



STEWART BURNETT PHOTO

Skin Ovations is celebrating its five-year anniversary in Dawson Creek. Left to right stand Kelsie Swain, Caitlyn Graham, Michelle Graham and Heather Weaver. Not pictured are employees Maryann Sajtovich and Sandra Bradbury.

5 years for Skin Ovations

STEWART BURNETT
Staff Writer

Five years old this weekend, but with a goal to keep its clients looking young, Dawson Creek's Skin Ovations is celebrating its anniversary.

"February 2006 was our grand opening," recalled owner Heather Weaver. "We started with two employees, moved on to five and things are looking good."

At its outset, the business focused strictly on laser and medical light treatment. Because of requests and demand from customers, it has evolved to include more esthetic services such as manicures, pedicures and waxing.

"We added on all the esthetic services," continued Weaver. "We had a lot of clients requesting when they were coming here to have those other services. Our clients are very loyal and they tend to stick with us. Whatever they want, they get."

The locally owned and operated business moved from 10 Street to 103 Ave two years ago to allow for more rooms and more natural lighting.

Weaver boasted about the business's number of high-quality services, from medical lights to lasers to electrolysis. She particularly noted its laser hair removal and vein therapy machine. It's a true laser, not an intense pulse light, which doesn't produce the same power or results as a medical laser. She also has cooler equipment that cools the skin so the laser provides no discomfort.

All three of Weaver's estheticians were trained in Northern Lights College's dual-credit program with South Peace Secondary School.

Michelle Graham called herself a guinea pig of

the program, as she took part in the first year it was available. Now she's manager of the store and a four-year veteran in the industry.

"I came into it because I did the esthetics program and I was looking at furthering my education in the medical esthetics field where you're able to use higher-end equipment to get better results," she said about how she found Skin Ovations.

Graham is trained to do a variety of esthetic treatments, but she mainly focuses on skin care and electrolysis. She said she likes the field because of its relaxing environment and nature of helping customers.

"I enjoy how everybody's happy to come see you and happy when they leave, as opposed to working at the bank where people are cranky when they wait in line and their paycheck wouldn't deposit," she laughed.

"It's also been really interesting being able to see some of the different acne cases over the course of a couple years and how they're changing and healing."

Skin Ovations sits next to Need To Be Kneaded Massage, and Graham said that has been another benefit to the relocation, as the two shops' clientele play off each other.

Graham wants to see the business continue to grow in the medical field in the coming years. For now, she's thanking the shop's loyal clientele, who, in her words, have made the business into what it is.

Skin Ovations will officially celebrate its fifth birthday on Feb. 12, 2011.

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Notice to Area Residents Construction of Dawson

In the coming months, Spectra Energy is planning to construct a pipeline located approximately 16 km west of Dawson Creek, off of the 241 Road. One to two million cubic feet per day of shale gas formation. It is being drilled and construction is planned in two phases. Phase one planned for October and will begin once the first phase has been completed in early 2013.

During construction, residents can expect an increase in traffic, specifically on the 212 and 241 roads. Construction will last for approximately the first week of earthworks will be complete