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**MINUTES OF THE
EDUCATION COUNCIL MEETING**

May 25, 2012
Room 208 at 10:00 A.M.

Present: Cheryl Wyatt (Chair), Catharine White, Melanie Wilke, Beverly Moore-Garcia, Kathryn Fullerton, Jill Pimlott, Gerry Gauthier

Recording Secretary: Annette Sorensen (Allison Conway)

Videoconference: John Turner, Sabine Lundman, Margaret Brown, Brian Butler, Lianne Gagnon, Reto Riesen

Guests: Dianne Bell

Regrets: Adrian Carlick, Chantal Smeysters, Amarilys Durcharme, Hilary Williams, Denise Henning, Conal McKenna, Keisha Reichert, Amanda Checkley, Dave McKeever

Call to Order: Cheryl Wyatt called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

NWCC's Education Council would like to thank the Tsimshian people of Kitsumkalum, especially the Laxgibuu Clan on whose traditional territory Education Council meetings take place. We particularly acknowledge Sigidimnak Xbisuunt, Vera Dudoward.

1. Adoption of Agenda for May 25, 2012

Motion: Brian Butler and Jill Pimlott

To adopt the Agenda with the addition of the CCSJ program change to New Business, and the permanent addition of Chair Report to the Reports section.

Carried

Motion: Reto Riesen and Kathryn Fullerton

To add to the Agenda under New Business an orientation and information on various cuts happening at the College.

Carried

2. Approval of Minutes from April 27, 2012

Motion: Melanie Wilke and Beverly Moore-Garcia

To approve the Minutes from the April 27, 2012 EdCo meeting.

Carried

Business Arising

Old Business

1. Bylaws - Second Reading

Motion: Brian Butler and Melanie Wilke

To approve the Bylaw document as a whole with general corrections to grammar, spelling, and numbering errors; specific wording changes to be approved separately.

Carried

Motion: Brian Butler and Margaret Brown

To approve Bylaw 6.4.1 Duties of Vice Chair, with the removal of Articles 6.3.4 and 6.3.5 to be added to the Duties of Chair as Articles 6.2.12 and 6.2.13, respectively.

Carried

Discussion: The Chair has release time; the Vice Chair doesn't. Do we have enough release and support time to adequately perform these functions? Discussion is ongoing at Academic Councils.

Motion: Brian Butler and Jill Pimlott

To approve Bylaw 7.3.1 with change to the wording of "one-half" to "50 percent"

Carried

Information Item: Brian Butler

Proposed Bylaw 8.1.3 regarding the suggestion that committee members must also sit on at least one subcommittee or task force has been dropped and will not be carried further.

ACTION: EdCo to look at definitions of In-Camera on the portal and to pass comments regarding *Bylaw 10.1.3 Definition of In-Camera* to Deb Stava. Would we entertain an in-camera meeting? What would constitute a reason and criteria for calling an in-camera meeting?

Motion: Brian Butler and Jill Pimlott

To approve Appendix D (Appendix C in the old numbering) with the new corrected program and cluster names, including the correction to the wording of "First Nations Home Care" to "First Nations Health Care".

Carried

Motion: Margaret Brown and Brian Butler

That the approved Bylaws in their completed format are sent to the Board of Governors for information.

Carried

Motion: Margaret Brown and Reto Rieson

That the approved Bylaws in their completed format replace all previous Bylaws on the website and portal, and previous iterations are archived.

Carried

Recommendation: Add to the next EdCo Agenda that a new entry is added to the Bylaws in Section 11.4 to describe the process in which approved Bylaws in their completed format replace previous Bylaws on the website and portal, previous iterations are archived, and are sent to the Board of Governors for information.

New Business

1. Elections - Jill Pimlott

EdCo Chair - Term June 2012- March 2013

First Call: Gerry Gauthier nominates Sabine Lundman; Margaret Brown 2nds; Sabine accepts. Catharine White nominates Reto Riesen; Reto declines.

Second Call: Margaret Brown nominates Melanie Wilke; Melanie declines.

Third Call: ---

Sabine Lundman declared as the new Chair of EdCo;

Melanie Wilke remains Vice Chair.

2. CCSJ Program Change

Motion: Brian Butler and Margaret Brown

That EdCo approve the program change in the CCSJ program which involves removing CRIM 210 from program requirements and replace it with CRIM 230 to enable transfer credit to other institutions, effective for new students Fall 2012.

Carried

3. Letter from CCP to FNC

Discussion: The purpose of the letter was to inform the FNC of the impact on First Nations students of the high amount of cuts to the CCP program; it will be harder for students to finish their courses as some low level courses were cut. The College is returning two base-funded developmental offerings back into communities, enabled by Aboriginal Service Plan funding received for this year; community-based developmental upgrading programs were stopped in the 2010/11 year due to absence of funding.

Note: The letter was written prior to the information given that there will be two base-funded developmental offerings given in the future.

