



ATTENDANCE

Education Council Members

Natasha Mandryk (Chair)	Dennis Innes	Louise Dannhauer
Belinda Kaplan	Emily Simpson	Marcus Ng
Brianna Higgins	Heidi Parisotto	Shirley Lew
David Kirk	Jessica Ligeralde	Todd Rowlett
David Wells	Lisa Beveridge	Vivian Munroe

Regrets

Dana Valeria Rodriguez Arellano	Derek Sproston	Sarah Kay
Dave McMullen	Kseniia Osipova	Simranjot Kaur

Guests

Ariele Taylor	Jennifer Kelly	Mark Chiarello
Brenda Carmichael	Jessie Williams	Rosie Gosling
Clay Little	Jo-Ellen Zakoor	Sara Yuen
Clayton Munro	Julie Gilbert	Sky Ju
Dawn Cunningham Hall	Les Apouchtine	Stefan Nielsen
Jacquie Harrison	Lucy Griffith	Tannis Morgan
Jane Jae Kyung Shin	Mari Klassen	Taryn Thomson

Recording Secretary

Darija Rabadzija

1. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- E. Simpson acknowledged the College’s location on the traditional unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓ əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̓x̓ wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłw̓ ətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples who have been stewards of this land from time immemorial and extended the acknowledgement to the ancestral territories of all participants joining remotely.

3. ADOPT AGENDA

MOTION: THAT Education Council adopt the April 9, 2024 agenda as presented.

Moved by N. Mandryk, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

4. APPROVE PAST MINUTES

MOTION: THAT Education Council approve the March 12 and March 18, 2024 minutes as presented.

Moved by N. Mandryk, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

5. ENQUIRIES & CORRESPONDENCE

- N. Mandryk reported that the next Academic Governance Council meeting is planned for May. The council is made up of EdCo chairs and vice-chairs from institutions across B.C.

- The School of Trades, Technology and Design sought guidance on the approval process for an articulation agreement with NSCAD University. The agreement will allow VCC's Jewellery Art & Design Diploma graduates to transfer into NSCAD's Bachelor of Fine Arts degree program. Since VCC is the sending institution, the agreement does not require EdCo approval and will be presented for information only at an upcoming EdCo meeting.

6. BUSINESS ARISING

a) Strategic Innovation Plan (SIP) Update

- J. Shin, Vice President Students and Development, shared the Strategic Innovation Plan update, which was presented to the Board of Governors in March. The [report](#) outlines SIP objectives completed in 2023, as well as accomplishments that support its priorities despite not being originally part of the SIP, and projects that are currently in progress.
- There was a discussion about academic innovation objectives related to risk, and considerations around what constitutes operational versus strategic initiatives. There are plans to re-engage with departments to update SIP objectives, which were originally developed 3–4 years ago.

b) Deans' & Directors' Annual Presentations – Part 4

- Annual updates were presented by D. Kirk, Dean of Curriculum & Pedagogy (including the Centre for Teaching, Learning & Research (CTLR), Learning Centre, and School of Instructor Education); J. Williams, Dean of Indigenous Initiatives, and C. Little, Associate Director, Indigenous Education and Community Engagement; and T. Morgan, Associate Vice President, Academic Innovation.
- Topics of discussion included Indigenizing curriculum, Indigenous-focused programming and educational pathways, services for Indigenous students, and the importance of ceremony. The ground blessing ceremony for the construction of the Centre for Clean Energy and Automotive Innovation will be held on April 12. Work on VCC's Indigenization Framework will begin in late 2024 or early 2025.
- The Academic Innovation portfolio includes initiatives around prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR) and a syllabus system; digital literacy strategy and framework; dual credit; health simulation; and an artificial intelligence (AI) working group. The importance of sector-wide engagement was emphasized.

