

1983-84 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

Message from the President . . .

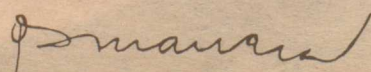
Last year Vancouver Community College took a journey into the future on a cut price ticket. While we streamlined, revamped and updated our programs, reflecting the changes that are transforming the job market, the home and the community, the costs came in imagination, energy and hours, rather than in dollars.

As an educational institution one of the most important roles we play is preparing people for the future, easing the transition from today into tomorrow. This is no mean task. Yearly high technology is revolutionizing nearly every aspect of our lives. The bottom's fallen out of our resource based economy. Jobs have dropped by 20 percent in the forest industries, 15 percent in the mining industry and our fishing fleet is being cut by one third. The tens of thousands of people whose livelihood has disappeared in the past few years must adapt to new realities: an economy that is increasingly based on services and one that is calling for workers with sophisticated skills. At the same time business and industry are turning away from their traditional North American and European markets to recognize the growing power and importance of Pacific Rim markets. This means new ways of doing business.

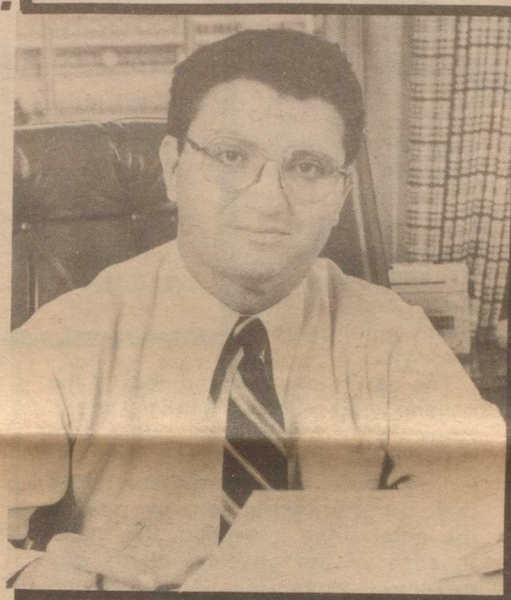
As the world changes, so must the college. While our role is to act as a catalyst for the community, the college is nonetheless caught in the harsh economic realities of today. A growing deficit, a sagging dollar and a reduced tax base have pared the budgets of publicly-funded institutions to the bone.

In '83 - '84 Vancouver Community College wrung a great deal of progress from relatively few dollars. We did this by carefully weighing our priorities, cutting expenses to a minimum, raising our productivity and — alas — our tuition fees. For the first time, we are turning to the community for support through the new VCC Educational Foundation. In view of the significant role the college has played in creating a skilled workforce, we trust many of Vancouver's leaders in business and industry will respond to our call to help the college provide a "margin of excellence" in training.

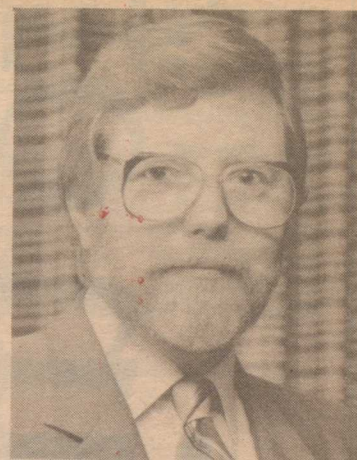
In '83 - '84 many organizations merely survived. With energy and imagination Vancouver Community College took strides forward in meeting the challenges of the '80s.



A.S. MANERA, President



MAX FLEMING
Bursar and Director of
Administration Services



ROSS CARTER
Director of College Resources

Front row, left to right:
Elizabeth Jarvis, vice-
chairman; Peter Hebb,
chairman; Pam Glass.
Back row, left to right:
Dr. John Chapman;
Colleen Miller; John
Pearkes; Barry Irvine,
Barbara Splitz. Absent:
Virginia Giles.

The College Board



Margin of Excellence

THE SYSTEM How We Manage

Overseeing the college, ensuring it offers high calibre instruction and responds to the needs of the community effectively and efficiently, is a board of nine citizens from Vancouver, Richmond and Burnaby. They represent a wide range of interests and concerns in the community. All take time from demanding schedules, the pressures of business, professions and community service, to give direction to the college. Board members are appointed by the provincial government through order-in council.

The backbone of the college is the nearly 1,000 people who teach, administer and provide support services. Our 627 instructors are dedicated professionals, many recognized as leaders in their fields. Most have extensive experience and interests outside the classroom. Whether they teach data processing, fine arts or auto mechanics, their first priority is fostering understanding, competency and enthusiasm among their students.

The day to day management of the college rests with 49 administrators, many of whom have classroom experience. Some 321 support staff look after the wide range of services that support instruction, overseeing the admissions operation, the maintenance of the physical plants and providing a centralized purchasing office.

No matter where people work — on the front lines teaching, in management or support — most have a strong commitment to the college and its role in the community.

Another important link to the community is advisory committees. All programs for vocational or career preparation benefit from their assistance. Members are drawn from the ranks of those experienced in their particular fields. They monitor the content and standards in each program and play an important role in keeping the college abreast of new developments in the market place. Whether they sit on advisory committees for nursing, journalism, drafting, or dining room and lounge service, members are united in their commitment to advancing standards in their fields.

In the past two years an important part of the college system has been a comprehensive, sophisticated evaluation system that surveys students, graduates, drop-outs and employers of graduates. This provides a critical link to the strengths and weaknesses in each program and indicates what areas require change. This scientific method has the advantage of providing an unbiased, 360 degree perspective on the college's performance.

FINANCES

Like so many individuals, businesses and industries, financial concerns dominated the college's life last year. The economic downturn in British Columbia, and the consequent climate of restraint it brought, hit hard at the college's budget. Last year our budget was about \$50 million, up \$2 million over the previous year. Though significantly the province's share dropped more than two per cent from 88.5 per cent to 86.2 per cent. A tuition increase, averaging about 30 per cent for full-time programs, brought the student share of costs up from 9.3 per cent to 11.4 per cent. Miscellaneous income, from the dining room, hairdressing and shop revenue, generated 2.4 per cent of the budget, up .2 per cent from the previous year.

In keeping with a general trend, last year a greater burden was placed on students to carry the cost of their education.

