

INNOVATE

Centre for Arts, Crafts and Technology



NEW YEAR! NEW STAFF! NEW WORKSHOPS! NEW EQUIPMENT!

After a crazily busy Christmas season, the INNOVATE Centre is looking forward to welcoming members back with many new changes!

The new workshop schedule will allow for increased opportunities to learn new introductory skills such as Adobe Illustrator Basics, Small Tool training, and will gradually prepare members for independent use of the larger equipment in the rear shop. For members ready to challenge themselves or take their skills to the next level, INNOVATE will be offering longer workshop series focusing on a specific project using multiple systems and materials. Are you interested in a particular project or product? We can arrange private workshops for groups and organizations as well!

The INNOVATE Centre is also acquiring new equipment and systems! We've heard the feedback, and will be purchasing a large format eco-solvent printer capable of printing banners (up to 54" wide!), outdoor displays, vinyl vehicle graphics, and much more. To accommodate the increased activity in the rear shop, INNOVATE has ordered a 15" wood planer that will be quieter and easier to use. Rounding out the new equipment will be new desktop sanders that will allow for more detailed finishing of jewelry and other fine workpieces.

The staff at INNOVATE are eager to welcome in the new year and help our clients realize their entrepreneurial goals!

Our Partners



Gwich'in Tribal Council
Gwich'in Land, culture & economy for a better future



IN THIS ISSUE

**FEATURED MEMBER:
LUISA OSPINA**

STAFFING UPDATES

**DECEMBER IN
REVIEW**

LOOKING FORWARD

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Center for Arts, Crafts and Technology

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FEATURED MEMBER: Luisa Ospina - Bacata Designs by Luisa



Luisa joined the Centre in October of 2021 and also participated in the charcuterie board workshop in November 2021. Her initial plan was to use her membership to create her Christmas gifts and over time she became more familiar with the different equipment, in particular the Epilog laser engraver and Sawgrass sublimation printer. Within the term of her membership, having access to all the equipment within sparked the entrepreneur inside and with the encouragement of fellow members she started her Etsy store: *Bacata Designs by Luisa*.

Luisa is interested in many of the systems made available with both hobbyist and commercial memberships. She has produced many products using the sublimation printer such as mugs, earrings, and magnets. Her next goal is to learn the X-Carve CNC (Computer Numerical Control) system, which offers an abundance of different projects to make with wood and other material.

Luisa's goal with her commercial membership is to participate in the local markets. It gives her the agility to accept contracts from businesses to have items branded and promote locally produced items.

Use the resources out there open to those who have dreams of starting a business. You are never alone: there is a strong community of small business owners in Inuvik who are willing to help out. Just reach out and you will find a friendly hand - Luisa Ospina

TECH TIPS

Here is one of the Tech's Favourite download free Vector files!

Check out the website: www.vecteezy.com, great source for royalty free vector files, this website offers paid and free vector files for download, vector files are ideal to work with adobe Illustrator as they are the type of files you need to work on that software. Once you have your design made in adobe you can then use most of the equipment at the centre.

**MEET THE NEWEST INNOVATE
TEAMMATE!
KARLA KUPTANA
INNOVATE COMMS/ADMIN**



What do I do?

I am the administrative / communication worker for the INNOVATE Centre. I will be keeping the public updated with all the new and upcoming things the Center has to offer. I will also help with any troubleshooting issues that may come up while our members are working on their projects.

Favourite Piece of Technology?

I enjoy the wood shop the most, but I'm also very interested in incorporating other pieces that can be made using the different systems the Centre offers.

What is your favourite INNOVATE project?

My favourite piece is the wolf wall hanging I made in the wood shop as a member. I had help cutting a bunch of random small pieces of wood and then I glued and cut them a several more times to get the pattern. I then planed and and glued a walnut piece to it, then laser engraved the wolf artwork.

