



President's Report **October 5th, 2018**

As you may recall, everything we do is about moving us to become the 'college of choice for experiential, place-based learning'. Our compass to guide us forward is our core purpose and BHAG.

Name Change

Effective June 18, 2018 Northwest Community College officially became Coast Mountain College (CMTN). The name change comes after two and a half years of research, community engagement and a strategic planning process that involved staff, faculty, students, alumni and community members.

The name Coast Mountain College was chosen through a series of engagement exercises and links the importance of the people, places, geography and culture that are only found in this part of the country. The new visual identity also reflects the connection to community that we know is so dearly valued by our alumni, staff, students and other stakeholders in the community. The colour is a nod to the glaciers and rivers that define the area. The logo includes C-shaped forms referring to the coastal areas of the region and an M shape that represents the mountains. The top of the visual identity is reminiscent of a mountain, also a symbol of achievement. The lower portion of the logo represents the coastline reflection and the rivers, waterways and ocean waters that connect our communities.

Cedar Building opening

Students are getting set for success in the skilled trades with the opening of the newly renovated, state-of-the-art House of Cedar trades training facility at Coast Mountain College. Renovations and upgrades to the House of Cedar, built in 1970, will provide students with modern classrooms, updated and enlarged trades workshops, a new atrium, learning commons space and food service area. The building also has updated mechanical, electrical and fire protection systems to reduce energy consumption and meet current building code requirements. About 200 people showed up for the opening.

Of the \$18.4-million total project cost, the Government of B.C. provided \$11.9 million, the Government of Canada provided \$6.3 million and Coast Mountain College, in combination with other partners, provided more than \$200,000.



You will see that again, I have organized the sections of the President's report to correspond with the perspectives found in the Strategy Map of the Strategic Plan. They are, know-how, internal processes, student and financial.

Know-how (Process and Policy Implementation, Strategic Technology for Curriculum and Development, Pedagogical Training and Support)

Our admissions team has done a great job of balancing our domestic and international registrations. They allowed no more than 50 per cent of capacity in any class to be international and then to allow domestic students to register. This required us to close the tap on international very early, but it also allowed us to run the classes with reasonable numbers and to ensure we have sufficient space for all domestic demand. While it is always a learning process, we have been acknowledged across the province for our work in being very proactive in this regard.

Student Services ran the first training program for our resident advisors. These are the students who live in our housing in Smithers and Terrace. With a week of training before they started, we are hopeful they will be able to better support our students in residence with issues and to provide more student activities. We expect this, combined with our leadership program, will ensure we have more activity on campus for students.

Evan Van Dyke from the School of Business has just returned from Finland. We expect the knowledge he will gain there will help our Business faculty continue in their quest to develop great place based learning opportunities here in our region.

Internal processes (Creating and Delivering Experiential Place Based Curriculum)

Thanks to all of you who came to the opening of the Waap Amgaam (House of Cedar) opening. The event was a huge success. And more importantly, we have a fantastic building with great teaching space and student space. It is heartening to see students hanging out in the lounge, using the study spaces and truly enjoying their campus space. Even on Friday evenings, there are students still in the space. Truly a space that was long overdue.



The Freda Diesing successfully kicked off a third year to their program. The new third year will give students expertise in areas such as business to help them take their art careers even further. This summer jewellery making was successfully introduced

We had 140 employees participate in Galts'ap Day on August 28, 2018. The theme was 'creating a culture of care' with workshops and activities in the streams of 'place', 'adventure', 'experiential' and 'transformative' to align with our values and BHAG. Some said it was the best Galts'ap Day they had attended in numerous days – the outside facilitator from The Browne Center for Innovative Learning (New Hampshire) was appreciated as well as the multitude of options, the food trucks and most importantly the change to connect with colleagues. I received the following quote from one of our faculty-

"I did not want to miss an opportunity to tell you how great galt's ap day was yesterday. I have been to close to 10 of these in my time with the college. Yesterday's was by far the best I have been to. It felt aligned with where we are trying to get to as a college. It was fun, encouraging and I learned a ton. It was a great day!"

The Centre for Learning Transformation (COLT) is off to a great start this year having already engaged with more than 50% of our instructors. This fantastic start is an indicator that understanding and appreciation has grown for the role of COLT in supporting instructors with learning technologies, classroom teaching and course design as well as with addressing barriers to inclusion.

Student (*Adventurous Learning Experience, Attract and Retain Students, and Pathways to Education and Careers*)

A nighttime flood of the Terrace college library has resulted in the Cedar Pop-up Library, which is in the Cedar building. While the space is small, the library staff are working hard to provide a great student experience in both the library area and the surrounding area. Plans are underway to renovate the flooded space by September 2019 so that students have better library and study space than ever before. Designers are being hired and a plan will be brought forward for Board approval in the near future.



As you might have seen if you were at the welcome feast this year, overall student numbers at Coast Mountain College are at a five year high. International growth has fuelled this growth in UC and business. Trades numbers continue to decline. For this reason, a strategic enrolment plan was developed for trades and workforce training in June. This plan is now being implemented with a strong focus on recruitment and community relations. The local school districts have been involved in helping to ensure the plan will be effective as it moves ahead.

Student Services has put together a domestic recruitment plan. This is intended to grow domestic numbers in all programs. With the expected launch of the new website in November and visits from international partners, the expectation is that the college will continue to find ways to stem the losses in domestic students as a result of the demographic decline. As well, new programs are being developed to continue meeting the needs of local students. For instance, business is offering a project management course over two weekends. It is the only course north of Vancouver that meet the educational requirements for PMI designation.

A New Student Orientation was delivered at the Prince Rupert, Terrace, and Smithers campuses (Hazelton to come). It was a very successful initiative and we had 18 students in Prince Rupert, 175 in Terrace, and 20 in Smithers. The Manager of Student Engagement has been expanding the New Student Orientation (NSO) program as one of our strategic enrolment tactics to increase student retention.

Extensive work continues with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Finance to secure funding for new residences. A new report has been submitted to the Ministry. We are expecting a response on the \$16 million ask by November.

Financial

Trades Building project on Terrace Campus was substantially finished on time and on budget.

We are currently finalizing our Q3 forecasting. We will also be starting all of our campus visits to get input for the 2019-20 budget. We are looking at increasing the efficiency to which we process transactions for our international students. We will be putting in a new system of increment payments to match expectation of our international community.



Staffing

We are also excited to announce the hiring of our new Manager of Human Resources Jennifer Farrow and our new Director of IT, Marc Snelling. Both have started with the College and are showing their incredible skill in each of their areas of expertise.

On the Education side, we are very fortunate to hire the following key people:

Colin Elliot, Director Applied Research, Libraries and Emerging Technologies
Nathan Wilson, Freda Diesing Fine Arts Instructor
Daniel Johnson, English Instructor
Andrew Rinald, Chemistry Instructor
Kathryn Butts, Biology Instructor
Tracey Woodburn, Learning Technologist

We have two management vacancies that we are currently recruiting: the Director of International and Director of Ancillary and Facility Service.

Foundation Update

The financial statements for the first year of operation were completed and approved by the Foundation Board at the recent AGM. Total assets of the foundation exceeded \$1,000,000.

With the new college name the foundation followed suit and changed its name from NWCC Foundation to Coast Mountain College Foundation. The name change was rescinded shortly thereafter due to a conflict with another institution. After 2 attempts of consulting with the institution it was clear they were not going to grant the consent needed. The foundation re-applied to the BC Registry and were recently granted the name CMTN Foundation. This is their official legal name (for tax purposes) but they will be referred to as Coast Mountain College Foundation (for swag/events).