



Jeff Vassart

Word-of-mouth and a solid reputation landed Jeff Vassart at Assiniboine Community College (ACC) and now with a career that's taken him across the globe, Vassart says he's happy to spread the word.

"I chose ACC because the Agribusiness program offered the right balance of theory and applied learning to start my career in the agriculture industry," he said.

And what a gateway to the industry it was.

Since completing his Agribusiness diploma in 1996, Vassart has moved up through the ranks of Cargill through various positions in operations, seed marketing, grain merchandising, and general management in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario.

In 2007, he became vice-president and national sales manager with the Canadian Cargill AgHorizons Business Unit, Canadian Leadership Team.

"At ACC I discovered the importance of curiosity and continuous learning for success in agriculture," Vassart said. "Learning about the industry from all stakeholder perspectives was a foundation for understanding the importance of the roles everyone plays in a global marketplace."

He credits the college's passionate and diverse faculty and its intimate class size for opening his eyes to the power of connectivity and collaboration on a global scale. "ACC taught me the importance of learning from others and embracing change to improve the future."

Today Vassart works 'down under' with Cargill's Agricultural Supply Chain Business Unit, creating a new producer-focused business model on the heels of the company's acquisition of the Australian Wheat Board Commodities Division from Agrium.

Vassart and his wife Lori, a fellow ACC graduate, live in Melbourne, Australia with their three young sons.

Clint Jensen

Clint Jensen was born and raised in Pipestone, Manitoba and always had a strong vision for achieving success.

Clint enrolled in the Business Administration program at ACC immediately after high school in 1988. He was involved in student life from the beginning, enjoying ample opportunities to build relationships with classmates and instructors and serving as President of the Students' Association in his second year.

Nearing graduation at ACC, Clint was encouraged by an instructor to apply for a sales position in Brandon with Kraft Canada. He began a career with Kraft in June 1990, and has since worked across Canada in Victoria, Calgary, Saskatoon, and Toronto. In May 2007, he accepted a position with Kraft USA based in Boston, Massachusetts as head of the Strategy and Planning Division for Marketing for the Eastern seaboard.

In May 2008, he was promoted to Customer Vice-President of the Northeast Region, and in March 2011 he was promoted to his current role as Customer Vice-President of Delhaize America, a retail grocery chain based out of North Carolina. After 21 years with Kraft, he has nothing but admiration for the company.

The Business Administration program provided a strong foundation that has taken Clint a long way in the business world. "The courses offered and the people I interacted with helped me believe that anyone can pursue their career aspirations if they want it bad enough."

Clint and his wife Darcia, also an alumna, live in Plainville, Massachusetts (a suburb of Boston) and have been married for 20 years. They have a son, Tanner and a daughter, Ashleigh and spend much of their time at soccer fields, lacrosse fields, and hockey rinks. They wouldn't have it any other way.



Global Alumni



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DEBRA MULLIN

Education Assistant (2010)
Educational Assistant at Souris School;
Municipal Administrative Assistant at the Hartney
Municipal Office

"The Education Assistant Program was a fantastic program that provided me with lots of interesting information about students, especially those with special needs. The length of this program meant I was able to graduate and get a job right away. I got to know my classmates well because of the small class sizes. The instructors

My ACC Experience



TERESA KAUEHOFEN

Comprehensive Health Care Aide (2010)
Health Care Aide in St. Malo, MB

"Awesome. This photo proves just how proud I am of my training at ACC!"

(cont'd) were fantastic and took an interest in us as people, not just in the papers we wrote. It was a rewarding experience and I would recommend it to anyone—not just people who are interested in education or early childhood education—but in any field. The information you walk away with is invaluable."



RUSSELL FORSEY

Heavy Duty Equipment Technician (2010)
Heavy Duty Mechanic at Agnico-Eagle Mines, Ltd
in Baker Lake, Nunavut

"I had a really good two years in the Heavy Duty Equipment Technician program. Everyone was easy to get along with and the instructors were fantastic! I learned a lot and it geared me up for my career as a Heavy Duty Tech. Thanks to everyone who helped me along the way!"

