

KING EDWARD TIMES

October



VOLUME VI, No. 25

October 3, 1980

THE 1980 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN!

Once again you have the opportunity to do something very worthwhile; contributing through the United Way.

When you receive your pledge card, I ask that you give serious consideration to the many benefits that the United Way and its member agencies provide our community.

Payroll deduction is again available to make it easier for each of us to give generously.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Griffith, your Campus Campaign Representative.

REMEMBER "A DAY'S PAY PAVES THE WAY!"



WCC

King Edward Campus

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

On this and the following pages, are printed more policies and procedures for your information and perusal:

Policy No.:	1.2.2.2
Issue Date:	1980 September 15
Amendment:	Original
Source:	K.E.C. Management Committee
Title:	<u>Typing for Journal Publication</u>
Concerning:	<u>Faculty and Staff</u>
Campus Principal	
Approval:	<u><i>[Signature]</i></u>
College Principal	
Approval:	<u><i>[Signature]</i></u>

POLICY:

- A.1 Drafts and revisions of manuscripts for journal publication will not be typed by office staff.
- A.2 Final copy will be typed (without charge to the originator) on a lowest-priority basis.
- A.3 Additional copies of the final copy will be provided on a standard-rate basis if requested but printing will be done on a lowest-priority basis.

PROCEDURES:

- B.1 All manuscripts for final typing or copying must be submitted to the Office Manager (or, in her absence, the Assistant Office Manager) for processing.
- B.2 In the event that faculty or staff require typing assistance, the office staff may be able to provide assistance in recommending a typist who would be willing to do the work at regular hourly rates.

Policy No.: 1.2.0.2
Issue Date: 1980 September 15
Amendment: Original
Source: K.E.C. Management Committee
Title: Field Trips
Concerning: Students and Faculty
Campus Principal
Approval: *[Signature]*
College Principal
Approval: *[Signature]*

POLICY:

- A.1 Field trips, where they form a valuable and integral part of a course/program, may be taken.
- A.2 All field trips must be approved by the department head on the "Field Trip" form. Funds for such trips (if required) must be included in departmental budget submissions.

PROCEDURES:

- B.1 When an instructor wishes to take his class on a field trip, he/she prepares the Field Trip form indicating:
- (a) date and times of departure and return;
 - (b) destination;
 - (c) travel arrangements; and
 - (d) list of students participating.
- B.2 The department head approves the trip, retains a copy on file and submits a copy of the form to the switchboard for use in case of emergency.
- B.3 If funds are required from a Field Trip account, the instructor prepares a Cheque Requisition form and passes it to his budget officer for approval and forwarding to the Director of Financial Services for processing.

Date of Trip: _____

Destination: _____

Time of Departure: _____

Time of Return: _____

One Way or Return: _____

Means of Transport: _____

Instructor: _____

[illegible]

☐ Not Approved

Department Head _____

Date _____

PLEASE LEAVE COMPLETED FORM WITH SWITCHBOARD

Policy No.: 2.2.1.1
Issue Date: 1980 September 15
Amendment: Original
Source: K.E.C. Management Committee
Title: Refund of Tuition Fees
Concerning: Students, Staff and Administrators

Campus Principal
Approval: *[Signature]*
College Principal
Approval: *[Signature]*

POLICY:

- A.1 Students who withdraw from their classes may be entitled to a tuition fee refund if they withdraw prior to an established date. The amount of refund will be in accordance with the established schedule.

PROCEDURES:

- B.1 Students wishing to withdraw and who are entitled to a refund will produce their fee receipts and complete the withdrawal form.
- B.2 The cashier determines the amount of refund due, indicates the amount on the withdrawal form and fee receipt and signs both forms.
- B.3 If the amount of refund is thirty dollars (\$30.00) or less, the cashier will obtain the necessary funds from the payroll clerk, pass to the student and obtain a signature on the record sheet for cash received. The fee receipt and copy of withdrawal form will be handed to the payroll clerk.
- B.4 If the amount of refund is in excess of thirty dollars (\$30.00), the documents will be sent to the Director of Financial Services who will issue the appropriate cheque.

