



Board Chairman Elizabeth Jarvis cuts a piece of birthday cake for newly named Minister for Post Secondary Education Russ Fraser. The Vancouver South MLA attended a celebration last November marking VCC's 20th anniversary.

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NEW ERA!

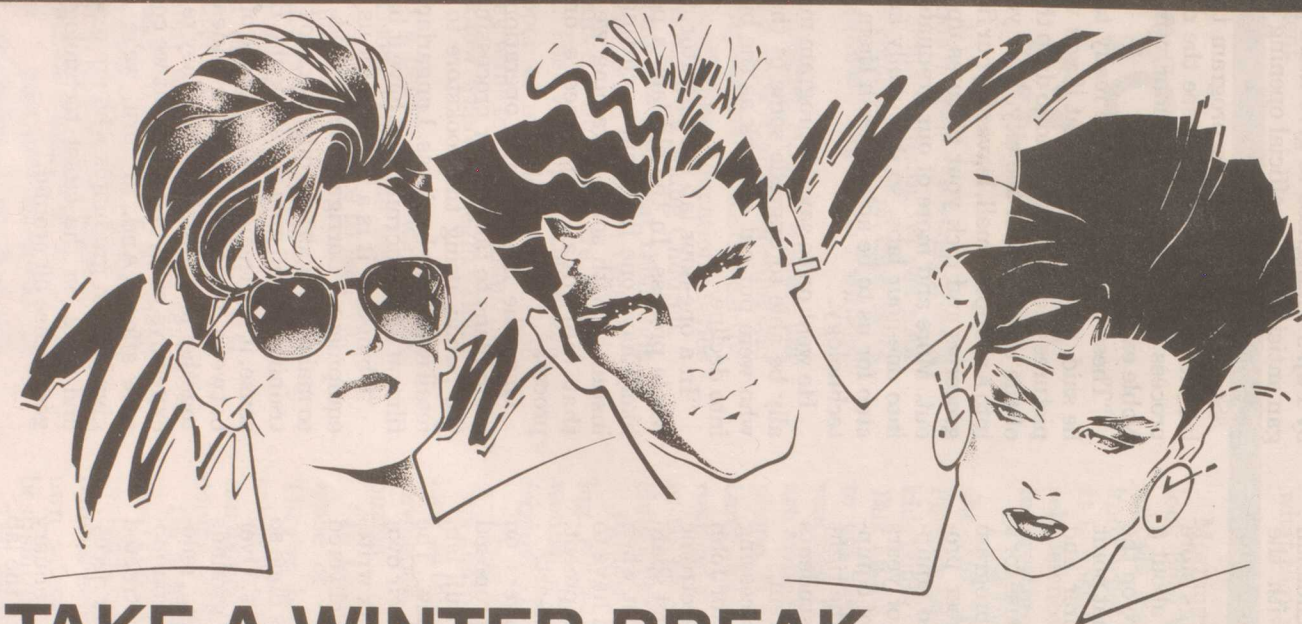
Finance Minister Hugh Curtis noted that the multi-year funding of the plan gave educators a better opportunity to plan.

"In effect, we are opening up the process to allow those affected by the budget to play a role in helping government to identify spending priorities."

Former education minister Jack Heinrich moves to the forests portfolio and Jim Hewitt becomes education minister. He was previously responsible for consumer and corporate affairs.

The new post-secondary minister was a guest at the college in November when President Paul Gallagher hosted a celebration in honour of VCC's 20th birthday.

At the time, speaking on behalf of the government, Russ Fraser said: "I offer congratulations for the good work that is obviously being done in education — particularly at this level. I am impressed with the level of co-operation I see between business and education. I think this is phenomenally important."



TAKE A WINTER BREAK

If a vacation in the sunny south isn't in the cards for you, you can take a mini-break right here at the college. The hairdressing and skincare programs on the mall at VVI offer a whole range of luxury pampering at minimal cost. You can have a body wave, colouring, a facial, manicure or waxing at just a fraction of the cost at most downtown salons. Some evening and weekend appointments are available. All treatments are done by students working under the watchful eyes of instructors with many years experience. For more information call 681-9554.

