

NEWS

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Update on administrative restructuring

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Here are several points for clarification regarding the proposed administrative restructuring.

* You'll notice two departments which are connected in the proposed VCC structure by dotted lines. These dotted lines represent an indirect reporting arrangement. The Educational Foundation, for instance, reports directly to its own Board of Directors and, through the dotted line, indirectly to the VCC President's office. In the second instance, Computer and Information Services, it's proposed that the department report directly to the Dean of College Services at Langara and--as a proposed shared service--indirectly to the Vice President of Finance and Administration at VCC.

* On behalf of both colleges, Mary Anne Epp will be the administrator responsible for implementing and monitoring the contract that will govern what is currently known as shared services in the Library and Media Services. The provisions of that contract will be based on input from library staff and Transition Controller Chris Ebbehøj. Epp will report to the Langara organizational structure, although the details of that reporting structure have yet to be determined.

* In the area of Employee Relations on the proposed Langara chart, the box immediately below the Director of Employee Relations should read "Administrative Assistant/HRD" rather than "Executive Assistant".

* This is a **proposed** plan with allowances for an internal review before it's finalized. You have until December 15th to express your thoughts on the changes. Written submissions from either individuals or groups should be sent directly to both John Cruickshank and Linda Holmes.

* In response to a rumour that the College Board had refused approval for the proposed restructuring: the rumour is wrong.

What the Board was asked to approve--and, in fact, did approve without dissent--was the operational plan entitled Steps to Organizational Restructuring. This plan details the process--including timelines--which will be the guide toward achieving the new structures.

Because that process calls for a two-week period of employee input, as well as a final costing-out of the new structures, the Board could not have been asked to finalize what at this point is still a proposal. It looks now like final approval will probably be sought from the Board at its January meeting.

Planners told efforts 'crucial'

The efforts of the VCC Planning Team and the work of those who will be involved in the January 13-14 Futures Conference will be "crucial" to the eventual development of the new VCC, Dale Dorn, Vice President of Instruction and Student Services, said Friday.

Dorn was responding to concerns from Planning Team members that the proposed organizational restructuring--which is scheduled to be finalized by January 4--disregards the planning effort.

"Planning is never final, it never stops," said Dorn. "The Futures Conference is crucial to the new VCC."

Board member Angela Julien added that the proposed structure is "provisional...but we needed to have a vehicle to help us get through the next several months."



On another matter, the VMREU's Dennis Cumming objected to the union not being represented on the new VCC Council.

"How are we going to convince our people that you really want our input into planning when we're not on the council?" asked Cumming. "It blows my mind that neither the students nor staff have any representation."

Otherwise, the Planning Team decided that the Futures Conference will be held on the evening of January 13th and all day on the 14th. A total of 161 people, representing 12 constituency groups, will be invited. Information on how representatives might attend will be going out shortly.

VCC Council gets go ahead

The structure of the new VCC Council has been approved by the College Board.

The makeup of the Council includes the VCC President, the two Vice Presidents of Instruction and Student Services, the Vice President of Finance and Administration, the Acting Director of CE and the VCCFA President.

While the Council is structured to represent the coming together of the City Centre, KEC and CE councils, it's important to note that the VCCFA has representation via its collective agreement.

The other student and employee associations are not excluded from participation. Those groups--King Edward Student Association, City Centre Student Association, VMREU, Association of VCC Administrators, B.C. Nurses Union and the Coordinators of CE--have all identified

people who will be brought to the Council if the agenda so indicates.

Said President John Cruickshank: "We believe this will allow the Council to be small, very responsible and quite flexible without giving up the commitment to broader participation by employee and student groups. Further, all departments and divisions affected by certain decisions would also--through the department head--be invited to participate in the discussion around a particular agenda item."

New 'portfolios' for Board members

Several changes have been made to the responsibilities of Board members:

Stephen Huddart has been elected 2nd Vice Chair of the Board; Bob Matthews assumes the post of Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee; Brenda Makeechak is now the Chair of the Personnel and Staff Services Committee, and Barbara Hestrin is the new Chair of the Community Relations Committee.

College names in the news

Congratulations go to:

* Stephanie Jewell, who was recently presented the United Way's 1993 Employee Campaign Chair of the Year award. The award was for her contribution to the United Way over several years.

* Michele Davidson, who has been appointed Acting President of the Educational Foundation.

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