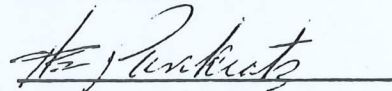
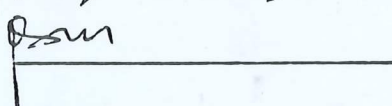
Policy No.: 2.2.1.2
Issue Date: 1980 September 15
Amendment: Original
Source: K.E.C. Management Committee
Title: Late Payment of Tuition F
Concerning: Students, Faculty, Staff
and Administrators

Campus Principal

Approval:

College Principal

Approval:

POLICY:

- A.1 Payment of students' tuition fees, under certain circumstances, (e.g. pending receipt of loans, grants or sponsorship) may be deferred until a later date.

PROCEDURES:

- B.1 Students wishing to have their fees deferred will complete the Fee Deferral form.
- B.2 The fee deferral will be authorized by the appropriate division chairman, the Office Manager, or the administrator-in-charge, and in their absence, by the Dean of Instruction or Dean of Administrative and Student Services.
- B.3 Under extraordinary circumstances, if one of the above is not available, the responsible Admissions Clerk may defer fees for a twenty-four hour period.
- B.4 Course cards will be processed.
- B.5 If the student has not paid fees by the indicated approved date, the case will be referred to the person who authorized the deferral, who may:
- (a) defer payment further; or
 - (b) refer the case to the supervisor of student records/admissions who will ask instructors involved to confirm the student's attendance in class.

If the student is in attendance, he/she will be asked to report to the cashier.

- B.6 A student who continues to attend classes after expiry of the final deferral date, will be instructed not to attend classes until tuition fees have been paid.

Policy No.: 2.2.2.2
Issue Date: 1980 September 15
Amendment: Original
Source: K.E.C. Management Committee
Title: Immigration/Citizenship Status
of Students and/or Prospective
Students
Concerning: Administrators, Faculty, Staff
Campus Principal
Approval: *[Signature]*
College Principal
Approval: *[Signature]*

POLICY:

- A.1 Prospective students who are Canadian citizens, landed immigrants or who are accepted as a result of inter-governmental agreements, (e.g., international student exchanges arranged between governments) may be enrolled routinely in classes at King Edward Campus.
- A.2 Prospective students possessing Ministerial Permits (form Imm 1263) or Extension of Ministerial Permits (form Imm 1264) may be permitted to enrol in classes at King Edward Campus. Individuals who possess Ministerial Permits fall into the following groups and sub-groups:
- (i) Group I - prospective students who have applied for temporary entrance into Canada;
 - (ii) Group II - prospective students who have applied for permanent status in Canada:
 - Sub-group (i) - students whose status is in doubt and whose cases require specific review,
 - Sub-group (ii) - students who have applied for permanent status whose applications are receiving favourable consideration but who require a permit to enable them to remain in the country while the immigration process is concluded.
- A.3 The Ministry of Education is prepared to allow entry to students falling into sub-groups (i) and (ii).

PROCEDURES:

- B.1 Because institutions are unable to determine from the Ministerial Permits the category to which the students belong, Canada Immigration personnel will interview permit holders referred to them for these purposes.
- B.2 Accordingly, all prospective students possessing a Ministerial Permit (form Imm 1263 or 1264) are to be referred to Canada Immigration to obtain a letter indicating that there is no objection to their attending an educational institution in Canada.

Policy No.: 2.2.5.1
Issue Date: 1980 September 22
Amendment: Original
Source: K.E.C. Management Committee
Title: Standards of Student Conduct
Concerning: Faculty, Staff and Students
Campus Principal Approval: *[Signature]*
College Principal Approval: *[Signature]*

POLICY:

A.1 In all their relationships with the College, instructors, and/or other students, students are expected to maintain a high standard of conduct. They are expected to obey the law, to show respect for properly constituted authority, to meet contractual obligations, to maintain integrity in scholastic work and to observe appropriate adult standards of conduct. The student is held responsible for his/her actions, whether acting individually or in a group.

