

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**NIC and Justice Institute of BC pledge greater cooperation**

*Agreement enhances collaboration on planning, program development and scholarly activity*

North Island College (NIC) and the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on July 5th that will benefit students of both institutions.

The MOU recognizes common interests in many academic and educational fields and the need for publicly funded post-secondary institutions to collaborate for the benefit of students. The agreement is effective initially for three years and commits the institutions to explore collaboration and joint initiatives in three key areas:



*Dr. Laureen Styles (JIBC VP Academic), Dr. Michel Tarko (JIBC President), Dr. Jan Lindsay (NIC President), Jan Carrie (NIC VP Education) sign a new memorandum of understanding to improve education opportunities.*

- **Planning:** The institutions will seek opportunities to contribute to each other's planning efforts, including through sharing non-confidential data. They will also develop and implement proposals that support student needs and regional needs.
- **Program development and delivery:** The institutions will explore articulation of courses and programs to encourage student transfers, along with the development and implementation of collaborative courses. They will also exchange information and expertise to strengthen and expand educational pathways for students.
- **Scholarly Activity:** The parties will look to collaborate on scholarly activity such as professional development, research partnerships, and joint proposal submissions.

The MOU was signed at NIC's Comox Valley Campus in Courtenay, by NIC President Dr. Jan Lindsay and JIBC President Dr. Michel Tarko.

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