EMPLOYEES — 1983-84

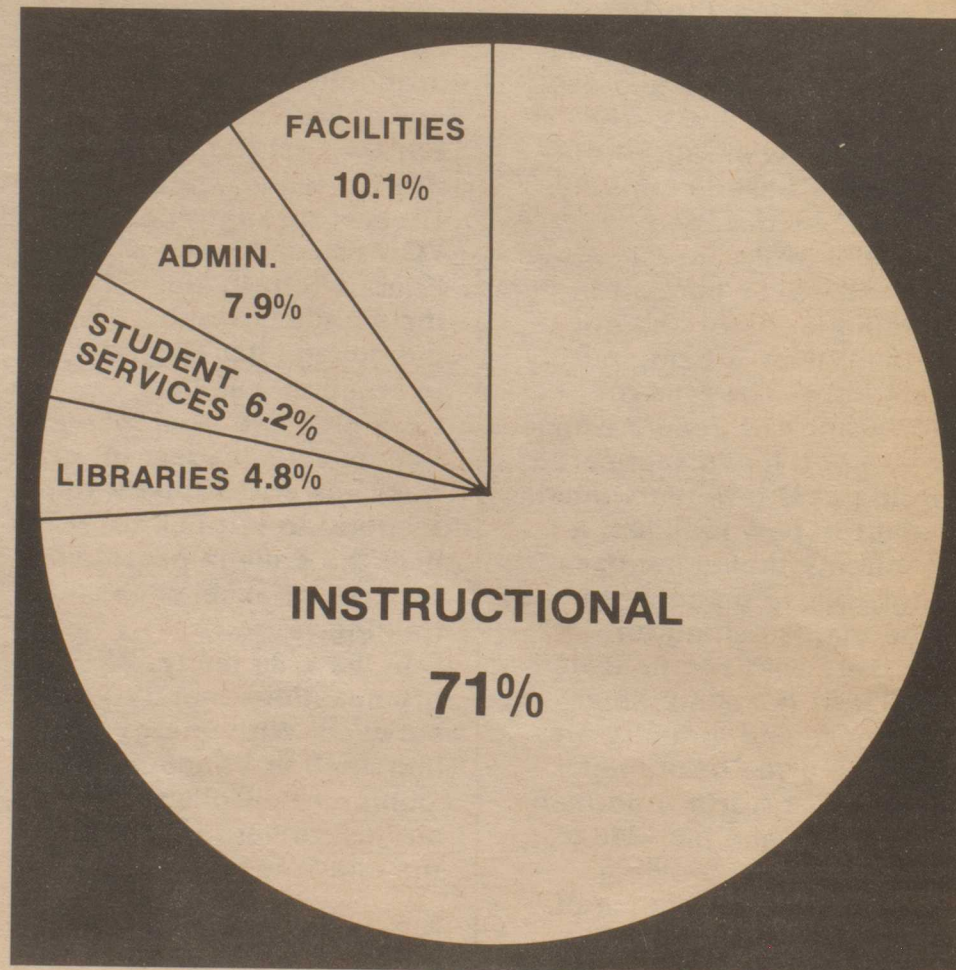
	Faculty	Support	Administrators	Total
•King Edward Campus	230	67	5	302
•Langara Campus	232	61	10	303
•Vancouver Vocational Inst.	165	71	6	242
•Continuing Education		21	5	26
•Central Admin.		40	15	55
•College Resources		61	7	68
TOTAL	627	321	48	996

While funding from the public purse is limited, so too is the ability of students to continue to absorb substantial tuition fee increases. With this in mind, people from throughout Vancouver Community College devoted long hours and great energy in putting together plans that would get the maximum value from each dollar. Vancouver Community College not only had to cope with escalating costs, it had to find resources to meet needs for new programs.

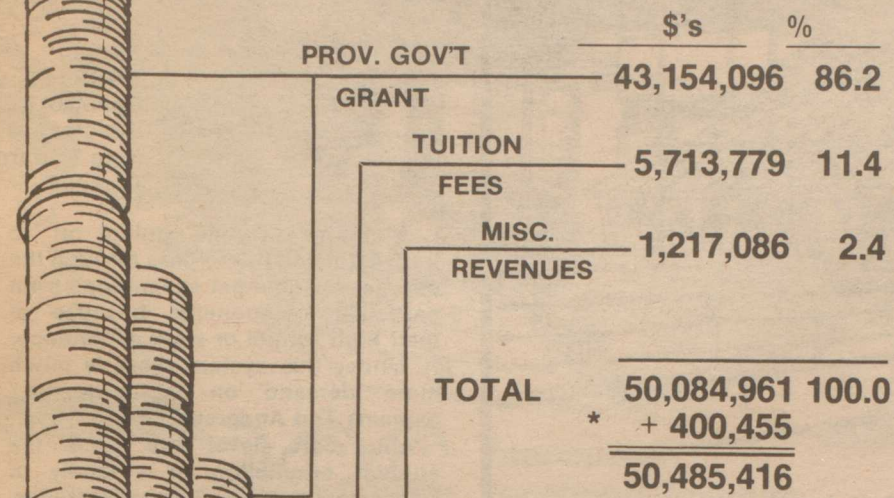
Expenditures were cut to the bone. Productivity was increased. In a characteristic spirit of commitment, the Langara Faculty Association gave back some \$300,000 in pay increases to which its members were entitled. And, in a spirit of innovation, new programs were fashioned from already existing ones.

Langara Campus and Vancouver Vocational Institute combined forces and expertise for the new computer systems technologist's program and Langara Campus created a new Pacific Rim program from existing offerings in a number of departments.

VCC's Actual Expenditures of \$50,464,414 were distributed as follows . . .



WHERE OUR FUNDING OF \$50,084,061 CAME FROM



*Carry forward surplus from previous operating year.

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1983/84 Student Contact Hours

Arts & Sciences	20.0%
English Language Training	19.2
Industrial	13.2
Adult Basic Education	12.5
Business/Office	11.3
Health	7.7
Services	6.1
Legal, Social & Educational	3.5
Fine & Performing Arts	2.0
Communication Arts	1.1
General Interest courses & Contract Services	3.4
TOTAL	100.0%

While people at the college took great pride in how far they stretched their dollars, they knew this was a short term solution. Other sources of support, besides students and taxpayers, had to be found if the college is to continue to meet the educational needs of the community and to give its students the "margin of excellence" demanded in a competitive job market . . .

