Maintaining Interest-free Status

1. What are the changes to maintaining interest-free status?

Post-secondary students are required to provide a Confirmation of Enrolment in full-time study to maintain interest-free status on their Canada Student Loans.

Since 1995, student borrowers have been allowed a six-month period following their last study period plus an additional four-month period following the first day of their current study period to submit a Confirmation of Enrolment. If students fail to submit the documentation within this time frame, they are required to pay any interest accrued since their last period of study or consolidate their loans.

As of August 1, 2002, the additional four-month period will be removed. This will help to ensure greater consistency with provincial programs and in turn lessen the confusion for students. The changes will help students meet the responsibility of maintaining all their loans in good standing. Student borrowers will be less likely to unwittingly miss the deadline to provide Confirmation of Enrolment and will avoid the possibility of having to pay accrued interest and of having their loans being placed in "technical default."

2. When will the change be implemented?

The amendment takes effect on August 1, 2002.

3. Why is the Government of Canada making this change?

While the additional four months was intended to provide students with more flexibility in the loan process, it often resulted in greater confusion for students because most provinces require the Confirmation of Enrolment to be submitted

within six months. The inconsistency with the federal portion of the student loan has resulted in many students being confused about their responsibilities and they often overlook submitting their confirmation.

The change would bring the Canada Student Loans Program into accord with the six-month period afforded in most provincial programs. Ensuring the same requirements for both Canada Student Loans and provincial student loans will reduce the complexity and costs to the borrower. It will also minimize the administrative burden on lenders and the National Student Loans Service Centre.

4. How will the new rule interact with provincial requirements?

The amendments are another step toward harmonizing student loans, as they will ensure that the CSLP is identical to most provincial programs in this respect. This consistency will ensure less administrative burdens for both provincial and federal program staff.

The participating provincial/territorial jurisdictions are supportive of the amendment and generally welcome changes that result in harmonized and streamlined rules for the federal and provincial portions of the student loan.

5. What is a Confirmation of Enrolment?

A Confirmation of Enrolment is a prescribed form signed by an official at a post-secondary educational institution that verifies the student's enrolment in full-time studies.

6. What happens when students fail to submit a Confirmation of Enrolment?

If students submit the Confirmation of Enrolment later than six months after the last study period they must either pay the interest accrued or consolidate their loans and begin repayment.

LINK-UP WITH CAREER SERVICES!

Welcome to NAIT! We hope your time here is filled with great experiences and learning opportunities. And while graduation may seem far away right now, it is never too early to start thinking about looking for work, including that all important summer job!

Career Services at NAIT is here to help you open the door to career opportunities by offering a comprehensive range of services. The office is open year round and staffed with personnel experienced in employment trends. Drop by the office to learn about current work search techniques, pick up free reference material and use the student computer terminals to research career opportunities. You can also make an appointment with a Career Advisor to have your resume critiqued, improve your interview skills or learn about electronic job search methods.

If you can't drop by the office, make sure you check out Career Services On-Line (www.nait.ab.ca/careers). Through the Career Services web-site, you can:

- Review job postings
- Post your resume on-line
- Connect to job search tips
- Explore employment options

We look forward to helping you with your career!

NAIT Career Services
O117 South Lobby,
Main Campus
Phone: (780) 471-8874
Fax: (780) 471-7093
careers@nait.ab.ca
www.nait.ab.ca/careers

Did You Know...

- NAIT's Vision is to be an outstanding technical institute committed to student success in a global economy.
- NAIT's Mission is to anticipate and meet the needs of students and the economy by combining outstanding applied education with a human touch.
- NAIT has nine schools (Academic Foundations and Bridging; Applied Building Science; Applied Media and Information Technology; Business; Electrical and Electronics Technology; Health Sciences; Hospitality; Mechanical and Manufacturing Technology and Resources and Environmental Management)

Aboriginal Liaisons

The Aboriginal Student Club at NAIT invites all Aboriginal students into its membership, including Status, Non-status, Inuit, Metis and Bill C-31 persons. Non-Aboriginal students are also welcomed. The club is primarily a social group that promotes awareness, understanding and acceptance of Aboriginal culture, heritage, languages and educational goals of all Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students.

This Club assists NAITSA in hosting an annual Cultural Awareness Day each spring and also organizes other cultural events. Students provide an integral role in providing the vision and support needed to create the Student Friendship Centre. The Centre holds a selection of Aboriginal Newspapers and maintains a bulletin board to keep members posted on events happening both on and off campus.

Within the Student Friendship Centre are the Offices of the Aboriginal Liaison Coordinator (ALC) and the Office of the Northern Student Services Advisor (NSSA), a position that specifically supports all students from the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. There are a number of

free services offered to students that focus on recognizing, accepting and promoting Aboriginal cultural values at NAIT. They include:

- Support and counseling
- Referrals
- Social and recreational activities through the Aboriginal student Club
- Study/Computer area

For information on Aboriginal Liaison Services, contact Eva Stang at 471-7613.

