

British Columbia
Institute of Technology

A Strategy for the Nineties

*Excerpts from the Institute's
Strategic Plan as presented to the
Ministry of Advanced Education,
Training and Technology.
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Introduction

With the development of its strategic plan BCIT has constructed a pathway to reach its goal of providing the best science- and technology- oriented training programs to serve the needs of British Columbia.

To produce the best graduates - those who are job-ready and meet the needs of business and industry - our strategic pathway will be built using that "set of tools" that has made BCIT work so well:

- our clearly defined mandate
- our close links with business and industry
- our educational process and its focus on teamwork and up-to-date credentials
- our faculty, with their motivation and dedication to providing the highest quality service
- our facilities, unique and sophisticated, continually being upgraded to meet the needs of an evolving marketplace.

These "tools" and a vision to meet the technology and trades training needs of British Columbians are guiding the board, administration and faculty/staff of BCIT into the Nineties as we build for the future.

Strategic Initiatives

The BCIT strategic plan formulates a number of strategic initiatives we will implement as we fulfil our mandate. In summary:

We are undertaking a major strategic initiative in enrolment management

BCIT will continue to develop the means and methods to substantially improve attracting, retaining and graduating men and women who will fill the needs of business and industry.

We are creating the marketing, management and information systems that will help us find and enrol the best possible students, as we become a first choice in post-secondary learning.

Access to our technology entry programs, which allow promising students greater opportunities to enrol, will be expanded.

Our educational processes must feature high-quality, industry-approved curriculum and delivery by up-to-date instructors

BCIT, through its Learning Resources Unit, will support quality instruction through staff training, orientation and curriculum development. We will achieve the means to support six month work-experience/advanced studies opportunities every six years for staff members.

Through the Technology Centre we will provide the tools and opportunities for faculty to create, innovate and upgrade their skills through applied research.

We will build on the expertise and the unique services we have developed

BCIT will continue to offer up-to-date certificate and diploma programs; we will expand advanced diploma opportunities, bridging programs and collaborative degree programs as demanded by the market place.

We will focus our efforts on further enhancing our leading program areas, including Aerospace, Construction and Manufacturing, Information Technology, Health Science and Business Management of Advanced Technology. As well, we will foster the evolution of additional areas of emphasis to meet the demands of the future.

A study to determine the role of BCIT as an institution offering advanced credentials (including degrees where appropriate) has been initiated with the objective of first intake in 1994/95. These will be tailored to meet the needs of graduates and industry.

We will adapt in response to the demands for specialty training in technologies and trades

BCIT will seek support for FTE growth of about 3.5% annually (1,235 full time equivalent students to our existing base by 1994), with 40% of the growth in new programs and 60% in the expansion of programs we now offer.

A major role of the BCIT Technology Centre will be to increase the level of innovative activity among students and to strengthen and disseminate the successful entrepreneurship training course, the Venture Program.

Our physical plant requires renewal, refurbishment and new direction

Our teaching equipment and facilities at the Burnaby Campus need urgent attention. Many of our students are functioning with inadequate equipment in buildings needing immediate repairs or replacement. The Burnaby Campus Master Plan details the need for new buildings to meet the growing demands of the Nineties.

At the BCIT Training Centre Downtown we intend to continue to meet the demands for part-time evening instruction while providing a major expansion in service through day-time business/industry training. We will establish training partnerships with business and industry to help us provide all the necessary facilities.

We are working to establish, in the Lower Mainland, a world-class aerospace training centre. Expansion of the aerospace industry is seen as a key component to the future economic well-being of B.C., leading as it would to many thousands of new jobs.

We see the need for the establishment of a new campus for the delivery of specialized technologies and trades in the Fraser Valley.

Join in!

The time is now to build on the strengths of BCIT and to develop new areas of emphasis. All those who share in this objective are encouraged to join in the process of implementing the BCIT strategy. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Let us hear from you!

Copies of the BCIT Strategic Plan, A Strategy for the Nineties, may be obtained from Lynn Garner (8265).
