



**ATTENDANCE**

**Education Council Members**

Louise Dannhauer (Chair)	Emily Simpson	Michael Weber
Adrian Lipsett	James Stansfield	Nafiseh Tohidi
Andy Sellwood	Jessie Williams	Nelba Garcia
Brianna Higgins	Joyce Chang	Rosie Gosling
Dave McMullen	Lisa Beveridge	Todd Rowlett
David Wells	Mandy Hayre	
Emily Logan	Marcus Ng	

**Regrets**

Arshpreet Kaur Mangat	Vivian Munroe
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**Guests**

Alan Kelly	Francesco Barillaro	Lucy Griffith
Alison Rudko	Heidi Parisotto	Nancy Baily
Amber Ariss	Herbie Atwal	Natasha Mandryk
Anastasiya Stolyarova	Hirpal Hundial	Pervin Fahim
Asal Murdock	Jamie Choi	Ruth Lunn
Barbara Mykle-Hotzon	Jennifer Gossen	Sarah Cain
Chelsea Hunter	Jennifer Kelly	Shirley Lew
Chelsea Savage	Karen Brooke	Sky Yu
Christina Carnacete	Kirsten Hagemoen	Stephanie Callaghan
Christine Poznanski	Kseniia Osipova	Tannis Morgan
Cindy McCaw	Les Apouchtine	Taryn Thomson
Claire Sauvé	Ling Lo Yan	Willy Aroca Aguirre
Dawn Cunningham Hall	Lisa MacNeill	
Feras Ghesen	Lucia Zabrieszsch	

**Recording Secretary**

Darija Rabadzija

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m.

**2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

- M. Hayre acknowledged the College’s location on the traditional unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəŋəm (Musqueam), Skwx̱ wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłw̱ ətaʔt (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 March 10, 2026 agenda as presented.

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

#### 4. APPROVE PAST MINUTES

**MOTION:** THAT Education Council approves the February 10, 2026 minutes as presented.

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

#### 5. ENQUIRIES & CORRESPONDENCE

- L. Dannhauer welcomed newly elected EdCo members Joyce Chang, staff in the Music department; James Stansfield, American Sign Language student; and Arshpreet Kaur Mangat, student in the Health and Wellness Professional Diploma in Cosmetology.
- Following the discussion at the last EdCo meeting, D. Wells provided a note regarding intake cancellations and the recent closed Board meeting. Related policy development is underway. The note was circulated to EdCo members.
- L. Dannhauer received a consultation request regarding the Accessibility Plan 2026-2029; a meeting with N. Scott, Associate Director, Student Accessibility, is planned.
- Conversations are in progress with C. Munro regarding policy updates following the closure of the Arbiter of Student Issues Office.

#### 6. BUSINESS ARISING

##### a. Budget Update

- J. Choi presented the draft budget for 2026/27, which was recently shared at a College-wide session. Principles and assumptions were outlined. In view of international enrollment reductions following IRCC policy changes over the last years, a budget deficit is expected. The final version of the budget will be presented to the Board of Governors for approval at the end of March.

##### b. Reorganization Update

- D. Wells provided an update on the planned consolidation of VCC's four Schools – Arts & Sciences; Trades, Technology & Design; Health Sciences; and Hospitality, Food Studies & Applied Business – into three Schools, grouping related programming together and improving operational efficiency. Details are being finalized, and the goal is to fully implement the new structure by September.
- There were questions about BC's public post-secondary education system review led by D. Avison. The final report is expected at the end of March.

##### c. Enrolment Plan 2026–27

**MOTION:** THAT Education Council advises the Board of Governors not to approve the 2026/27 Enrolment Plan as currently proposed as many of the proposed reductions have no educational rationale and are not consistent with the College's mission, values and stated strategic priorities; this advice should include a summary of the concerns raised in the meeting prepared by the Education Council Chair in consultation with Education Council members to be provided to the Board.  
In addition, Education Council requests the Board of Governors create a public opportunity for consultation with programs being reduced at a future Board meeting to share comments and concerns about the impact of these program reductions prior to making a final decision.

**Moved by T. Rowlett, Seconded & CARRIED (14 in favour, 4 opposed, 1 abstention)**

- D. Wells and N. Mandryk presented the Enrolment Plan 2026–27. The structure of the plan was updated this year and to provide clearer data visualization, ratios comparing budgeted and actual registrations, and details around cohorts and classes, making it easier to identify changes in the number of intakes.
- A number of questions and concerns around the enrolment plan and programming reductions (submitted in advance, as well as provided at the meeting), were addressed by D. Wells during a longer

discussion. Factors influencing the proposed enrolment levels, including changes in international student enrolment patterns, program demand, program delivery costs, and broader financial considerations affecting the College were outlined. Key themes raised during the discussion included:

#### **Student access and educational pathways**

- Education Council expressed concern about the potential impact of the proposed reductions on student access to programs and pathways into further education and employment. Concern was raised regarding programs that provide entry points into post-secondary education or support progression into high-demand fields.

