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Thursday February 8, 1990

## Plan proposes fourth campus, renovations to KEC and Langara

VCC's Facilities Development Plan (FDP) calls for the establishment of a fourth campus and renovations--but not expansion--to Langara and KEC campuses.

The FDP, unveiled by VCC President Paul Gallagher and Strategic Planning Director Hans Rerup, will be submitted to the College Board for review on February 12, with a final version going to the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology by about March 31.

Here are the major recommendations in the report, which is designed to meet space needs of VCC until at least 2010:

\* VCC should address its shortage of space by immediate short term leases and construction of a fourth campus for 2,000 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) student capacity by 1994-95. Short term leases would relieve the urgent need to accommodate the Office of Continuing Education and KEC's English as a Second Language classes.

\*By 1995, Langara and KEC should complete major renovations and space reorganization.

\* The fourth campus would be on the east side of Vancouver or in North Burnaby.

\* The fourth campus should have major components of first year Arts and



**Planning Director Hans Rerup** 

Science and ESL programs and some small components of technical programs from City Centre, which would free up some CC space for additional tourism programming. The Music Program should be expanded at the fourth campus.

The FDP also calls for two supplementary projects of lesser urgency:

\* A performing arts centre, while not an educational priority, should proceed with major funding from all levels of government. Such a centre would house VCC's existing Music and Theatre Arts Programs, but would support all performing arts in the city. It was also suggested that the performing arts centre might be combined with the new public library being proposed for the city.

\* The proposed VCC-City of Vancouver Community and Recreation Centre at KEC should be implemented when funds become available. The centre would be constructed on KEC land now used for parking, requiring construction of a new parkade.

The FDP predicts that the downhill slide of the baby boom will result in a 28 per cent decrease in the number of students attending VCC in the period 1990 to 2010. In addition, the new Richmond campus of Kwantlen College is expected to reduce VCC enrolment by 800 FTEs by 1995.

"We can not justify a new campus or an expansion (of KEC or Langara) based on a long term increased enrolment projection," said Gallagher. "But we can prove the need for a fourth campus to relieve the overtaxing of our current facilities and to accommodate the increased space which will be needed with the changing technology of instruc-

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"We need immediate renovations to KEC and Langara, which are becoming obsolete campuses."

He added that the proposal is not being driven by an increase in students, "and therefore it's going to be a very tough sell."

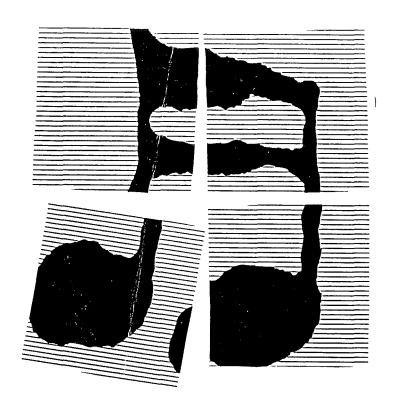
"They (government) are going to tell us that if overcrowding won't be a problem in 20 years then we should just try to ride it out as we have done for the past 20 years. That, of course, is totally unacceptable to us."

Gallagher said that the city of Vancouver has refused requests to expand either KEC or Langara due to traffic pressure on the surrounding neighbours.

He responded with particular interest to a suggestion from Langara Sociology and Political Science Instructor Lawrence Warren that the Langara campuswhich occupies 20 acres of prime landbe swapped for a new third campus in another part of the Lower Mainland that would accommodate Langara's existing programs and those envisaged for a fourth centre.

The FDP predicts that affordability of housing will reduce the younger adult population and therefore enrolments from the western part of Vancouver. Therefore, the plan proposes a fourth campus location either on the east side of Vancouver or in North Burnaby, which is now under-served with access to community college programs.

The plan foresees a new campus that houses 800 FTE of first year Arts and Science Programs, 800 FTE of ESL Programs, the Music Program and some Technical/Vocational Programs such as Printing Production and Graphic Arts, for a total of 2,000 FTE in facilities of about 15,000 square metres of net assignable space (just slightly smaller than Langara).



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