INTERCOM

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The NEWS and VIEWS Letter about people and happenings at Vancouver Community College
February, 1986

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

INTERCOM

NEW ERA!

In a cabinet shuffle on Tuesday, February 11 Premier Bill Bennett named Vancouver South MLA Russ Fraser as the minister responsible for post-secondary education. This is Fraser's first cabinet appointment.

The same day Bennett announced the B.C. government will increase education spending by \$110 million this year. This money funds the first year of a three year plan the premier said is designed to "promote academic excellence." The money will be spread through the whole system, covering schools, colleges, institutes and universities.

Bennett suggested the funds would be spent on initiatives such as language training, entrepreneurial skills and Pacific Rim studies, among others. He said the cabinet will determine allocations of the extra funds in consultation with school, college and university boards.

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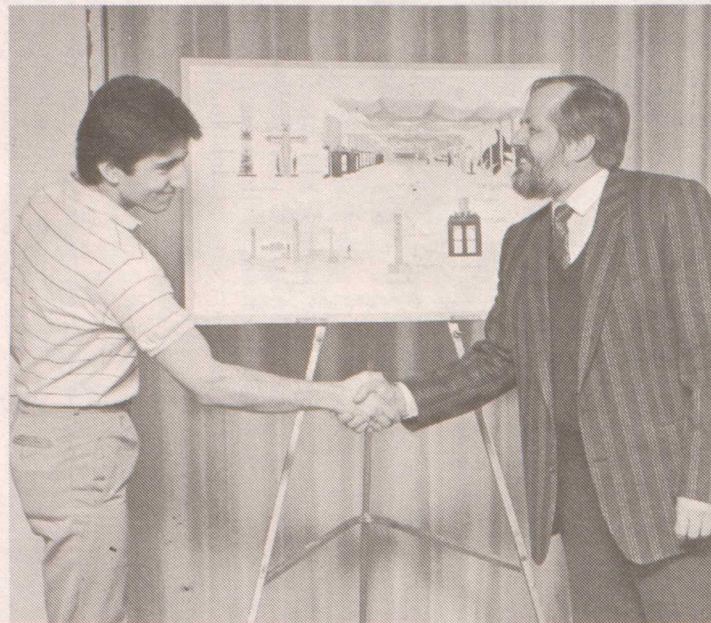
Premier Bill Bennett at Langara Campus for sod turning ceremony for the student union building.

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NEWS MAKERS



ART-IN-MERCHANDISING TO GLAMORIZE B.C. PLACE



B.C. Bakers' Association representative Karl Eiversteiner congratulates art-in-merchandising student Vic Marchetti on his winning submission.

What could be done to the concourse of B.C. Place Stadium that would make it look like anything but a concrete dungeon? This was the challenge faced by 33 second year art-in-merchandising students when the B.C. Bakers' Association approached them for a design concept for their convention banquet at the stadium this August. This only proviso association representative Karl Eiversteiner put on was that the theme should be distinctively West Coast.

For two weeks student imaginations went wild. Outdoor lighting posts were transformed into sail boats. Haida carvings scrawled up concrete beams and foam mountains emerged from walls.

On February 3 Eiversteiner previewed the work and took some submissions back for his committee to see. On February 6 he returned with final choices and not one winner, but four.

Taking first prize was Vic Marchetti's design depicting scenes of tugs, totems and killer whales on fabric panels. Elements from the designs of Marilyn Danson, Rob Elliott and Dag Mothe are to be incorporated as well. Vic takes a

prize of \$100, while the others collect \$35 each for their efforts.

