

## Flathead Valley Community College

The mission of Flathead Valley Community College is to promote excellence in lifelong learning, focusing on student success and community need. Our mission encompasses these five goals:

1. To provide educational programs and courses that prepare our students for transfer to other post-secondary institutions for the workforce and for citizenship.
2. To increase lifelong learning opportunities for our students and our community.
3. To be responsive to the community's economic and workforce training needs.
4. To promote programs and activities that enhance the cultural and social well-being of our students and community.
5. To foster a positive learning and working environment and provide support services for student success.

### Program Highlights, March through September, 2009

#### **Crown of the Continent Lecture Series**

In cooperation with The Sustainability Fund and National Parks Conservation Association - and in coordination with Glacier National Park's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - FVCC offered the first series of Crown of the Continent Lectures including an optional field trip. The 2009 speakers were selected to provide an overview of the Crown region and included:

- *First Peoples, Two Countries, Three Voices: 10,000 Years of Human History in the Crown of the Continent*, Herman Many Guns, Tony Incashola, and Vernon Finley, leaders of the Blackfoot Confederacy, Salish-Pend Oreille, and the Kootenai/Ktnuxa nations, respectively, moderated by Steve Thompson, Project Coordinator, NPCA
- *The Crown Region: Setting the Stage*, Dr. Jim Byrne, Chairman, Geography Dept., University of Lethbridge
- *Conservation of Aquatic Biodiversity in the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem*, Dr. Clint Muhlfield, USGS
- *Seeing Across the Rockies: Reaching for Montana 1787-1812*, Jack Nesbit, Author
- *A Hike Along the Buffalo Cow Trail: History & Ecology of the Transboundary North Fork*, Dr. Lex Blood, Retired Geology Instructor, FVCC & Steve Thompson, Project Coordinator, NPCA

#### **Natural Resource and Conservation Program**

FVCC's Natural Resource program has been updated to include new courses in the conservation and restoration fields as well as two degree option. Dr. Christina Relyea has been hired as a new Natural Resources faculty member.

The Natural Resources Conservation and Management *Associate of Applied Science degree* prepares students to work as technicians collecting and interpreting environmental information through techniques developed and refined in the traditional fields of forestry, range, water, wildlife, and recreation, and applying this knowledge to the emerging fields of restorative and sustainable land management.

The Natural Resources Conservation and Management *Certificate of Applied Science degree* prepares students to work as technicians collecting and reporting environmental information through techniques developed in the traditional fields such as forestry, range, and water, and applying these techniques to the emerging fields of restorative and sustainable land management.

#### **Elderhostel (now called Exploritas)**

Introduced almost 600 individuals to the splendors of the Crown of the Continent during more than 30 Elderhostel programs.

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Submitted by Susie Burch, Director, Economic Development & Continuing Education

(406) 756-3839 sburch@fvcc.edu