

## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS****Prepared by John Bowman**

This report covers the time period from January 26, to March 22, 2018. It is intended to provide an overview (not an exhaustive list) of the activities and events that the President has participated in during the time period. Other information notes are also provided under the related NIC Plan 2020 Strategic Priority headings. In some cases, items may be related to more than one strategic priority.

**Student Experiences and Success**Student Housing Planning and Visioning

On February 16, I participated in the Student Housing Planning and Advisory Committee meeting at the Comox Valley Campus. The workshop session explored many issues associated with the planning and operation of on-campus student housing. A representative of the Scion Group (the consulting firm assisting us with the housing project) presented preliminary results of the student survey and market demand analysis they have completed in support of preparation of the business case for student housing at the Comox Valley Campus.

**High Quality, Relevant, Responsive Curriculum and Programs**Film and TV Crew Training Wrap Up

On February 2, I attended the celebration and wrap event for the Film and TV Crew Training program held at the Vancouver Island Film Studies in Parksville. The event was very well attended by representatives of the Island film and TV industry as well as regional community members. Through this successful program, 137 students were trained as Production Assistants, Lighting Technicians, Set Construction Carpenters and Grips.

**Access to Learning and Services Across the Region**Alberni Valley Learning Council (AVLC)

On February 8, I attended the AVLC meeting at the Port Alberni campus. At the meeting, I presented the findings and actions stemming from my 2017 sabbatical project for the College as a whole and specific to the Alberni Valley region. The Council discussed the issues and regional priorities highlighted in my presentation as well as the connections to the AVLC Strategic Plan.

**Aboriginal Education and Indigenization**Aboriginal Education Council (AEC)

On January 26, I attended the Aboriginal Education Council (AEC) meeting. The agenda included approval of the Aboriginal Services Plan (ASP) 2018/19 to 2000/21. I also discussed with the AEC our commitments and intentions regarding the Campbell River Campus Gathering Place and K'ómoks Totem Pole projects. Members of the Council expressed support for and a desire to be involved in both projects.

## **International Education and Internationalization**

### Special Board Meeting, International Education

On March 7, the College Board of Governors held a special meeting to discuss International Education. The agenda included brief presentations from current and former international students regarding their experiences at the College, an overview of international education trends nationally and provincially, the College's international education strategic goals and action plan for 2018-2019, and financial information pertaining to international education.

## **People, Organization, Culture**

### Campus Town Hall Meetings

On January 30, February 6 and 7, I hosted campus Town Hall meetings at the Port Alberni, Campbell River and Comox Valley Campuses. During each Town Hall meeting, I provided an overview of recent developments and highlighted information regarding International Education, Student Enrolment, 2018/19 College Budget, Mount Waddington Campus Opening, Campbell River Campus Expansion and Renovation Project, and Student Housing at the Comox Valley Campus.

### Diversity Matters

On February 20, I chaired a meeting of the Diversity Matters Working Group (DMWG). The meeting agenda focused on development and implementation of an online student survey to obtain feedback regarding diversity related issues at the College. Discussion also occurred regarding the process to analyze and report on employee feedback data garnered during the Campus Conversations held last fall. Results of the student survey and employee information will be summarized and presented in a report by the DMWG, for inclusion in the Annual Accountability Plan and Report (IAPR), June 2018.

## **Resources, Investment, Sustainability**

### BC Provincial Budget 2018/19

On February 20, the BC Government tabled the 2018/19 provincial budget in the Legislative Assembly. An overview of the provincial budget is available at this [link](#). Highlights from the budget for the post-secondary education system are:

1. new funding and policy support or institutions to build student housing;
2. funding for increased capacity at institutions to provide training in Early Childhood Education;
3. funding for Indigenous Skills Training (\$30 million over three years); and
4. funding (\$11 million) for increased technology education (Computer Science, Engineering, Information Technology and Science).

On March 2, I attended a briefing hosted by Finance Minister Carole James (in Courtenay) regarding the budget, and discussed with her colleges' concerns regarding the "no deficits" policy as it relates to the annual amortization costs for self-funded investments in capital assts.

### NIC Foundation Board

On February 22 and March 20, I attended the monthly meetings of the North Island College Foundation Board of Directors. Agenda topics included the NIC Foundation's project support and goals for the current year such as fundraising events and activities, Elder College Leaving a Legacy presentation, awards, donor recognition, policy development and board development.

## **Active Connections to Community**

### Comox Valley Community Justice Centre (CJC) Partnership – Campagnolo Lectures

On March 5, Bruce Curtis, CJC Administrator and I signed a new formalized partnership agreement between NIC and the CJC to support the [Campagnolo Lectures in Restorative Justice](#). The CJC launched an annual lecture series in Iona Campagnolo's name in recognition of her many contributions and life-long commitment to restorative justice.

### Project Watershed – Kus Kus Sum

On February 6, I met with Comox Valley Project Watershed Chair Paul Horgen. The College and Project Watershed will be holding information sessions for students and employees about the Kus Kus Sum project on April 5<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 1:00pm and 3:00 to 4:00pm at the Comox Valley Campus. Kus Kus Sum is the name given to the environmental restoration project being undertaken for the former [Field Sawmill site](#).

## **Other Topics**

### Vancouver Island Post-secondary Institution Presidents

On January 31, I attended a meeting in Victoria with the college and university presidents from Camosun College, University of Victoria, Vancouver Island University and Royal Roads University. The meeting agenda focused on the following topics: student pathways and flows between institutions; plans for student housing; supports for student mental health; institutional practices and strategies for Indigenous student success; sexual violence and misconduct; and, work integrated learning.

### BC Colleges (BCC) Council of Presidents (COP) and Board Chairs Meeting

On February 26, Board Chair Derek Lamb and I attended the BC College Presidents and Board Chairs joint meeting at Camosun College in Victoria. The agenda featured discussions with AEST Minister Melanie Mark and Deputy Minister Shannon Baskerville regarding provincial priorities and the 2018/19 budget. Other senior ministry officials also attended to provide updates regarding key issues including student housing, the K-12 school curriculum changes and institution board member appointments process.

### BC Colleges Day

On February 27, I represented BC Colleges at events held at the Legislative Assembly in Victoria. The program included a proclamation of February 27 as "[BC Colleges Day](#)"; recognition during the morning session of the Legislative Assembly by MLAs and Minister Mark; small group meetings between college presidents and MLAs during the day; a lunch time event in the legislative building rotunda featuring remarks by Minister Mark and myself on behalf of BC Colleges; and individual college information displays. During the evening, a reception was attended by approximately 30 MLAs from both the government and opposition. The day's events provided many opportunities to raise awareness of BC Colleges and to foster relationships with Members of the Legislative Assembly.

### Board Executive Committee

On March 7, I participated in the College Board Executive Committee meeting. I provided the Committee with brief updates on a variety of topics and we reviewed the schedule and agendas for the March 22, 2018 Board of Governors meetings.