

# Tradeswomen **A WINNING TICKET**

APRIL 20-21 | RUTH WYNN WOODWARD CHAIR IN WOMEN'S STUDIES  
SIRON FRASER UNIVERSITY BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY 07



## Conference Speakers

Friday April 20, 2007

### Panel Speakers:

#### **Cynthia Haugen:**

Cynthia Haugen took the Trades Discovery for Women class at BCIT in 1999 and immediately followed with pre-apprentice training for electrical in 2000. In 2001 she started work in construction for Anton Electric and in 2005 received her Red Seal journey electrician papers. She now working at Van GH for Vancouver Coastal Health as full-time maintenance electrician. Before trades Licensed Practical Nurse. Tried everything including but wasn't happy even drove a limosine, helped friends with renovations, waitress,

#### **Dione Hencker:**

Dione Hencker is 27 years old. She's been a welder since 2004, after taking the Trades Discovery For Women program at BCIT in 2003. Prior to earning her level C welding ticket, she attended Douglas College where she received her Associate Degree in Creative Writing. Dione chose a trade in order to pay off her student loans accrued in college. She is now B Level certified, and will likely return to BCIT to receive her A ticket. Never considered to be "handy," Dione believes anyone with an interest and a good work ethic can succeed in a trade.

#### **Judy Kujundzic:** Also co-facilitator, Claiming the Territory

Judy Kujundzic is a fully ticketed welder and a 25 year member of Local 191 Boilermakers' Union. She is also a pension trustee and has been a shop steward in her union. For five years she worked as a union advocate for displaced shipyard workers. She also ran the Victoria Bladerunner Program, placing at-risk youth on construction jobs that led to apprenticeships. She is suited to intense work periods, good pay, occasional travel, a good laugh, and likes the last day of a job as much as the first. So for the past seven years she has worked off the union call-out list, and currently works at Victoria Shipyards.

**Saturday April 21, 2007**

**Keynote Speaker & Workshop Facilitator:**

**Valerie Overend: The Start-up, Care and Maintenance of your Women In Trades (WIT) Group**

Valerie Overend is a Journeyed Carpenter who has been promoting Industrial and Technical occupations to girls and women since 1990. She has developed and delivered Women In Trades and Technology (WITT) programs from coast to coast to coast in Canada and even traveled to Malawi (Africa) to train instructors. Valerie is Executive Director of SaskWITT and also works as a Provincial WITT Facilitator at Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science & Technology (SIAST). Valerie raised 2 sons one her own, both electricians, and is currently rebuilding her own home in Regina.

**Keynote Speaker:**

**Vivian Price: Transnational Tradeswomen**

(Dr). Vivian Price started working in factories during the era of student organizing in the 1970's, and got into the trades as a maintenance and then a construction electrician through the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. She took up video while working in the lesbian community in the 1980's, then took classes in video when she returned to school in the 1990's. Her research focuses on issues of gender and labor, including her dissertation, which looked at the way gender, race, and community pressure interfaced with government policy. To survive graduate school, she produced "Hammering It Out," a film about one of her case studies of affirmative action. "Transnational Tradeswomen" was completed in 2006.