



VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATION COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2024

3:30–5:30 p.m., Videoconference

ATTENDANCE

Education Council Members

Natasha Mandryk (Chair)	Dennis Innes	Marcus Ng
Sarah Kay (Vice-Chair)	Emily Simpson	Shirley Lew
Belinda Kaplan	Jessica Ligeralde	Todd Rowlett
Brianna Higgins	Kseniia Osipova	Vivian Munroe
Dana Valeria Rodriguez Arellano	Lisa Beveridge	
Dave McMullen	Louise Dannhauer	

Regrets

David Wells	Heidi Parisotto
Derek Sproston	Simranjot Kaur

Guests

Adrian Lipsett	Jennifer Cummins	Maureen Kelbert
Bobbi Mand	Jennifer Gossen	Michelle Wong
Brett Griffiths	Jo-Ellen Zakoor	Sonny Ho
David Kirk	John Demeulemeester	Stefan Nielsen
Dawn Cunningham Hall	Ken McMorris	Taryn Thomson
Helga Mankhof	Mark Chiarello	Willy Aroca-Aguirre
Herbie Atwal	Marnie Findlater	

Recording Secretary

Darija Rabadzija

1. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- D. Rodriguez Arellano acknowledged the College’s location on the traditional unceded territories of the x̣m̄əθk̄əȳ əm (Musqueam), Sk̄w̄x̄ wú7mesh (Squamish), and sə̄lil̄w̄ ətaʔt̄ (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples who have been stewards of this land from time immemorial and extended the acknowledgement to the ancestral territories of all participants joining remotely.

3. ADOPT AGENDA

MOTION: THAT Education Council adopt the January 16, 2024 agenda as amended. Item 6c) was moved later on the agenda.

Moved by N. Mandryk, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

4. APPROVE PAST MINUTES

MOTION: THAT Education Council approve the December 12, 2023 minutes as presented.

Moved by N. Mandryk, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

5. ENQUIRIES & CORRESPONDENCE

- There were none.

6. BUSINESS ARISING

a) International Education Strategic Plan (IESP)

- J. Gossen presented the draft International Education Strategic Plan (IESP) 2024–2029 for information. The provincial and national context for the creation of the plan was outlined, including the British Columbia Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training International Education Framework (2021). This is a College-wide plan and not limited to the International Education department (IE). The plan outlines strategic objectives, which include Indigenous perspectives; equity, diversity, inclusion and access; student success; global experiences and partnerships; and sustainability.
- There was a discussion around various concerns facing international students, such as living conditions; English language support at VCC; the College's relationships with agents; and possible impacts of measures currently being discussed at the government level, such as a potential cap on international students. It was noted that there are significant differences between the international education sectors in Ontario and British Columbia.
- Responding to questions about the Indigenous perspectives objective, J. Gossen outlined government funding opportunities for partnerships between institutions that are working towards decolonization and reconciliation (e.g., in Canada, Mexico, New Zealand, and Australia).
- Members inquired about the consultation process for the development of this plan, particularly to capture student feedback, and expressed an interest in ongoing dialogue across the College about issues facing international students.
- The plan will be presented to the Board of Governors on February 7. The question was raised whether this strategic planning document requires Board approval (with EdCo advice) under the College & Institute Act.

b) Annual Deans' & Directors' Presentations – Part 1

- Annual updates were presented by J. Gossen, Director of International Education, and A. Lipsett, Dean of Continuing Studies. Presentations focused on providing context and themes for EdCo to consider related to curriculum and educational policy.
- One initiative in collaboration with International Education is an early intervention pilot project aimed at identifying students in need of additional supports. There were questions about post-graduate work permits (PGWP) and student outcomes. Data is available on the number of permits obtained by VCC graduates, but not on their places of employment. One challenge for the PGWP application process is that due to the non-standard structure of some VCC programs, International Education needs to provide additional letters to confirm graduates' studies have fulfilled PGWP criteria.
- Key themes in Continuing Studies include increasing domestic enrolment, micro-credentials, and collaboration across the province. Opportunities for modern apprenticeships are being explored. Modern apprenticeships are common in Europe and combine classroom instruction with paid on-the-job-training, not limited to traditional trades.

c) Affiliation Agreements Update

- Item deferred.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Curriculum Committee

i) New Courses: LINC 0603 & 0606

MOTION: THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, two new courses: LINC 0603 LINC 3-5 Employment Skills and LINC 0606 LINC 6-8 Employment Skills.

