



VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATION COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

January 24, 2024

3:30–4:15 p.m., Videoconference

ATTENDANCE

Education Council Members

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

Regrets

Derek Sproston	Kseniia Osipova
Jessica Ligeralde	Simranjot Kaur

Guests

Alison Rudko	Jennifer Cummins	Marnie Findlater
Chelsea Hunter	Jennifer Gossen	Reba Noel
David Kirk	John Demeulemeester	Sara Yuen
Dawn Cunningham Hall	Kate Dickerson	Willy Aroca Aguirre
Domingo Salviejo	Les Apouchtine	
Herbie Atwal	Lucia Zabrieszach	

Recording Secretary

Darija Rabadzija

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- N. Mandryk acknowledged the College’s location on the traditional unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓ əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̓x̓ wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłw̓ 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 January 24, 2024 agenda as presented.

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

4. BUSINESS ARISING

a) International Education Strategic Plan (IESP)

MOTION: THAT Education Council recommend the Board of Governors approve the International Education Strategic Plan (IESP) 2024–2029.

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

- J. Gossen presented the International Education Strategic Plan (IESP) 2024–2029 to Education Council for a recommendation to the Board. The plan was initially presented for information at the January 16, 2024 Education Council meeting.
- Recent government announcements around international education were discussed, including the cap on international student numbers. The sector is awaiting federal and provincial frameworks and guidelines. While there are still unknowns, the current plan is not tied to specific student numbers and is expected to position VCC well for the future. Plan objectives were intentionally not prioritized to allow for flexibility in view of changes, as well as consideration of available resources.
- Members inquired about the consultation process that informed the development of this plan, particularly to capture student feedback around issues facing international students.
- International Education plans to expand services around housing, settlement, and careers. One step will be partnering with organizations in this field, such as S.U.C.C.E.S.S., and eventually developing internal capacity at VCC to offer workshops and support around these topics.
- A key area that will require more resources is developing a mobility framework. Mobility refers to student and faculty exchange (inbound/outbound), study abroad, or short-term cultural exchanges. Acknowledging the tension between increased travel and the sustainability goal of reducing emissions to Net Zero in 2050, it was clarified that mobility can be virtual. “Internationalization at home” can include, for example, Collaborative Online Intercultural/International Learning (COIL).
- 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).
- Other topics of discussion were VCC’s relationships with agents and ensuring VCC is accurately represented to students; accessibility; training opportunities around intercultural competencies, such as the Intercultural Development Inventory® (IDI)®; and graduate outcomes.
- The IESP will be presented to the Board of Governors on February 7. Marketing will create a document for publication, which is expected to be shared internally and externally by the end of March, together with timelines for action items.

5. 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 4:11 p.m.

APPROVED AT THE FEBRUARY 13, 2024 EDUCATION COUNCIL MEETING

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