



VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATION COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2025

3:30–5:30 p.m., Videoconference

ATTENDANCE

Education Council Members

Louise Dannhauer (Vice-Chair)	Emily Simpson	Poorna Karthikeya
Andy Sellwood	Kseniia Osipova	Balachandar
Brianna Higgins	Lisa Beveridge	Shirley Lew
David Kirk	Marcus Ng	Stephanie Callaghan
David Wells	Nafiseh Tohidi	Todd Rowlatt
Dennis Innes		

Regrets

Anik Joy Varghese	Emily Logan	Vivian Munroe
Dave McMullen	Natasha Mandryk (Chair)	

Guests

Adrian Lipsett	Kirsten Hagemoen	Rosie Gosling
Dawn Cunningham Hall	Les Apouchtine	Tanya O'Neill
Feras Ghesen	Marina Santoro	Taryn Thomson
Jessie Williams	Melissa Chirino	Xing Liu
John Demeulemeester	Reza Nezami	

Recording Secretary

Darija Rabadzija

1. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 3:33 p.m. L. Dannhauer chaired the meeting on behalf of N. Mandryk.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- L. Dannhauer acknowledged the College's location on the traditional unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłw̓ ətaʔt̓ (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 May 13, 2025 agenda as amended. Item 6d) Academic Year was moved to 6b).

Moved by L. Dannhauer, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

4. APPROVE PAST MINUTES

MOTION: THAT Education Council approves the April 8, 2025 minutes as presented.

Moved by Dannhauer, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

5. ENQUIRIES & CORRESPONDENCE

- There were none.

6. BUSINESS ARISING

a) Annual Deans' & Directors' Presentations – Part 5

- Annual updates were presented by J. Williams, Dean of Indigenous Initiatives, and D. Kirk, Dean of Curriculum & Pedagogy. Indigenous Education and Community Engagement (IECE) is increasing staffing, which will create more capacity for initiatives, including the development of an Indigenization framework for the College starting next year.

b) Academic Year 2025/26, 2026/27, 2027/28

MOTION: THAT Education Council recommends the Board of Governors approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the Academic Year 2025/2026, 2026/2027, and 2027/28.

Moved by D. Wells., Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

- L. Apouchtine presented the Academic Year dates for the next three years. The short Fall 2026 and Fall 2027 terms, due to the number of statutory holidays and VCC Day, will make it challenging for some areas to schedule their required contact hours and create a tight grade submission deadline.
- Members reiterated concerns raised last year around the reduced instructional days in fall terms. The Registrar's Office consulted with People Services about moving VCC Day to the winter term. However, due to various scheduling constraints and challenges booking the venue, moving VCC Day does not appear feasible.

c) Affiliation Agreements – Annual Update

- D. Wells presented the annual update on affiliation agreements. A contracts and agreements working group has been established. An audit of all agreements is ongoing to ensure they are accurately classified by agreement type and status, and expired agreements are removed from the list.

d) Generative AI – Discussion

- L. Dannhauer opened the conversation on generative GenAI in the context of EdCo's role in academic policy and educational quality.
- Members discussed the importance of providing clear expectations and guidance for students around GenAI use, including in syllabi and assignment instructions. There were concerns around use of AI detectors and related privacy risks. While there are some resources available, such as VCC's [Guidelines for Generative AI in Teaching and Learning](#), a need for more support for faculty and students was identified. The Library & Learning Centre are developing resources, and an AI Community of Practice is launching on June 10.

e) Continuing Studies Non-Credit Course Outlines

- A. Lipsett presented the annual update on non-credit Continuing Studies (CS) course outlines. The number of new non-credit courses was lower than last year, since CS has focused efforts in other areas, including program development and new summer camps. CS is exploring programming in construction-adjacent fields, as well as field school opportunities for fashion students. Micro-credentials are a continuing area of growth, with a focus on meeting industry needs and stackability of offerings.

f) EdCo Planning Day

- EdCo Planning Day will be held on June 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. J. Shin and T. Morgan will attend to provide an update on the Strategic Innovation Plan and academic innovation initiatives.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Curriculum Committee

i) Program Update: Sign Language Interpretation Diploma

MOTION: THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the revisions to the Sign Language Interpretation Diploma program content guide.