To this end, the VCC Educational Foundation was created.

The foundation, launched last spring, is looking to those in business, industry and the corporate world — those who benefit most directly from a highly-skilled workforce — for financial support. The foundation is now in the midst of its first fund-raising drive. It already has the backing of more than a dozen of the leading people in Vancouver's business community.

VCC Educational Foundation



"The Margin of Excellence"

"The margin of excellence" — that's the distance between competent and outstanding. While the government, through tax dollars, and students through tuition fees, support the college, providing funds for competent training, outstanding training is what we strive to provide. Much of this margin of excellence comes from the personal effort of our instructors, staff and administrators — the extra hours, energy and caring they provide. Another part of it costs money. That extra distance to excellence takes funds for up-to-date library and audio-visual equipment, microcomputers, state-of-the-art technology, tutoring for those who need extra help and scholarships, and bursaries for those with ambition and motivation but no money. Not all these costs can come out of the public purse.

This is why the college recently launched the VCC Educational Foundation, a fund-raising body that is looking to the community for the support we need to give our students that edge. Ultimately it is the community that benefits from the up-to-date knowledge, the talent and the productivity of the 4,000 graduates who come out of VCC each year. Now we are calling on the community to play a larger role in this reach for excellence.

After nearly a year laying the groundwork, the foundation this spring launched its first fund-raising drive.

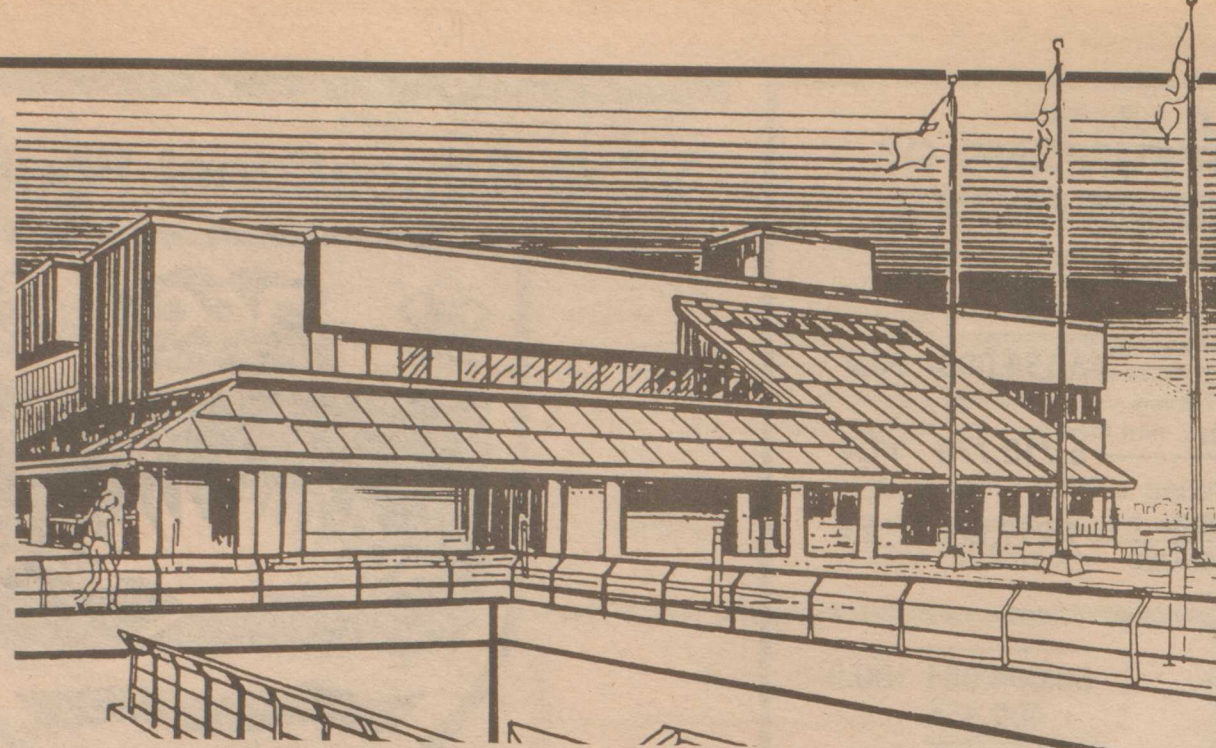
Among those leading the drive are: Robert Bonner, Chairman of B.C. Hydro; Fred Wright, President of Pemberton, Houston Willoughby Inc. Donald Champion, Vice-President, Administration, B.C. Telephone Co. and Bill Wilson, President of Cominco.



It is tribute to the role VCC plays in training skilled workers that these people, with their demanding schedules, would take time to lend the college a hand.



King
Edward
Campus



King Edward Campus — though recently arrived on the city's eastside, K.E.C. has roots going back to the turn of the century when it started life as one of Vancouver's first high schools on land that now belongs to Vancouver General Hospital.

The new 24,000 square meter campus on East Broadway — an area of the city where many students live and work — blends vocational and career programs with offerings that meet special, less mainstream needs. As well as mechanical trades, a home-make, a music, and a pharmacy assistant program, KEC is home to adult special education programs that provide basic education to students with hearing or sight impairments, giving them the foundation they need to go on to further vocational or academic education.

The campus is the largest centre for English language training in the country, where thousands of new Canadians learn the language skills they need to make new lives in Canada.

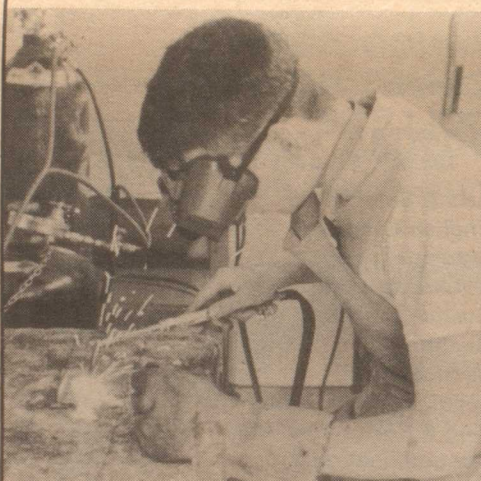
Here people can go from the equivalent of elementary school through high school, in programs specifically geared to adult learners, Canadian content being emphasized. Finding a job is never easy and it calls on a broad range of skills. KEC's basic job readiness training offers a variety of programs that meet the needs of particular groups — youth, the chronically unemployed, re-entry women and Native people. They deal not only with developing work skills and acquiring work experience, but with the need for confidence building, self-awareness, decision-making and communication skills. To many of the more than 7,000 students who come through KEC each year, the campus is an important turning point.