A.2 Initiation of Disciplinary Action

Failure by students to maintain appropriate standards of conduct may result in the initiation of disciplinary action by the Dean of Student Services or his delegate. Such disciplinary action may be initiated against students who:

- (a) Conduct themselves in a manner that significantly interferes with the operations of the College;
- (b) Conduct themselves in a manner that significantly endangers the health or safety of other students and/or staff of the College;
- (c) Damage, deface or destroy College property;
- (d) Possess or use intoxicating beverages in a College classroom building, laboratory, auditorium, library building, faculty administrative office, or any other public campus area unless given specific permission by the College administration;
- (e) Falsify any College document - I.D. card, receipt, transcript, etc. - or withhold or falsify information on an admissions application.
- (f) Illegally use, possess and/or sell drugs or narcotics on campus;

- (g) Engage in disruptive activities, e.g., disorderly conduct, which includes physical or verbal abuse of another person; abusive, indecent, profane or vulgar language; obscene actions; and/or disrespect for the rights and privileges of others;
- (h) Misuse property, which includes destruction, damage, mutilation or misuse of College property, including but not limited to buildings, library materials, trees and shrubbery, College files and records, safety equipment, including fire alarms and fire equipment;
- (i) Possess or use fireworks, firearms, knives or other offensive weapons on College property;
- (j) Fail to comply with reasonable directions of College officials or law enforcement officers acting in performance of their duties on campus or affecting conduct on campus;
- (k) Aid, abet, or act as an accomplice in the commission of any of the foregoing offenses.

A.3

Financial Transactions with the College

Students who owe debts to the College may be denied enrolment or readmission and may have official transcripts withheld until the debt is paid. Students who write "insufficient funds" cheques to the College for fees may have their registration cancelled.

PROCEDURES:

- B.1** For infractions listed in A.2 the person (faculty, student, administrator) who becomes aware of any infractions which may warrant disciplinary action, should verbally report the infraction immediately to the Dean of Student Services (or other administrator on duty). Information should include the name of the student, nature of infraction, location of the alleged infraction. The verbal report should be followed by a brief written report.
- B.2** For infractions listed in A.3, difficulties involving payment of fees (N.S.F. cheques, etc.) will be handled by cashiers, i.e., notification to student of return of cheque, request for payment, etc.). However, in the event that payment is not received within a reasonable period of time, the Dean of Student Services will be advised and faculty will be asked to exclude the delinquent student from classes.

B.3 Action by Dean of Student Services (or Delegate)

If it is deemed that the safety or health of other persons is involved:

- (a) the security guard is to be notified immediately;
- (b) the police are to be called immediately; OR
- (c) the nurse is to be notified.

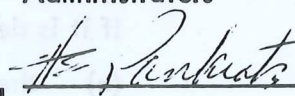
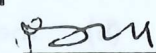
Note: If medical staff are not on campus and urgent action is required, an ambulance is to be called and the person sent to "Emergency" at the Vancouver General Hospital.

B.4 If it is deemed that the law is being broken (e.g., possession, use or selling of drugs or narcotics), the police are to be called.

Note: If the infraction regarding drugs or narcotics is not specific, or is simply a suspicion, a request for police investigation is warranted.

B.5 If the infraction involves other unacceptable action (property damage, defacement, disruptive behaviour, etc.), the Dean of Student Services or his delegate may suspend the student(s) involved for a maximum of three (3) instructional days to allow time to convene a meeting of the Student Discipline Committee (consisting of the department head of the department in which the student is registered, the department head of counselling, a faculty member-at-large, and chaired by the Dean of Student Services). The Committee will review the case and recommend action to:

- (a) reprimand the student(s);
- (b) draw up and put into effect a contract between student(s) and instructor or administration, breach of which could result in other disciplinary action;
- (c) deny readmission to the student(s);
- (d) recommend to the College Principal that the student(s) be expelled.

