

NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

April 20, 2017

Comox Valley Campus Pay Parking - Update

On [March 31, 2016](#) the College Board of Governors reviewed the NIC Pay Parking Principles (attached as Appendix A) and approved a [motion](#) to proceed with implementation of pay parking at the Comox Valley campus. The Board did not approve the implementation without careful consideration and extensive discussion.

It is very important to note that as the College's Board we approved the implementation of pay parking as well as the general framework around it, however as is appropriate, day to day items such as parking rates, who the vendor is who provides the pay parking service, lot upgrades, etc. are operational and are not in the direct purview of the Board.

In recent weeks, the topic of pay parking has been a focus of attention within the College because of new bylaw initiatives by city councils in both Courtenay and Campbell River.

On March 8, the City of Courtenay issued a media release indicating Council had directed staff to prepare a zoning bylaw amendment that would restrict pay parking in areas zoned for Public Use and Assembly.

In the media release the City noted that "the current paid parking at North Island College would be considered a non-conforming established use" and therefore would not be impacted by any new bylaw that might be approved.

On April 10, Island Health issued a Statement on Pay Parking at North Island Hospitals Campuses. In the statement, Island Health affirms that:

"Parking fees will be implemented at all new hospital builds in the future, including the new Campbell River and Comox Valley hospitals when they open in late 2017."

In light of these recent developments, and the resulting speculation that they have naturally generated, the College Board thought it appropriate today, to briefly review and restate our commitments and position on pay parking at the Comox Valley campus and note the above.

Pay parking provides revenue to offset the costs associated with the parking operations and maintenance of the parking lot which were previously unfunded. The revenues also offset costs associated with the implementation of bike storage areas as well as for the improvement of public transit on the campus.

Last fall, the College Board and President received extensive feedback regarding pay parking from college students and employees through letters and emails.

On November 24, 2016, President Bowman issued an "Interim Report" on pay parking that set out a preliminary Action Plan for addressing many of the concerns and suggestions made by students and employees.

He also made a commitment to provide by June 30, 2017 a final report regarding the full, first-year of pay parking operations at the Comox Valley campus.

The report will address any outstanding issues and suggestions regarding parking operations and services, as well as set out possible reductions to parking rates that may be appropriate, given the actual versus budgeted revenues generated for the completed fiscal year 2016/17.

The Board of Governors looks forward to receiving the Final Report, at our June 8, 2017 meeting and to learning about what additional improvements and changes will be adopted for the 2017/18 year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above the printed name.

Derek M. Lamb, CPA, CA
Board Chair

NIC Pay Parking Principles – Comox Valley Campus

The following principles will be considered when making decisions regarding operational procedures for paid parking at North Island College.

1. Parking rates will be equitable for all College users. There will be reduced rates available for longer-term parking, pro-rated to reflect use. The same rates will be available for students, employees and visitors to the College.
2. To protect parking for College users, short-term parking rates (hourly, daily) should be comparable to the Hospital short-term parking rates.
3. Parking revenue will be used to fund parking operations including costs associated with maintaining the College parking lots and roadway infrastructure. A portion of remaining revenue will be allocated first to projects related to alternate transportation initiatives such as cycling and long-term sustainable parking solutions and then to support other College priorities.
4. The NIC parking strategy will be built around a philosophy of open and unrestricted traffic flow. Parking access will operate without barrier gates or other forms of restrictive measures. All parking at NIC is on a first-come basis in designated parking lots.
5. NIC's parking strategy should be a catalyst to encourage various green and environmentally friendly forms of commuting, such as car-pooling, public transit, cycling, and walking. Driving is only one way to commute to the campus.
6. NIC's parking operations will focus on customer service and fairness in parking practices by providing options, technologies and information. Multiple payment options, improved signage, fair practices to make parking more accessible and easier to find will decrease enforcement requirements, and support College activities.

Approved by the North Island College
Board of Governors, March 31, 2016