

VCC Connections

VANCOUVER
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

Rules of the Road

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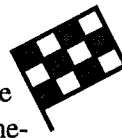
(If you commute to VCC on a bike, or you're interested in being a commuter cyclist, you'll probably find this article of interest. I've reprinted it with permission from the Government Employees' Commuting Options newsletter. This group, nicknamed "GECO," (like "gecko"), deals with issues such as cycle-commuting, arranging car-pooling, transit service to employees, and parking policies. We should applaud them for helping government employees consider alternatives to the one-person-to-a-car syndrome. How about a few interested employees forming a VCC commuting committee? Any volunteers? -Editor)



You may have noticed that not all roads are designed or built for bicycles. Ray Hall, a veteran cycling safety instructor, offers us four tips for cyclists so that we can ride on the road as an equal among equals.

Respect

Cyclists want their rights to the road respected, but respect is something that is earned, not given. One of the most common complaints I get from drivers is about cyclists who pass on the right when cars are stopped at traffic lights.



If you want to be treated as a legitimate vehicle operator, line up with the rest of the traffic. If cyclists keep passing stopped drivers on their right at each light, the driver will soon lose patience and become annoyed. Playing leap frog with cars is a game you will lose. The time saved by passing on the right gains you only one or two tenths of a second per car. If you manage to pass one

hundred cars a day, you'll save enough time to take an extra coffee break per week. It's not worth it. Remember, commuter cyclists meet the same people every day, twice a day.

One other fact for consideration - cyclists are liable for damages caused by passing on the right because it is illegal to do so.

Responsibility

The cyclist who claims to have an attempt made on their life everyday needs to look at the common denominator in these situations



- themselves. There is a larger percentage of poor cyclists than poor drivers on the road. Unlike motorists, there is no formal education system or licensing for cyclists. The most common car/bike accident is an oncoming driver turning left in front of a bike. The second most common accident is a driver passing and turning right in front of a cyclist. Both

(continued on the next page)

Rules of the road

of these situations can be avoided with proper training and experience. Take the responsibility to become the best rider you can be.

Predictability

By communicating intentions early, cyclists become more predictable. This makes it easier for drivers to deal with you as part of the traffic flow. Think at least one minute ahead, plan at least five minutes ahead. If the cyclist doesn't know what they are doing, how can the drivers around them? If the driver makes a decision based on what he or she thinks the cyclist is doing and the cyclist changes his or her mind, stuff happens. Hand signals and road positions tell drivers where we are going. For example, everyone expects traffic in "right turn only" lanes to turn right—stay out of them otherwise. When turning left, shoulder check, signal, and move to the left of the lane before the intersection.

Holding the road and behaving like another vehicle is understood by everyone. "Bopping around" all over the road on a bike is not.

Visibility

If drivers can't see you, they can't avoid you. Victoria's weather is typically cool and damp, creating flat, grey light and fogged car windows. Wearing bright colours separates the cyclist from the background and draws the driver's attention. Hugging the curb and wearing dark colours makes a cyclist almost invisible to crossing and oncoming traffic. Eighty-seven per cent of accidents happen from the front at intersections, usually an oncoming car turning left in front of a bike. This is why a headlight is an essential piece of equipment. Drivers stopped at an intersection perpendicular to a rider's line of travel

can only see a bicycle by its light. On the other hand, no amount of equipment can replace skill and knowledge. We have all seen cyclists decked out with every visibility device on the market: safety vest, side flag, flag pole, arm and leg bands, leg light, reflectors in front and back and in their wheels, all flashing and blinking to beat the band. I call it the Christmas tree effect. But they are still having accidents. They think equipment alone can keep them safe. They are wrong. No matter how much safety gear you have, if you aren't riding safely, you are in trouble.

Smile

When a driver lets you in front of them, smile a thank you. When passing in front of a pedestrian, reassure them that you have seen them and mean them no harm—smile. If you want to move between cars stopped in traffic, a smile is an acknowledgement of our common situation. Try to make dealing with cyclists a positive experience for yourself and those around you. Cyclists are still in a minority—making us all ambassadors or public relations agents.



Don't hide your talent!

If you have an idea for a regular column or an interesting experience that you'd like to share with us, let us know! We really want to hear from you!



F.Y.👁️

Trying to contact Linda Thomas, First Nations Education Coordinator? You can reach her at:

- Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri:
KEC, 4th Floor Admin., 871-7020
 - Wednesday:
CC Counselling Dept., 443-8596
- Linda will be at VCC throughout the summer, except for during her holidays.