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

- T. Rowlatt presented the proposal. Program learning outcomes were reworded to align with VCC's standard format, following the move of the program from Douglas College to VCC. Admission requirements were streamlined by removing the reference letter and letter of intent, reducing barriers for applicants.

ii) Program Update: Computer Systems Technology Diploma

MOTION: THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the revised program content guide for the Computer Systems Technology Diploma program, 6 revised and 14 new course outlines, and recommend the Board of Governors approve the new courses and reduction in credits for the diploma.

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

- T. Rowlatt presented revisions to the Computer Systems Technology Diploma, refocusing the program on web and mobile application development and addressing trends in software development. The number of courses and credits was reduced to align the program length with offerings at other institutions. The program structure is changing from 24 courses/76 credits over 5 terms to 20 courses/60 credits over 4 terms. Courses have been re-structured and re-organized while maintaining the core content of the program. Prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR) options were embedded to make the program more appealing to professionals with industry experience. Curriculum Committee requested minor edits, which were completed.
- VCC has an active articulation agreement with the Canadian College of Technology and Business (CCTB), enabling transfer of students from CCTB's Information Systems Technology Diploma into VCC's CST Diploma program. Due to VCC's curriculum changes, this agreement will need to be updated.
- To avoid delaying the implementation of program updates, Education Council agreed to make an exception to the Program Development and Approval (409) procedures and approve the proposal before the revised agreement has been finalized. The School is aware that the agreement will need to be brought into alignment with the program changes.

iii) New Program: Virtual Environment and Simulation Design Diploma

MOTION: THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the program content guide for the new Virtual Environment and Simulation Design Diploma and 18 new course outlines, and recommend the Board of Governors approve the new credential, creation of 18 courses, and program implementation.

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

- T. Rowlatt presented the proposal for the new Virtual Environment and Simulation Design Diploma. The program consists of 18 courses designed to be taught over 16 months, targeted to both domestic and international students.
- The initial program proposal included three work experience courses. At this stage, however, there are operational challenges to ensuring work placements for students. Based on Curriculum Committee feedback, these courses were re-structured as career development courses. In addition, Grade 12 graduation was removed from the admission requirements, increasing access to the program. Other edits included highlighting the types of roles graduates will be prepared for and including a learning outcome around ethics and cultural impact/representation.

iv) Final Program Approval: Electronics Repair Technology Diploma

MOTION: THAT Education Council provide final approval for the Electronics Repair Technology Diploma program, removing the provisionally approved status.

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

- T. Rowlatt presented the proposal to remove the provisionally approved status from the Electronics Repair Technology Diploma, which launched in January 2021.
- The Provisional Approval of New Programs Committee met several times during the first two years of the program to provide guidance and support to the new department and approve minor curriculum adjustments.
- The first cohort graduated in December 2022. Further curriculum development in the areas of electric vehicles (EV) and clean energy was planned at the time. For this reason, the provisional approval committee remained in place beyond the usual two-year timeframe. The new Clean Energy Technology Diploma was approved in 2024 but will be housed in a separate department.
- The department continues to explore opportunities for new programming but is not bringing forward any proposals at this time.

v) Course Deactivations

MOTION: THAT Education Council recommends the Board of Governors approve deactivating 17 courses that will no longer be taught.

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

b) Policy Committee

- L. Dannhauer reported that the committee is discussing policies up for review. While some policies require only minor updates, three more complex policies were identified as potential priorities for review: Appeal of Final Grade (322); Academic Integrity (325); and Grading, Progression and Withdrawal (411). The plan is to form subcommittees to work on policy revisions.

c) Education Quality Committee

- L. Dannhauer reported that EQC met with the deans in March to discuss themes arising from annual program reviews. The committee will debrief this session at its next meeting and provide a summary report to EdCo.

8. CHAIR REPORT

- L. Dannhauer reported that the effective date of the significantly revised Asian Culinary Arts Certificate was postponed from September 2025 to September 2026.

9. STUDENT REPORT

- M. Ng reported on Welcome Day events hosted by SUVCC.

10. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

- The next Education Council meeting will be held on June 10, 2025, 3:30–5:30 p.m.
- EdCo Planning Day will take place on June 17, 2025, 9:00 a.m.–12 p.m.
- The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

APPROVED AT THE JUNE 10, 2025 EDUCATION COUNCIL MEETING

Louise Dannhauer
Vice-Chair, VCC Education Council