2023-2028 Education Plan

Education and Innovation Division | Camosun College

2023-2028 Education Plan

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Introduction

Camosun College cares about the community we serve. We care about the people with whom we work. Relationships are the currency in which we trade and provide the means to create the extraordinary importance of the community college.

We have just been through a pandemic, one which caused instantaneous pivots in delivery, a reliance on technology, extraordinary budget pressures, and we are emerging into a world environment with war, famine, racism, climate change and misogyny occurring in frightening new ways. We are right to be confused, frightened and to be looking for stability.

Our stability occurs by looking to the college's long-standing values rooted in the community college's history and purpose. We are vigilant to ensure that the community is served – whether it be providing health care graduates to a burdened health care system, outreach and access programs for our most vulnerable, technology and business graduates to build the economy and job prospects for the areas' citizens.

During the pandemic, we continued global outreach with programs bringing Kenyan refugees to Canada to pursue meaningful pathways to careers, the extension of trades programs beyond the campus, students from the Northwest Territories being provided pathways to programs delivered by the Centre for Sport & Exercise Education, physics classes successfully Indigenizing delivery and content. The South Island Partnership continues outreach to more than a thousand students annually increasing their connection with Camosun College and post-secondary education. **Eyēʔ Sqâ'lewen** continues to extend programming to the W̱SÁNEĆ School Board, and to New Zealand and beyond. Camosun is a powerhouse of community development, and this will be our future.

Challenges for the future present opportunities for us in the coming years, but these opportunities will be bound and supported by our unflinching commitment to the values of the community college. Climate action for a community college includes a response that includes new programming in response to this crisis. An informed and educated citizenry is essential if we are to resist the racism and hate that appears to be growing around the world. Programming that develops critical thinkers and that responds to social and economic justice are important roles of the community college. Building out a response to climate action that recognizes the new jobs of the coming decades – green energy technologists and trades people, citizens with advocacy skills and knowledge of political systems will be essential. Programs that support healthy lifestyles in our communities reduce the burden on the health care system but also inspire healthier communities and citizens. These and dozens of other programming areas are driven by our values and the needs of our communities.

Camosun College's Education Plan for 2023-2028 will draw on and be lifted up by our values. All projects will be defined by them.

John Boraas, Provost and VP Education and Innovation

Key Priorities

International Student Mobility and Program Internationalization

Objective: Increase the number of Canadian Students studying internationally and/or increase the number of program-to-program collaborations.

Description:

Deep relationships are being developed with Miriam College in the Philippines and Munster Technical University (MTU) in Ireland with the intent of steadily building toward mature relationships with a range of elements. Canadian students have the lowest rate of participation in international learning opportunities of any western country, and the desire is that ultimately these projects will begin to increase international education for Canadian students.

Actions:

As a college community, pursue opportunities in the following areas:

- Individual faculty collaborations,
- Program exchanges,
- Students from Canada or from Ireland or from the Philippines studying in the other country,
- Joint program development,
- Guest lecturing at partner institutions and articulation of common programs.

Progress Measures:

- Number of shared courses and programs between Miriam College and Camosun and MTU and Camosun,
- Number of courses with articulation agreements,
- Number of Camosun students attending courses/programs at Miriam College, MTU or other study abroad opportunities,
- Number of joint projects, faculty exchanges or evidence of international partnership/relationship.

New Program Development

Objective: Develop three new programs each year.

Description:

Development of new programs ensures the continuing relevance and responsiveness to student, community, and industry needs.

Actions:

- Complete the development of these new programs:
    1. Pathways to Technology for Indigenous Learners
    2. Pathways to Technology for Women
    3. Bachelor of Business Administration in Socially Responsible Management
    4. Post Degree Diploma in Socially Responsible Management
    5. Cybersecurity Diploma
    6. Post Degree Diploma in Cybersecurity
    7. Access to Health Programs
    8. Indigenous Community Support
    9. Ways of Indigenous Leadership Advanced Certificate
    10. Environmental Technology Diploma
    11. Advanced Certificate or Diploma in Environmental Studies
    12. Diploma in Social Justice
    13. Re-development of Digital Communications Diploma
    14. Culinary Diploma
    15. Baccalaureate in Dental Hygiene
    16. Bridge from Practical Nursing to Baccalaureate of Science
    17. Post Degree Diploma in Early Learning and Care
- Develop an annual cycle to prioritize new program development with input from Institutional Research identifying student demand, regional trends, program demand.
- Partner with Strategy, Planning and Transformation to establish a clear program development process that includes tools, guidance, and consultation support.