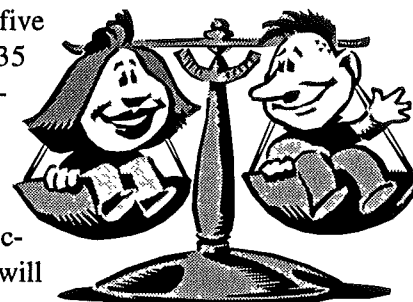
A Note from the Editor

Connections' clip-art to be more representative of both genders

I recently received a call from a reader about the clip-art that Connections uses. For those that don't know the jargon, clip-art is the term for the whimsical illustrations and symbols used through the newsletter. The reader wanted to point out that figures of men seem to vastly outnumber figures of women—and asked if I could try to be more equal in the representation.

On looking through the issues produced so far this year, I realized that the reader has

made a very important point. Out of 40 illustrations of people, just five were female, compared to 35 males. That's only 12.5% female! Although this is an unintentional oversight, it obviously needs to be corrected. Therefore, in the future, Connections' illustrations and symbols will be less gender-biased. Thank you very much to the reader who pointed this out.



Put some sizzle in your summer—great barbecue deals at CC Retail Meats

New York steak	7.99 lb	Hinds of Beef*	2.29 lb	Grade A chicken	1.49 lb
Rib Eye steak bnls	7.99 lb	Long Loin of Beef*	3.99 lb	(Min. 5, cut any way you want)	
T-Bone steak	5.99 lb	(10-12 T-bones, 8 top sirloin, tenderloin and lean ground beef; average price \$150)		Phone 443-8465 or 443-8351	
Top sirloin steak	4.49 lb	*price per pound will increase due to waste		(Visa, MasterCard or Cash)	
BBQ Beef Rst.	3.49 lb				

Counselling workshops in May

• Immigrant Women's Support Group

Topics: parenting, self esteem, assertiveness, career/education information, family violence, welfare rights.

Time: 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Date: Tuesdays, May 16 to June 20

Place: Counselling, Room 3002 (students may bring their lunch)

• Improve Your Interpersonal Communication Skills

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Date: May 17

Place: Room 2103

• Handling the Job Interview

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Date: May 24

Place: Room 3169

(This workshop is not open to other students.)

• Assertiveness

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Date: May 24

Place: Room 2103

• Stress Management

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Date: May 31

Place: Room 2103

These are student workshops and are held at King Edward Campus. For more information, contact the Counselling Department, Room 3002, tel. 871-7191.

Langara Board Chair recuperating

Stephen Huddart's progress in Vancouver Hospital

Stephen Huddart, Board Chair for Langara College (and former VCC Board member - Ed.) is continuing to progress after suffering a serious spinal cord injury while skiing in late March. He has appreciated all the cards and good wishes from his friends over the past weeks. He continues to be regularly informed about and involved in College Board decisions and affairs.

Stephen is in the C.3 Rehabilitation Unit of the Heather Pavilion at Vancouver Hospital and Health Sciences Centre, until this Friday, May 19, when he will be returning home. Everyone wishes Stephen well in his recovery.

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The AECBC Bulletin, May/95*

Quick uote

Men occasionally
stumble over
the truth, but
most of them
pick themselves
up and hurry off
as if nothing
happened

—Winston
Churchill



New environmental guidelines for post-secondary facilities

New environmental guidelines will help B.C.'s universities, colleges and institutes design buildings that are environmentally sensitive and healthy for inhabitants. The Environmental Guidelines for B.C. University, College and Institute Facilities project was spearheaded by a group of operations and development representatives from six public post-secondary institutions and was supported by a \$80,000 grant from the Ministry of Skills, Training and Labour. The group, which included two representatives from BCIT and one from Emily Carr, worked closely with the Environmental Research Group of the School of Architecture at UBC.

"Designing health buildings is a matter of approach," says Dr. Ray Cole, UBC School of Architecture professor and author of the guidelines. "These guidelines point out the fundamental areas where improvements can

be made in building design to reflect emerging principles of sustainability; they also provide a framework for designers who take a holistic approach to building design."

The guidelines offer practical, cost-effective strategies for designing buildings which are sensitive to the ecology of the site and principles of conservation, are energy efficient, promote efficiency in operation, use recycled or reusable materials where appropriate, and are healthy and comfortable for users.

Copies of the guidelines are available from the Public Affairs Branch of the Ministry of Skills, Training and Labour at: 604-387-6499; and on the internet at this address: STLGOPHER.STL.GOV.BC.CA.

