

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE EDUCATION COUNCIL HELD
AT THE COMOX VALLEY CAMPUS ON FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2023**

APPROVED

PRESENT: Wilma Gus, Faculty, Port Alberni, *Chair*
Alix Carrel, Faculty, Comox Valley, *Vice Chair*
Ashley Blacquiére, Faculty, Comox Valley
Aisling Brady, Faculty, Comox Valley
Chamya Liyanage, Student, Comox Valley
Heather Howie, Administration, Comox Valley
Jennifer Fallis Starhunter, Faculty, Campbell River, *Chair, Curriculum & Fast Track*
Karen Grigoleit, Support Staff, Comox Valley
Kathleen Haggith, Administration
Kudakwashe Wingwiri, Student, Comox Valley
Laura Hickey, Faculty, Campbell River
Sukhwinder Singh, Student, Port Alberni
Tony Bellavia, Administration, Comox Valley
Tony Trudel, Faculty, Campbell River
Vincent Michaud, Student, Campbell River
Lisa Domae, President (Ex-Officio)
Rylee LaTrace, Board of Governors Representative
Kara Foreman, Recording Secretary (RS)

REGRETS: Barb Biggs, Support Staff, Comox Valley
Judith Marriott, Faculty, Comox Valley, *Chair, Planning & Standards*
Kelly Shopland, Administration
Michelle Badger, Administration (temporary leave)
Ryan Blaak, Faculty, Comox Valley

1. **Declaration of Quorum**
W. Gus declared quorum at 12:32pm.
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
Moved by H. Howie / Seconded by A. Brady TO ADOPT THE AGENDA FOR JUNE 9, 2023.
MOTION CARRIED.
3. **Review of Minutes of the Meeting**
Moved by A. Carrel / Seconded by T. Trudel TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 12, 2023.
Noted: Item 5.44 Course title not course numbering
MOTION CARRIED.
4. **Business Arising – None**
5. **Committee Reports**
 - 5.1 **Education Council Chair Update**
There were no questions.
 - 5.2 **Planning and Standards Committee**
No chair report
There was no meeting.
 - 5.3 **Fast Track Committee**
Chair Report
Minutes: February 2022
These items had been delayed in coming to Education Council due to some implementation concerns which have since been reconciled.

5.3.1 New Program – Resource Field Assistant

Moved by J. Fallis Starhunter / Seconded by A. Carrel TO APPROVE THE NEW PROGRAM WITH REVISION AS NOTED BELOW.

EFFECTIVE/START DATE: FA 2024

Revisions

Completion Requirements: clarify minimum C in each course

MOTION CARRIED.

Items 5.3.2 – 5.3.4 were taken together

5.3.2 New Course – RCT 100 Introduction to Mineral Exploration and Mining

5.3.3 New Course – RCT 101 Introduction to Ecosystems, the Environment and Reclamation

5.3.4 New Course – RCT 102 Introduction to Communities and the Resource Sector

Moved by J. Fallis Starhunter / Seconded by V. Michaud TO APPROVE THE NEW COURSES WITH REVISIONS AS NOTED BELOW.

EFFECTIVE/START DATE: FA 2024

Recommended Revisions

All applicable courses

Instructor Qualifications: widening parameters to biologists, and/or add Masters in course subject area

Format: allocate hours appropriately to *Lecture* and *Field Work*

Transfer Status: clarify status

MOTION CARRIED.

Items 5.3.5 – 5.3.7 were taken together

5.3.5 New Course – RCT 103 Fundamentals of Data Collection, Mapping and Technical Communications

5.3.6 New Course – RCT 104 Introduction to Health and Safety for the Resource Sector

5.3.7 New Course – RCT 105 Introduction to Resource Field Methods and Sampling Techniques

Moved by J. Fallis Starhunter / Seconded by A. Blacquiere TO APPROVE THE NEW COURSES WITH REVISIONS AS NOTED BELOW.

EFFECTIVE/START DATE: FA 2024

Recommended Revisions

As noted above on all courses

RCT 103

Instructor Qualifications: include background in GIS

MOTION CARRIED.

Items 5.3.8 – 5.3.11 were taken together

5.3.8 New Course – RCT 106 Introduction to Workplace Readiness Skills in the Resource Sector

5.3.9 New Course – RCT 107 Introduction to Flora and Fauna

5.3.10 New Course – RCT 108 Introduction to Natural Resource Management

5.3.11 New Course – RCT 109 Resource Field Safety Practices

Moved by J. Fallis Starhunter / Seconded by V. Michaud TO APPROVE THE NEW COURSES WITH REVISIONS AS NOTED BELOW.

EFFECTIVE/START DATE: FA 2024

Recommended Revisions

As noted above on all courses

RCT 107

Instructor Qualifications: Add Registered Professional in Biology, Masters in Science of Biology or Ecology

MOTION CARRIED.

5.3.12 New Course – RCT 110 Applied Resource Field Skills

Moved by J. Fallis Starhunter / Seconded by A. Carrel TO APPROVE THE NEW COURSE WITH REVISIONS AS NOTED BELOW.

