

NIC President John Bowman Talks Tech with ASTTBC's John Leech



North Island College President John Bowman (left) receives an ASTTBC eagle feather carved by Salish artist Len McKay. Dean of Trades and Technology Pat Rokosh participated in the discussions about technology education and careers.

North Island College (NIC) is the new home for John Bowman who was, until his NIC appointment in Fall 2013, the President of the College of New Caledonia in Prince George. “John Bowman is a colleague and friend,” said ASTTBC CEO John Leech. “He knows ASTTBC... he supports technology education and skills... he will link with us in areas of common interest.” John was on the NIC campus to talk with John Bowman and Pat Rokosh, Dean of Trades and Technology.

During their discussion the three connected on potential areas for growth of technology programming on Vancouver Island, possibly in collaboration with other post-secondary institutions. Tech programming in K-12 and connecting with First Nations were key talking points. “ASTTBC has been working with many First Nations groups to advance tech careers with First Nations people. [The First Nations Careers Council](#) was established by ASTTBC to help showcase career opportunities and to inform on services available to First Nations.

John Leech noted that about 10% of the Association’s members are female and that ASTTBC would like to see growth in the years ahead. To help promote tech careers with women and young girls ASTTBC launched BC Women in Technology. For [MORE](#) information on technology careers for women.

North Island College offers an Industrial Automation Technician diploma, a strong technology program that is fully accredited and recognized for CTech registration by ASTTBC. “I was given a tour of the program, including a little time in the lab where I saw students ‘making magic’, programming computers to run mechanical devices, creating an automated system,” said Leech. “During National Engineering and Geoscience Month ASTTBC is promoting technology education and careers and the key role of ASTTBC’s 10,000+ members. What better way than to encourage students in K-12, parents and teachers to look at technology programs at NIC.”