Policy No.: 2.2.4.1
Issue Date: 1980 September 22
Amendment: Original
Source: K.E.C. Management Committee
Title: Confidentiality of
Official Student Records
Concerning: Faculty, Staff and
Administrators
Campus Principal
Approval: 
College Principal
Approval: 

POLICY:

- A.1 Official information concerning a student is available only to administrators or faculty members of the King Edward Campus, or senior officials of the Regional Offices, or College Board members. Written permission of the student is required before any personal, scholastic or other information on a student is divulged to any other person(s), including parents.
- A.2 Staff members in Student Services (Admissions and Records Department) will, of necessity, have access to all students' records and documents.
- A.3 Students may have access to their personal files.

PROCEDURES:

- B.1 Anyone who is not authorized by policy to receive the record of a student should be advised that written permission is required from the student concerned.
- B.2 If difficulties are encountered, the person making the request should be referred to the Dean of Student Services or his delegate.
- B.3 Students requesting access to their personal files should contact the supervisor of the Records/Admissions Department.

COLLEGE BOARD MEETING

The Vancouver Community College Board met on Wednesday at the V.V.I. (not at the Regional Offices, as announced in last week's Times).

The College Principal's report - a copy of which has been placed in the library - touched on a number of K.E.C.-related items: learning centres at branch libraries, enrolment, music program, E.L.T. and B.T.S.D.-related projects.

Ron Howard, architect, presented an up-date, for information purposes, on our development on East Broadway. (The drawings shown at Wednesday's meeting are on display in the library.) The city has indicated its preparedness to grant a development permit on the basis of plans and submissions that have been made. Present plans call for "ground breaking" in winter with construction beginning in February/March 1981, completion in July/August 1982 and occupancy, a month later.

The Board approved motions requesting the provincial government to exempt V.C.C. from the provisions of the proposed Financial Administration Act.

The Board approved a recommendation that, effective 1981 April 01, the College assume full responsibility for the College's Student Health Services. The service has been administered by the Vancouver Health Department.

Minutes of the meeting of September 10th as well as supporting documents related to Wednesday's agenda have been placed in our library.

H.E.P.

K.E.C. FACULTY/STAFF ACTIVITIES

Ash, B.	P.D. - Metric Workshop; "Train the Trainers"; Vancouver	Oct. 29,30
Cunningham, R.F.	Conference - Symposium of Development of ABE in B.C. Richmond	Oct. 27
Moutter, D.	P.D. - Attend "PACRAO" Conference; Tucson, Arizona	Nov. 8-11
Nelson, G.	Seminar - "Learning Disabilities Workshop"; Langley, B.C.	Oct. 17
Rothschild, D.	P.D. - Organize and develop materials for lower oral writing classes (speaking & writing); Van.	Oct. 20-24
Stewart, L.	P.D. - Metric Workshop; "Train the Trainers"; Vancouver	Oct. 29,30
Waddington, M.	Conference - New ABE Curriculum; Quesnel	Oct. 6-8

H.E.P.

G.E.D. EXAMINATIONS - WALK-IN CANDIDATES

Please advise all candidates that they may write their tests only on dates specified to them individually.

No longer can a candidate who has a receipt but no letter stating when he is to write, just turn up on a Friday, hoping to take the place of a candidate who does not show up to write.

R.F.C.

LIBRARY LUNCH TIME PROGRAMS

Every first and third Tuesday each month, the Library offers a special lunch time program, inviting you to bring your own food and enjoy a free cup of coffee in the Library.

TUESDAY 7th OCTOBER, 1980 at 12:30 2 FILMS

'THIS IS YOUR MUSEUM SPEAKING'

A museum watchman discovers that museums are very much part of the community....