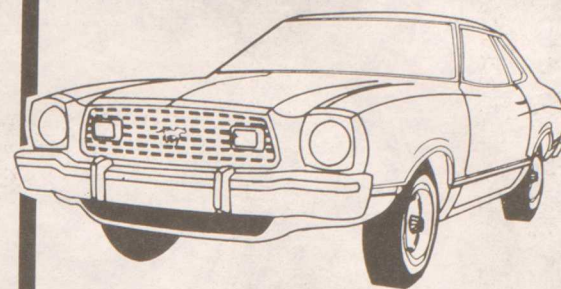
"I'm very pleased with this opportunity," said program head Herman Itzinger. "This type of 'real world' experience is invaluable to the students. They have to create an exciting design for the client, working under the constraints of the space and the budget, just as they will in their careers. I know it will be terrific for them to actually see their work executed."

The whole class is going to work on taking the design off paper and making it a reality for the August banquet, where the association will host more than 2,000 delegates.

"We'll all put hours in on the project," Itzinger explained, "and then I think four or five of the students will actually put it in place for the convention."

"Finding a winner was a very difficult decision," acknowledged Eiversteiner. "I was very impressed by the imagination and ingenuity that went into this work. When you consider they had a concrete passage way as a backdrop it is even more amazing what they've done."

MUSTANG UPDATE



The lottery is in full swing and Keith Murray, head of the marketing and sales program at Langara Campus, whose students are overseeing ticket sales, reports that by the beginning of February sales were around the 4,000 mark. The car has been at a number of shopping malls around town and it will continue its travels until draw time at the end of March. The fully restored '75 Mustang is also spending a week at each of the three campuses.

This effort got an added boost recently when the Lower Mainland chapter of the Mustang Owners' Association asked for 25 books of tickets. The car will be on show at their February meeting.

Tickets are \$2. All the money generated by the lottery goes to student aid at all three campuses.

LANGARA ONE-HOUR LAB — A JOINT VENTURE WITH BUSINESS



Those in the photo tech program are working hard to get the Fuji one-hour colour processing lab operational.

Langara Campus's photography technician program took a giant step forward with the recent acquisition of a Fuji one-hour photo processing lab.

The lab operated at the London Drugs store on East Hastings for three years, until about a year ago when smoke damage from a fire on the premises put it out of commission. At that point L.D. turned the lab over to the insurer and replaced it with a new one.

The old lab sat in the insurer's warehouse for a year, its fate uncertain. Lyle Larrigan, program head and a division chairman for career programs, got wind of the smoke damaged equipment. He had already spent a couple of years trying different routes to get this type of equipment for the photo tech program. But the tight grip of restraint had prevailed and students continued to train on an outmoded system.

"The equipment we used for colour processing is pretty antiquated," explained instructor John Noble. "It was slow. It has hardly any electronic components. It is so old we can hardly get spare parts. We trained our students on it. But when they went out into business they would have to learn again on a new one-hour lab equipment. Ours was more antique than state-of-the-art."

Larrigan turned his persuasive powers on London Drugs and the insurer. He proposed they give the photo tech program the Fuji lab, worth between \$60,000 and \$80,000 new. The students would repair and clean it for their own use. The company could then take the tax write-off. A deal was struck and the lab was delivered to Langara in early December.

The first order was to get renovations done so the lab could function in its new quarters. Over the Christmas break the buildings and grounds department, along with K.D. Engineering, renovated some of the program space to accommodate the new lab. A lab room was constructed and new plumbing, for hot and cold water necessary to the process, was installed.

Since the start of winter term in January students have been hard at work getting the lab functional. They've been helped tremendously

by Fuji's willingness to give them parts. Larrigan anticipates the official opening should be in mid-March.

Students will learn to program the one-hour lab electronically and oversee the development process for about 1,200 colour prints an hour, Noble explained.