Motion: Reto Reisen and Catharine White

That EdCo respond to the FNC and CCP that we have received and read letter, supports the statements therein, and are awaiting response from FNC.

Abstention: *Jill Pimlott, Gerry Gauthier and Beverly Moore-Garcia (6 total)*

Carried

4. College Cuts

Beverly Moore-Garcia: Base funding comes from the MAE in a block grant which has remained unchanged for 4 years and will be cut this year and next. Base funding is for providing a number of FTEs which are broken into 3 general categories: Health, Non-Health, and ITA, in addition to expenses paid for general services like hydro, snow removal, Human Resources, Administrative Support, Accounts Payable/Receivable, etc. Money is being eroded from our ability to offer educational programs. NWCC is not allowed to run a deficit and must balance the budget.

The process to determine cuts began with budget managers who presented their program, what they could cut, what they could do with additional money - basically, their state of affairs. Then looked at dedicated monies; programs that are run by dedicated funding such as Nursing and HCA have not been cut - if the programs aren't offered, we don't get the funds. ITA was cut 5%, i.e, welding. We aren't accepting applications for the Heavy Duty Mechanic program due to our obsolete shop; we could not produce functional graduates due to our learning equipment. A number of other shops are also approaching becoming obsolete. The developmental programs have been reduced on-campus, however the College will be offering programs in communities with soft dollars. ABT has not been cut as enrolment is strong. ICT was not cut as it is part of a 4 part consortium. Business administration was cut heavily last year. Freda Diesing has not been cut. Mining courses are intact. We are not accepting applications for the Guardian Watchmen or Adult Special Education programs in Prince Rupert, but for two years in a row they were cancelled due to lack of enrolment, so impact is minimal. ECE was changed last year from 16 courses in one year to 8 and 8 and will continue as such. SSW has not been cut and is now available in Smithers. We have fewer choices for the Associate of Arts and Science.

Smithers has the same number of sections as last year, with the request that sections are focused. Prince Rupert has about 15 fewer sections. Terrace has about 38 less sections. FTEs are expected to be impacted, however, the only choice was to balance the budget. We are looking for grants and will seek alternative forms of funding to find ways to offer programs.

CCP in Kitimat has been cut. The Kitimat campus will not close but we will rotate programs through Kitimat. Instructors, registration and cashier clerks, advisors, have been affected. We will create a community liaison position in the support staff union to coordinate partnerships and rotations in the area. Through this, subsequent jobs may be created. In Haida Gwaii, 2 CCP instructors have been affected.

The Houston campus will be modified to a learning centre, meaning we are retaining developmental and other programming but the registration/admissions/cashier functions will not reside on-campus - students will need to do it online or at the Smithers campus. Other impacts are a reduction in library hours, program support, admission and registration, administrative staff. Every employee group has been impacted. In terms of the impact on administrative management, some job positions have already ceased, and without specifically naming individuals, more will follow in the future. The elimination of positions will be proportionate on all accounts.

Cheryl Wyatt: CCP - All courses still being offered but in some cases in a different format.

Catharine White: We can no longer offer an Associate of Science or Geoscience on the Terrace campus with the number of sections we are left with. We have a strong first year program, but there is no room to offer 2nd year sciences.

Reto Riesen: In Prince Rupert students can still get their Associate of Arts and Science degrees, the impact is seen most on 1st year science and 2nd year arts.

Beverly Moore-Garcia: We are legislated to offer education as a College. We need to look at partnerships and avenues to offering things to our areas. Structurally, we need the right mix of courses, distribution, locality, that we can financially pay for. Public base funding is likely to be maintained or reduced in the future.

Catharine White: The other thing that I wanted to speak to because I know it better is the university credit in Terrace, and it is not true that we can offer an associate of science degree on this campus, nor can we offer an associate of geoscience degree on this campus with the cuts that have been made. So it isn't fair to continue telling the community that we are doing that on this campus because it isn't possible with the number of sections we have remaining. We've tried - the faculty together - have tried extremely hard to come up with the best program we possibly can for this next year to make it through this coming year and what we've come up with is a strong first year program, but we can't offer - there's no room to offer - second year sciences, biology and chemistry, that would attract students. We can't offer - obviously we can't offer - one second year course because no one will register if they're here for one course, right, that's sort of obvious. So, their, those degrees are not going to be offered anymore here on this campus for the next fiscal year. The other thing, kind of, that is associated with that is I think if we tried to even fill in something like CHEM 230 to say, "Hey! We are offering at least some second year courses", you're not going to have students registering this year because all of those students that would have been taking those courses have left. They're, they've already applied to other schools - they're going to UNBC. And you see I've heard them all talking about it in my courses and I know other faculty have as well. So it, we won't be offering second level biology/chemistry next year - it's not possible. I don't, I don't know about Prince Rupert campus. Maybe Reto can speak to that?

<Brian has his hand up>

Cheryl: Oh I'm sorry Brian. Go ahead, Brian.

