

BCIT RECEIVES NEW MANDATE

The following news release was issued by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training on July 22:

Advanced Education Minister Stan Hagen and BCIT Board Chairman Ed Taylor today announced the first steps in the redirection of BCIT as a centre for advanced technology.

"In all our deliberations, uppermost has been provision for students now enrolled in programs to ensure there is stability and continuity, and that they graduate with a diploma from the institute in which the program was started," said Hagen.

The Minister said, for example, a student now enrolled in a two-year program that moves to another institution will receive, upon graduation, a diploma from BCIT.

Hagen and Taylor announced a new mandate statement for BCIT:

The British Columbia Institute of Technology will be an innovative and flexible advanced technology enterprise which will focus on those initiatives that increase the level of entrepreneurial activity within the province. Specifically, BCIT will:

- establish expertise in specific technological areas and develop applications for British Columbia business and industry;
- facilitate technology transfer by providing innovation, industrial assistance and contracted applied research; and,
- provide a highly trained work force vital to the establishment and continuance of advanced technology in British Columbia.

"I am pleased with this mandate statement for BCIT," said Hagen. "I believe it reflects the new direction the provincial government has set for BCIT. Under this new mandate BCIT will continue to support economic growth, enhance productivity and increase employment opportunities in the province in an important new way."

In light of the new mandate, Hagen said his Ministry has undertaken a review of programs offered at BCIT and identified those which would be more logically situated in other institutions. Alternately, those programs currently housed in other institutions which would be more suitably housed at BCIT will be moved.

The following BCIT programs will be transferred to other post-secondary institutions in the Lower Mainland:

PROGRAM	INSTITUTION
Horticulture	Capilano College
Health Records	Douglas College
Hospitality	new Hospitality Training Centre, Vancouver Vocational Institute
Upholstery and Appliance Repair	Douglas College
Construction Trades	new Construction Training Centre (location to be determined)

The School of Business will remain at BCIT. It is expected that the programs will be reviewed to ensure they are consistent with the new mandate.

Apprenticeship programs in Embalming and Pile Driving will become industry-based.

Programs to be transferred to BCIT from other colleges include:

PROGRAM	COLLEGE OF ORIGIN
Computer Systems Technology	Vancouver Community College
Security Alarm Installer	Vancouver Community College
Power Engineering	Vancouver Community College
Electricity and Industrial Electronics	Vancouver Community College

There will remain a substantial trades and vocational component at BCIT.

"I am pleased with the cooperation we received from BCIT and the colleges while determining these program relocations," said Hagen.

Hagen also stated that changes will be phased-in by September of 1989 and stressed that he expected staff would accompany the programs being moved.

The next phase of development will include the creation of new programs which support the mandate. It is expected that the first of these new programs will be implemented in September of 1989, with others to follow.

Work will also commence to plan how BCIT will meet its new responsibilities for technology transfer and con-

tracted applied research.

Ed Taylor, chairman of the BCIT Board of Governors said, "We will continue to work closely with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training to ensure a smooth transition for staff and students.

"We at BCIT are excited about the challenges of our new mandate and we look forward to positive developments for the institution in the future."

NOTE FROM ADMINISTRATION

The following dates for program transfer have been confirmed:

PROGRAM	DATE
Upholstery	Feb. 6, 1989
Small Appliances	Oct. 17, 1989
Health Information	Sept., 1989

The Professional Cook Program will be transferred to VVI effective immediately.

Other programs which have been identified in the press release will carry on as usual until dates are confirmed.