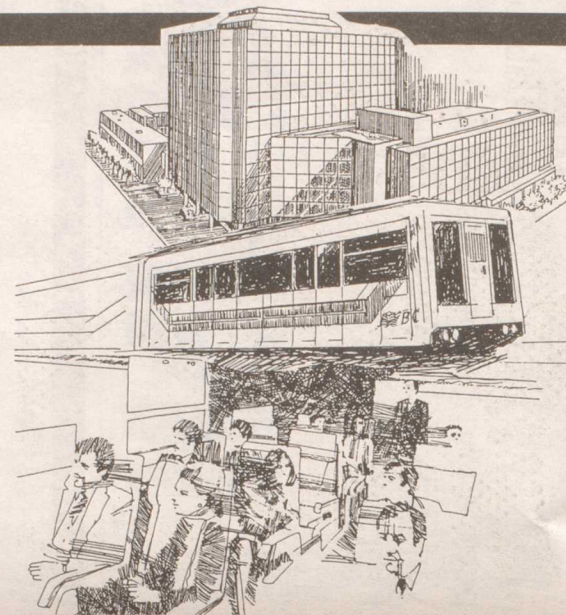
"These one hour labs are really taking over," he said. "It used to be, that if you wanted your pictures back fast, you had to drop them into one of the large labs in the city. Now you can drop into a shopping mall, leave off your film, get your groceries and pick your pictures up on the way out. More and more of our graduates are going into one-hour labs, so it is really an important step for us to be able to train them on this new technology."

He went on to say the program might eventually be able to upgrade some of the employees who were put out of work as the big labs went into decline.

"In a one-hour lab the operator monitors the whole process. In the old labs a person would likely have one function — cutting prints, for instance. With some retraining we could teach that individual to oversee a one-hour lab process."

Once the lab becomes operational, the program plans to take colour processing work from the public, using the bookstore to operate the retail end of the business. Langarians could drop film off in the morning and have it back by noon.

"Obviously it is a big plus for us to have this equipment," Larrigan commented. "It is going to make an important difference to the quality of training we can give our students. But in a large sense, it is a tremendous example of partnership between education and business, working together for mutual benefit. They're giving us an expensive piece of equipment we couldn't otherwise afford. And, in turn, we're going to be giving them graduates who are ready to go out and work on the latest technology. It makes good sense all around."



VVI SCOOPS EXPO

Those of you who think the action starts downtown May 1, when the Royal couple open the fair, are wrong! April 17 Vancouver Vocational Institute, Expo's neighbour and the closest college to the fair, swings open its doors and invites the public in from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tagging onto its proximity, to Skytrain, the theme of this year's open house will likely be "Train for Tomorrow." Activities are still at the planning stage, but organizing chairman John Vandennakker, dean of student and administrative services, promises there will be lots of action with demonstrations and displays from all departments.

Mark April 17 on your calendar and drop into VVI.

KEC STUDENTS GET EXPO BONUS!

Pending approval from City Hall all systems are go for a deal between the college and Imperial Parking to use the KEC lots for Expo cars. This venture is expected to bring the college about \$60,000 in revenue, which is slated to go for student aid at KEC.

The idea to use the parking for Expo came out of KEC student advisory committee. They approached Impark, the firm designated by Expo management to handle parking arrangements for the fair.

Through a series of negotiations and eventual approval by the college board, a deal was worked out. Under the arrangement a yet-to-be determined portion of the student lot will be available to Impark for fair parkers during May, June, July and August, Mondays through Fridays. Come September and the start of term this lot won't be available weekdays. Throughout Expo all the student lot, plus staff parking, will be available to Impark on weekends and holidays. The parking company expects to provide a shuttle bus from the lot to the Expo site and back.

"Impark will take care of any renovations necessary to put the lot in operation," KEC Principal Harry Pankratz explained. "They have also assured us the lot will be kept clean. I have every confidence this arrangement is going to work out well and the funds are going to make a tremendous difference to our student aid program."

THE SOUND OF MUSIC



The Vancouver Community College Music School has carved out a unique niche. It is a performance school — a place for those who want to play for the public to hone their talent. It follows then, that live concerts and recitals are an important part of the students' experience. And all the rest of us at VCC can take pleasure from and share in their music.

