

Valentine's Day Loving

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Contributor



Friends come first. Isn't that how the cliché goes? This can't be more evident – to me at least – than on February 14th, Valentine's Day. That day were we are supposed to give in to the consumerism and buy flowers, cards, and gifts for that special someone in our life. Or, for those of us who are single, we are supposed to sit around and mope and wonder why we couldn't get a date.

But why is this? Why should we give in to this idea of what love is and how we should view this special day? I spent parts of the day with my mom, my sister, our exchange student, and some friends – and I can't think of a better way to spend the 'day of love'. I got to hang out with some of my favorite people, the ones that will always be around no matter what, the ones who have always loved me [and who I've loved] the most.

Perhaps I'm jaded, or I'm just prejudiced because I didn't have a special someone to celebrate with anyway. The only rose and chocolates I got was from my mom. But I had a great day. So to all the rest of you single people out there – I hope you also got to enjoy the day with your friends and family. And to those of you who are attached, I hope you thought to call your family and friends as well and tell them you love them, because that – I think – is what the day is all about.

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)

Over the coming weeks all first year and final year UPEI students will be receiving emails asking them about their experience at UPEI. It is not spam! It is a very important survey helping the university understand what it is doing well and should be doing more of as well as where it can improve.

The university's recent academic planning progress identified the student experience at UPEI as its top priority. This survey is a key step in helping turn that decision into action. Please play your part by completing the NSSE survey. Future generations of UPEI students will benefit from it. For more details, see www.upei.ca/extension/nsse.

Clive Keen
Director, Centre for Life-Long Learning

Did you know...

you could acquire a minor in Environmental Studies by successfully completing 21 semester hours from Environmental Studies courses and cross-listed courses. These courses must include:

- Environmental Studies 201-202
- A min. of 6 sem. hrs in approved courses within the Faculty of Science
- A min. of 6 sem. hrs in approved courses within the Faculty of Arts, School of Business Administration, and Faculty of Education.

Some restrictions apply. Consult the calendar and Department of Environmental Studies www.upei.ca/environment/



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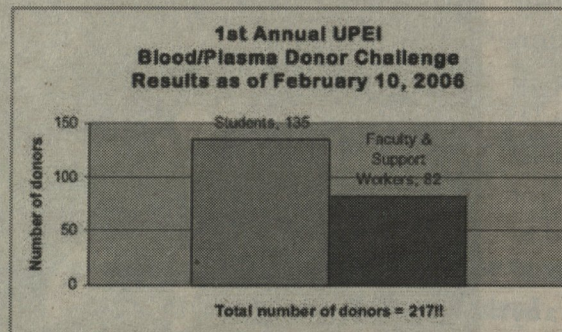
Canadian Blood Services
Société canadienne du sang

It's in you to give!

The students are still ahead in the 1st Annual UPEI Blood Donor Challenge, but there is still plenty of time for the faculty/support workers to catch up. The challenge runs until April 2006.

Each donation you make, can help hospital patients who use blood and blood products as part of their cancer treatments, surgery or a number of other illnesses like anemia. Over 50% of Canadians say they or their family members have required blood or blood products for medical treatment or surgery. You can help.

Below are the results as of February 10th, 2006...



Remember, each time you visit the Canadian Blood Services Charlottetown Blood Donor Clinic at 85 Fitzroy Street, you must sign the UPEI Partners for Life sheet (located in donor refreshment area) and then indicate whether you are a student of faculty/support worker.

It only takes about an hour to donate (when you book an appointment)

Call 1 888 2 DONATE (1 888 236-6283) today to book your appointment.

It doesn't take much to help save the lives of hospital patients. If you have never donated before, visit our Web site to find out how easy it really is to help those who require blood and blood products.

Canadian Blood Services must increase its donor base by 80,000 donors to ensure the future stability of the blood supply. Blood and blood products are perishable. Platelets, the clotting part of your blood is only effective for five days after it is collected. Red blood cells have a shelf life of 42 days while plasma can be stored for up to one year.

Call 1 888 2 DONATE today and remember to sign-in when you come to donate.

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TRANSFORMING
PEI

DID YOU KNOW...
92% OF OUR 4TH YEAR CLASSES
HAVE LESS THAN 25 STUDENTS?

