

College of New Caledonia



NEWS RELEASE

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CNC sees increase in full-time students

The College of New Caledonia has seen an increase in the number of full-time students this September, board members heard during their meeting Friday, which was held at the Vanderhoof campus.

CNC saw a 5.4% increase in full-time students this year to 1,695 at the Prince George campus, up from 1,608 during the same period last year.

“While we saw an increase of 87 full-time students, we saw a decrease of 85 part-time students, so our overall numbers for Prince George were only up two students to 2,474 in 2010,” said Randall Heidt, Associate Director of Communications and Development. “We are very pleased to see an increase in the number of full-time students this year, especially considering we set an enrolment record last year. Almost all of our programs are at capacity, so we really can’t see the huge gains we saw last year because there are very few seats open.”

Enrolment capacities for new students were reached in: Early Childhood Education, Carpentry, Heavy Duty Mechanics, Health Care Assistant, Natural Resources and Environmental Technology (NRET), New Media & Communications, Nursing, Power Engineering, Practical Nursing and Social Work, according to the enrolment report by Registrar Dale Grundman.

“Programs experiencing overall increases as compared to 2009 include: Community & School Support (CASS), English as a Second Language, Fine Arts, Electrical (Second stream added), Medical Lab Technology, NRET (2nd year of program started), Nursing, Social Work and University Transfer,” said Grundman, who pointed out the enrolment report represents a snapshot as of Sept. 17 and does not take into account apprenticeship programs, continuing education students and programs that will begin later in the year.

“We won’t know our total student population until around May when our final Full-Time Equivalent numbers are calculated,” said Heidt. “We are encouraging people to apply for programs as early as possible so they have the best chance of getting a seat.”

One of the only areas to see a decrease was dental studies, which saw four fewer students in dental hygiene and two fewer students in dental assisting in 2010. “The reason for that is

likely the influx in the Lower Mainland and Ontario of private dental schools, which have much higher tuition than CNC, but more seats available,” Heidt said. “But we really caution people to check out the reputation of the institution they plan to attend. We not only have 40 years of experience at CNC, but 100% of our dental students passed their national exams recently, so you know the quality of education is excellent.”

The board meeting was the first for three new members: Peggy Botrakoff, Claudia Blair and Melinda Worfolk. Blair is Executive Director of the Williams Lake and District Chamber of Commerce. Blair’s position on the board is new and she becomes the ninth government appointed member. Botrakoff is an accountant from Mackenzie with over 20 years of experience with Terlesky Braithwaite Janzen. Botrakoff was also appointed by the province and replaces Murray Braithwaite, who retired from the board after the maximum six years of service. Worfolk is an English Instructor at CNC and was elected to serve a three-year term as the Faculty representative. Worfolk replaces Angus McLeod, who completed his three-year term.

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For more information:

Randall Heidt
Associate Director Communications and Development
250-561-5869
250-640-6161