Progress Measures:

- Number of new programs

Climate Action Programming

Objective: Support existing climate and environmental focused programs and provide increased climate education opportunities for students

Description:

There are many ways the climate emergency must be addressed. The Education and Innovation Division's responsibility is to ensure we have explored and acted on priorities for new programming but also to ensure that most students' programs or courses provide an opportunity to explore and learn more about the climate emergency.

Actions:

- Establish a priority for our new and existing programs to create space for climate action behaviours, knowledge, understandings.
- Curriculum design that includes topical interest about climate action.

Progress Measures:

- Percentage of courses that contain an Environmental Sustainability/Climate Change component or learning outcome of program objectives
- Number of courses with Climate Action learning outcomes

Applied Learning Opportunities

Objective: Embed applied learning opportunities into new and existing curriculum.

Description:

At Camosun College we believe that relationships are at the heart of our educational enterprise. Nowhere is that truer than in our approach to applied learning opportunities. These opportunities serve our community and our students, they define our approach to pedagogy and the practical preparation for our shared futures. Applied learning takes many forms, from applied research to work integrated learning, from community-based projects to disciplinary capstones to professional practicums. We celebrate the way our faculty integrate applied learning within all facets of our coursework and encourage applied learning as a signature approach across the curriculum. In the coming years we propose to expand our use of applied learning throughout our academic offerings and across all campuses. We prepare our students for the world of tomorrow by actively engaging them in the learning of today, keeping all students connected to the practical implications of their chosen fields and making manifest not just the accumulation of knowledge but the application of understanding as they make the world a better place through their industry and insight.

Actions:

- Partner with curriculum approval, Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Eyēʔ Sqâ'lewen - Centre for Indigenous Education & Community Connections and Education Council to embed Applied Learning as a development expectation.

Progress Measures:

- Percentage of courses that includes one or more of the distinct types of applied learning (i.e., capstone, service learning, work-integrated learning, cooperative education).

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition

Objective: Establish a Centre of Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition

Description:

PLAR (Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition) is a priority for the college, and although led by the Education Division, it is housed in the Strategic Plan as its success will depend on the partnership between the Registrar's Office and the Education and Innovation Division's Centre for Prior Learning Assessment.

Actions:

- Invest into resources to support PLAR activities across the college
- Establish a sustainable business model to support PLAR resources.

Progress Measures:

- Number of PLARs conducted.
- Number of students served through PLAR.
- Number of faculty assessors.
- Establishment of a PLAR Centre.

Continued Commitment to Indigenization and Responding to the TRC Calls to Action

Objective: To fulfill the commitments of Camosun's Indigenization policy, and the college's determination to keep improving in how we serve Indigenous students and the community. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission report continues to call for post-secondary education to lead change that speaks to meaningful reconciliation.

Description:

Each year the college's Indigenization Steering Committee develops and recommends actions to support the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations. These actions have priority for support by the college.

Actions:

- Review of Hiring practices to increase number of Indigenous employees
- Establish Cultural Advisor position from local nation
- Create language course for college employees.
- Explore/Create a voting Indigenous member on Education Council
- Use naming to honour Indigenous Elder and Indigenous contributors
- Use preferential hiring to increase the number of Indigenous leaders at the college

Progress Measures:

- Number of Indigenous students and employees.
- Success of projects.

Partnership Projects Across the College

Objective: A number of important projects in partnership across various college departments.

Description:

Several projects will be launched to guide important work that needs to occur as we continue to strive to act on ongoing improvements and change.

Actions:

- Pathways Registration Capacity for Arts and Science.
- Access and Trades Registration Process – unique registration structures for Access and Trades.
- Recruitment of Indigenous Faculty and employees.
- Westshore Campus.