The latest series of recitals begins now and runs through the third week in March, followed by one concert each in April and May. Running from classical through jazz and onto popular music, these recitals are a great antidote to the mid-winter dulls. All performances are in the auditorium at King Edward Campus. And you can listen to the talent of tomorrow absolutely free!

Sat., Feb. 15 at 8 p.m.	Serena Whitters with a jazz and pop combo
Sun., Feb. 16 at 2:30 p.m.	Jazz and commercial students under the direction of Alan Matheson
Sun., Feb. 23 at 2:30 p.m.	VCC music students perform original music
Fri., Feb. 28 at 8 p.m.	Anita Krause, mezzo-soprano, Carol Joan Kelly on piano
Sat., March 1 at 8 p.m.	Jane MacLeod with a jazz and pop combo
Sun., March 9 at 2:30 p.m.	Sopranos Carrie Cooper and Arlene Kroeger, with Carol Joan Kelly on piano
Fri., March 14 at 8 p.m.	Soprano Melanie Whyte with Carol Joan Kelly on piano
Sun., March 16 at 2:30 p.m.	Michelle Gillette and guests with jazz, classical and R&B.
Fri., March 21 at 8 p.m.	Glynis Halbert with a jazz and pop combo
Sat., March 22 at 8 p.m.	Mezzo soprano Brenda Glass with Lee-Ann Pinder on cello, Gyllian Phillips on flute and Eric Hominick on piano
Fri., April 18, 8 p.m.	Mezzo sopranos Tricia Corry and Ching Muego with Carol Joan Kelly on piano and chamber music
Sat., May 10 at 8 p.m.	Melanie Paull, soprano, with Eric Hominick on piano.

For more information call the music school at 875-8220.

JUNIOR TRAVEL AGENT GETS NOD OF APPROVAL

The Canadian Institutes of Travel Counsellors B.C. Branch is giving its first ever certificate of approval to VVI's junior travel agent program, at its annual general meeting February 25 at the Pan Pacific Hotel.

"While we've been unofficially recognized by them since 1979, this is still quite an honour," said instructor Jack Hill. "A number of travel agent schools have opened up in the province over the past few years, some private schools and some in colleges. To be singled out I think says something very positive about our program."

Hill says there is no official standard of competence in the industry, no designation an individual must have before that person can set up shop as a travel agent.

CAN YOUR KIDS COPE?

Protecting our kids in their day-to-day lives is a growing concern among parents. We yearn for the days when kids could take off on their bikes or grab the bus to go swimming at the Y without a second thought.

But times have changed. How do we keep our kids safe? This is a topic Cathy Morningstar tackled at an evening seminar at KEC recently. This was part of Continuing Education's series on Living and Working with Young Children.

"Most parents hate the idea that their kids aren't safe in the park or on the way to school," Morningstar explained. "But they are beyond the point of denial. They've dropped the notion that: 'It can't happen to my kids.' It's all too obvious it can. They want to do something, but they don't really know where to begin. That's where I can help."

Morningstar has a degree in education and taught in Fort Nelson. When she was in the school system there she came face to face with the problems of child abuse.

"If I ever doubted a problem existed my naive eyes were certainly opened," she commented.

A martial arts enthusiast, Morningstar taught at the karate club in Fort Nelson. "There I was working mainly with women," she said. "They didn't just want to know how to defend themselves. They were interested in self-defence — in learning to avoid and defuse dangerous or uncomfortable situations. From there, because I was a teacher and I was very interested in children and their well-being, I adapted this self-defence approach to kids."

"In fact, you could simply hang out your shingle tomorrow. But more and more of our graduates are taking the certified travel counsellor's exam. This comes in two levels. A graduate of our junior travel agent program could take the first stage of the exam. In fact, 23 out of 24 of our last class did that. Increasingly employers are looking for this standard. Essentially it tells them and the public that you know what you're doing. The second level exam can be written after a person has three years working experience in the travel industry."