#### **Reductions affecting programs with demonstrated demand or workforce relevance**

- Questions were raised about reductions affecting programs where there appears to be strong student demand or identified workforce need. Discussion referenced examples in health sciences, foundational programming, and other areas where reductions may occur despite ongoing demand. For example, there are 202 applicants for 36 (reduced from 72) seats in Certified Dental Assisting and 72 applicants for 24 seats in the to-be-paused Bachelor of Science in Nursing cohort for September.

#### **Impact on programs serving specific communities**

- Discussion highlighted potential impacts on programs that serve specific communities or require higher levels of instructional support, including Deaf and Hard of Hearing programming and Employment Access and Skills Development programs, which already have years long waitlists. Discussion focused on the role these programs play in supporting access and inclusion within the College's educational mandate.

#### **Consultation and opportunity for programs to provide input**

- Education Council raised questions regarding the consultation process used in developing the enrolment plan and recommended that programs affected by significant reductions should have an opportunity to share their perspectives and potential impacts prior to a final decision by the Board.

#### **Longer-term program mix and institutional direction**

- Interest was expressed in understanding how some of the proposed reductions may have longer-term implications for the range of programs offered by the College over time, particularly in areas involving higher-support or foundational programming.
- Following discussion, Education Council voted to recommend that the Board not approve the enrolment plan in its current form, and to request the Board provide a public opportunity for consultation with departments experiencing reductions prior to making a final decision.

### **d. Annual Affiliation Agreements Update**

- Following the verbal update by D. Wells at the last EdCo meeting, the list of affiliation agreements was circulated before the meeting.

### **e. Automotive Collision and Refinishing Foundation Certificate (Online Youth) – Resolution Update**

**MOTION:** THAT Education Council recommends the Board of Governors approve the reduction in credits for the Automotive Collision and Refinishing Foundation (Online Youth) Certificate program.

**Moved by E. Simpson, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)**

- L. Dannhauer presented the motion. The Automotive Collision and Refinishing Foundation (Online Youth) Certificate program was recently revised, including removal of one course resulting in a reduction of program credits from 45.5 to 41. While the revised curriculum was approved by Education Council in December 2025, there was no formal EdCo recommendation to the Board of Governors regarding implementation of the program change/reduction in credits at that time. This motion was

brought to the March EdCo meeting to ensure alignment with the Program Development and Approval Procedures (409).

#### **f. Bachelor of Hospitality Management – Resolution Update**

**MOTION:** THAT Education Council rescind the motion approved at the September 12, 2023 meeting recommending the Board of Governors approve the implementation of the significantly revised Bachelor of Hospitality Management program.

**Moved by M. Weber, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)**

- L. Dannhauer presented the motion. The Bachelor of Hospitality Management was revised following program renewal, and the curriculum approved by Education Council in September 2023. At that time, Education Council voted to make a recommendation for implementation of the “significantly revised” Bachelor of Hospitality Management program to the Board of Governors. The Degree Quality Assessment Board (DQAB) ultimately determined that the revisions do not constitute a new degree. Based on the DQAB review and in consultation with the department, Dean, and VP Academic & Applied Research, there is agreement that this curriculum change does not meet the threshold of “significantly revised.” There are no plans to seek program re-costing.
- For these reasons, Board approval is not required for this revision. The current proposal is for EdCo to rescind its September 2023 advice to the Board, as it is redundant. The curriculum was already approved by Education Council in 2023, and no further approvals are required.

### **7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **a. Curriculum Committee**

##### **i) Course Update: DAST 1600 CDA Directed Studies**

**MOTION:** THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, revisions to the course outline for DAST 1600 CDA Directed Studies.

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

- T. Rowlatt presented proposed revisions to DAST 1600 CDA Directed Studies. This is a clinical remediation course for dental assisting students who require additional education to meet entry-to-practice licensing standards in British Columbia. Instruction is customized to meet the specific clinical competencies for each specific student after taking the National Dental Assisting Examining Board clinical practice evaluation. Curriculum Committee requested minor adjustments, which were completed.

##### **ii) Program Update: Health Care Assistant Certificate**

**MOTION:** THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the revised program content guide for the Health Care Assistant Certificate program, including changes to admission requirements.

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

- T. Rowlatt presented proposed revisions to the admission requirements for the Health Care Assistant Certificate program. Updates were made to align with processes and standardized language used across the School of Health Sciences.

