

REALITY CHECK

We need to close the skills gap

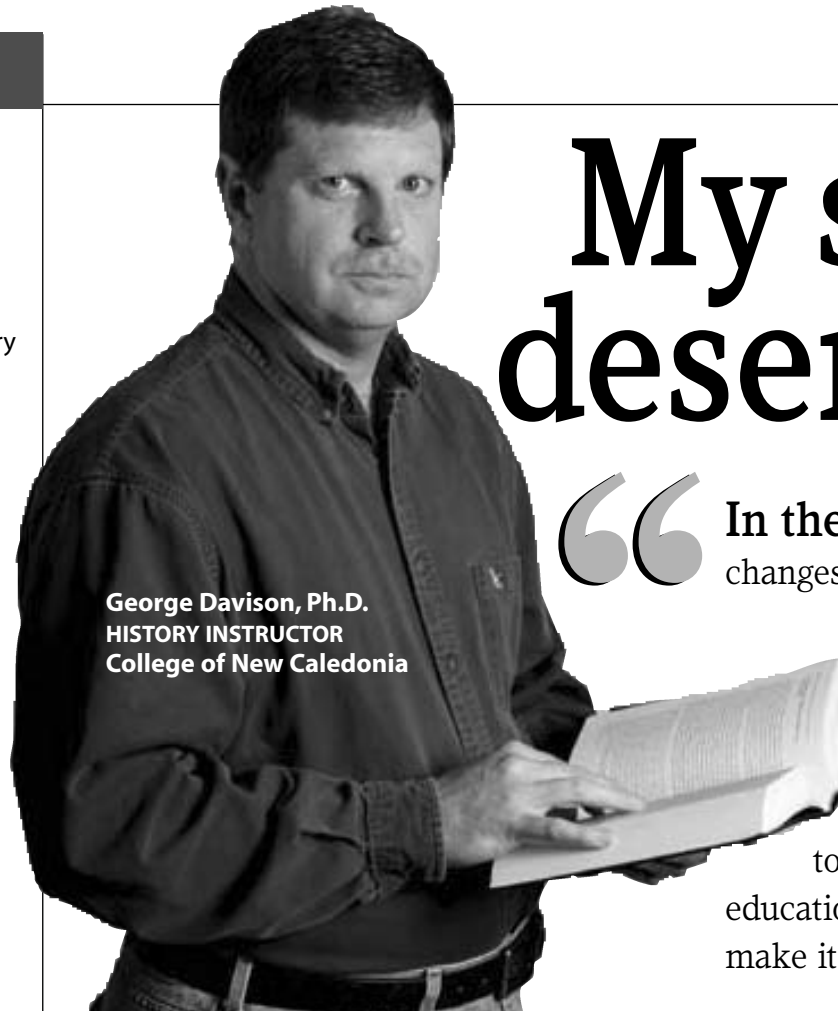
Only 59% of our workforce has post-secondary education, yet the BC Business Council says 73% of all new jobs will require post-secondary education and training.

But we're making it harder to get the skills

Since 2001, average tuition fees have jumped by 98%. Average student debt in BC has climbed from \$18,000 in 1999 to almost \$25,000 currently. Provincial funding needs to increase by \$200 million just to bring per-student funding back to the 2001 level.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATORS HAVE SOLUTIONS

- Reinstate the BC Student Grant Program to **help lower student debts.**
- **Reduce tuition fees** for students to make post-secondary education more affordable.
- Make adult basic education (ABE) tuition-free to **encourage adult learners to upgrade their skills.**
- **Increase per-student funding** of public post-secondary institutions to at least 2001 levels.



George Davison, Ph.D.
HISTORY INSTRUCTOR
College of New Caledonia

My students deserve better

“In the last five years I've seen a lot of changes in post-secondary education. But most of them have been in the wrong direction. Sky-high tuition fees, the loss of counseling and support services, and chronic under-funding from the provincial government have made it tougher for my students. Post-secondary education is an investment in our future. Let's make it a future where everyone benefits.”

**POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION
BETTER FUNDING. BETTER FUTURES.**

Tell Premier Campbell to invest in BC's future.



Federation of
Post-Secondary
Educators of BC



TO SEND A MESSAGE TO PREMIER CAMPBELL AND
YOUR MLA VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.FPSE.CA