

# BCIT WORKING FOR YOU

Volume 1, No. 2

Summer, 1985

## BCIT merges with PVI to create new supertech



"The new institute will be a centre of excellence for high technology training, capable of transforming the high school graduate into a highly competent tradesman or technologist."

Honourable Jack Heinrich,  
Minister of Education

"This amalgamation represents an opportunity for the new flagship institute to make a significant contribution toward workforce training, upgrading and economic recovery. Students regard this as a visionary move."

BCIT/PVI students in a joint  
communique issued May 31, 1985



"The ultimate goal is to educate and put better students into the workplace. This is the challenge."

Elwood Veitch,  
Parliamentary Secretary  
to Jack Heinrich



"I am sensitive to the possibilities of a larger unit absorbing a smaller one, and I will work to ensure that this doesn't happen. The trades will have a very high profile in this new structure."

Roy Murray, new BCIT president

I am sure that by now you will have heard of the merger of PVI and BCIT announced by Education Minister, Jack Heinrich, on May 31st.

These developments are good news for BCIT, PVI, and indeed for the province. We now have a unique opportunity to offer new and improved services to our students and to their future employers. Technological and vocational education occupy key positions in the future of British Columbia and Canada.

The best traditions of both PVI and BCIT will be maintained in the new institution. The work of BCIT's Develop-

ment Council has laid a solid foundation for future collaborations between government and private industry. The work of the advisory committees, so long an integral feature of life at BCIT, will be continued and expanded under the presidency of Mr. Roy Murray.

While many questions of detail regarding how the new BCIT will operate are being worked out, I can assure you that the new Board of Governors will work with President Murray to ensure a continuation of the best features of PVI and BCIT, as well as some new and innovative programs.

I am very grateful to all of our friends

in private industry for their support over the years. I promise to keep you all informed of developments as they occur.

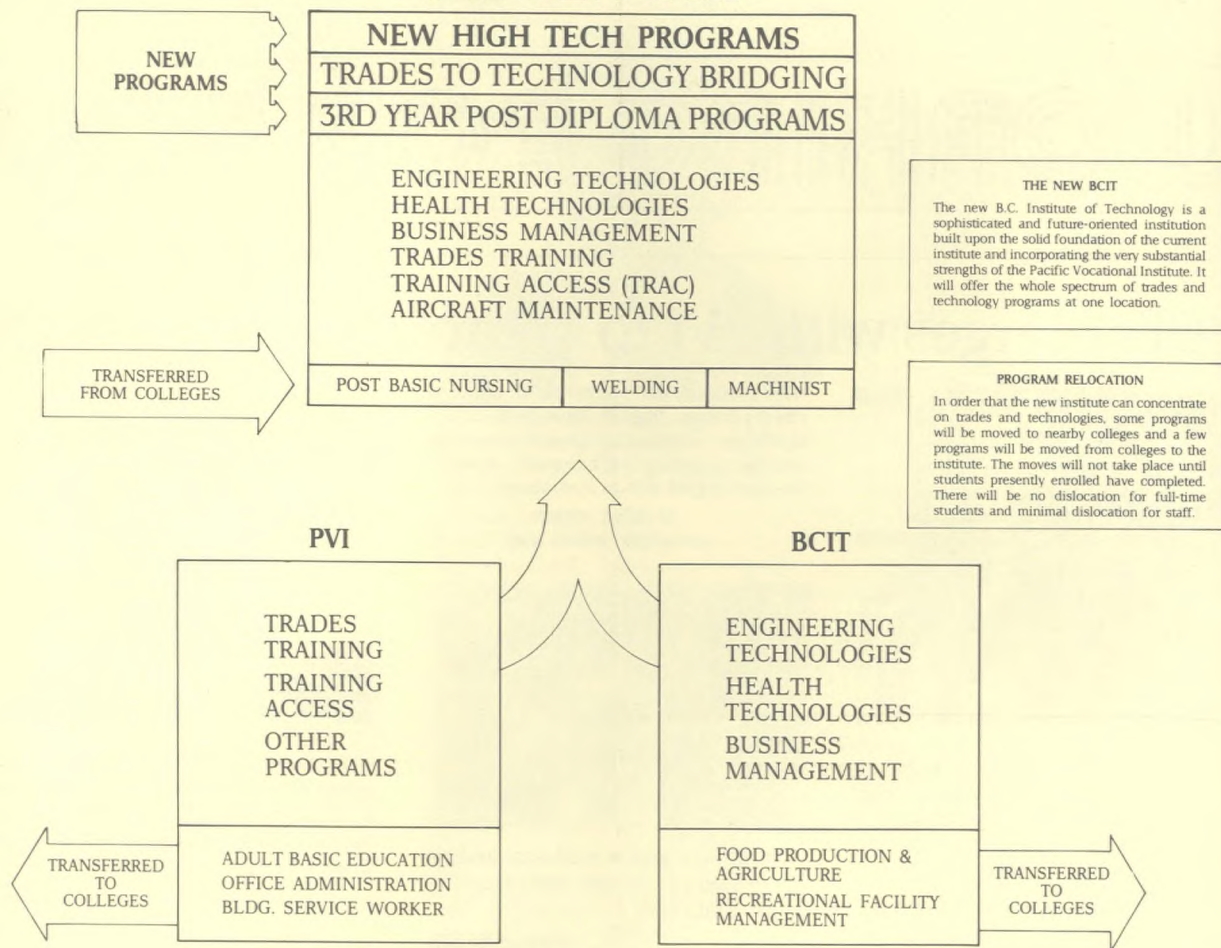
In the meantime, please feel free to approach us with any questions or comments regarding the new BCIT. You have played a crucial role in shaping technological education at BCIT. Your contribution to the new BCIT is more important than ever.

