



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

TRU

Cariboo College: 1970 – 1989

University College of the Cariboo: 1989 – 2005

Thompson Rivers University: 2005 – Present

A Different Kind of University

What is a primarily undergraduate, teaching-focused university?

What does the “Most Comprehensive University in Canada” mean?

What sets us apart from the traditional ‘university’ as we know it in Canada?

Why is it impossible for Maclean’s to rank us !

In the Beginning

The small houses have been here how long?

What do you mean this was a Navy base!!

The stories behind the creation of a college:
what is a Cariboo?

It was going to be just a Vocational School.



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In the Heart of Kamloops

The First Decade: 1970-71 to 1979-80

Why build it way out there ! Dust, Trees & Garbage

Year 1 – Kamloops Indian Residential School

The ‘animal’ wing !

Regional campuses; Continuing Education

Food before books; getting priorities straight !



TRU

Culinary Arts Centre



Main Library

TRU



TRU

Not Always a Multi-Cultural Campus

Into the Second Decade

Unwritten rules: Come on up if you want to !

Don't you dare go to Salmon Arm

The recession hits hard

Dig that hole Save the Gym !

The Politics of Access

Access For All – Eight regional reports
(post-recession response)

1988 - 1989: The fastest response in government
history ?

They said it was impossible, BUT this was how
UBC was started; and how UBC started UVIC!

Leading the Way

Eight months, Five Degrees

Three great decisions – Labour, Land & Plan.

History proves the power of togetherness!!

The ‘science’ of integration.

The Canada Summer Games

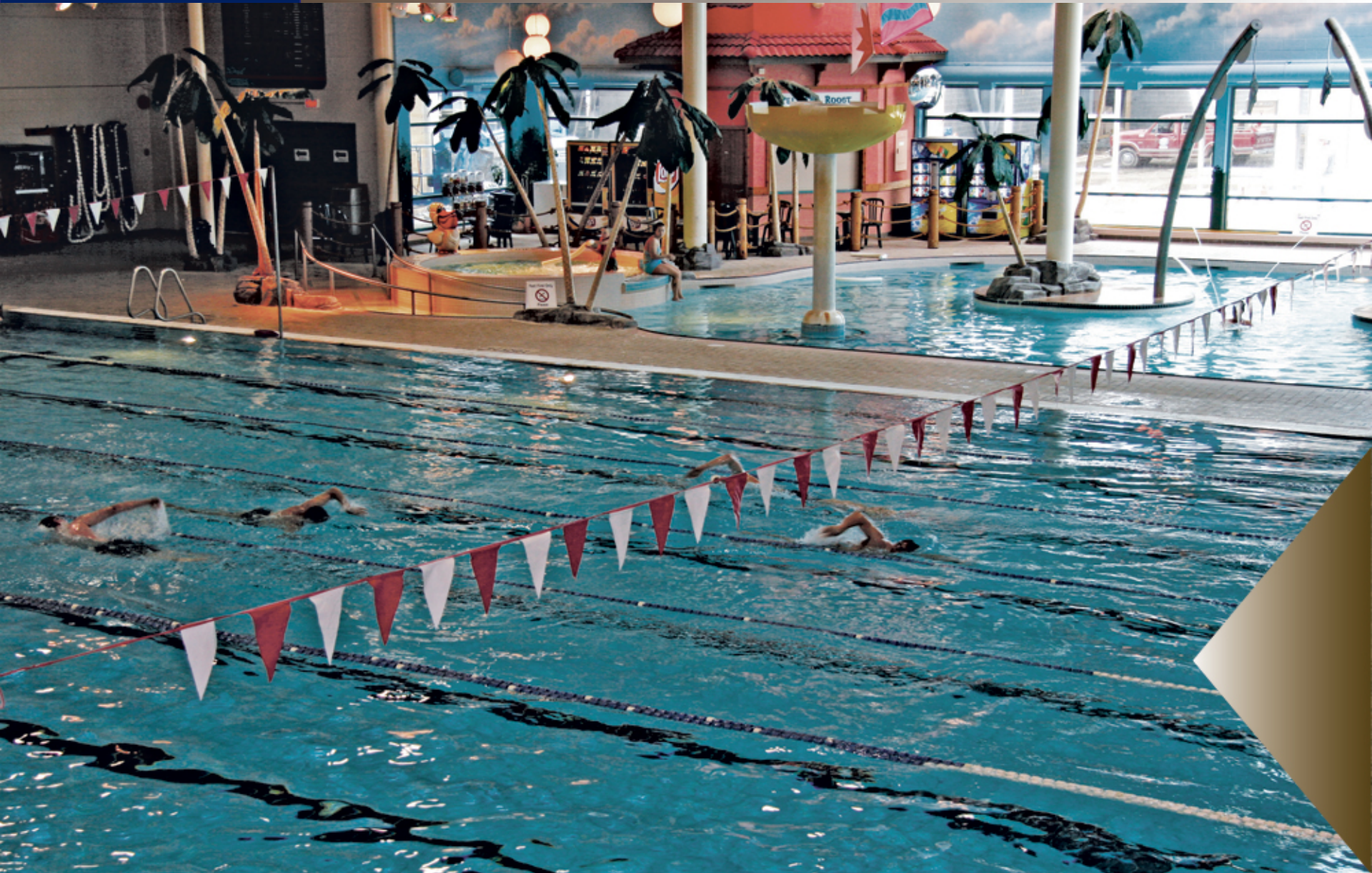
Working together with the City

Aquatic Centre

The legacy lives on and
now includes the U-Pass

TRU

Canada Games Aquatic Centre



The Canada Summer Games

Leverage

Creating the CAC

And building A & E

Campus Activity Centre

TRU





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Arts & Education Building

International Building

TRU



What is a University College ?

Canada didn't know; the rest of the world did

The reality of degree-granting and growth:
1991(1st Grads) – 1995 (1st new degree)

We have always been the leaders: the BNRS
(and the Open Learning irony)

A Toll Booth helps create a University

2003 - 2005: Kamloops vs. Kelowna:
all is fair in love, war and politics!

The community said: Promise to keep the trades
and we embrace you !

Coquihalla Controversy = community backlash.

Five Steps in becoming TRU

1. Government agrees that “equality” is fair!
2. Open Learning: the missing link that can set us apart (and tip the decision)
3. March 2004: 15 years later, almost to the day, another big announcement in Kamloops



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Experience Open Learning

Five Steps in becoming TRU

4. September 2004: the “name game”
concludes

(Try recruiting for a U with No Name)

5. March 31, 2005: much more appropriate
than April 1st

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Trades & Technology Centre





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TRU Residence & Conferences

We set the path > others followed

Diversity: almost 200 program options

- ❖ U-Prep and Trades
- ❖ Certificates and Diplomas
- ❖ Undergraduate and graduate degrees
- ❖ The first professional program: Law

Access: Open Admission & Open Learning

We set the path > others followed

A 'world' of students

The International Experience

(One of a few ISEP universities in Canada)

International Practicum & Co-op Semesters,
Study Abroad, Field Schools and Double
Degrees

We set the path > others followed

Connected

[almost] every [public] Diploma in Canada is
connected to a TRU degree

Hands-On

Undergraduate research; community projects;
formal recognition for global perspectives

A Different Kind of University

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The Answers are in our History

College Roots & U/C Mandate: Primarily undergraduate, teaching-focused

Diverse and Connected: The most Comprehensive University in Canada

Accessible and Flexible: sets us apart from the traditional 'university' in Canada?

That's Why Maclean's can't rank us !

TRU

Create your OWN Experience

Thanks for Being Here Today