Moved by T. Rowlett, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

- M. Kelbert presented the proposal for two new Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) courses. LINC students are generally newcomers to Canada and are looking for work. These new non-credit courses focus on employment skills for students at Levels 3–5 and 6–8. The courses were suggested by LINC students and are supported by the LINC funding body, the federal Ministry of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).
- T. Rowlatt added that Curriculum Committee requested minor adjustments to learning outcomes, which were completed.

ii) Program Update: Asian Culinary Arts Certificate

MOTION: THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the significantly revised Asian Culinary Arts Certificate program and eight new courses, and recommend the Board of Governors approve the implementation of the significantly revised program.

Moved by T. Rowlatt, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

- S. Ho presented proposed significant revisions to the Asian Culinary Arts Certificate arising from the recent program renewal, based on student and industry feedback. The program was extended from five to eight months and aligned with a standard term schedule. Work experience is included at the end of the program. The number of cuisines was reduced to provide more concentrated study of specific cuisines. A tuition reset will be sought for this significantly revised program.
- Curriculum Committee requested adjustments to recommended characteristics of students, which included physical characteristics, with a view to accessibility and inclusion. This has been an ongoing conversation at the committee, and a small working group will review language used in the recommended characteristics sections of programs overall.

iii) New Program: Clean Energy Technology Diploma

MOTION: THAT Education Council provisionally approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the new Clean Energy Technology Diploma program and 20 new courses, and recommend the Board of Governors approve the credential and implementation of the new program.

Moved by T. Rowlatt, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

- B. Griffiths presented the proposal for this new program, which will prepare international and domestic students for in-demand careers in environmental sustainability, clean energy systems and electrical technology. The first year of the program focuses on Electrician Level 1 curriculum; recognition will be sought from SkilledTradesBC, which would enable graduates to transition into an apprenticeship. The second year focuses on design and planning of solar cell, micro-wind turbine, and heat pump installations, mostly in a residential context.
- T. Rowlatt highlighted the inclusion of an “Indigenous Connection to the Land” course. This course was developed based in consultation with Indigenous Education and Community Engagement and David Kirk, Dean of Curriculum and Pedagogy, based on feedback from Education Council’s review of the concept paper. Curriculum Committee requested edits to further strengthen this thread through the entire program, which were completed.
- The program does not have a physics admission requirement, which aligns with foundational programs in adjacent fields, and is meant to reduce barriers for students. The program also includes training in electrical fundamentals.

iv) Minor Curriculum Changes

- T. Rowlatt presented the biannual report on minor curriculum changes approved by Curriculum Committee.

b) Policy Committee

i) Annual Policy Report 2023

- S. Kay thanked T. Rowlatt for chairing the committee meeting in January. The committee reviewed a first draft of the revised Awards policy, which is undergoing a scheduled review. The Annual Policy Report 2023 was provided by N. Degagne. The committee welcomed 8 new members and thanked outgoing members for their contributions.

c) Education Quality Committee (EQC)

ii) Curriculum Development (CD) Fund 2024/25 Guidelines

- T. Rowlatt presented the guidelines for the Curriculum Development (CD) Fund 2024/25. \$400,000 in funding is available. EQC will adjudicate the fund in early March and make a recommendation to VP Academic & Research D. Wells.
- The Education Services Renewal policy is undergoing a scheduled review. The committee will review proposed revisions at its next meeting.

8. CHAIR REPORT

- N. Mandryk reported that the December Education Council resolution to add a seat for an Indigenous educational administrator was approved by President & CEO A. Patel. The next step is the official appointment of the new EdCo member by the president.

9. STUDENT REPORT

- D. Rodriguez Arellano reported that SUVCC and various service areas participated in Welcome Days at both campuses.

10. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

- The next Education Council meeting will be held on February 13, 2024, 3:30–5:30 p.m.
- The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

APPROVED AT THE FEBRUARY 13, 2024 EDUCATION COUNCIL MEETING

**Natasha Mandryk,
Chair, VCC Education Council**