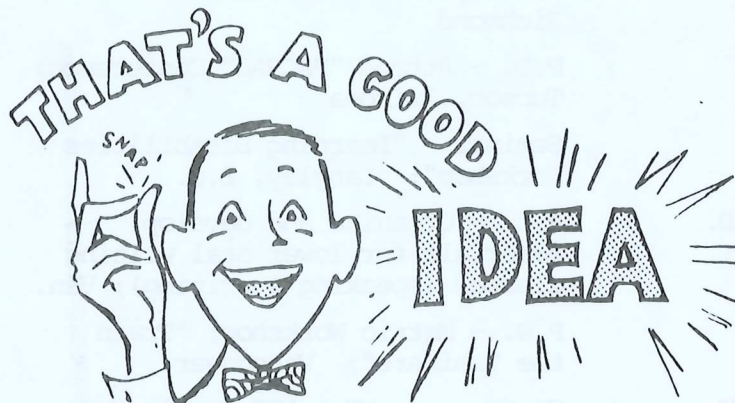
'BEARS AND MAN'

Describes Parks Canada Bear Management Program, designed to protect the visiting public from attacks by bears.

ADMISSION FREE

WATCH THE 'TIMES'
FOR FUTURE PROGRAMS

P.C.



INSTRUCTORS' BANK STATEMENTS

Bank statements that are usually mailed to instructors who do not have a letter box are being held in the main office, due to the pending postal strike.

Please contact Mary Griffith or Linda Murdock when you come in to pick up yours.

M.G.



AN INTRODUCTION TO TEACHING ADULTS

A professional development workshop for part-time instructors who have no "formal" educational background but are expert in subject areas, will be given by the U.B.C. Centre for Continuing Education at the Teacher Centre, 123 E. 6th Avenue on Saturday, October 18 from 09:00 to 16:00. The registration fee is \$40. This includes materials and a light lunch.

R.F.C.

K.E.C. DAY PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Committee will SELF-DESTRUCT in 5 months!

You can help plan the Day's activities. Volunteer for the Committee by giving me your name.

Frank Fornelli



SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN TEACHING ABE STUDENTS

A professional development workshop co-sponsored by the U.B.C. Centre for Continuing Education and the Adult Basic Education Association, will be given on the U.B.C. Campus on November 21 and 22 from 09:00 to 16:30. The registration fee is \$65. This includes lunches and materials.

For registration and other information for both workshops, please telephone 228-2181, local 228.

R.F.C.

FROM THE LIBRARY

In an effort to stem the loss of library material, the library is introducing a new system. Beginning Tuesday, October 14th there will be a bag storage rack at the entrance to the library. All library patrons will be expected to leave their bags here while they are in the library. Incoming students will be issued a ticket for their bags which will be returned on surrender of the ticket when they leave. This is to prevent the "unauthorized removal" of the bag by somebody else.

This system is experimental and we are well aware of the inherent problems. They can, however, be minimized if every instructor would inform his class about the new procedure. Signs at the library entrance will remind the students, but classroom preparation is also vital. Please cooperate with us and help reduce this serious problem.

J.B.L.

POSITION OPENINGS

V.C.C. - K.E.C. requires a Temporary Part-Time Program Assistant I for the E.L.T. Night School Program; a Clerk-Typist I-II to handle the mail, supplies/inventory; and a Clerk-Typist I-II for the E.L.T. Department. Closing dates for applications are October 7 and 8.

V.C.C. Regional Offices requires a Clerk/Key punch Operator I. Closing date for applications is October 7.

V.C.C./V.V.I. requires a Clerk-Typist I-II in the Student Services Department. Closing date for applications is Oct. 7.

B.C. Ferry Corporation requires a Refrigeration Appliance man in their Tsawassen Personnel Office, and a Ticketing Attendant on Queen Charlotte Island. Closing dates for applications are October 16 and October 10, respectively.