For information on the NSSA with the Northern Student Education Initiative, contact Nona German at 491-1363. The Friendship Center is located in room E-137.



Eva Stang (left), NAIT Aboriginal Liaison Services, and Nona German, Northern Student Education Initiative

Wanna see your name in the Nugget?

The Nugget has been NAIT's official student newspaper since its creation in 1963. Since this is the student's newspaper, we do ask for student submissions. This can be in the form of letters to the editor, short stories and poems, cartoons, reviews, photography and Grapevines. The Nugget also provides free classifieds and advertisements to students and staff.

Guidelines are as follows:

- letters to the editor should be no more than 350-400 words in length
- poems have no word count
- Grapevines and classifieds should be no more than four lines
- Offensive material will be edited or discarded
- Submissions must include student name and ID number, if you wish for us not to use your name, please indicate so
- Submissions that you would like returned must be indicated, we will set aside your article to be picked up at a later date

- We reserve the right to edit submissions for content and length

Submissions may be faxed, mailed, e-mailed (soon we hope) or dropped off. Our drop box is located outside our office at E-128, across the hall from NAITSA. All submissions are due by 12:00 noon on Monday, or Tuesday after a long weekend. The Nugget is circulated every Thursday, or Friday after a long weekend, and is available from distribution boxes at all campuses. If you have any questions or need a way to get in touch with us, our contact information is listed within the first few pages of every issue. We look forward to seeing your name inside the student paper.

As for the e-mail, if there are any past Nugget staff reading this, if you know the password to the Hotmail account, or the answer to the secret question, please contact the NAITSA VP of Communications, Jeremy Coules.

Keep in Touch with Alumni Relations

Being a student at NAIT has many perks. Even after graduation, there are still perks to being an alumni of NAIT. Upon graduation, all students who have completed their program are registered in the Alumnait database. The database includes nearly all graduates from 1962 and on. It also includes any staff members who have retired from the school. Once you are registered in the database you will receive the Alumnait magazine three times a year at no charge. The magazine is funded through advertisements and from an operating budget provided by the school. The Alumnait magazine features articles on NAIT Alumni who have made a difference in their community, extraordinary developments in their career, or special interest articles. The magazine has a regular column, Alumnotes, where alumni can send in messages updating their careers or family status. As well there is the NAIT Nuggets section which informs alumni about changes happening at the school campuses.

The Alumni Relations office also supports students through

scholarships. Alumnait scholarships are available to returning NAIT alumni, or to children of NAIT alumni. These scholarships are funded by the NAIT MasterCard program. NAIT alumni and students are invited to sign up for the NAIT MasterCard, where NAIT will receive a royalty from MasterCard to support student scholarships and alumni activities such as reunions and homecoming.

The Alumni Privilege Card is also available. This card will provide you access to NAIT's athletic and recreational facilities at a reduced rate. As well get special offers at the campus bookstore, Reads and Needs, where alumni receive a 10% discount on selected items.

So to all graduates out there, make sure that you keep all of your information up to date with the Alumni Relations office and you can maintain your benefits of being an Alumnait, reconnect with old friends and stay informed about the latest events at the school.

IT is here

After breaking ground two years ago, the construction of the NAIT HP Centre will be finished and opening its doors this September. This new Information and Communications Technology (ICT) building will be one of the most technologically innovative learning environments in the world, and will accommodate 1,662 full-time information and communications technology students. The state-of-the-art HP Centre will be the new home to the School of Applied Media and Information Technology as well as the School of Electrical and Electronics Technology. This 250,000 square foot building will house 20 classrooms and 56 computer, electrical and telecommunications labs, as well as a teleconferencing centre. In addition to these labs there will be a 24 hour, 5,000 square foot computer commons with 120 computers and print services, with a technical support area available for students to use. There will also be socialization and study areas available to students, retail and food services, and six multimedia payphone terminals.

This \$50 million project will increase NAIT's overall registrations by 11% and boost enrollment in ICT programs by 75%. These registrations will grow NAIT's

student enrollment by 700 full time students and almost 7,000 part time students. The funding for such a large project was done through the help of corporate donors, the school and its fundraising activities, as well as one-time grants from the Province of Alberta totaling nearly \$28 million. This building comes as a response to the demand for ICT education. Previously NAIT received 2.5 applications for every ICT space available.

Did you know that NAIT trains 19% of Alberta's Information and Communications Technology graduates and nearly 50% of all Alberta apprentices?

Through NAIT's Information and Communications Technology programs you can obtain a certificate in just one year, a diploma in two, or even receive an applied degree after four years of study. There are even nine apprenticeship programs offered by the School of Electrical and Electronics, your opportunities at NAIT are endless! The value of a NAIT education is more than you would expect. At NAIT, students receive more hours of instruction per dollar than any other college or university around. Check out the new HP Centre for opportunities for your ICT future.

Email: oelke@shaw.ca

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What does NAITSA^y actually do?