It is a chance to take charge of their lives, to become independent and self-supporting. It is a route out of dependence.

TRAC Individualizes Trades Training

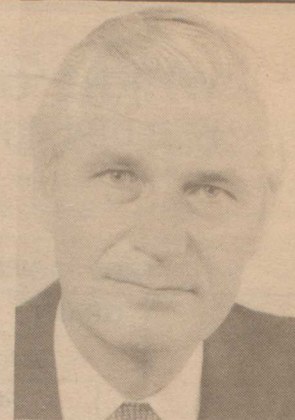
Trades training in British Columbia was turned inside out with the implementation earlier this year of the controversial TRAC, or Training Access Program. Gone are the traditional classroom lecture sessions and shop practice under the instructor's watchful eye.

A loose leaf binder of lessons and exercises has replaced the instructor, who is now on hand to act as tutor or consultant. After a student has worked his way through a small section of the material and done the shop practice that relates to it, he can take a test. If he passes it is on to the next level.



As Ted Anderson and Bill Dalling, instructors responsible for the implementation of TRAC at KEC explain, the program covers three levels. Level one, or common core — the only level now fully onstream at VCC — replaces what used to be called preapprenticeship training. But rather than gear a student to one particular trade, common core introduces a student to a variety of basic skills and concepts common to a whole body of trades. Students get training in first aid, safety procedures, elementary drafting, the use of hand tools, welding, basic design and math.

Under the new system they get the chance to take a good look at all the options, to see what they want and what they can best handle."



HARRY PANKRATZ
Principal,
King Edward
Campus

Though everyone going on to trades training has to pass through the core level, some get exemptions from particular components because of their high school or work experience. "Under this system there is much more demand on the students," explains Ted Anderson.

After core, level two gives the student orientation to a family of trades, for instance, automotive trades, and at level three training, the individual learns a specific trade, such as autobody repair.

The level one program began at KEC April 15 and all six students in the first intake completed the core program in the three month designated time. Recently, instructors implemented a contract program with students, whereby an individual student agrees to complete a specific section of course material by a particular date. And students sign in every morning and use classroom facilities to work on their course material. As Anderson explains, these controls bring some structure and discipline to a system that, because it is a radical departure from the one students have traditionally worked under, might fall apart otherwise.

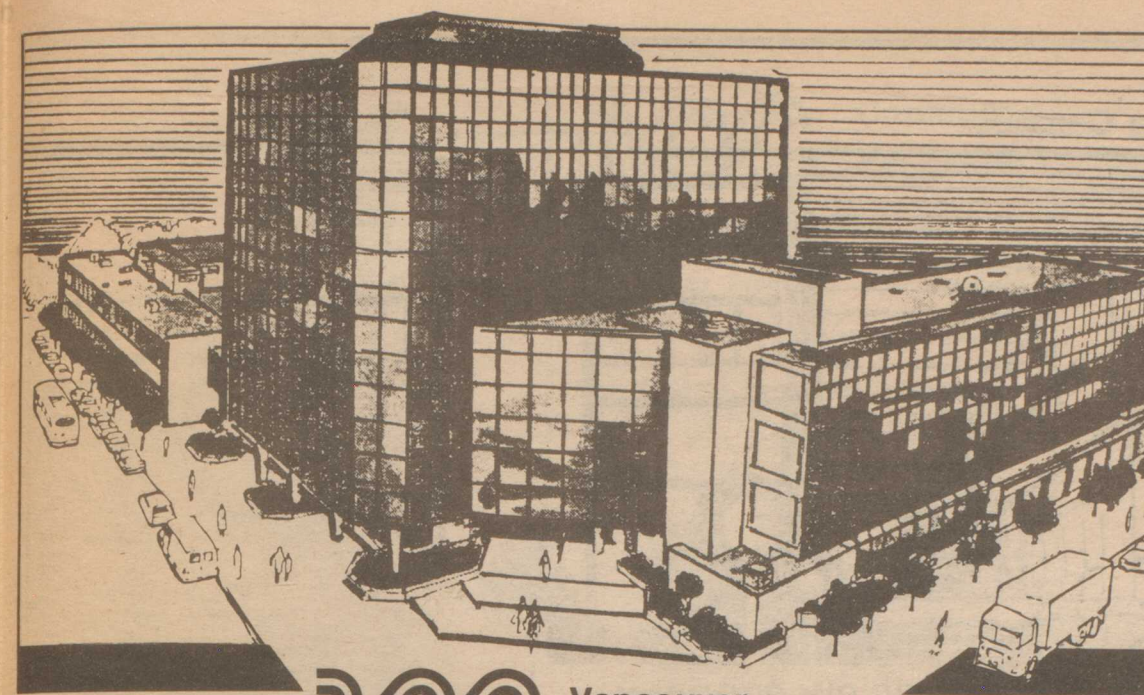
The real test of TRAC at KEC will come in the fall when classes should be taking an average of 40 students into the individualized program.

Today it's trades education. Tomorrow who knows?"



Joan Bunn, services supervisor for Medox's Vancouver office, the largest in the national chain of homemaker and health care aide agencies.

Vancouver Community College's King Edward Campus plays an important role in training home makers and health care aides. The program is 13 weeks of full-time study, through it may be taken on a part-time basis. It stresses household management, nutrition, communications and health care assistance. Approximately 115 students graduate from the program each year.



Vancouver
Vocational Institute

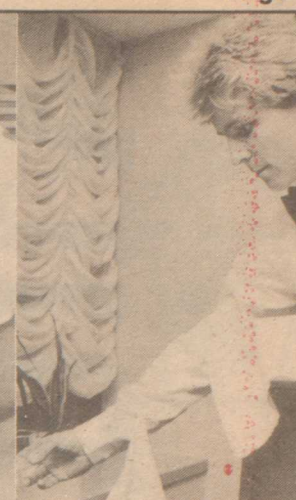
Vocations



BILL ARTEMENKO



DENNIS VAUGHAN



RON DOUGLAS



HANS RERUP,
Principal, VVI

hot and that the toast is there at the same time. He sees the coffee cup is never empty. He makes sure that the office workers at lunch aren't rushed but are comfortably in and out of the dining room within their hour. For the last six weeks, it's on to dinner service. Ron must serve the wine, perhaps prepare a Caesar salad at the table, cut and serve a beef Wellington.