c) Enrolment Plan 2024–2025

- The draft Enrolment Plan (EP) 2024–2025 was discussed at a special Education Council meeting on March 18 to provide advice to the Board of Governors. EdCo advised the Board to delay approval until an updated plan was available. The draft EP was not presented at the March 27 Board meeting. N. Mandryk reported that an updated EP will come to EdCo in May for new advice to the Board.

d) English as an Additional Language (EAL) Support Faculty Positions

- S. Low provided an update on VCC's plan to add five FTE (full-time equivalent) EAL support faculty positions, which will form a team with two existing EAL support faculty working in the schools of Hospitality, Food Studies & Applied Business and Health Sciences. Faculty will be distributed across schools to support both students and instructors in programs with international students. Details need to be finalized with the Faculty Association before starting the hiring process.
- The new roles will work with deans and department leaders to identify priorities and take on projects, offer workshops, etc. One-to-one tutoring, which is offered by the Learning Centre, will not be part of the scope.

e) International Education Strategic Plan (IESP) – Governance Process

- N. Mandryk reported that the International Education Strategic Plan (IESP) was presented to Education Council for information in January 2024. Following further discussion, EdCo determined that the IESP requires approval by the Board of Governors, with EdCo advice, according to the College & Institute

Act, section 23 (1)(a). At a special EdCo meeting on Jan 24, 2024, the IESP was approved for recommendation to the Board. The Board received the IESP for information in February, pending a recommendation of the Board's Governance Committee on the appropriate governance process. The Governance Committee ultimately decided that the plan was an operational matter and did not require formal approval by the Board.

f) By-Election: EdCo Vice-Chair

- Since S. Kay stepped down as Vice-Chair, a by-election was conducted for the remainder of the term (until December 2024). L. Apouchtine conducted the election on behalf of D. McMullen.

H. Parisotto nominated L. Dannhauer. Nomination accepted.

Second and third call for nominations: There were none.

By acclamation, L. Dannhauer was announced Vice-Chair of Education Council.

- The election of L. Dannhauer created a vacancy on the EdCo Executive Committee, and an election was conducted to fill this position.

L. Dannhauer nominated E. Simpson. Nomination accepted.

Second and third call for nominations: There were none.

By acclamation, E. Simpson was announced member of the EdCo Executive Committee.

g) EdCo Planning Day - June

- EdCo's next biannual planning day will take place in June. Two potential dates were identified. Members were asked to indicate their availability and suggest topics for discussion.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Curriculum Committee

i) New Courses: SIGN 1010, 1020, 2010, 2020

MOTION: THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, four new courses: SIGN 1010, 1020, 2010, 2020.

Moved by T. Rowlatt, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

- M. Klassen presented the proposal for four new courses at the beginner and intermediate American Sign Language (ASL) levels. These new 60-hour courses were created by splitting existing courses SIGN 1000 and SIGN 2000 into two parts each. The rationale was to align with other institutions and make it easier for students to transfer to or from VCC. There were no changes to content.
- T. Rowlatt added that Curriculum Committee requested only minor adjustments, which were completed.

ii) Program Update: Provincial Instructor Diploma Program (PIDP)

MOTION: THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, revisions to the Provincial Instructor Diploma program content guide and two new courses: PIDP 3360 Challenges and Trends in Online Learning and PIDP 3370 Inclusive Online Instruction: Theory to Practice.

Moved by T. Rowlatt, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

- T. Rowlatt presented the proposal to split existing course EDUC 4250 from the Teaching Online Certificate into two new courses (PIDP 3360 and 3370) and embed them into the PIDP as electives. These two courses focus on learning theories and pedagogies that support online teaching and learning, while other PIDP courses cover design, delivery and facilitation of online courses.

iii) Program Update: Automotive Parts and Service Management Diploma

MOTION: THAT Education Council approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the program name change to Automotive Parts and Service Management Diploma