(Your Students' Association)



**KIMBERLY
ASHLEY**

There is a lot more to the NAIT Student Association than what meets the eye. We have all walked by the executive offices in the E wing to look inside and see little offices with big computers and comfy chairs. What we really want to know is what does NAITSA actually do for the students?

To provide for the administration and promotion of the co-curricular affairs of the students at NAIT, including the development and management of student institutions, the development and enforcement of a system of student policies and guidelines, and the promotion of the general welfare of the students of NAIT. An excerpt from NAITSA's Constitution

NAITSA plans many activities and events for students such as Ookfest and Shinerama. These two events are the biggest events around and both happen in September. The fifth annual Ookfest is full of great entertainment and school spirit. The action all starts on Wednesday, September 4th with beer gardens at the Engineering Annex. On Thursday the 5th, there will be live entertainment at the Nest, the only on-campus full service restaurant and lounge. And to top the week off, there will be a beer gardens in the soccer field followed by a fan bus to the Edmonton Eskimos game against the Calgary Stampeders. The Ookfest concert is scheduled for Saturday, September 14th, featuring Default and many other great live performances. Tickets for Ookfest are available at the Nest, NAITSA office (E-131), and at Ticketmaster. The tickets are \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 day of show. Be there to witness great entertainment and enter to win your tuition giveaway from Labatt. All you

have to do is fill out the entry form in your student handbook and be there to win. You also must be 18 years of age to attend and have your student ID present.

Also on September 14th, the annual Shinerama takes place. Shinerama is put on by NAITSA to help raise money for Cystic Fibrosis research. So far, since the late 1960's NAIT students and staff have helped raise over \$300,000 through Shinerama activities. The Shine week is full of events, activities and pub crawls leading up to Saturday, the Shine day where volunteers go out into the community and shine the shoes and cars of strangers. We hope that we can count on you to help raise our goal of \$25,000 for this year, and beat our University of Alberta competitors for another year.

Other events planned for the year include fan bus trips to watch the NAIT Ooks take on the Red Deer College team. Make sure to sign up early as seats do go fast. NAITSA also plans the New Year's ski trip. From December 29th to January 2nd, NAIT students will be heading to the Rockies. The trip includes 3 days of skiing, 4 nights accommodations, a New Year's eve party, a T-shirt and lots of fun. If this sounds like a great way to spend your Christmas break get your tickets starting September 16th. All you need to hold your seat is a \$100.00 deposit (non-refundable) and pay the rest by November 1st. Come down to the NAITSA office (E-131) for more info.

Other responsibilities of NAITSA include the Nest. The Nest is an on-campus licensed restaurant with a full menu. The Nest opens at 7a.m Monday through Friday and has a breakfast menu from 7am-10:30am. There are different lunch features every day, as well as soup and sandwich specials. The Nest is the only restaurant on campus to give free refills with every meal. After 3pm,

the Nest begins serving alcohol. Check out the daily drink specials and try the "Ook Lager" on Tuesdays for only \$0.75. Don't forget that Wednesday is wing night and wings are only \$0.25 each. Be sure to watch the live entertainment featured every second Wednesday starting September 18th. Visit the Nest for great specials, food, entertainment and prizes.

The health and dental plan is also provided by NAITSA. Each full-time student must pay the \$206.00 fee when paying for your tuition. If you have comparable coverage through either your parents, spouse or employer you may opt out of the benefits offered to you here. If you are opting out of the plan, you must provide the staff with documentation such as a letter outlining your coverage from your provider, your provider's health card, a treaty status card or other reasonable documentation. The opt out deadline is September

27th at 4:00p.m.

The publications that NAITSA produces are the student handbook, which you should be receiving here at registration, and the Nugget newspaper. The student handbook is a handy guide to help you get through your time at NAIT. It covers some of the services that the school offers to students, contact names and numbers for school services and facilities, as well you can use the calendar and daytimer portion to help remember homework, schedule appointments or phone numbers. Inside there are also valuable coupons for businesses in the NAIT community.

The Nugget is the school's own unique newspaper. It has been the official student newspaper of NAIT since 1963. The newspaper is published every Thursday, or on a Friday after a long weekend. The Nugget welcomes all submissions by staff or students. The

submission box is located outside our office at E-128. Please include your name and student ID number with your submissions.

NAIT also provides students with a free e-mail account. Ookmail is available through a link from the NAITSA website, www.naitsa.ca. All you need is your name and your valid student ID number. Other services available in the NAITSA office include fax services and resume printing. Stop by the office and see their reasonable rates.

Now that you know what NAITSA does for you, support your school and use your handbook, read the school newspaper, play the games, participate in activities, use the microwaves, go for a swim and eat at the Nest. For information on all upcoming events, visit www.naitsa.ca.



(From Left to Right) Cam Baker, VP Operations; Wade Babiuk, VP Academics; Jeremy Coules, VP Communications; & Dianna McCall, President.

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