For further details on the above positions, please see postings on bulletin boards.

H.E.P.

COUNSELLING RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

There was a great turnout for last week's seminar on:

HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

There were over 50 students in attendance, while Mr. Richard Lemon from the Provincial Hospitality Industry Resource Centre spoke on some of the careers in the industry. There were two films shown on Hospitality and Tourism, related jobs and lots of questions and answers.

Please keep watching for information on our monthly career seminars. They will be advertised well in advance in the King Edward Times.

S.E.



Booth

"I feel idiotically happy today."



1980 September 30

TO ALL VANCOUVER COMMUNITY
COLLEGE EMPLOYEES:

Several months ago, the College, through the vehicle of the Employee Benefits Committee, consolidated our various health and welfare insurance benefits under two carriers, namely Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada underwriting life insurance, dental and short and long term salary indemnity coverage and the Medical Services Association of British Columbia with respect to extended health benefit coverage. At that time significant premium savings were realized and the Benefits Committee undertook the task of making some improvements to the short and long term salary indemnity plans.

Commencing October 1, 1980 the following improvements in coverage will be effective:

SHORT TERM SALARY INDEMNITY

The maximum weekly benefit to be increased from \$250 per week to \$350 per week for members of the Administrators' Association, Vocational Instructors' Association and the Langara Faculty Association. The weekly maximum benefit for members of the Vancouver Municipal and Regional Employees' Union will be increased from \$174 per week to \$250 per week.

The premium cost of this coverage will continue to be borne entirely by the employees which will result in a modest premium increase for employees affected by the increased ceiling of benefits. The increased level of coverage will be applicable only to employees who become disabled subsequent to September 30, 1980.

LONG TERM DISABILITY

The maximum monthly benefit is increased by an equivalent amount to short term salary indemnity, namely from \$1,083 per month to \$1,516 per month for the Administrators' Association, Vocational Instructors' Association and Langara Faculty Association and \$689 per month to \$1,083 per month for members of the Vancouver Municipal and Regional Employees' Union.

Page.../2

To All Vancouver Community
College Employees
1980 September 30
Page Two

DENTAL PLAN

To off-set the increases some of you will experience in the short and long term salary indemnity premiums, the College shall assume responsibility for 60% of dental premiums effective October 1, 1980 with the remaining 40% being paid by the employees by means of payroll deduction.

HEARING AID COVERAGE

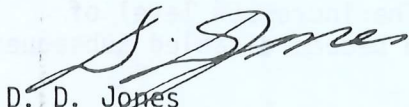
An examination of our Extended Health Benefit contract with the Medical Services Association of British Columbia has revealed that hearing aid coverage is presently limited to eligible dependents of employees. Effective October 1, 1980 this plan will be modified to include hearing aid coverage for employees at an increased cost of \$.10 per month for single coverage and \$.20 per month for family coverage. These premiums will likewise be shared 60/40 between the College and individual employees.

Should you require further information regarding these benefit revisions, contact the Personnel Department or your representative on the Employee Benefits Committee.

Employee Benefits Committee Members

Glen Witter	-	Langara Faculty Association
Roy Wren	-	Vocational Instructors' Association
Bruce MacLean	-	Administrators' Association
George Kowbel	-	Vancouver Municipal and Regional Employees' Union

Sincerely yours,



D. D. Jones
Director of Personnel
and Labour Relations

DDJ/DS

VCC's basic courses for adults break through literacy barrier

By LARRY FENN

"I could read a newspaper, but it was really slow. Some words I couldn't understand or pronounce. It wasn't something I was proud of."

Don Scherer, 27, was one of thousands of illiterate British Columbians when he joined Vancouver Community College's adult basic education program a year ago at the Grade 5 level.

Since then, he has improved his basic skills to Grade 11 level and continues to attend classes full-time in hopes of soon taking a forestry program.

Scherer dropped out of Grade 8 in Vancouver at 16 while attending classes for slow learners. He took a series of low-paying jobs and spent some time collecting unemployment insurance.