For Ron Douglas the pressure is always on and he wouldn't have it any other way. "The pressure is what really makes this course," he explains. "The challenge is to handle the situation so that all goes smoothly, the people feel comfortable and happy, the meals arrive at the same time for all the diners at a table. You always have to be one step ahead in your mind. But I like that."

Each morning at 7 a.m. for the ten months of the baking program Bill Artemenko and his classmates begin their tasks. In the early months they tackle bread and rolls, then it's on to pies, tarts and cakes. Finally they try tarts, wedding cakes and the intricacies of French pastries. All their goods, from dinner rolls to Napoleons, go to the public through the bake shop, dining room or cafeteria.

"In baking we have to learn to be fast and precise," he says. "If we aren't careful about ingredients and measures it won't turn out. And, of course, it has to be ready on time. There's no point in having the rolls for lunch ready at 1 p.m."

The three levels in the cooking program, that run from short-order cooking through to a la carte and banquet preparation, take a year to complete. During his time in the program, Dennis Vaughan has done everything from preparing scrambled eggs to doing elaborate banquet preparations.

"There is a lot of pressure on you," he says, "but when you see people enjoying what you've prepared it is really worth it. When someone comes up to me at a banquet and says how nice things are I just feel a hundred percent."

"People, as the textbooks say, eat with their eyes, so we not only have to have it ready, on time and tasting good, but it has to look good too."

All three agree that the chance to really put their skills to work is important. The public is the critical factor in all their chosen vocations and learning to meet the pressures and demands of the consumer is vital to their future success.

"We have to learn to work with one another and to work with our customer," Vaughan comments. "Pressure is a way of life out there and you have to learn to cope. At VVI we do!

Vancouver Vocational

Institute — on West Pender St. in the core of downtown has been part of the training scene in Vancouver since 1949. Recent renovations and expansion to the campus have brought training facilities in technical, service, industrial, business and health programs in line with the most modern conditions in the market place. Rapid advances in technology and equipment are transforming the office, business, factory and workshop and VVI is challenged to anticipate these changes and train men and women who can meet these new demands.

"Hands on" practical experience is the prime component of training at VVI. Students learn by doing. Student chefs, hairstylists and waiters do not learn their skills behind the doors of a classroom, they train by providing services to the public, learning to cope with the same pressures and stresses they will encounter in the work world. Last year the drafting department was awarded money through the federal government's Skills Growth Fund and this fall it will be the first institution in the Lower Mainland to offer upgrading in computer assisted drafting. This technology is making tremendous advances in the industry, virtually cutting out the routine repetition of tasks and reducing planning time of building projects by as much as two thirds.

More than 2,000 draftsmen already working in Vancouver need to learn this new technology in the next few years and VVI will be the prime centre for training.

New technology and the growth of specialization in the office is transforming business education. In the fall training will be modularized building

from a basic three month administrative clerk program, through a secretary or word processor program, to advanced training as an administrative secretary, legal secretary or word processor. Students could supplement their studies with work experience before deciding to go on to a higher level of training. As well as teaching men and women new skills, VVI upgrades the training of people already in the workforce. In evenings and on weekends classrooms and workshops are populated by people out to acquire the additional skills they need to advance on the job to keep up with changes in methods and equipment.

VVI FIRST WITH NEW DRAFTING TECHNOLOGY

Computers are invading nearly every aspect of the workplace and, in the case of drafting, computers are revolutionizing the industry.

Computer assisted drafting technology was developed in the U.S. about ten years ago and was making inroads into the construction and building industry in the Lower Mainland when recession hit and building projects nose dived. CAD is in most major firms — H.A. Simons, Burrard Yarrows, B.C. Hydro — but technology hasn't yet made its way into midsized and smaller firms.

This awareness led Atkinson and his colleagues to start lobbying three years ago to bring the technology into VVI. This spring they were awarded nearly half a million dollars from the federal government's Skills Growth Fund to purchase 18 work stations with full sized drawing boards, large plotters, small thermal plotters, and printers.

The program plans to run two seven hour shifts each weekday. Trained draftsmen should be able to pick up the fundamentals of the system in about one month with advanced training eventually offered in shorter month sessions.

CAD takes a project through the design stages much more quickly than conventional drafting could. In fact, the new technology cuts time by nearly two thirds.

"It virtually eliminates the menial repetition of tasks," Atkinson says. The system memorizes details and can recall them at will. Building conventions and standards can be programmed into the system.

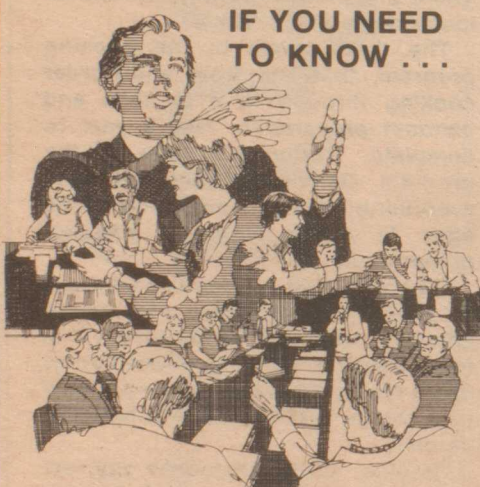
"Certainly you cut time, but then, because you can look at so many more alternatives so easily, the volume of work actually increases."

REAL WORLD LEARNING

Most students learn in the quiet, relatively unpressured world of the classroom. Not so for VVI students Ron Douglas, Dennis Vaughan and Bill Artemenko. For Douglas, a student in the dining room and lounge service program, Vaughan, a student in cooking training, and Artemenko, a student in the baking program, there are few moments for quiet contemplation and little room for trial and error. From virtually day one they are in the public eye providing service to consumers at VVI's dining room, bake shop or cafeteria.

