

## **John Carling Fraser**

John Fraser grew up in Surrey, B.C. He graduated from North Surrey Secondary School in 1995, then attended the University of Victoria where he earned an Honours Bachelor of Science degree in 2000. He worked in various biology labs for two years and then returned to UVic as a graduate student. He died unexpectedly of natural causes at the age of 26 in September 2003. At the time of his death he was a Masters Degree student in the Biology Department.

John was particularly interested in microbiology. His Honours BSc thesis involved research on a virus that attacks an insect pest, the Western Hemlock Looper. The long-term goal of this research was to produce a biological pesticide. As a UVic lab employee and as a graduate student he worked with bacteria that produce hydrogen. This research was aimed at using bacteria to produce hydrogen on a large scale to provide fuel for industry and automobiles.

John liked to fix things. At North Surrey Secondary School, he spent several hours a week after school in the chemistry lab, cleaning equipment and helping to set up experiments. He also helped maintain and repair tools and machines in the metalwork shop. He continued this interest at UVic. In his biology lab he gained the reputation of being the man who could make equipment work.

John was very fond of the outdoors. He liked hiking, camping, and fishing. He joined the Boy Scout Movement (Scouts Canada) when he was 14 years old. He was an active member of the 6<sup>th</sup> West Whalley Venturer