

**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT****PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
April 26, 2019****Prepared by John Bowman**

This report covers the time period from March 21 to April 24. 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.

On April 2, I published a President's Newsletter which provides more information regarding some of the topics noted in this report. The Newsletter is available online at this [link](#).

**College Plan20-25**

On April 1, the College Plan20-25 myNIC [portal site](#) was launched. The portal site is the online home for resources related to the strategic planning process.

On March 29, a draft Environmental Scan document was [published](#). The Environmental Scan is a resource document in support of the Plan20-25 Strategic Planning Process as well as for other college planning activities.

As part of the Plan20-25 process, April 1-8 was designated "College Values Week." As a first step in identifying and articulating the College's core values, a [Thoughtexchange online forum](#) was conducted. A total of 190 NIC employees and Board members contributed ideas and suggestions regarding the question:

*What individual words best represent the organizational values (guiding principles) that are most important about HOW the College operates?*

The input provided by individuals will be used by the College Plan20-25 Committee in drafting a set of college values/guiding principles for further review and discussion by the college internal and external communities.

During April, I facilitated meetings of the College Plan20-25 Committee (April 9), Environmental Scan Subcommittee (April 10), Values Subcommittee (April 12) and Student and Community Engagement Subcommittee (April 24).

**Aboriginal Education and Indigenization****Campbell River Aboriginal Gathering Place**

On April 16, the Campbell River Campus Aboriginal Gathering Place committee met for a project brief from D. Graham, Director of Facilities; to receive feedback on the project build and plans for the current outdoor structure that was built in 2010; and for a tour of Building #200.

**International Education**

On April 15, I attended a meeting of College presidents at which Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training officials provided a briefing regarding the draft Provincial Framework for International Education.

## **People, Organization, Culture**

### Coffee Chats

On March 29, I hosted a group of five faculty and staff employees for an informal visit and conversation in my office. Since September, I have held seven of these sessions, attended by about 40 employees. They have proven to be a great way to connect with members of our internal community and to learn more about the people who make NIC so successful.

### Campus Town Hall Meetings

I hosted Campus Town Hall meetings in Campbell River, Comox Valley and Port Alberni on April 3, 4 and 8 respectively. The agenda for the town hall meetings were structured around the topics highlighted in the April 2<sup>nd</sup> [President's Newsletter](#), as well as local and regional news and sharing of updates pertinent to each campus. Approximately 80 college employees attended this month's meetings.

### Diversity Matters

On March 27 and April 24, I chaired meetings of the Diversity Matters Steering Committee (DMSC). The DMSC has begun to review and synthesize the student and employee feedback regarding the College's strengths and areas of potential development to make the college an even more diverse and inclusive learning community. The Committee will be preparing a short and long term action plan of initiatives to support the College's goals.

## **Resources, Investment, Sustainability**

### [Dr. Lou Dryden](#) Honoured

On April 16 and 17, the College held celebratory events in Comox Valley to honour the legacy of former NIC President, Dr. Lou Dryden.

On April 16, the main event to announce the naming of the Comox Valley Campus Trades Building Atrium in Dr. Dryden's honour was attended by the Dryden family as well as by 180 college employees, former colleagues, NIC Foundation Board, NIC Board of Governors and community members. This was followed by a private event with Dr. Dryden's family. A fundraising campaign in support of growing student awards and Dr. Dryden's endowment fund has been launched and is receiving great support.

On April 17, an inaugural President's Circle event was held, inspired by the legacy of Dr. Dryden to recognize our donors' leadership giving, to honour their impact on students and education, and to celebrate the naming of the Dr. Lou Dryden Trades Training Atrium. NIC donors, NIC Foundation Board, BOG executive and Senior Leadership Team members were in attendance.

## **Active Connections to Community**

### Comox Valley Economic Development Society (CVEDS)

On April 8, members of the CVEDS team met with a group of college administrators and faculty to discuss how we can strengthen collaboration and initiate new joint projects to benefit the community. The agenda included aligning the CVEDS and the College's strategic plans and facilitated group discussions on agriculture, aquaculture and food; working with local business; and driving local innovation.

### Island Health Board of Directors Partners Breakfast

On March 28, I attended a breakfast meeting hosted by Island Health in Campbell River. The purpose of the meeting was to update Island Health's community partners and other stakeholders regarding health services in the region.

### Campbell River Community Lunch Meeting

On April 16, the College hosted a luncheon and briefing session with the City of Campbell River Mayor and Council regarding our program and services plans for the Campbell River Campus. The agenda included a presentation on the Integrated Multi-Year Program and Campus Plan (CAM-Plan) for Campbell River; alignment of education and training with regional strategic and economic development priorities; collaborative development and planning into the future; and the CR campus opening celebration and fall schedule.

### **Other Topics**

#### BC Colleges (BCC)

On April 15, I chaired a meeting of the Council of Presidents (COP) in Vancouver. The agenda included an update on the Transforming for Tomorrow Report; the BC Colleges Strategic May 27-28 Retreat (Kelowna) agenda and desired outcomes; and Ireland Colleges visit to BC.

#### Board Governance and Human Resources (GHR) Committee

On April 4, I participated in a teleconference meeting with Jane Atherton (Chair, GHR Committee), Rachel Reid (EA to the Board), and Scott Borland (Cygnus Management Consultants) to discuss the proposed Board evaluation process.

On April 10, I attended the GHR Committee meeting. The agenda included discussion regarding the planning for the Board's annual self-evaluation, terms of reference, and the committee's workplan for 2019/20.

#### Board Executive Committee

On April 17, I facilitated a meeting of the Board Executive Committee. A separate report on these meetings is included in the April 26 Board Meeting agenda package.

#### Board of Governors Special Meeting

On April 17, the Board of Governors held a special meeting to learn more about historical trends in domestic student enrolments and the factors that impact upon them. A detailed briefing/presentation was provided by Lisa Domae, Wes Skulmoski and Bill Parkinson that included an introduction of the external and internal factors that impact domestic student enrolment. A review of domestic enrolment from 2004/05 – 2017/18, with a focus on the last seven years, was also discussed.

#### Trades Training Consortium of BC (TTBC)

On April 15, I attended a meeting of the TTBC Presidents in Vancouver. The meeting included a discussion with ITA on its priorities and opportunities for partnership with TTBC; updates on TTBC-Led Projects, training plan system, and Student Learning Resources Initiative; and TTBC incorporation and governance.