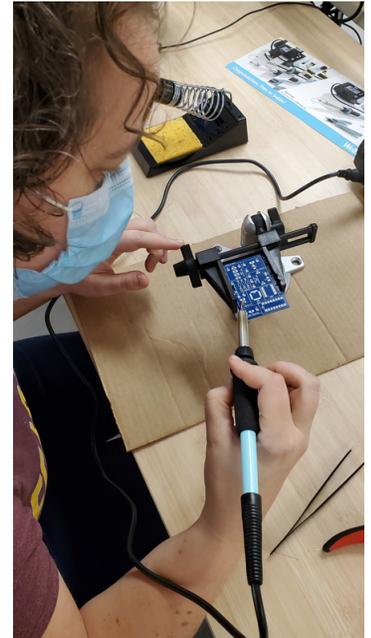
DECEMBER IN REVIEW



Charcuterie Board by Amanda Chaulk-Parrott, She used the CNC to cut the letters in the board and filled and coloured each letter with Epoxy



Faye D'Eon-Eggertson, Participating in the Soldering/Small electronics workshop held on Dec 8th



Cutting Board design by Rylan Wainman, Using Adobe illustrator



THE BENEFITS OF A COMMERCIAL MEMBERSHIP

Whether you're already a successful business owner (looking to create NWT-made SWAG or add value to your products) or a technology-beginner looking to start a business (and generate an income completing contracts). The INNOVATE Centre for Arts, Crafts and Technology exists to provide a well-equipped facility and empower **every individual** with the tools and techniques to create innovative, unique products that enable them to generate a better livelihood.

Commercial Membership

- Priority access to technology / machines
- Priority access to technician support
- Access to the job board (to bid on contract work)
- Additional access to the centre (outside of open hours) to complete contracts
- \$150 / month
- \$1500 / year

Hobbyist Membership

- Access to technology (if not needed by a commercial member)
- Access to technician support (if not assisting commercial members)
- \$75 / month
- \$750 / year

MARCH WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

March 3 (6 - 8 pm): Introduction to Adobe Illustrator - navigation, layout, artboards, tools, formats, import/export

March 10 (6 - 8 pm): Basic Tools: Intro to common hand-held and power tools

March 17: (6-8 pm): Custom Cookie Cutters

March 24: (6 - 8 pm): Epoxy River Board/Sign Intro

March 27: (10am-4pm): Epoxy River Board/Sign workshop

March 31: (6-8 pm): Medium Tools: Compound Bevelled Mitre Saw and Thickness Planer.

Limited Seats Available. Contact innovate@nwtresearch.com to register

MERGING ARTS & CRAFTS TECHNOLOGY COURSES

The INNOVATE Centre has delivered Merging Arts and Crafts with Technology Courses in the Beaufort Delta region. The customized courses provide in depth instruction of software and equipment. Hands on training on the equipment provides students with the opportunity to experiment with different techniques and materials. The end result of producing a product is immediate.

If you are interested in running a workshop or interested in training on software and equipment please contact us!

COMMUNITY MAKERSPACES

Aurora College and the INNOVATE Centre have the capacity to support makerspaces in communities throughout the NWT. The development of community-based makerspaces have numerous benefits for community members:

Economic Benefits

- Removal of barriers to artists/crafters wanting to produce arts and crafts for sale to tourists or online
- Opportunities for local residents to generate income through small-scale manufacturing
- Digital literacy & business skills

Educational & Cultural Benefits

- Intergenerational sharing & learning
 - Traditional knowledge and methods
 - Youth contribute digital skills
- Expression of local culture and art using new technologies that allows experimentation and creativity

If you are interested in learning more about how INNOVATE can support community makerspaces, contact us innovate@nwtresearch.com

LOOKING FORWARD

Check out our next newsletter in March 2022!

**The INNOVATE Center is extending memberships:
All memberships expiring in January/February are extended to
March**

Contact the Centre for more details!

EASTER'S COMING!

Interested in expanding your product line prior to the next holiday? Talk to the staff at INNOVATE!

Hobbyist memberships are available at a cost of \$75 per month (you can sign up for as little or many months as you wish). Commercial memberships (along with priority access to machines and technician support) cost \$150 per month. GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE.