

NEWS



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Co-chairs may lead Transition Council

The Transition Council has proposed two major changes to its structure, one designed to improve the balance between the campuses and the second aimed at improving the Council's effectiveness and efficiency. In the new proposed TC structure:

- * Acting Langara Principal Linda Holmes would serve as Co-chair of the council along with President John Cruickshank.

- * There would be two separate agendas - the first to deal only with matters of separation and the second to address the day-to-day administration of the College

It was also resolved that the Co-chairs would vote on all motions, replacing the previous arrangement whereby the Chair cast a ballot only to break a tie vote.

On a parallel path, it was decided to establish a KEC-City Centre Council that would be able to bring its concerns to the TC through Cruickshank. The KEC-CC Council probably will not be established until the two new Vice Presidents of Instruction and Student Services are in place.

It was also agreed that the current make-up of the TC would remain unchanged until June 30 when a Langara President and the KEC-CC Vice Presidents come on board. The status quo decision came after the TC heard requests from several groups to expand the membership. (Those asking for representation included student groups from all campuses, the Administrators' Association and the B.C. Nurses' Union).

Said Cruickshank: "The Transition Council has been struggling to come to terms

with its membership list almost from the day the council was formed.

"This is a democratic institution and we've been concerned that no one be left out. On the other hand, we were even more distressed by the prospect of creating a body that was simply too large to deal effectively and efficiently with all of the challenges that we face."

Earlier in the TC meeting, Acting Bursar Fred Wylie told council members that the Ministry has taken the position that any refunds of tuition fees resulting from the recent LFA and VMREU job action may not be recorded by the College as an allowable expense. It was noted that the College received reimbursement for this expense after the VIA job action in 1990. The Board opposes the Ministry's position and will be pursuing it with them shortly.

In a related matter, Wylie told TC members that all College budgets should be calculated on a no-growth basis, with the exception of approved changes in FTEs. He added that the budgeting of campuses and other College units should be done apart from any costs of separation. Those preliminary budget proposals should be available for the May 3 TC meeting.

Otherwise, the College's proposed First Nations' Education Policy has been sent for discussion to the Coordinating Committee of the Board. The TC was told that there were concerns about portions of the policy which call for aboriginal educational and employment equity at VCC.

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***'Acting'
positions
to be
made
permanent***

Last Thursday, the College Board took several steps toward establishing a more solidly rooted College administrative structure

As such, the College will immediately begin an internal search, and only an internal search, for a permanent Bursar--to be called the Vice President of Finance and Administration--and a permanent Director of Employee Relations

In that same spirit of achieving more stability within the organization, the College also will soon move to make all of the current acting administrative positions permanent. Again, this will be done through internal postings only and it's hoped that the process will be completed by the end of May

Two other important decisions have been made. First, the College will proceed with the creation of seven positions of Division Deans, four at City Centre and three at KEC

Said Cruickshank "Both the Board and I felt that creating these administrative positions will assist the people who fill them in making the difficult financial and program decisions that soon need to be implemented at both campuses "

And secondly, John Vandenakker will be assigned to the new position of Associate Vice President of Administration and Finance, although he will also continue to function as Acting Principal of KEC and City Centre until the College has in place the two new Vice Presidents of Instruction and Student Services

**If you have any comments or questions, please send them to Chuck Poulsen,
Manager of The Exchange, in care of College Administrative Services.**