*reprinted with permission from
The AECBC Bulletin, May/95*

announcements

A First Nations Advisory Council is currently being formed.

The Council will have blended internal (students, faculty, administration) and external (First Nations representatives) membership. A primary purpose of the Council will be to advise on implementation strategies for VCC's First Nations Framework Policy.

Besides internal appointments to the Council, we are also seeking two faculty "volunteer" members. If you have a strong interest in First Nations education and would be willing to participate on the Council (approximately 10 meetings a year), please contact Linda Martin, Vice President, Educational Support Services, by the end of May. If we receive more than two names, we'll hold a hat draw.

A university transfer course will be offered at City Centre beginning June 2.

The Humanities Department, in partnership with Program Development, will offer *English 229: An introduction to the novels, poetry and drama of the Twentieth Century*. This course will introduce students to the modern novel, a selection of poems and a sampling of modern drama. Writing assignments will be related to the literary works studied. Cost is \$305 and classes will take place Friday nights and Saturdays. For more information or to register, contact Program Development, KEC, 871-7488/7499.

KEC Bookstore hours have changed for the summer.

Effective May 31, 1995 the KEC Bookstore will

not open until 11:30 a.m. Wednesday mornings. The new Bookstore summer hours (May 15 - Sept. 4) are:

Monday	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	11:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sat/Sun	CLOSED

This change is temporary until September 4, 1995 to allow the staff to keep up with the increased volume.

The Purchasing Department

has become part of the Finance and Administration area, as is the case in most colleges. Take heart: this will not affect the day to day operations of the Purchasing Department.

Lina Rose' telephone local has changed to 8609.

If you need to contact a member of the Student Association Executive, call local 8467. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Vacation Notice

Dana Fister, Financial Aid Advisor at City Centre Campus, will be on vacation from May 18, 1995 to July 31, 1995. In her absence Brenda Toporowski will be acting Department Head.

KEC's new postal code is V5T 1Y8. Please don't use V5N 5T9 anymore.



(more announcements on the next page)

more announcements

Connections

Editor, Design and Layout:

Dale Rasmussen,
PR Dept

Campus Contacts

Vicki Montigny
(CC),
Manijeh Golkhizi
(KEC)

Communications Coordinator

Sarah Lucas, local
7158

Connections publishes every Thursday, and the deadline for submissions is 3:00 pm on the previous Friday. Please supply your article to Manijeh or Vicki in a simple, word-processed format (text only is best) on an IBM-compatible disk, and include a hardcopy.

Please recycle this newsletter.



New staff appointment

The Financial Aid staff welcomes Lina Yung to City Centre's Financial Aid Office. This is a temporary appointment from May 29, 1995 to July 7, 1995. Brenda Toporowski and Anita Kapoor are keen to show Lina what an interesting and rewarding department Financial Aid is to work in. Lina brings a wealth of Admissions and Cashiering experience and we know that she will be a fast learner and an enthusiastic helper of students.

Bob Hamaura has been assigned as a systems analyst for Student Services. He will work on the implementation of the new Banner system and will no longer be available to provide PC support and advice. Please call John Roberts at 8369 or Elizabeth Burnyeat at 7455 instead. Thank you.

Jim Goard

calendar

Go river rafting on the Squamish River

with VCC International Education and Canadian Outback Adventure Company! This full day trip takes place on June 2 and includes a scenic train trip to Brackendale, renowned winter habitat of the North American bald eagle; full safety orientation; hearty barbequed lunch on the banks of the Squamish River; and of course, a rafting cruise down the Squamish

River. All international and non-international students, friends, home-stay families and staff are welcome. Rafters will meet at the B.C. Rail station, North Vancouver, at 6:30 a.m. Departure time is 7:00 a.m. Cost is \$129.00. Please pay the cashier, 4th floor, KEC by Thursday, May 25. Sorry, no refunds after this date.



classifieds

JOB POSTINGS

Manager, Budget Accounting. Closing date: May 26.

Office Manager, CE (Langara). Closing date: May 29.

Office Clerk (a), Mailroom, KEC. Closing date: May 26.

Clerk Cashier, Registrar's Office, KEC. Closing date: May 24.

FOR SALE

Two bedroom and den apartment in west Richmond. Assumable mortgage 6.50% to May 1997; \$148,000. 1 1/2 baths, underground parking, over 1200 sq. ft., many amenities, fabulous recreation centre, indoor and outdoor pools, one block to bus, shopping centre, banks. Sale by owner. Call eves or weekends, 538-8761.