Moved by T. Rowlatt, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

- The new Automotive Parts and Service Technology Diploma was provisionally approved in November 2023. The program is primarily aimed at international students, and International Education (IE) is recruiting student for the first intake. Based on feedback from recruitment partners, a change of the program name was proposed – replacing “technology” with “management.” This change better reflects learning outcomes and is expected to make it easier to promote the program, particularly in countries with a higher driving age, where high school graduates may be less familiar with the automotive parts and services sector as a potential career path.
- There were questions whether “management” accurately captures the career opportunities for graduates coming straight out of the program. L. Griffith clarified that graduates will be qualified to manage operations, auto parts inventory and customer service. Industry feedback indicates high labour market demand, including for those with a foundational background in the field. The first year of the program aligns with the Automotive Service Technician (AST) foundation curriculum, and graduates will be able to take further training in AST or business.
- The chairs of Curriculum Committee and Education Council agreed to bring the proposal straight to Education Council for approval, without going through Curriculum Committee, to expedite this change and support recruitment efforts for the program launch. Curriculum Committee will be informed of this update at its next meeting.

iv) Chair Report

- A working group consisting of B. Higgins, N. Scott, D. Cunningham Hall and T. Rowlatt is reviewing the recommended characteristics of students section in program content guides from an accessibility lens. The group is developing recommendations to rework this section and focus on describing the learning environment and other considerations, rather than personal characteristics.

b) Policy Committee

i) Chair Report

- N. Mandryk reported on behalf of S. Kay. At its April 3 meeting, the committee reviewed the revised Accommodation for Students with Disabilities policy (405), which went for legal review. The committee requested some edits and voted to send the policy, with these changes, for College feedback.
- The committee also reviewed formatting edits to the definition of academic misconduct in the Academic Integrity policy (325). These formatting changes will make it easier to search for definitions of different types of academic misconduct in the glossary on the redesigned policy webpage.

ii) Education Services Renewal Policy (405)

MOTION: THAT Education Council recommends the Board of Governors approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the Education Services Renewal (405) policy and procedures.

Moved by L. Dannhauer, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

- The policy underwent a scheduled review led by C. Munro, Associate Vice President, Student and Enrolment Services. One of the key changes was to provide flexibility to adjust the scope of each education service renewal to make it relevant to the specific service area.
- The policy was posted for College feedback. One comment was received related to Indigenization, reconciliation and decolonization. In consultation with J. Williams, Dean of Indigenous Initiatives, language in policy principle #2 was changed to “reconciliation and diversity,” in alignment with VCC’s

Strategic Innovation Plan (SIP). There were no other changes. The committee had no further feedback and unanimously recommended the policy and procedures for approval.

c) Education Quality Committee (EQC)

i) Curriculum Development (CD) Fund 2024/25

- T. Rowlett reported that \$400,000 in CD funding was allocated at the March 4 adjudication meeting. A kick-off meeting will be held for curriculum development project leaders who received funding this year, in collaboration with the CTLR and F. Ghesen, Associate Director, Trades, Technology & Design.

8. RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD UPDATE

- New Research Ethics Board (REB) Chair J. Kelly reported that VCC has joined the harmonized research ethics review process through Research Ethics BC. The harmonized application process will make it easier for researchers to conduct multi-institution studies and may lead to VCC being involved in more research projects.
- The REB will roll out course-based reviews shortly. Course-based reviews allow instructors whose classes include student-led research projects to obtain REB approval on the course level, rather than requiring approval for each individual student project.

9. CHAIR REPORT

- N. Mandryk reported that the Board of Governors approved the Cooperation Agreement between the Sustainable Hospitality Alliance and Vancouver Community College at its March 27, 2024 meeting (joint approval with EdCo).

10. STUDENT REPORT

- J. Ligeralde reported on SUVCC's support for the BC Federation of Students' (BCFS) open letter to Premier Eby. The [letter](#) includes five calls to action related to international students and funding of public post-secondary education.

11. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

- The next Education Council meeting will be held on May 14, 2024, 3:30–5:30 p.m.
- The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

APPROVED AT THE MAY 14, 2024 EDUCATION COUNCIL MEETING

Natasha Mandryk,
Chair, VCC Education Council