For the first six weeks of his 12 week program, Douglas serves breakfast and lunch to many of the more than 100 customers in VVI's new dining room. He ensures the bacon and eggs arrive

Opportunity



IF YOU NEED
TO KNOW...

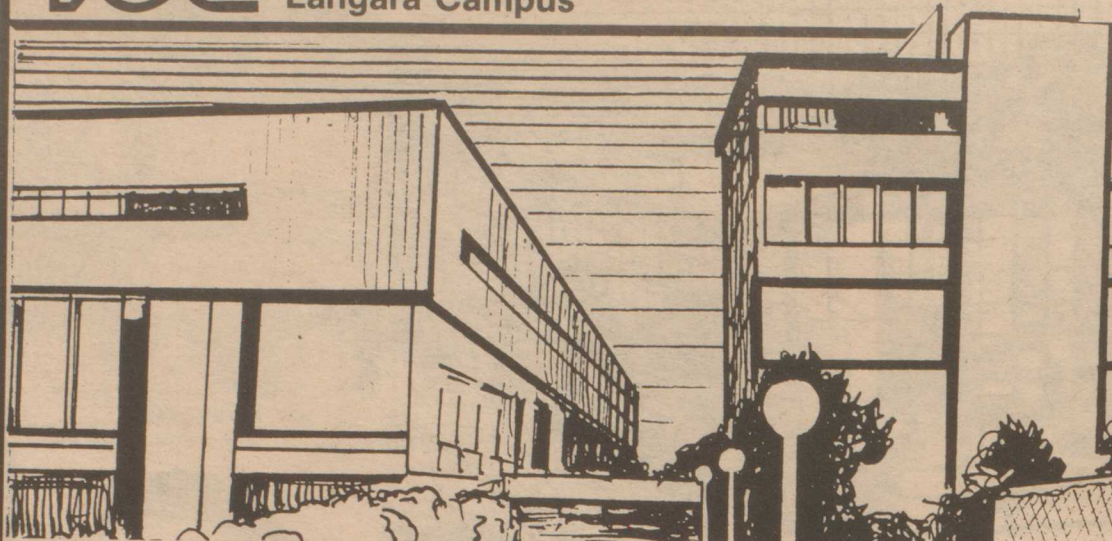
If you're interested in Canadian politics, travel in Greece, or need tips on how to survive the terrible "two's", we can oblige!

The Vancouver Community College Speakers Bureau came onto the scene this spring and already our speakers have talked to a number of groups, from seniors to psychics.

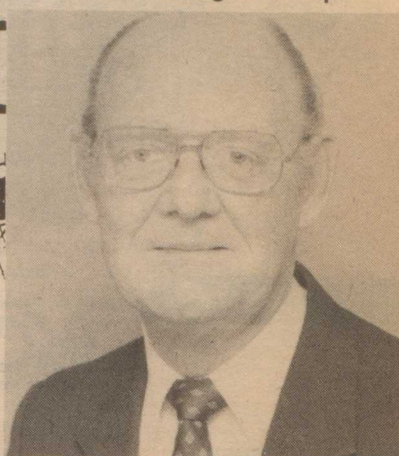
Our instructors are the best in their fields. More than 70 of our best people have volunteered to speak and there is no charge.

All we ask is that groups requesting speakers give us at least one month's notice. Call 875-1131, local 353 for more information.

VCC Langara Campus



JOCK DENHOLM
Principal,
Langara Campus



PACIFIC RIM PROGRAM OPENS DOOR TO EAST

Last fall Langara Campus launched a new, two year diploma program on the Pacific Rim. With great commitment, energy, hours — and no money — 5 Langara instructors put the program together from existing offerings. Gordon Jones, spokesman for the self-styled "gang of five," explains, "At the community college we not only have to meet the needs of the community, sometimes we have to show them the way."

The Pacific Rim is the new frontier.

From 1975 to 1980 trade between Canada and this sphere more than tripled, from \$350 million to over \$1 billion.

Traditionally our ties have been with the U.S. and Europe; our approach to business, and life in general is similar. Not so with the Pacific Rim countries.

As the program instigators knew, Canadian businessmen have a good deal to lose, in both dollars and influence, if they fail to understand the culture, the different way of business, in the Pacific Rim.

After brainstorming the group came up with a program that offered a two year diploma, combining studies in business operations or marketing and sales, with studies in Pacific Rim language, culture, religion and politics. This prepares students for entry level jobs in companies that deal with the Far East.

As well as diploma studies, the program will offer Continuing Education courses for people already working with Pacific Rim corporations. Last spring in an effort to raise community awareness, the program started its first series of public lectures on topics that relate to this part of the world.

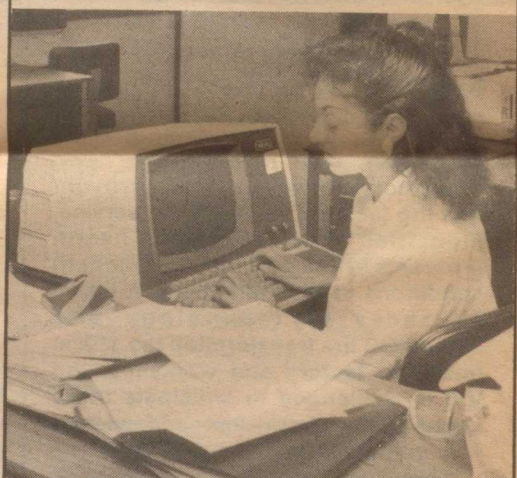
In summing up the rationale for a program such as this, Jones said, "The world is shrinking day by day. If we don't appreciate other cultures, other ways of life, we're going to have problems as we grow more interdependent."

PACIFIC RIM
PROGRAM
1983-84



Co-op Education Forges Ahead

Co-op education, where work terms are sandwiched between terms of classroom study, is a growing partnership between education and business that is paying off handsomely for both.



The data processing program at Langara Campus has offered a co-op option since 1980 and this Spring, for the first time, co-op was extended to the marketing and sales, finance and investment, and accounting programs, with tremendous results.

Co-op co-ordinator Fred Wuhrer says co-op provides advantages all around. Students get that important chance to put theory into practice under "real world" working conditions and employers can preview the strengths and weaknesses of job candidates before doing permanent hiring.

Because of Langara's already strong record in co-op, Canada Employment and Immigration, through the Career Access Program, made \$119,000 available to subsidize 35 co-op placements.