The VVI program is four months long and it runs twice a year with 24 students each session. It is a cost recovery program — each student pays \$1,300 tuition. Hill says job opportunities for graduates are fairly good.

"There've been a number of scandals in the travel industry over the past few years. Agencies now want to be sure someone they hire is above board and knowledgeable. I think our program graduates carry that sticker. A lot of people think a job in this industry is glamorous. In fact, hours are long, pay is low and the stress levels are high. We make sure our students know what they're getting into."

Morningstar points out that we teach kids to look both ways before crossing the street and schools regularly hold fire drills so students know what to do in the event of that emergency. It is possible, she maintains, to take this same self-defence, or conditioned response, approach to streetproofing children.

"I use role playing a lot in my presentation," she said. "I call it the 'What If...' technique. Parents need to anticipate the situations their kids could find themselves in and prepare them. Talk about what you should do if someone tries to get you into a car. Develop family safety routines. For instance, if mom is out and the kids are alone she might tell them not to answer the phone. If she calls she first lets the phone ring three times, hangs up and then calls again. The routines will be different for each family. The key is to be prepared. Knowledge is really your child's best insurance."

Parents have a lot of anxiety over streetproofing. While they want to keep their kids safe, they wonder if all this drill isn't making youngsters frightened, even paranoid.

"From my observations," Morningstar said, "it's the parents who own that problem. Kids look on this as a game where a strategy has to be developed. For them it is a bit like solving a puzzle."

"In fact, as children get older, I think this sense of being prepared builds confidence. They've been grounded in issues of personal safety at home. They know what situations they can handle. They aren't afraid because they have coping skills."

On March 1, at Langara Campus, Morningstar is doing a workshop for the whole family on personal safety. "What I want to do here is help parents and kids, as a family unit, develop their own safety routines, work out solutions that best suit their circumstances," she explained.

This costs \$30.00 per family. For more information on this call Jill Tyndale at 875-8200.



VCC GEARS UP FOR CJS

Federal government support has traditionally played a big role in training all across Canada. For a number of years Canada Employment has bought seats in Vancouver Community College programs, most notably in trades and technical programs and in English language training.

Recently the federal government brought forward changes in its approach to educational training through the new Canadian Jobs Strategy. VCC's new director of contract services, Tom Toulson, sums up the changes this way: "I think it would be fair to say the previous training policy was public sector oriented and now it is much more private sector oriented."

The new strategy takes a six-point approach, created to respond to the immediate needs of business, industry and workers:

- **Skill Investment** anticipates technological and economic change before these forces put people out of work. Employers and workers co-operate in an effort to see people learn new skills before they are laid off or their training becomes redundant. This program gives both businesses and individuals an opportunity to adapt readily to the need for change.

- **Skill Shortage** helps employers cover the cost of training people for jobs where skills are in short supply. Under this option employers can combine on-the-job experience with training in community colleges or vocational institutes.

- **Innovations** — here the door is wide open to new ideas. Projects are invited from employers who think they have solutions to problems of inadequate training or unemployment. In keeping with the nature of this initiative, there are few guidelines or strictures.

- **Job Entry** — this is designed to help people, particularly the young and women, get across hurdles and take that important first step into the job market. Co-operative education programs, combining classroom skills with on-the-job experience, are eligible for support. The entry option looks to employers to design training plans and provide on-site experience for young people who haven't graduated from high school. A re-entry option provides similar experience for women who have been out of the work force raising families. There is a student option providing young people with summer training and work experience related to their career paths. The initiative under these schemes is clearly in the employer's camp. Those in business and industry can see programs match the needs of their labour market.