See Who Hired Our Grads alumni@assiniboine.net
204.725.8700 ext 7124

NATASHA BUHLER

Business Administration
– Accounting Specialization (2010)
Accounting Technician, Letain Roos Sigvaldason
Professional Accountants in Dauphin, MB
"So glad I could stay in my home town!"

SHARLENE DUCHARME

Office Administration - Legal Specialization (2010)
Clerk, Land Titles Office in Brandon, MB
"I absolutely loved ACC. The instructors were amazing and I recommend ACC every chance I get."

MICHELE HUTCHINSON

Early Childhood Education (2010)
Program Administrator/Assistant Director, Manitou, MB
"While enrolled in ECE at ACC I met a lot of people. My instructors were all amazing to work with and had so much knowledge and experience to share with us. I loved the time that I spent at ACC!"

ROBERT LITTLE

Computer Systems Technology (2010)
Information and Communications Technology Director,
Turtle River School Division in McCreary, MB
"I had a great time learning at ACC. The instructors were very helpful and supportive; they wanted us to do well. Overall, it was a very positive learning experience."

JAIREMAINE 'JAI' MENDEZ

Practical Nursing (2010)
Adult Emergency Nurse, Health Sciences Centre in
Winnipeg, MB
"Going through the curriculum was really intense with a lot of sleepless nights and weekends spent studying. I made a lot of friends and have a career that I am proud of. Thank you to all my instructors, especially Jaime. As the saying goes, 'without you, there's no me.'"

SEAN MCKENZIE

Business Administration (2005)
Shift Supervisor, Vale in Thompson, MB
"Great time! I learned valuable skills and had a lot of fun with teachers and students alike."

CHARMAINE OSBORNE

Aboriginal Community Development
– Social Specialization (2010)
Support Worker, YWCA Meredith Place in Brandon, MB
"My ACC experience was great! I loved the small classes and hands-on training! I'm happy to use my ACC experience at work, and I would recommend ACC to others!"

GARY PENNER

Practical Nursing (2009)
LPN, Brandon Regional Health Centre in Brandon, MB.
"ACC gave me the experience and skills needed to succeed in nursing. The teachers were always willing to help and support us."

JUSTIN PERREAUX

Web Design (2008)
Working full time in Regina, SK
"Legendary."

MARIAH PHILLIPS

Police Studies (2010)
Intensive Support & Supervision Program (ISSP) Worker
in the areas of probation and justice in Brandon, MB
"I really enjoyed attending the Police Studies program at ACC. It not only taught me a lot about discipline, policing, and the justice system, but I learned a lot about myself. I loved the physical challenge!"

CHAD PONTO

Piping Trades (2010)
Brandon Heating and Plumbing in Brandon MB
"I got everything I wanted from the program."

CRYSTAL SEREDIUK

Comprehensive Health Care Aide (2010)
Home Care Attendant, South Eastman Health Authority
in Niverville, MB
"My experience was great; the course was well taught and very well organized. I took my course in St. Malo, MB at a satellite site. I was fortunate to receive assistance from the government to help me take this wonderful program. I graduated with distinction and LOVE my new-found career. Thank you ACC!"

ASHLEY SIDLAR

Business Administration (2010)
Administrative Assistant, Reit-Syd Equipment;
Clerk, Manitoba Housing; Administrative Assistant,
ACC Parkland Campus in Dauphin, MB
"Amazing. Loved every second."

RUSSELL THOMPSON

Agribusiness (2010)
Farm Technician, Manitoba Zero Till Research Association;
General Labourer, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada,
and currently a Custom Fertilizing Operator in Manitoba
"Excellent instructors with very hands-on learning and a chance to meet and interact with many new people. I would recommend it to anyone."