Brian: Yeah, it - it's not related to that so we may want to keep on that topic and have Reto respond but I have a question for Beverly when we are done.

Cheryl: Okay. Okay, thank you. Reto? Did you... Catharine asked about sciences in Prince Rupert.

Reto: In Rupert they can still get their associate degree in science. Actually, in Rupert the impact is more seen on first year science courses that would have supported the bigger number of art students. We just can't offer different levels - especially math and also computer science - that's where the big impact is. And the other big impact is in the second year arts. Yes, we can say we still offer the associate degree in arts, however, for students that plan on going on to a specific bachelors in something, we will lose quite a few of them because they just don't get the selection of second year arts courses they will need. Yes, we have the magic number of six, but that doesn't help if you really don't want to go into a certain area. And in respect to what Cheryl said about CCP, it might be that in CCP we still have all the classes - all the courses - that have been there before across the whole region, however, in Rupert they won't be able to take chemistry 12, no physics, and that is - okay physics 11, so that will also have an impact on people going on

into UC. As for, do we still offer all the programs? No. They can't take the CCSJ certificate. That's not an option to put it together on this campus.

Cheryl: Go ahead, Beverly.

Beverly: One of the things that we're going to all need to work on is that it's about what the College can offer. When we are funded we are not funded for a campus; we are not regulated as to how many campuses. So, you're absolutely right, Catharine, it might be mathematically now not possible to get the associate of science degree. But, certainly I've never spoken about whether certain degrees or certain certificates were available at particular campuses after the cuts – and I'm not trying to be cute...

Catharine: No, that's fair.

Beverly: ... Because what we're legislated to do is to be able to offer as a College, and we need to start thinking. What we just heard were two interesting things. Rupert got more of a cut – and it wasn't intentional, it got more of a cut in arts. Terrace is feeling it more in science. Smithers didn't get cut at all. Certain things are not available in Terrace. Well, they've never been available in the Hazeltons, or never been available somewhere else. We need to collectively pool and look at modes of delivering things that can maximize the number of students who have them available to them. We need to look at partnerships in very specific courses in partnerships that we cannot offer. Do we look at UNBC that has a regional mandate also? Will we have lost students this year? Yes. This certainly it has probably impacted some decisions. But the decisions we are making aren't just for next year. The decisions, structurally, is to try to find the right mix of courses. Do we have it perfect now? Probably not. The right mix of courses, the right distribution, modality of sharing courses, that we can financially pay for. So, what we were addressing was financially and legally getting our house in order. We absolutely need really good discussions about where we want to go as an institution, how do we create a mix of courses? There have been some other colleges, Selkirk College, College of the Rockies, that have come out and said, "No second year science. Period." You know we didn't make those decisions, and those decisions should be made collectively. Will certain students who can't get a variety, will they choose to do their baccalaureate directly at UVIC? Yes, if they have the means to. I'm sure if you have the means you always want more choice. But if you don't have the financial means, I think you turn to your local institution and say, "Can you make it possible for me to finish my first two years so that then when I transfer, I have those additional expenses." You know, this is not – whenever you take away something, it's not a good feeling. Because once you've had it you always want it. And I'm again not being cute. If we could provide university credit at every campus, there would be some students who would be really happy to be able to do it in Houston rather than having to travel to Smithers, or would love to be able to do it in Haida Gwaii and not have to move themselves to Prince Rupert. But we can't deliver everything to everyone.

5. Reports

Chair - Cheryl Wyatt: Attended BOG last week; the draft budget is being finalized and will be available soon.

AGC - Melanie Wilke: Report is on portal. Other Colleges are subject to similar financial constraints as NWCC, there's a lot of discussion about offerings eliminated at other Colleges and the idea of what is and isn't going through EdCo. There was discussion of the VCC and BC Supreme Court case findings (on EdCo portal). Section 43 may pertain to some of the issues going on at NWCC. AGC felt EdCo appearing on organization charts served as a reminder of the important role EdCo plays in their respective institutions.

CPAC - Brian Butler: Deb Stava is reviewing with the Registrar's group the transferability between business administration and associate of arts credits; an update is scheduled for the next CPAC meeting. We have numerous computer courses that are similar in nature; need to have a look at these.

Assessment Task Force: ---

A5 - Jill Pimlott: A5 has met twice and is evaluating our bursary and scholarship application process. Many other Colleges are reviewing their processes as well. Most have gone to electronic submission. Our application form is outdated. The group will create a draft form and work flow chart and bring to the next EdCo to have approved and in use before October.

ACKAC - Beverly Moore-Garcia: There are now 13 members. People are welcome to participate. Elections for Chair will take place at the next meeting. ACKAC members will request to be added to Cluster meetings and take a pro-active approach.

CCP Cluster - Cheryl Wyatt: Courses use the same grading scale and have for a long time. The Permission of Instructor was not discussed.

Next meeting is June 29, 2012 in room 208 at 10:00 A.M.

Certified Correct:



Chair



Secretary