EFFECTIVE/START DATE: FA 2024

Recommended Revisions

As noted above on all courses

Format:

100 % Field Work

MOTION CARRIED.

5.3.13 New Program – Principles of Ecosystem Stewardship

Moved by J. Fallis Starhunter / Seconded by H. Howie TO APPROVE THE NEW PROGRAM.

EFFECTIVE/START DATE: FA 2024

No Revisions

MOTION CARRIED.

Items 5.3.14 – 5.3.18 were taken together

5.3.14 New Course – RCT 120 Introduction to Ecosystems and Environmental Science

5.3.15 New Course – RCT 121 Fundamentals of Technical Math for Resource Applications

5.3.16 New Course – RCT 122 Introduction to Earth Science and Ecosystem Stewardship

5.3.17 New Course – RCT 123 Introduction to Technical Communications

5.3.18 New Course – RCT 124 Introduction to Environmental Law, Economy and Ethics

Moved by J. Fallis Starhunter / Seconded by H. Howie TO APPROVE THE NEW COURSES WITH REVISIONS AS NOTED BELOW.

EFFECTIVE/START DATE: FA 2024

Recommended Revisions

As noted above on all courses

RCT 120

Instructor Qualifications:

Include Registered Professional in Biology, Masters in Biology, Ecology or Environmental Science

RCT 124

Instructor Qualifications:

Add expertise in law, economics

RCT 121

Instructor Qualifications:

Include broader options

RCT 120, 122

Credits/Hours:

Further consideration is recommended

MOTION CARRIED.

6. New Business - None

7. Information / Correspondence

7.1 (Verbal) Report from VP Academic (*T. Bellavia*)

- Future Ready Action Plan from the Ministry is designed to address the one million-plus job openings expected over the next 10 years and efficient ways to fill those openings. It focuses on upscaling succession planning and filling vacant positions. Within the plan:
 - Future Skills Grant
 - The Ministry is providing \$3500 to anyone 19 years and above to take qualifying micro credential programs. Council can expect to see many more of these programs coming for review next year. Micro credentials are statements of completion that can include both noncredit and credit-based courses and/or Board approved credentials. Nine of these will start in the fall and 20 more in January 2024. These will provide customized training for students.

These programs must be under 12 weeks and cannot be student loan eligible. So the process moving forward will include exploring how NIC can preserve the value of an under graduate arts and science education in the format of micro credentials that have credit, to allow their value to be perceived as being aligned with the labour market and also to be eligible for the funds. Supporting this initiative will require creativity and adaptability.

NOTED: The Fast Track Committee will need to be available at the end of August to review an expected 15 micro credentials. These are expected to arrive on August 21st and the committee will only have 2 weeks to review and approve them. The Fast Track chair requested that Council members consider joining the committee to help facilitate this review.

7.2 Build 2026 Dashboard Year 2 Amendments (*L. Domae*)

- NIC is at the end of year 2 of its Build 2026 plan and has established a dashboard to report on the progress of the plan bi-annually. The dashboard is available on the Engage website. In addition to updating the dashboard, there is an annual review of the plan itself and recommendations are made to the Board at its final meeting at the end of June.
- The BC College & Institute Act (The Act) mandates that the college seek guidance from Education Council on the mission statement, educational goals, objectives, strategies and priorities of the institution. This is done via the Strategic Plan and using this opportunity to receive feedback from Council.
- NIC has a companion strategic plan: The Indigenization Plan, *Working Together*, that is the creation of the college's Indigenous Education Council (IEC) which is composed of the 35 First Nations on whose unceded territories the college's campuses are situated. That dashboard will also be updated for the end of June and presented to the IEC at its last meeting of the academic year.
- This year we have two companion plans that were developed by faculty and staff in addition to *Widening Our Doorways*, which is the academic plan and the *CARE² Plan* for student mental health and wellness as well as *Journeying Together*, the Indigenized education plan.
- Overview of the Build 2026 Strategic and Year 2 Dashboard
 - Status of Goals; 10 complete, 44 on track, 1 behind (access to Indigenous Elders was hampered by the pandemic but solutions are in progress)
 - Several engagement sessions were hosted over the year in each of the regions with positive results from internal and external community members.
 - Changes to the Dashboard; 1 new goal (addition of a formal college-wide risk management program), 8 refinements to clarify measures, and 2 deletions to eliminate duplications within measures (eliminate the digital learning strategy as it should not be separate from the teaching and learning strategy, and eliminate the measure to increase the percentage of students from marginalized groups as this is already covered by the BC Anti-Racism Act as of June 2022).
- These changes will be presented to the Board of Governors at the end of the month.
- Members were invited to consider joining the college planning committee.

8. Meeting Evaluation – Roundtable Discussion

It was agreed that this was an efficient and effective meeting.

9. Next Meeting – September 15, 2023

10. ADJOURNED AT 2:41pm