##### **iii) Course Update: MUSC 4108 Music Capstone Project**

**MOTION:** THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, revisions to MUSC 4108 Music Capstone Project, including to the course name.

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

- T. Rowlatt presented proposed revisions to MUSC 4108 Music Capstone Project. This course is part of the revised Bachelor of Applied Music program currently under DQAB review. The department would

like to change the course name from “Music Practicum” to “Music Capstone Project” to more accurately reflect the course content.

- Curriculum Committee requested further clarification regarding the focus of this course, and whether students need to complete a capstone project, industry placement, or both. As the department head was unable to attend the meeting and address these questions, the proposal was deferred to the next committee meeting.
- Following the meeting, and in view of submission timelines for the DQAB review, the Curriculum Committee Chair, in consultation with the EdCo Chair, agreed to bring the revised proposal directly to Education Council. The department has confirmed that up until now, all students have completed capstone projects rather than practicum placements. The course outline was updated to remove any references to industry placements and focus solely on the capstone project. Should any further minor adjustments be required, these will be reviewed by Curriculum Committee.

#### **iv) New Course: PSYC 2400 Directed Studies in Psychological Research**

- T. Rowlett presented proposed new course PSYC 2400 Directed Studies in Psychological Research. This directed studies course is designed to provide second-year psychology students with an opportunity to engage in independent, faculty-supervised research or advanced readings on a topic of personal and academic interest. The course supports students in learning advanced research processes, critical thinking, and academic writing, expanding on the Research Methods in Psychology course (PSYC 2320).
- VCC’s Transfer Credit Office has indicated that the course is unlikely to receive transfer credit, as equivalent courses at other institutions are delivered as upper-level (3rd year) coursework. Dean S. Lew will explore whether the College can list this course as third year, given its content and focus, potentially making transfer credit available.
- EdCo agreed to defer this proposal to the next meeting, pending determination whether the course can be leveled up to third-year post-secondary.

#### **v) Program Update: Sign Language Interpretation Diploma**

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

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

- T. Rowlett presented proposed revisions to admission requirements for the Sign Language Interpretation Diploma to include completion of INTR 1000 Introduction to Sign Language Interpreting and ASLD 1215 American Sign Language Level 7B. These two bridging courses were developed following the ASL & Deaf Studies Certificate renewal, which saw the program shortened from ten to eight months. These courses cover content that was removed from the certificate program but is required for entrance to the Sign Language Interpretation Diploma. Additional updates were made to clarify progression language and program considerations.

#### **vi) Program Name Change: Construction Electrician & Clean Energy Diploma**

**MOTION:** THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the updated program content guide for the renamed Construction Electrician & Clean Energy Diploma, and recommend the Board of Governors approve the name change from Clean Energy Technology Diploma.

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

- T. Rowlett presented the proposal to change the name of the Clean Energy Technology Diploma to Construction Electrician & Clean Energy Diploma. Students in the program are eligible to earn Level 1 technical training credit for construction electrician, and the name change will make this clearer for prospective students and increase the visibility of the program.

**vii) New Courses & Course Content Guide: RACM – Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic Apprentice**

**MOTION:** THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, four new Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic Apprentice course outlines and the accompanying Course Content Guide.

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

- T. Rowlatt presented the proposal for four new apprenticeship courses in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic, aligned with the SkilledTradesBC (STBC) program outline for Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Mechanic. These courses complement VCC's existing Foundation program and provide a provide a clear pathway for students to enter this skilled trade.

**viii) New Courses & Course Content Guide: HMAP – Heavy Mechanical Trades Apprentice**

**MOTION:** THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, five new Heavy Mechanical Trades Apprentice course outlines and the accompanying Course Content Guide.

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

- T. Rowlatt presented the proposal for five new apprenticeship courses in Heavy Mechanical Trades. The curriculum aligns with the STBC program outlines for multiple trades: Truck and Transport Mechanic, Transport Trailer Technician, Diesel Engine Mechanic and Heavy Duty Equipment Technician.

**ix) Learning Environment Types**

- Item deferred due to time constraints.

**b. Education Policy Committee**

- Deferred.

**c. Education Quality Committee**

**i) Program & Education Service Renewal Schedules 2025–2030**

- The schedules were included in the meeting package.

**8. CHAIR REPORT**

- Deferred.

**9. STUDENT REPORT**

- Deferred.

**10. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

- The next Education Council meeting will be held on April 14, 2026, 3:30–5:30 p.m.
- The meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

**APPROVED AT THE APRIL 14, 2026 EDUCATION COUNCIL MEETING**

**Louise Dannhauer**  
**Chair, VCC Education Council**