

College of New Caledonia



NEWS RELEASE

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Students give CNC an A in survey

CNC exceeds the provincial average in 19 out of 20 indicators when it comes to students' satisfaction with their programs and skill development, according to survey results from the provincial government published on Macleans.ca.

Students also ranked CNC above the provincial average in overall satisfaction with studies and their main reason for enrolment being met, states the annual B.C. Diploma, Associate Degree, and Certificate Student Outcomes (DACSO) Survey.

“Meeting students’ needs is the reason we’re here, so it’s very gratifying that they have ranked us so high, again,” said Randall Heidt, CNC communications manager. “The only area where we were below the provincial average was computer use, but when you take program mix into consideration it turns out we are actually above the provincial average, according to our students.”

CNC exceeded the provincial average in the “Overall Satisfaction” category of main reason for enrolling met, scoring 3.36 out of 4, compared to the provincial average of 3.31; The college also scored 3.40 out of 4 for overall satisfaction with studies, compared to 3.34 provincially.

The 2009 Key Student Outcomes Indicators for B.C. Diploma, Associate Degree, and Certificate Programs also shows CNC scored above the provincial average when it comes to quality of instruction scoring 4.23 out of 5, compared to the provincial average of 4.20. Students also indicated CNC instructors are above the provincial average when it comes to fair assessments on tests and papers, scoring 4.23 out of 5, compared to 4.14 for B.C.

CNC faculty also ranked higher than average when it comes to availability of instructors outside of class, scoring 4.30 out of 5, compared to 4.16 for the provincial average. Helpfulness of instructors outside class ranked 4.37 out of 5, compared to 4.24 for the provincial average.

“We often talk about the excellent access our students have to their instructors, and ranking above the provincial average in these categories proves our students are very satisfied,” Heidt said. “Because of the smaller class sizes at CNC, students really get to know their instructors, who know them by name, rather than a number.”

In the “Skill Development” category, top areas include: work effectively with others at 4.35, compared to the provincial average of 4.25. In the use other tools and equipment indicator, CNC scored 4.29 out of 5, compared to 4.14 in B.C.

Other statistics include: helping students to analyze and think critically 4.28 out of 5, compared to 4.20 for the provincial average; resolve issues or problems 4.20, compared to 4.05.

Macleans.ca shows the survey results from 44 colleges in Ontario and B.C. on its website at: <http://oncampus.macleans.ca/education/2010/05/14/college-students-have-their-say/>

The DACSO survey was conducted in the spring of 2009 with former students, who were contacted by phone nine to 20 months after completing all, or a significant portion, of their educational program. Input was received from 15,856 former students from 20 participating B.C. post-secondary institutions, including universities such as Thompson Rivers University, University of the Fraser Valley, Vancouver Island University and Capilano University. The survey sample size represents 59 per cent of the targeted 27,070 former students.

A total of 639 CNC graduates were surveyed for the study, from a broad range of programs.

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