

"BCIT's mission is to be an innovative, flexible training institution for trades and technology that promotes and achieves excellence in technology transfer through the provision of relevant, job-related knowledge, skills and attitudes, and development assistance for business and industry."

This mission statement for BCIT was drawn up and agreed to at the Board of Governors' workshop last weekend at Whistler. They were assisted by a number of BCIT staff, including the President, vice presidents, deans, Quentin Lake representing the Staff Society, Terry Fletcher representing BCGEU instructors, Brenda Walton representing BCGEU staff, Steve Neill representing the students and the Director of Personnel, Ron Bell.

Final approval for the mission statement will be an agenda item at the Board of Governors' next meeting.

The statement follows earlier meetings at which the Board identified BCIT's key strengths and weaknesses, and listed the external opportunities and threats facing the institution.

During the weekend the Board also began work on a number of key institutional objectives for BCIT. These will be further refined by a representative group of BCIT managers and others between now and December 31.

Once these institutional objectives are established all members of the BCIT community will become involved in developing detailed strategies that, at a school and department level, will be consistent with our mission and overall objectives.

President Roy Murray said, "A mission statement is a statement of overall purpose. It answers the question, "what business should we be in?" It is therefore the first essential element in planning for our future. I am delighted that Board members and staff gave so much of their time and energy to launch us on the process of strategic planning. It will certainly assist us in recognizing and implementing our priorities as we work together to make BCIT an innovative, flexible and unique institution."