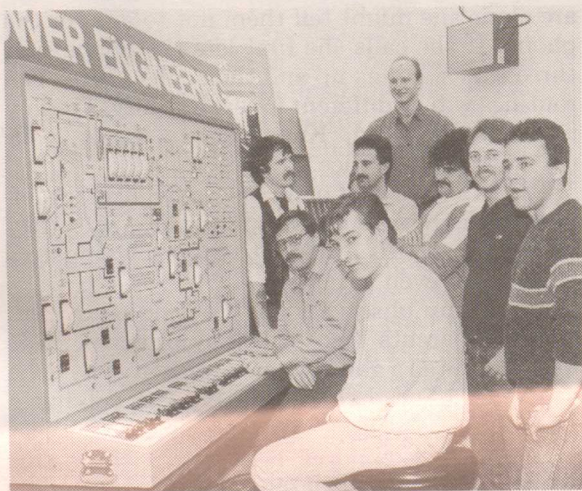
- **Job Development** this option tackles the problems of the long-term unemployed, encouraging employers, particularly those in small business where the majority of new jobs are created, to put together programs combining training with practical job experience. Again, colleges and institutes are expected to play an important role in the training components.

- **Community Futures** — in areas hit hard by economic circumstances, CEIC and the Federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion are developing a package of special programs and services to help get the economic wheels turning. These will assist business leaders, labour leaders and government to work co-operatively creating new business opportunities and preserving jobs in existing firms.

Colleges will continue to play an important role in training, but, under the new structure, they can expect to work more directly with employers in business, industry and the services sector. In anticipation of these changes, VCC has struck a CJS committee, under the chairmanship of Toulson, and with representatives from all four instructional divisions. They are gearing up to work with employers, tailoring programs to meet particular needs.

"We have a proven track record, first rate instructors, state-of-the-art equipment and an extensive array of support services," Toulson said. "We're ready to go on this."

VVI TEAMS WITH ESSO



Esso process engineers take time off from their jobs at the Ioco refinery to upgrade in the power engineering program at VVI.

Vancouver Community College prides itself on close ties with business and industry, working to prepare students with the "right stuff" for the labour market.

This reputation for close co-operation with industry is what has brought the second lot of eight process engineers from Esso's Ioco refinery into VVI's power engineering department for

upgrading to 4th class power engineers. The men spend six weeks at VVI in a program tailored to prepare them for the provincial exams.

"I call this flexi-training," explained department head Joe Brown. "These fellows have a wealth of practical experience as process technicians at the oil and gas refinery, so it is really a matter of helping them work through the theoretical material. We did the first group from Esso before Christmas and we had a 100 percent success rate. I'm anticipating the same with this second lot."

Ioco plant training co-ordinator Grant MacKimmie explained that the company decided in 1978 all process technicians must upgrade to 4th class certificates.

"At first we told them to do it on their own time. But we had limited success this way. In 1980 we brought an instructor in from VVI to teach them on-site. A number of the 58 working here got their 4th class that way. The instructor was great. The guys were pleased with him and we found his attitude first rate.

"Last year the union came to us and asked if we'd provide classroom time to help the fellows who needed to make the progression up to 4th class. The company agreed. It was obvious people were having difficulty handling it on their

own. Because of the good experience we'd had with VVI before, I never considered going anywhere else. They fit us into their schedule and they worked hard to get a program that met the needs of our people."

Of the 58 process technicians at the refinery, two work in a central control room, monitoring the functioning of all equipment. The rest are out in the field operating and closing block valves, operating compressors and taking readings on the gages.

"This project has certainly cost Esso a fair amount of money," commented Joe Brown. "All the fellows are on full salary while they're here. But I think the company attitude is that they are making an investment in their employees. These people are the company's future. As equipment and systems become more sophisticated, companies can make the transition more smoothly and with better results if they've prepared their people, invested in training."

MacKimmie notes, that from the Esso point of view, this route has proved a great success.

"Experience has taught us that leaving upgrading to the individual just doesn't work. We get the results we want by putting fellows in a classroom situation and giving them the support of an instructor. The investment pays off.

"Joe Brown and all the people at VVI have gone out of their way to accommodate us. We've had full co-operation. The results bear this out."