But not until he was married did he decide to join the VCC program in July, 1979, to improve his skills and earn a better living.

"I can do division, spell and write a good sentence now," he boasted. "And I can read a novel

smoothly."

Denise Mulholland, 21, enrolled in the VCC program 3½ years ago at the Grade 4 level after attending public school in Vancouver to Grade 10.

"It was a blow to me," she recalled. "I was angry at how I could be put into high school without a basic education."

Mulholland has almost attained the Grade 12 basic skills level and plans to pursue a career in teaching the deaf.

"Schooling takes a long time," she said. "But I can stick it out in the long run."

She said the program helped her to write a letter — something her twin sister used to do for her — and read books.

"Students come from all walks of life and every strata of society," said Mary Waddington, head of the VCC program. "They all have a different set of circumstances."

However, the bulk of students, aged 20-45, appear

to be men who left school early to find a job, or women who recently entered the job market.

"They might have been working in a mill when technology caught up with them," she said.

Forty-five students are enrolled this summer in VCC's adult basic education courses — to Grade 8 level only — and 150 are expected in September. (Students desiring 9-12 levels graduate from the basic program.)

In the Fraser Valley, Douglas College started project I CARE in January, 1979, which involved community volunteers tutoring students a few hours a week in the home or classroom setting.

Ann Kitching, principal of the Coquitlam campus, said the major problem is informing students about the program. At present, 53 tutors are available for instruction but only 30 students are participating.

"We just have to rely on community members who can read to spread the word," Kitching said.

Project coordinator Susan Day said volunteers will soon be placing posters in public washrooms, bars and work sites to drum up interest.

Day said most students start at Grade 4 or 5 literacy level, however some commenced with learning the alphabet.

(In 1978, one of six adults in B.C. lacked a Grade 10 education; one in three lacked a Grade 12.)

A 74-year-old student, oldest in the program, spent 18 months with a tutor before showing significant progress.

"It finally clicked," Day said. "But we must remember that some of these people are not used to learning."

She said the program stresses "survival skills" such as reading maps and books, handling a bank account and writing letters.

Anyone interested in adult basic education should contact their local school board or post-secondary institution for more information.

Please, Hear What I'm Not Saying

Don't be fooled by the face I wear,
for I wear a thousand masks,
And none of them are me.
Don't be fooled, for God's sake
don't be fooled.

I give you the impression that I'm secure,
That confidence is my name and
coolness my game,
And that I need no one. But don't
believe me.

Beneath dwells the real me in confusion,
in fear, in aloneness.
That's why I create a mask to hide behind,
To shield me from the glance that knows,
But such a glance is precisely my
salvation.

That is, if it's followed by acceptance,
if it's followed by love.
It's the only thing that can liberate me
From my own self-built prison walls.

I'm afraid that deep down I'm nothing,
and that I'm just no good,
And that you will see this and
reject me.

And to begin the parade of masks
I idly chatter to you.
I tell you everything that's really
nothing
And nothing of what's everything,
of what's crying within me.

Please listen carefully and try to hear
what I'm not saying.

I'd really like to be genuine and
spontaneous, and me.
But you've got to help me. You've
got to hold out your hand.

Each time you're kind,
and gentle, and encouraging,
Each time you try to understand
because you really care,
My heart begins to grow wings,
very feeble wings, but wings.

With your sensitivity and sympathy,
and your power of understanding,
You alone can release me from my
shadow world of uncertainty --
From my lonely prison.

It will not be easy for you,
The nearer you approach me
The blinder I may strike back.

But I am told that love is
stronger than strong walls
And in this lies my hope, my only
hope.

Please try to beat down these walls
with firm hands
But gentle hands -- for a child is
very sensitive.

Who am I you may wonder?
I am someone you know very well,
For I am every man you meet,
and I am every woman you meet,
And I am you, also.

ANONYMOUS