"Under this scheme firms get an opportunity to test co-op, without much commitment of funds," Wuhrer explains. The subsidy, he says, covers half the student's wage for a co-op term and is open only to first time co-op employers.

"We believe once they've seen the benefits of co-op they'll be sold on the idea," he adds.

Reaching Out

BEING PREPARED

No one likes to think of tragedy striking. But many tragedies can be prevented if people are prepared and know what to do in times of crisis. Last year, through Continuing Education, some 2,400 men and women in the Lower Mainland, double the number of the previous year, learned CPR, or cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. In programs at the college, in community centres and in homes, they soon learned the lifesaving technique for adults, along with the risks, signs and symptoms of heart attack, and the method for clearing a blocked air passage. Nearly 800 of these people took a special Baby Saver program that told parents and care givers how to prevent common causes of accidents among young children, how to administer CPR to a child and how to deal with a conscious or unconscious choking child.

IF CRISIS COMES, DO YOU
KNOW WHAT TO DO?

VCC Continuing
Education Division

Continuing Education — offers programs from golf and welding to Career Programs and computer training. C.E. operates from classrooms, community centres, neighbourhood houses — even over the airwaves. Its mandate is built on the philosophy that learning is a lifelong pursuit with objectives that can run from career upgrading, to community support, to entertainment and recreation. Whatever needs and interests emerge in the community C.E. tries to respond with programs that fit the bill.

Over the past few years C.E. has become an important training centre for post-basic nursing studies, offering specialty training in intensive care and neo-natal care to graduate registered nurses.

C.E.'s Telecollege offers courses over the Knowledge Network, ranging from marketing and psychology to drawing and computer literacy. Students can watch each lesson a number of times in the course of a week and they are provided with support learning materials and in some instances, the services of a phone-in tutor. Independent living skills and pre-vocational training for the mentally handicapped adults is an area where C.E. has pioneered and its program models are used throughout the province. More than 20,000 people each year pursue an interest through Continuing Education at Vancouver Community College.

YOUTH JOB CORPS — A NEW CHANCE

To get a job you need experience. And to get experience you need a job. A cliché, but true.

In the midst of a nation-wide recession even experience won't guarantee work. People everywhere are caught in the economic downturn. At the far end of the recession spectrum sit unemployed youth. These young people aged 15 to 24 have little education and less job experience. This has left them virtually out of the employment picture.

Early in 1983 Canada Employment made funds available across the country for employment projects aimed at this group. In B.C. this translated into the Metro Vancouver Youth Job Corps, a project administered by Continuing Education at Vancouver Community College and funded for \$330,000. Last year social service agencies referred 86 young people into the 14 to 16 week program



International
Education
Forging Ahead

VCC's sphere of activity extends well beyond the city or the province. We are taking larger strides each year to offer our know-how world-wide.

Last year, amid the clutter of equipment at VVI you could find teachers from Zimbabwe learning to instruct in welding, electronics or a range of other vocational fields. Young students from Tokyo's Takushoku University came to Langara Campus as part of C.E.'s Canadian School of Takudai. They took classes along side Canadian students and lived in Canadian homes during their six month stay, learning not only our language but our way of life. Three English language translators, who are soon to take up duties at China's new Cheungdu Management Centre, spent two terms at King Edward Campus learning the language of North American business and management they will need in their new posts.

This spring the college appointed Norman Henderson as its first director of international education. The college offers 24 international education programs, that meet a broad range of needs from program planning and curriculum development, to upgrading in high technology and systems analysis and development. On a contract basis the college provides learning experiences tailored to suit the specific educational requirements and standards of people from any country.

As well as working with educational institutions overseas, the college works with private industry. For instance, if a Canadian diesel engine company sells its equipment to a Pacific Rim country, VCC can subcontract to teach mechanics in that country how to service this equipment.

This growing move into international education enriches the resources and perspective we bring to our own classrooms and, importantly in these times of tight budget, it generates some revenue to support new educational initiatives at home.

A big boost to those enrolled is the fact that the program pays them a salary

provided they meet the terms and conditions set out . . . for instance, coming to counselling sessions and arriving at class on time.

The initial phase of the program is taken up learning skills such as interpersonal communications, life management and financial planning. They then move onto job related skills such as preparing resumes and handling interviews. Once they have acquired the tools they need to manage in the work world, they are placed in jobs. Counsellors work actively with the young people and the employer to ensure the situation runs smoothly. Though the employer's cost for the initial three months work period is covered by the program, the employer has to make the commitment and take the time to train the young person.

Verna, Tony and Jim are typical of those coming through YJC. All were living on social assistance before they came into the program, going nowhere and doing nothing. Now Verna has nearly a year on the job in the classified section of a community newspaper. Tony, who'd never held a job of any kind has worked just over a year as a baker in a delicatessen. And Jim, who left a large family in the east to come out here and find work, has worked eight months as a shipper/receiver.

The success rate for the
program is about 86 percent.

Some remarkable people . . .



BILL McQUAID

BUSINESS LEADER LENDS EXPERTISE

A strong commitment to the community — its growth and well being — is what first brought financial consultant Bill McQuaid, through the doors of Vancouver Community College.

As well as overseeing the business of his own firm and chairing the board of the Children's Hospital, for the last seven years he has been an active participant on the college's small business program advisory committee and he recently accepted the chairmanship of the newly created Pacific Rim program.

McQuaid's first contact with the college came through the Kiwanis, when a group of businessmen from that organization worked with faculty at Langara to develop a small business program.

"Because we were experienced in the business world ourselves, we could draw upon our own resources to bring in lawyers, accountants — people with a variety of business expertise — to give students the benefit of their experience."

"I think the contributions of working committees such as the ones I've served on are vital," he says. "I like to think we've brought some insight to these students that they couldn't have gotten just in the classroom."

"I've been refreshed too by the attitude, the initiative I see among these students. Obviously I haven't yet had much exposure to the students in the Pacific Rim program, but those I've met over the years in the small business program have really given me a lift. They come from diverse backgrounds — many, in fact, are new to this country, but they are really setting out to accomplish something."

"I wish more businessmen would see the benefits of this kind of involvement. I think so many of them think of colleges as being not very entrepreneurial. I think they would be surprised by what they'd find."