**ACC ALUMNI
KEEP IN
TOUCH**

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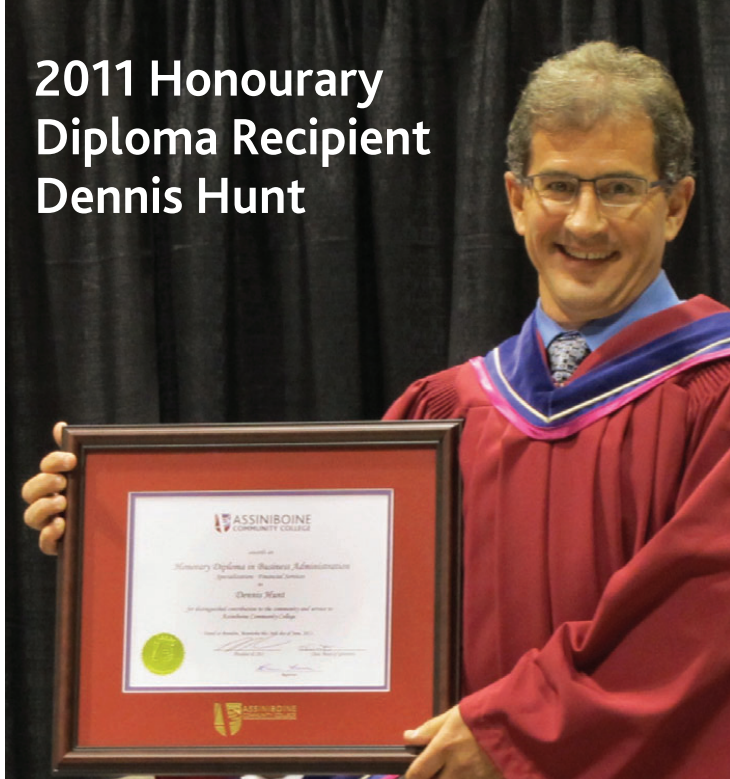
Hands-On Learning

As the major provider of Practical Nursing training in Manitoba, ACC is committed to providing the best possible classroom experience in order to produce confident and knowledgeable health care employees.

Human Patient Simulation Mannequins (HPSMs) recreate a variety of major medical situations, enabling students to develop decision-making skills in a safe, controlled environment not available during their clinical practicum. The three mannequins will benefit our teaching sites in Brandon, Winnipeg, and rural rotating locations, while also supporting courses offered to the existing nursing community.

The ACC Foundation is actively pursuing donations and we ask you to help us make a difference in Westman!

Visit www.assiniboine.net/Community/ACCFoundation.aspx for more information. **To donate**, contact Russell Maloney at 204.725.8700 or 800.862.6307 ext 6324, or email campaign@assiniboine.net.



Each year ACC awards an honorary diploma to an individual who demonstrates high standards of excellence in their personal and professional achievements and whose involvement in the community and college is widely recognized. This year, ACC bestowed the honour on Mr. Dennis Hunt.

Dennis has enjoyed a distinguished career as a Certified Financial Planner and is currently employed by Investors Group as an Executive Financial Consultant. In this role, he is devoted to working with people to help them achieve financial freedom and strives to provide his clients with outstanding customer service. In recognition of his professional accomplishments, Dennis was awarded the Herbert H. Carnegie Community Service Award in 2010. Dennis is also a strong supporter of his community and has participated in leadership positions with various organizations including Advocis—Westman Chapter, Brandon Wheat City Lions Club, Canadian Cancer Society, Brandon United Way and the Brandon Barbarians Rugby and Football Club.

In addition to an exceptional business career and outstanding service to the community, Dennis has served as President of the Assiniboine Community College Foundation Inc. for nearly a decade. Under his leadership, the foundation has increased the number of student scholarships, and has led successful fundraising campaigns for ACC's Manitoba Institute of Culinary Arts and the Len Evans Centre for Trades and Technology.

It brings honour and distinction to ACC to recognize Dennis for his contributions to our college and the community.

Legacy Gala Dinner

Thursday, November 17, 2011

The Assiniboine Community College Foundation invites you to the 2011 Legacy Gala Dinner, which has been fundraising to help support students since 1997.

For further information contact Michelle Atamanchuk at 725.8739

ALUMNI ADVANCEMENT DINNER

Thursday, January 19, 2012

5:30 PM Cocktails | 6:00 PM Dinner | Lady of the Lake | \$40 per person

Join us for prizes, award presentations, and live entertainment!