*Malcolm B. J. Wickson*

Malcolm Wickson  
Chairman of the Board of Governors  
The New BCIT



# THE NEW BCIT



## THE NEW BCIT PROGRAMS

### TRADES

Existing Trades programs and the Training Access Program (TRAC) will be accorded a high profile, giving students access to higher technological equipment. This will lead to a "bridging" concept – to allow tradesmen access to the technology diploma programs. The intention is to forge stronger links between vocational and technological training for the benefit of students and the industries the programs serve.

### TECHNOLOGIES (Diploma Programs)

The Institute will continue to offer most of the diploma programs that have proven a formula for success over the past 20 years.

The Institute will concentrate on Engineering, Health and Business Management Programs.

### POST DIPLOMA

In areas where need can be demonstrated, the Institute will develop post diploma programs. Not to be confused with simple one-year extensions of current programs, the post diploma will be a composite offering which provides the diploma holder with a new training dimension. For example, a year of Robotics training may benefit the Electronics graduate.

### NEW PROGRAMS

As the flagship of vocational and technological training in British Columbia, the Institute will investigate a host of new program proposals. The goal is to maintain the

Institute at the leading edge of technological training – providing training that will keep our youth and the working population competitive and capable.

### TRANSFER

Many students, particularly those living outside the Lower Mainland, will want to take advantage of the proximity and lower costs of their local College, possibly transferring eventually to BCIT for advanced trades or technological training.

Those students who lack necessary prerequisites will still seek upgrading courses, particularly in mathematics and science, at their local College.

Some graduates of BCIT technology programs may wish to complete degrees in related fields at appropriate universities.





**ON FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1985 MINISTER OF EDUCATION, JACK HEINRICH ANNOUNCED THAT A NEW DYNAMIC "SUPERTech" WOULD BE FORMED BY THE MERGER OF BCIT AND PVI. THE NAME OF THE NEW TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, HE SAID, WOULD BE BCIT.**

Speculation about a possible amalgamation of the two institutions had been growing since the resignations a week earlier of BCIT president, Gordon Thom and PVI president, Henry Justesen and the dissolution a few days later of both institutes' board of governors.

Among those invited to hear the long-awaited announcement were presidents and board members from several Lower Mainland community colleges, representatives of the Justice Institute and B.C. Association of Colleges and various members of the press corps.

Heinrich said that links between the trades and technology programs in such new areas as lasers and fibre optics would provide tradespeople with "bridges" into technology training. He also indicated that discussions are in progress with the Minister of Universities to allow those who are interested in pursuing their education at even higher levels to do so with a minimum of obstacles.

Other changes at the new BCIT include suggested new programs in cardiac perfusion, cardiology, nuclear magnetic resonance and positron emission tomography. Some existing programs will be transferred to community colleges while others will be brought in (see chart opposite). Food Production and Agriculture from BCIT's Biological Sciences technology will be transferred to Fraser Valley College; Recreation Facilities Management and Building Service Worker will move to Vancouver Community College; PVI's Adult Basic Education and Business Office Training Programs will be phased out with their enrolment being picked up by Lower Mainland colleges. VCC's present pro-

grams in Post-Basic Nursing, Welding and Machinist will be moved to BCIT. In addition, the Board may propose further changes.

The Minister welcomed Roy Murray, as President and Chief Executive Officer of the new BCIT. Murray, a professional engineer with a Master's Degree in soil mechanics, has been president of Lake-

and commented that it would take the cooperation of all to bring on some of the high technology programs which had been discussed that morning.

The rest of the day was a non-stop, hectic round of meetings for the new CEO, as he held in-camera sessions with the Board, met with executives of the faculty and support staff unions and with members of the two student associations.

Murray also met with a group of about 60 PVI/BCIT managers, department heads and directors. Speaking briefly and directly, he reiterated the emphasis which the new Institute will place on innovative high technology areas and stressed the importance of taking advantage of the momentum to go for some of the funds available.

