

News Release

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NIC and Vancouver Island University sign Bilateral Agreement

North Island College and Vancouver Island University signed a partnership agreement today that will see both institutions working together to better serve the residents of the north Vancouver Island region. The Bilateral Agreement will enhance the capacity of both institutions through increased collaborative programming, seamless transfer arrangements, and greater opportunity for collaborative research initiatives and faculty professional development.

According to NIC's President, Dr. Jan Lindsay, one of the immediate outcomes of the Agreement is the establishment of a dual admission process to facilitate the success of students from the North Island College region who wish to complete their studies at VIU.

Dual admission will be first introduced with VIU's Bachelor of Arts degree and will allow students to move freely and easily between both institutions to complete their degree requirements. The Registrar's Offices at both NIC and VIU will automatically track student progress, students will have access to support services at both institutions, and BC student loan funding will be based on the combined credits at both institutions.

"A large percentage of North Island College students do complete their studies with Vancouver Island University. We are working together to make it as easy as possible for our students to earn a VIU degree while enjoying the unique benefits of a smaller college environment," explained Lindsay.



NIC and VIU sign a partnership agreement to better serve the residents of the north Vancouver Island region.

Dr. Ralph Nilson, VIU's President, said he is very excited about the programming and partnership opportunities that will result from this agreement. "We have an exceptional relationship with NIC and already have several joint delivery programs in place including; the

Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies, and guaranteed transfer to VIU's Bachelor of Education degree. Both VIU and NIC are committed to ensuring the communities of the mid and North Island have access to relevant and responsive training. Cooperating in this way supports this goal and supports the communities in the North Island in accessing upper level post-secondary education closer to home."

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Media relations contacts:

Susan Auchterlonie
Director, College & Community Relations
North Island College
(250) 334-5271
susan.auchterlonie@nic.bc.ca
www.nic.bc.ca

Toni O'Keeffe
Executive Director, Communications & Public Relations
Vancouver Island University
(250) 740-6341
Toni.OKeeffe@viu.ca
www.viu.ca