For tickets, contact Michelle Atamanchuk at 725.8739 or email alumni@assiniboine.net

Putting Students First Campaign

When seeking out a new career, everyone needs a chance to prove themselves. Many of Westman's promising students receive this opportunity through the generous funding of scholarships, awards, and bursaries, which allow them to shine during their academic training. On behalf of our students and their future employers, thank you to all who donated to this year's Students First Campaign, going above and beyond in the effort to infuse our community with skilled employees. Check out a list of the donors at www.assiniboine.net/Community/ACCFoundation.aspx and show them your support in return!

Brenda Bournon

When Brenda Bournon walked through the doors of Assiniboine Community College's Adult Collegiate for the first time, she was a woman on a mission.



With her 50th birthday around the corner, Bournon knew she owed it to herself to pursue something that had long been pushed aside in favour of work and family life—a high school diploma.

"It was definitely a milestone for me,"

Bournon said. "I was at a crossroads in my life, and I knew it was time to go back to school."

Before attending the Adult Collegiate, she worked for the Brandon Regional Health Authority as a clerk for Midwifery Services and also managed a group home.

"As an adult, returning to the classroom can seem scary, but we got to know our instructors on a first-name basis," she said. "The staff and students made the journey memorable; I felt relaxed because they treated me like an adult."

Small class sizes and the commitment by staff to get to know each and every student gave Bournon the confidence to flourish and the drive to learn more.

Bournon graduated with honours and, with her diploma proudly in hand, returned to ACC this fall to pursue her Early Childhood Education diploma.



ACC ALUMNI WHEAT KINGS CHILL

Friday, February 10, 2012

Wheat Kings vs. Swift Current Broncos

GAME TIME 7:30 PM

\$50 package includes a game ticket, an ACC Alumni hoodie, and exclusive access to the Viewing Lounge before and during the game!

For tickets, contact Pat Stowe at 204.725.8700 or 800.862.6307 ext 7214 or email alumni@assiniboine.net

Did You Know?

Education Assistant program

Length:

Four months, including a practicum.
Flexible distance and evening courses.

Start Dates:

January at the Victoria Avenue East Campus.
The beginning of every month through distance delivery.
Various dates for evening courses through the Centre of Continuing Studies.



Get ready for a new career in the education system! This program gets you through the classroom and into the workforce in four short months. Education assistants are an essential part of Manitoba's school system and those with college certification are typically recognized with higher pay levels.

A typical workday of 9 AM – 3 PM means that work doesn't interfere with home life, and many courses transfer directly into the Early Childhood Education program. If you're interested in helping children in the classroom, in special education programs, or with speech training, this is a great place to start!

For more information, contact Dayna Mayor at 725.8700 ext 6228 or hhs@assiniboine.net

To register, contact Heather Panagiotou at 725.8700 ext 7096 or registrar@assiniboine.net

50 Grand Society

THE POWER OF FRIENDS



COUGARS ATHLETIC AUCTION



Thursday, March 22, 2012

The 40, Trails West Inn

For tickets and sponsorship opportunities call 725.8714 or email varsity@assiniboine.net

As we celebrate our 50th anniversary, ACC is pleased to announce the launch of the 50 Grand Society. Each friend (or group) that donates \$1,000 will be inducted into this powerful society which supports students through scholarships. Fifty students will receive \$1,000 each to help them achieve their educational goals. Don't miss your chance to join the 50 Grand Society! Alumni may wish to combine their donations to meet the \$1,000 goal, and all members will be invited to a special golden anniversary event.

The Manitoba Scholarships and Bursaries Initiative will match the \$50,000 raised, creating an endowment that will support Assiniboine Community College students for years to come.



Alumni Association Board Members

President: Jamie Robinson	Michelle Huskison
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Lillian Hamilton	Caelie Walker

The Alumni in ACtion newsletter serves to connect alumni with the college and each other by highlighting new developments at our many campuses and showcasing the accomplishments of graduates as they succeed in their areas of expertise.

The views and opinions expressed in Alumni in ACtion do not necessarily reflect an official position of the Alumni Association or Assiniboine Community College.

College Advancement and External Relations

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Web: www.assiniboine.net/Community/AlumniAssociation.aspx

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