"The time to strike is within the next six months or so. It is important for us to get together with industry and get our proposals in to make use of the position we have with the government right now," he said.

## Chronology of Events

**May 31, 1985** Minister of Education, Jack Heinrich announces merger of BCIT and PVI.

**June 1, 1985** Official starting date of new BCIT president, Roy Murray. Owing to prior commitments Murray won't actually be on campus full-time until September, 1985.

In the interim, two acting presidents are appointed, one for each institute. Len McNeely for PVI and Drug Svetic for BCIT. Overseeing both institutes are a common board of governors and Roy Murray.

**Summer & Fall, 1985** Action plan formulated for merger to take place.

**August, 1985** Roy Murray takes up residence. Legislation creating the new BCIT goes into second and third reading.

land College in Lloydminster, Alberta for the past five years.

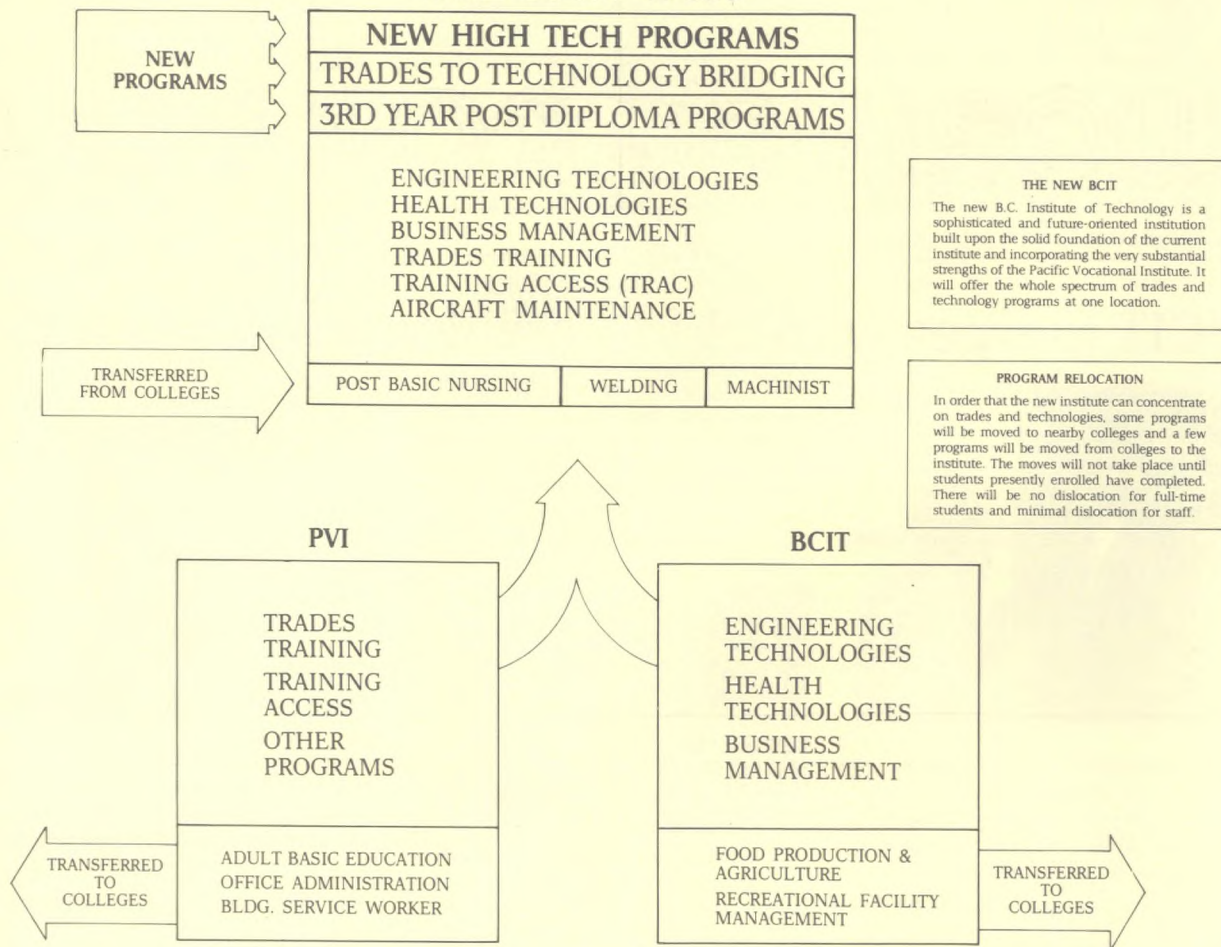
Murray, said he, was pleased that a positive decision had been made with regard to the School of Management,



Education Minister Jack Heinrich faces a barrage of news reporters after making announcement that BCIT and PVI are to become one institute.



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