MacLean's Pays Tribute to KEC Instructor

Diane Thompson was a Canadian nationalist, interested in Canadian film, theatre and, of course, literature. In fact, she had studied Canadian literature at the University of New Brunswick where she had been a Beaverbrook scholar. The former English teacher and department head at King Edward Campus knew too, that one of education's most important functions was to prepare students to take on the role of informed and conscientious citizens.

When MacLean's Magazine began its in-class program a number of years ago, Diane Thompson was one of its first subscribers and strongest supporters. Under the scheme classes of students could subscribe to the national news magazine for a fraction of the regular cost and their teacher would be supplied with instructional support materials. The issues, the questions, the controversies and the debates of the day made their way into classrooms across the country. Diane Thompson's students, along with thousands of others, came to understand themselves and the country they live in a little better.

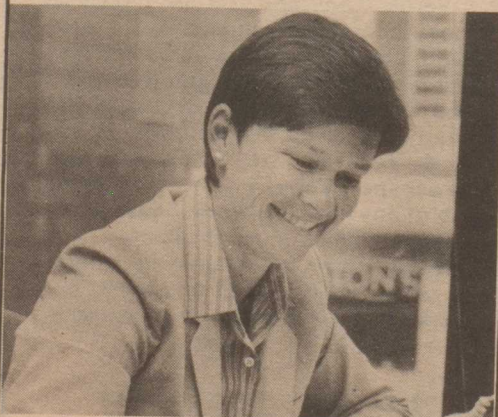


DIANE THOMPSON

When Diane Thompson died late last year, the educational division at the magazine wanted to pay tribute to her as an early backer and interested supporter of their initiative. This spring the program's annual in-class student writing awards were named in her memory.

"She was a tremendously enthusiastic supporter," says Susan MacLeod of MacLean's. "She gave workshops on the program to other teachers, showing them how she used the program and she continually sent in contributions and suggestions."

Langara Grad Reaches Top Ranks of First City



IRENE LEONARD

At 31, Langara arts and science graduate Irene Leonard is an assistant vice-president of First City Investments, a division of First City Development Corporation Ltd., and part of one of the premier financial empires in the country. She is one of two women to reach this upper echelon of management at First City. Leonard's division oversees equity financing.

While Leonard has travelled a long way from Langara Campus's Pastoral setting in South Vancouver to the corporate towers of downtown, where she analyzes multi-million dollar deals, she says if she had the journey to take again she wouldn't change routes or destinations.

"Originally I went to Langara on the recommendation of my high school counsellor. She said it provided a good transition from high school to university. The classes were smaller and the instructors more accessible. It cost less too. I was very happy with my experience there."

Leonard found the semester system suited her purposes well. Originally an English major, she decided part way through her studies to switch to economics, with an eye to going on to become a corporate solicitor.

"After a year and a half of full-time study and a change in emphasis," she says, "I wanted some time off." For two and a half years she worked at a variety of jobs, took two trips to Europe and studied evenings at Langara. After graduating in 1974 she went on to third year honours economics at the University of British Columbia, then onto law school there. By this time she had married Michael Leonard, a graduate of Langara's art-in-merchandising program, now manager of Dunne & Rundle Ltd.'s Richmond store.

For a person who originally decided on her career path as a child, when she read that Libras, her sign, make good judges, she's made a swift climb up the corporate ladder. And she will doubtless travel further upward.

Drive Takes Her Ahead

"I'm number one," Joyce Mitchell says. It isn't a boast. It is a tough lesson that life has taught the adult education student at KEC.



JOAN MITCHELL

The product of a broken home herself, Mitchell is separated from her own three daughters and has had to contend with speech problems and a hearing disability.

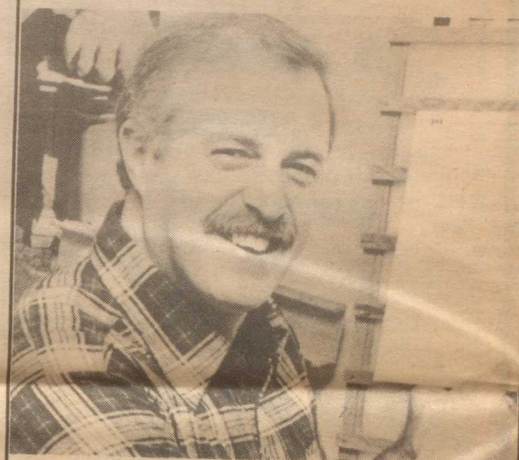
"At one time they told me I was retarded," she says. "I knew I wasn't and I was determined to prove it."

It was her speech therapist at Vancouver General Hospital who suggested she come to basic education at King Edward Campus.

"I always had the desire to learn," she explains. "I knew without at least grade 12, you could never go anywhere at work. There was no advancement."

Mitchell, who wants to go on to university so that she can go into business management or broadcasting, is unequivocal when it comes to her motivation. "I'm doing this for one person: me. If you don't value yourself, you can't be of value to others. This has not been easy for me. Joyce sees a lot of the same kind of determination she has among her classmates in basic education. "It doesn't matter whether they are 17 or 50, most of them have a special drive. Coming back to school is hard — especially if you have kids and very little money."

"But this is something we all have to do. We have to look up and say 'Hey, I'm an individual. If you can't look after number one, you can't do much for anyone else.'"



Bruce Hanbury Takes National Award

This spring Langara Campus fine arts instructor Bruce Hanbury became the first community college instructor in the country to receive an award for teaching excellence in Canadian studies. Hanbury was presented with the \$5,000 award by Secretary of State Serge Joyal at a special ceremony in Ottawa. Hanbury, along with colleagues at Langara, has worked for three years to create a dynamic and lively Canadian studies program.

"What we've tried to do with this program," Hanbury says, "is take a real look at the differing qualities of our culture. We focus on multiculturalism — all the different elements that make up this country; communications — newspapers, magazines and broadcasting; and the evolution of the performing arts in Canada."

"The program's success is founded on looking ahead."

Identity isn't static. It continues to change. If new ideas and perspectives aren't examined it becomes a program in history, looking at what Canadians were, not what they are.

"We actively try not to be just one more history course, or one more political science course."

As well as a two year diploma program, Canadian studies goes outside the classroom to involve the larger community through its public lecture series. Here people from film, theatre and public life look at the fundamental question: who are we?