Progress Measures:

- Number of projects completed each year.
- Successful delivery of programs/courses on the Westshore.
- Registration support for the unique needs of Trades and Access students.

Social Responsibility

Objective: Realizing a Vision for Social Responsibility in Programming, Practice and Community Engagement

Description:

Camosun College has both opportunity and responsibility to enhance the capabilities and capacity of our graduates to positively impact the communities in which they live and work, and to contribute to social responsibility and sustainability of the planet we collectively share.

Under the leadership of the School of Business, and supporting scale to a college-wide approach, the college is committed to pursuing a comprehensive social responsibility strategy and related actions with emphasis on teaching and learning, student experience, community engagement and impact, and integration in our programming and institutional practices.

Objectives:

- To enhance the capacities of our graduates to positively impact the communities in which they live and work through sustainable and socially responsible organizational practices.
- To build student engagement and competency in pursuing social enterprise, sustainable development and positive community impact through applied learning activities.
- To undertake a leadership position on charters of global significance and invite opportunities to integrate and incorporate relevant aspects of these into programming and practices.
- To engage members of the Camosun community – faculty, staff, students, and external partners – in community-oriented applied learning and research opportunities that contribute to addressing challenges and pursuing socially responsible opportunities in our community.

Actions:

- Launch a new undergraduate business credential – the Bachelor of Business Administration in Socially Responsible Management – intentionally designed at the intersection of management theory, business skills and social responsibility with positive community impact.
- Launch Camosun's inaugural Enactus chapter in Fall 2023, supporting impact-oriented sustainable business development – including participation in regional and national Enactus competitions, and efforts to expand engagement and participation college-wide in 2024/25.
- Become a signatory organization to charters of global significance – the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the United Nations Global Compact Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) – and invite integration of respective elements of these into student learning experiences and organizational practices.

- Develop an “institute” connecting applied learning with positive community impact through collaboration between students, faculty and community-based organizations.

Film and Animation Programming Development

Objective: Develop and implement new film and animation programming

Description:

The college is actively working to pursue additional space in partnership with the film industry, so we are able to provide education for students interested in working in the film industry. Currently a variety of micro-credentials are being delivered, but the Education and Innovation Division will gather information and consider Diploma or Certificates in fields related to a career in the film industry.

Actions:

- Explore programming ideas in support of a film career.
- Explore partnerships with other institutions.

Progress Measures:

- Number of enrolments in new program offerings.

Pathways for Learning

Objective: Deliver outstanding flexible learning opportunities to support students' evolving educational needs.

Description:

The South Island is home to people with many different needs and access to our programming must offer a variety of learning schedules and approaches. Within each school, we will work toward part-time program or evening delivery options for the working adult. We will work to provide both on-line and face to face options for our students, and we will recognize that a summer semester is an important option for students wishing to study through the year. We will examine each of these, and potentially other, options.

Actions:

- Work with schools to identify a timetable to consider alternate delivery approaches for key programs.
- In five years, all identified programs will have a part-time and/or evening delivery option.

Progress Measures:

- Percentage of courses with flexible delivery options.
- Percentage of student completion rates in courses with flexible delivery options.
- Percentage of courses using open textbook for teaching.
- Number of enrolments in microcredential offerings.

The Camosun Advantage

Objective: To incorporate with greater consistency the advantages Camosun College represents.

Description:

The projects will include the chance to identify the major advantages that an education at Camosun College provides. It will then focus on how to be sure we build the capacity to strengthen those advantages or to explicitly work to add teaching and learning advantages to programs and courses. Current identified advantages are indigenized curriculum and delivery, applied learning, learning outcomes related to climate action, social justice/equity, diversity and inclusion, and the provision of economic and social mobility.

Actions:

- Consult with schools to confirm advantages.
- Meet with Chairs, SCC's, ICC, CETL, and EDCO to confirm process to build out the. Advantages in our curriculum and approaches.

Progress Measures:

- Consultations completed.
- Number of revised course/program documents to include an animation of the Camosun Advantage.

Strengthening the Camosun Advantage - Thunderbird

The Thunderbird is known for its strength in Salish culture. In one Cowichan legend, the Thunderbird is the only one strong enough to defeat the supernatural Orca that was eating all the salmon and causing a famine.