

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

This report covers the time period from March 23 to April 18, 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 SuccessTourism and Hospitality Program – Wine Festival

On March 23, students from the Convention and Special Event Management course of the Tourism and Hospitality program organized the “Under the Stars” Wine Festival event at the Florence Filberg Centre in Courtenay. It was my pleasure to act as the master of ceremonies for the evening which included wine tasting (20 winery and craft beer suppliers attended), appetizers, a silent auction, as well as wine and cheese seminars. The event was a great success with over 250 people attending. Funds raised through the event support student bursaries for the program.

Aboriginal Education and IndigenizationCampbell River Gathering Place – Phase II

The first meeting of the Campbell River Campus Gathering Place – Phase II Project Committee will be held on April 24. Members of the Committee include representatives from the local First Nations, Aboriginal organizations, students, Elders and college employees.

People, Organization, CultureCampus Town Hall Meetings

On April 10, 11, and 12 I hosted Town Hall Meetings at the Port Alberni, Comox Valley and Campbell River campuses. The agenda for the meetings included: an overview of the draft 2018/19 College Budget, New and Additional Program and Service Funding; Campbell River Campus Expansion and Renovation Project Video; update on planning for Student Housing at the Comox Valley Campus; college Administrative Roles and Organizational Structure; and, International Education.

Diversity Matters

On March 23, I chaired a meeting of the Diversity Matters Working Group (DMWG). The meeting agenda focused on 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) to be presented to the Board of Governors in June 2018.

Active Connections to Community

Rotary – People of Action - Time to Celebrate

On April 5, I attended and spoke at the Comox Valley Rotary Clubs' event held at the Native Sons Hall in Courtenay to commemorate 30 years of men and women working together in Rotary to make a difference. I had the pleasure to thank the Rotary community for the support they provide to the College and for students. A portion of the funds raised at the event have been donated to the NIC Foundation to establish a bursary for a single parent student.

Comox Valley Project Watershed – [Kus-kus-sum](#)

On April 5, the College and Project Watershed held information sessions for students and employees about the Kus-kus-sum project. Kus-kus-sum is the name given to the environmental restoration project being undertaken for the former [Field Sawmill site](#).

Comox Valley ElderCollege

On April 16, I was invited to present the findings and outcomes from my 2017 Sabbatical Project to the ElderCollege Executive Committee.

Other Topics

AEST Minister Visit to Campbell River Campus

On March 26, the Honourable Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training visited the Campbell River Campus. The Minister's visit included a traditional welcome to the territory of the Wei Wai Kai First Nation by Elder June Johnson, lunch prepared by the Culinary Arts students, a video overview of the Campbell River Campus Expansion and Renovation project; a campus walkabout and visits with Practical Nursing, Electrical, Industrial Automation, and Trades Sampler programs students. During the Minister's visit we expressed appreciation for the recent program and service funding allocations, and urged government support for college needs and priorities including student housing at the Comox Valley Campus. We discussed NIC's participation on the Provincial Student Housing Committee. The Minister indicated she enjoyed her time at the campus, and was positively impressed by her interactions with students and college faculty. The media release regarding the Minister's visit is available [here](#).

CICan Pre-conference Forum, April 27-28

On April 27-28, we will host the Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) Pre-conference Forum for Colleges and Institutes Serving Rural, Northern and Remote Communities. As of April 6, approximately 80 participants from 30 institutions across Canada are registered to attend. The Forum offers us an excellent opportunity to learn from other institutions and to showcase some of the great work being done at NIC. The final Forum schedule of events and presentations is now available at this link to the [program](#).

CICan Annual Conference, April 29-May 1

The 2018 Annual Conference of Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) will be held in Victoria (April 29-May 1) and is hosted by Camosun College. The conference in Victoria provides those of us attending from NIC with a unique opportunity to capitalize on the program for individual, team and organizational learning and development. The final conference program is now available online at this [link](#) and the CICan 2018 Conference app is available at the App Store.

BC Colleges (BCC) Council of Presidents (COP)

On April 6 and April 10, I participated in the BC Colleges Executive Committee and Council of Presidents meetings via teleconference. The agendas for both meetings included: an update on provincial government developments, including year-end funding allocations; a debrief of the recent BCC Presidents Study Tour to Ireland; planning for the College Presidents Strategic Retreat; the Board Governance Workshop, Fall 2018; and, Post-secondary Employers' Association,.

Board Executive Committee

On April 10, 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 April 19, 2018 Board of Governors meetings.